

Art | Basel Qatar

PRESS RELEASE

QATAR | OCTOBER 27 | 2026

Art Basel unveils exhibitors for its 2027 Qatar edition and year-round market development program, strengthening its role as the premier art show for the MENASA region

- Art Basel Qatar returns to Msheireb Downtown Doha for its second edition, featuring 80 new single-artist presentations by 82 galleries spanning 37 countries and territories, all responding to the theme ‘between / بين’ — conceived under the artistic direction of Iraqi curator Wassan Al-Khudhairi.
- Approximately 50 percent of the artists presented hail from the MENASA region, reinforcing Art Basel Qatar’s commitment to foregrounding regional and international artistic voices.
- More than a third of participating galleries operate spaces in the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia, reaffirming the fair’s ambition to support long-term market development in the region.
- Additionally, Art Basel launches a year-round market development program in Qatar designed to deepen collector engagement and strengthen conditions for galleries.
- Presented in partnership with Qatar Sports Investments (QSI) and QC+, Art Basel Qatar runs from January 28–30, 2027 (with Preview Days on January 26 and 27) across Msheireb Downtown Doha venues M7 and Doha Design District. Visit Qatar is the fair’s lead partner.

Art Basel Qatar today unveils the exhibitors participating in its second edition and announces details for a new year-round market development platform — reaffirming Art Basel Qatar’s role as the premiere art show for the MENASA region and demonstrating Art Basel’s commitment to further developing the regional arts ecosystem and growing the international art market. The second edition of Art Basel Qatar, presented in partnership with **Qatar Sports Investments (QSI)** and **QC+** with **Visit Qatar** as the fair’s lead partner, marks a clear evolution in the fair’s long-term vision. Its year-round market development program will deepen collector relationships, support galleries, and sustain momentum between editions. Launching in October 2026, ahead of the 2027 fair, the ‘Collectors Majlis’ will offer masterclasses and workshops alongside invitation-led encounters, cultural experiences, collection visits, salons, and practical sessions. Bringing together local and international collectors, galleries, and institutions, the initiative extends Art Basel Qatar’s role beyond fair week and contributes to the region’s cultural and market development. More information is provided below.

The 2027 edition continues its solo presentation format following the success of the inaugural edition. Each solo presentation responds to the curatorial theme ‘between / بين’, conceived under the artistic direction of Iraqi curator Wassan Al-Khudhairi in close collaboration with Vincenzo de Bellis, Chief Artistic Officer and Global Director of Fairs at Art Basel, which enables galleries to present more ambitious and considered projects, while offering audiences a deeper encounter with each artist’s practice. The show will unfold across two key venues – M7 and Doha Design District — as well as selected public sites in Msheireb Downtown Doha, the city’s creative and cultural heart.

More than a third of participating galleries in the second edition operate spaces in the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia, and approximately 60 international galleries from Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, and Asia Pacific – including Brazil, Argentina, Philippines, South Africa, Netherlands, Canada, Norway, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Portugal, United Kingdom, and the United States – will take part in the 2027 edition. This creates a dialogue between regional artistic production and international market infrastructure, reinforcing Qatar's role as a meeting point for global cultural exchange.

