

AFRA AL DHAHERI

Born 1988, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Lives and works in Abu Dhabi, UAE

EDUCATION

2017 MFA in Painting, Rhode Island School of Design
Providence, Rhode Island

2011 BA in Graphic Design, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE

RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

2023 Artist-in-Residence, The Watermill Center, NY

2022 Finalist, Richard Mille Art Prize 2022, Louvre Abu Dhabi, UAE
VIR Viafarini-in-residence, Viafarini, Milan, Italy

2019 Porthmeor Studios, St. Ives, Cornwall, UK

2014 Salama bint Hamdan Emerging Artists Fellowship Program
in Collaboration with Rhode Island School of Design,
Rhode Island

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2027 National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington DC
(forthcoming)

2025 Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE (forthcoming)

2023 *Give Your Weight To The Ground*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2021 *Split Ends*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2016 *Inevitable Ephemera*, T + H Gallery, Boston, MA

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

2024 *Union of Artists*, commissioned by Dubai Culture in collaboration
with Art Dubai (with artists Khalid Albanna, Shaikha Al Mazrou,
Asma Belhamar and Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim)

2021 *Pillow Fort Playground*, Public Art Programme, Expo 2020, Dubai,
UAE

PROJECTS

- 2024 *Collective Exhaustion*, inaugural production supported by the National Grant for Culture and Creativity at the Ministry of Culture and Youth of the United Arab Emirates

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *Whispers on the Horizon*, Taipei Biennial 2025, Taiwan (forthcoming)
 A Time Between Ashes and Roses, Aichi Triennale 2025, Japan (forthcoming)
 What are you looking for?, Société, Berlin, Germany
 The Sculpture Park, Jaipur, India
- 2024 *Public Matter*, Public Art Abu Dhabi Biennial, Abu Dhabi, UAE
 Between the Tides: A Gulf Quinquennial, NYUAD Art Gallery, Abu Dhabi, UAE
 On Ma, Galleria Pedro Cera, Lisbon, Portugal
 Acacia Seeds, Galerie Balice Hertling, Paris, France
- 2022 *ICON. ICONIC.*, Art Here 2022 x Richard Mille Art Prize, Louvre Abu Dhabi, UAE
 I Shouted My Laughter to the Stars, Aicon Contemporary, New York, NY
 Portrait of a Nation II: Beyond Narratives, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
 Zemanna, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2021 *Tadaroj (Gradation)*, Sharjah Islamic Arts Festival, Sharjah, UAE
 Under Construction, Misk Art Institute, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
 Between The Sky and The Earth: Contemporary Art from the UAE, Middle Eastern Institute, Washington, DC
 Hair Mapping Body; Body Mapping Land, ICD Brookfield Place, Dubai, UAE
 Beyond: Emerging Artists, Cromwell Place, London, UK
 Conscious Becoming, Tatjana Pieters, Ghent, Belgium
 Concepts and The Divine Abstract, The Farjam Foundation, Dubai, UAE
- 2020 *Beyond: Emerging Artists*, Abu Dhabi Art, Gallery S, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
 Intimate Dimensions, Hafez Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

- 2019 *From Within*, Riyadh, KSA
Avoid Bad Dreams, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE
 BAIT15 Founders Exhibition, Cuadro Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2018 *From Barcelona to Abu Dhabi*, group show with MACBA collection,
 Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2017 *RISD MFA Painting*, 315 Gallery, New York, NY
- 2017 *Mutual Encounters*, Gelman Gallery, Rhode Island, USA
- 2016 *Hang Ten*, Field Projects, New York, NY
- 2015 *Emirati Expressions IV: Convention of Arts*, Manarat Al Saadiyat,
 Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2013 *Jalal's Art Trip 2013- Urban Trek*, Ghaf Art Gallery,
 Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2011 *Emirati Expressions II*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE

SELECTED PRESS

- 2025 Singhal, Poorvi. "What to see at Jaipur's Sculpture Park: Noelle Kadar's top picks." *Condé Nast Traveller*, February 2025
- 2024 Mansilla, Alexandra. "Collective Exhaustion And Endless Ropes. Interview With Afra Al Dhaheri." *The Sandy Times*, August 2024
 Jalal, Maan. "Emirati artist Afra Al Dhaheri's solo exhibition implores visitors to slow down." *The National*, January 2024
- 2023 Chesire, Lee. "Habits, hair and hardware stores: Afra Al Dhaheri on her artistic inspirations." *The Art Newspaper*, March 2023
- 2022 Kell, Laura. "Emirati Artist Afra Al Dhaheri On The Art Ecosystem, And The Importance of Grassroot Initiatives." *Harper's Bazaar Arabia*, December 2022
- 2021 "Expo 2020: Afra Al Dhaheri". *Canvas Magazine*,
 November/December 2021
 Shehmir, Ayesha. "Strands of Time". *Harper's Bazaar Art Book, Exhibition 002: Abu Dhabi*, November 2021
 Chaves, Alexandra. "'Pillow Fort': first glimpse of the public artwork at Expo 2020 Dubai". *The National*, September 2021
 Khalil, Nadine. "The Absent Body". *Alserkal.online*, July 2021
 Benton, Christopher Joshua. "Detangling ideology". *Identity Magazine*, May 2021

Nandkeolyar, Karishma H. "Dubai: Emirati artist Afra Al Dhaheri's work showcased at 'Concepts and The Divine Abstract' exhibition in DIFC". *Gulf News*, April 2021

Beaney, Laura. "Profile: Afra Al Dhaheri". *Canvas Magazine*, March/April 2021

Khalil, Nadine. "Critics' Picks Dubai: Afra Al Dhaheri". *Artforum*, February 2021

2020 Talass, Rawaa. "THE BREAKDOWN: Emirati artist Afra Al-Dhaheri discusses Abu Dhabi Art's 'Tasreeha'." *Arab News*, December 2020

Khalil, Nadine. "UAE becomes an incubator to help careers of local emerging artists". *Financial Times*, November 2020

Kazan, Sophie. "Afra Al Dhaheri". *Contemporary Identities*, September 2020

2019 "Contemporary art shines in Saudi Arabia's Diriyah". *Arab News*, December 2019

2018 Khalil, Nadine. "Bringing Art Home". *Canvas Magazine*, June 2018