

ART DUBAI: WHAT TO SEE AND DO

Art Dubai's biggest installment to date hits the Emirate on March 11, promising a spectrum of visual wonders - including a whole new branch of digital art

WORDS REYHAAN DAY



IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ROSSON CROW, SURVIVALIST STILL LIFE WITH ANTIQUITIES; ERI HARIGAI, BLANK; GALLERY 1957; ROSS BLECKNER, A YEAR OF CONQUERING NEGATIVE THINKING; GALERIA ALBARRÁN BOURDAIS

The 15th edition of Art Dubai takes place from March 11 to 13 at Madinat Jumeirah, welcoming over 100 exhibitors from 44 countries to showcase the best in modern and contemporary art from the Global South. Founded in 2007, this year's edition is set to be the biggest fair yet – with a number of new initiatives and site-specific installations.

INLAND, a project by artist Fernando García-Dory that explores the role of territories, geopolitics and culture in our world, has been commissioned to present a multi-site installation at the fair and in a variety of locations across Dubai; Sand Flow looks to depict Dubai's past, present and future, manifesting in a number of different locations. The fair will also host an interactive installation by artist Marina Fedorova entitled *Cosmodreams* – which explores the effects of technological advancements on our lives and environments, combining traditional art and digital tech, encompassing large paintings, sculpture, virtual reality and more.

A new section of the fair is dedicated



to digital and VR works and the NFT art world. A curated selection of 17 international galleries and platforms will showcase works by some of the most renowned artists working in this sphere currently; and there will also be an exhibition of new NFTs created by the 12 UAE-based and international artists taking part in this year's edition of Campus Art Dubai.

Key to the programme this year is a series of talks about the changing landscape of the art world and involving many prominent figures, from noted collectors, artists and industry pioneers. The 15th edition of the Global Art Forum will examine crypto economies in art, inviting artists, curators and tech experts to consider how the art world and crypto technologies can develop together; while the Art Dubai Modern Talks will explore the life, work and influences of Middle Eastern and North African 20th century masters, with speakers including Nima Sagharchi, director of Middle Eastern, Islamic and South Asian Art at Bonhams.

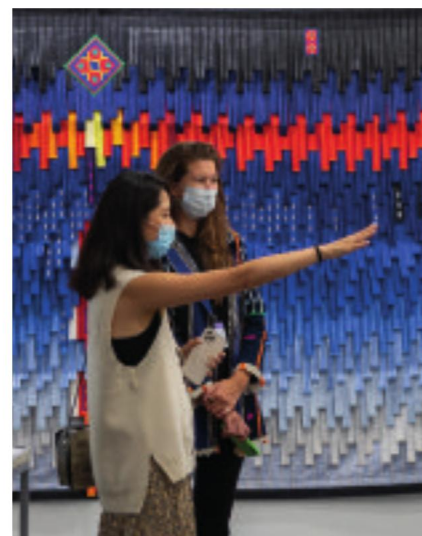
Children in attendance will be entertained too – with artist-led workshops for kids aged five to 17 taking place across the fair, with a focus on sustainability and repurposing materials to create new works of art.

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MAYFAIR AND ST JAMES'S GALLERIES AT ART DUBAI



Gallery 1957

Hyde Park Gate's Gallery 1957 champions contemporary West African art – and will this year be exhibiting work by Modupeola Fadugba.

Gazelli Art House

Mila Askarova's gallery showcases art from across the globe with a focus on Azerbaijan. Exhibiting artists include Aidan Salakhova and Naqsh Collective.

Grosvenor Gallery

A focus on Indian and Pakistani Modernism such as MF Husain and SH Raza, Grosvenor Gallery is this year displaying works by Elisabeth Deane, Rasheed Araeen, Zarah Hussain and more.

Institut

Founded by the team behind Unit London, Institut is now one of the world's leading NFT platforms for art. It will be showing works by Don Diablo, Kristina Kim and more in Art Dubai's digital section.

Ronchini

Ronchini explores a wide range of movements within its roster, including minimalism, spatialism and arte povera – and Paolo Serra and Jacob Hashimoto are some of the highlights of its stand.