- A significant majority of artists presented in the show hail from the MENASA region, including **Mohammed Alfaraj, Monira Al Qadiri, Dana Awartani, Ibrahim El-Salahi, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, Hassan Hajjaj, Yazan Khalili, Waqas Khan, Lilian Lijn, Seher Shah, Shahzia Sikander, Vian Sora**, and many others.
- Notable gallery participations from the region include **Athr** (Jeddah), **Green Art Gallery** (Dubai), **Gypsum** (Egypt), **Lawrie Shabibi** (Dubai), **Tabari Art Space** (Dubai), **Hafez Gallery** (Jeddah, Riyadh), **al markhiya gallery** (Doha), **Sfeir-Semler Gallery** (Beirut, Hamburg), **The Third Line** (Dubai), **Leila Heller** (Dubai), **Le Violon Bleu** (Tunis), **Marfa Projects** (Beirut), **Chemould Prescott Road** (Mumbai).
- Homegrown galleries from the region that are participating in their first Art Basel fair include **Efie Gallery** (Dubai); **Iyad Qanazea** (Abu Dhabi); **Le LAB Gallery** (Giza); **Alhosh Gallery** (Doha); **Contemporary Art Platform** (Kuwait); and **Dastan Gallery** (Tehran, Toronto).
- International galleries from across Europe, the Americas, and Asia will participate, including **Galerie Krinzinger** (Vienna), **Matthew Marks Gallery** (New York), **Mendes Wood DM** (São Paulo), **Jhaveri Contemporary** (Mumbai), **Sprüth Magers** (Berlin), **neugerriemschneider** (Berlin), **Lisson Gallery** (London), **White Cube** (London), **The Breeder** (Athens), **Lia Rumma** (Milan), **Silverlens** (Manila), **Acquavella Galleries** (New York), **David Zwirner** (New York), **Paula Cooper Gallery** (New York), **Gagosian** (New York), and **Sadie Coles HQ** (London).
- Over 30 participating galleries will be taking part in Art Basel Qatar for the first time, underscoring the fair's role as a catalyst for galleries seeking access to a broader international platform.

Noah Horowitz, CEO of Art Basel, said: “Art Basel Qatar was conceived as an enduring platform for the region, and the 2027 edition marks an important next step in bringing our vision to life. Our ambition extends well beyond the fair week: through our new 365 program, we aim to deepen collector engagement between editions and contribute to the sustained growth of the regional art market. This is aligned with our global mission to nurture the next generation of collectors and create new pathways for discovery and exchange.”

Vincenzo de Bellis, Chief Artistic Officer and Global Director of Fairs at Art Basel, said: “Our ambition for Art Basel Qatar is to build a fair that is rooted in its region and resonates around the world. Working with Artistic Director Wassan Al-Khudhairi, whose theme *between* / بين gives this edition its curatorial focus, we have grown participation from across MENASA and with our Qatari partners we launched ‘Collectors Majlis’, a year-round program of masterclasses and workshops to strengthen the regional market ahead of the show. We are shaping an edition designed to stimulate growth and open new paths for collectors, galleries, and institutions to connect. It's a model that draws on the strength of Art Basel's global network of fairs while staying distinctly of its place.”

Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Artistic Director of Art Basel Qatar 2027, said: “For me, the theme *between* / بين is a liminal space of possibility, where different perspectives, histories and ideas meet and new ways of seeing emerge. This thinking has shaped our approach to Art Basel Qatar 2027, from the selection of solo-artist presentations to the galleries participating in the show, bringing together artists across generations and at different stages of their careers. The show

explores the dynamic relationship between the MENASA region and the wider world: how global currents have shaped the region, and, equally, how the region's artistic practices, ideas and cultural histories have shaped, and continue to shape, the world. Through these encounters, we hope to foreground the MENASA region not simply as a place in dialogue with the world, but as an active force in shaping global artistic discourse. *Between / بين* becomes a space for exchange, influence, and new opportunities."

Artist & Gallery Highlights

A significant majority of participating artists in the 2027 edition hail from MENASA, reinforcing Art Basel Qatar's commitment to foregrounding artistic voices from the region and adjacent geographies. Participating in partnership with galleries both within the region and globally, presentations selected include **Yazan Khalili** with **Lawrie Shabibi** (Dubai), **Vian Sora** with **The Third Line** (Dubai), **Seher Shah** with **Green Art Gallery** (Dubai), **Jumana Abboud** with **Iyad Qanazea Gallery** (Dubai), **Waqas Khan** with **Galerie Krinzinger** (Vienna), **Paulo Nazareth** with **Mendes Wood DM** (São Paulo, Brussels, Paris, New York), **Huda Lutfi** with **Gypsum Gallery** (Cairo), **Salah Elmur** with **Mariane Ibrahim** (Paris, Chicago, Mexico City), **Naiza H. Khan** with **Rossi & Rossi** (Hong Kong), **Dana Awartani** with **Chemould Prescott Road** (Mumbai), **Ayesha Singh** with **Nature Morte** (New Delhi), **Kamruzzaman Shadhin** with **Jhaveri Contemporary** (Mumbai), **Sirak Melkonian** with **Dastan Gallery** (Tehran), **Aref El Rayess** with **Sfeir-Semler Gallery** (Beirut, Hamburg), **Stéphanie Saadé** with **Marfa' Projects** (Beirut), **Youssef Ahmad** with **al markhiya gallery** (Doha), **Mohammad Alfaraj** with **Athr Gallery** (Jeddah, Riyadh, AlUla), **Faisal Samra** with **Hafez Gallery** (Jeddah, Riyadh), **Chaïbia Talal** with **Le Violon Bleu** (Tunis), **Pacita Abad** with **Silverlens** (Manila, New York), **Dalal Al-Obaidi** with **Taymour Grahne Projects** (Dubai), and **Ihsan Oturmak** with **Öktem Aykut** (Istanbul).

The region's gallery ecosystem will again be central to the edition. In addition to those listed above, galleries from the Gulf including **Tabari Artspace** (Dubai), showing **Aya Haidar**; **Contemporary Art Platform** (Kuwait City), showing **Monira Al Qadiri**; and **Hafez Gallery** (Jeddah, Riyadh), showing **Faisal Samra**, will be presented alongside participants from the wider Middle East and North Africa. These include **Le LAB Gallery** (Cairo), showing **Moataz Nasr**; **Saleh Barakat** (Beirut), showing **Nabil Nahas**; **Leila Heller** (Dubai) showing **Marcos Grigorian**; and **Selma Feriani Gallery** (Tunis, Sidi Bou Saïd), showing **Nicene Kossentini**. They will sit in dialogue with international galleries from across Europe, the Americas, and Asia, including **Acquavella Galleries** (New York, Palm Beach), showing **Andy Warhol**; **David Zwirner** (New York, Los Angeles, London, Hong Kong, Paris), showing **Oscar Murillo**; **Gagosian** (New York, Beverly Hills, London, Paris, Le Bourget, Basel, Gstaad, Rome, Athens, Hong Kong) showing **Maurizio Cattelan**; **Matthew Marks Gallery** (New York, Los Angeles), showing **Ken Price**; **Sprüth Magers** (Berlin, London, Los Angeles, New York), showing **Rosemarie Trockel**; **neugerriemschneider** (Berlin), showing **Rirkrit Tiravanija**; **Lisson Gallery** (London, Los Angeles, New York, Shanghai), showing **Anish Kapoor**; **White Cube** (London, Hong Kong, Paris, New York, Seoul), showing **Park Seo-Bo**; and **Tornabuoni Art** (Florence, Milan, Forte dei Marmi, Crans Montana, Paris, Rome), showing **Lucio Fontana**. Further details on gallery presentations and Special Projects will be announced in the coming weeks.

Full exhibitor list: artbasel.com/qatar/galleries

Year-Round Market Development Programs

A key component of Art Basel's new program is the 'Collectors Majlis', an invite-only pilot masterclass program designed for a cohort of approximately 30 to 40 new, emerging, and art-adjacent collectors. The program supports individuals who are interested in deepening their engagement with art and collecting, while building closer relationships with Art Basel Qatar and the wider art ecosystem. The program guides participants through a series of pre-fair masterclasses, on-site engagement during Art Basel Qatar, and a post-fair salon, offering practical insight into how the art market works, how art is bought and sold, how collections are built, and

how to engage with galleries and artworks with greater confidence. Sessions are led by Art Basel leadership, collectors, galleries, institutions and key voices from Qatar and the wider regional arts ecosystem, including:

- **Her Excellency Sheikha Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani**, Chairperson, Qatar Museums
- **Abdulrahman Al Khulaifi**, Founder/Director, ARAK
- **Carly Murphy**, Global Head of Collectors and Institutional Relations, Art Basel
- **Mohammed Rashid Al-Thani**, Founding Director, The Institute of Arab and Islamic Art
- **Noah Horowitz**, CEO, Art Basel
- **Tariq Al Jaidah**, Collector
- **Vincenzo de Bellis**, Chief Artistic Officer and Global Director of Art Basel Fairs
- **Wassan Al-Khudhairi**, Artistic Director, Art Basel Qatar

The initiative will also include a number of international encounters for collectors across Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, India, Greece, and other key locations, with the aim of cultivating a strong and informed collector base in the region and creating more meaningful opportunities for exchange between local, regional, and international art communities.

Cultural events across Qatar during fair week

Art Basel Qatar anchors a week of world-class exhibitions and cultural events across Doha, as Qatar Museums' institutions and the city's other museums present some of their most significant programming of the year.

Highlights announced to date include:

Design Doha 2026

When: 5 November 2026–31 January 2027 (opening days 5–7 November)

Where: Fereej Al Asmakh and Msheireb

The second edition of Design Doha, Qatar's platform for contemporary design from the MENASA region and beyond, presents over 20 exhibitions. It is headlined by *Arab Design Now 2026*, curated by Noura Al Sayeh at Msheireb, which brings together 81 designers, 78 new commissions and 17 films, spanning architecture, furniture and product design, craft, urbanism, sound and social design. The biennial's wider exhibition program is centered in Fereej Al Asmakh, one of Doha's most significant heritage districts.

Design Doha 2026 also presents five new Public Design Commissions, selected through an open call to designers, architects and urban practitioners based in the MENASA region. The five new site-specific commissions activate public spaces in Fereej Al Asmakh and across Doha. Curated by Javier Peña Ibáñez, with Qatar Public Works Authority (Ashghal) as Visionary Partner, the projects explore sustainability, community engagement and local material traditions through contemporary design.

Doha Pavilion: Gerhard Richter

When: Opening on 20 November 2026

Where: MIA Park

Doha Pavilion: Gerhard Richter, a new permanent, site-specific structure conceived by the world-renowned artist, will open in MIA Park on 20 November 2026. *Doha Pavilion* has been designed as

a free-standing work of art and architecture, housing a distinct body of Richter's paintings and sculpture. Selldorf Architects worked with the artist to realize his vision for the project.

Rubaiya Qatar

When: 21 November 2026–30 April 2027

Where: Various venues

This fall marks the launch of Rubaiya Qatar, a new contemporary art quadrennial taking place across multiple venues. The inaugural edition is centered on themes of global ecology; water's social, political, economic, and cultural importance; and the maritime heritage that forged connections between Qatar and the world. It brings together exhibitions and public art installations by more than 120 regional and international artists representing more than 30 countries, with particular attention to artists from the Global Majority.

Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life

When: 26 October 2026–13 February 2027

Where: National Museum of Qatar

Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life will present more than 50 works anchored across five custom-built pavilions and the rooms and courtyard of the Old Palace, each dedicated to materials, ideas, and techniques that has been at the centre of Penone's practice.

What Lingers in the Artist Mind: Experiments and Legacies of the Baghdad Modern Art Group

When: 25 October 2026–6 February 2027

Where: Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art

This major exhibition explores the history, legacy, and enduring relevance of the Baghdad Modern Art Group through 17 thematic sections, spanning the 1940s to the present day. Drawn extensively from Mathaf's internationally renowned collections, it brings together paintings, sculptures, sketches, and photographs, as well as archival materials and original research. Founded in 1951 by artists Jewad Selim and Shakir Hassan Al Said, the Baghdad Modern Art Group sought to develop a distinctly Iraqi artistic language by combining Mesopotamian heritage, Islamic traditions, and international modernist ideas.

Beyti Beytak • بيتي بيتك • My Home is Your Home

When: 26 October 2026–29 May 2027

Where: Fahad bin Ali Palace

Presented by the future Art Mill Museum, this exhibition features works by more than 40 architects, designers, and practitioners from across the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia region (MENASA) and beyond, exploring architecture as a vital social and cultural practice grounded in ideas of home, hospitality, collective care, and shared responsibility. *Beyti Beytak* was originally presented at the 19th International Architecture Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia in 2025.

Bu'ed Nadhar

When: 5 November 2026–31 January 2027

Where: Liwan Design Studios and Labs

Bu'ed Nadhar — meaning beyond immediate vision — brings together 32 works by 16 artists and designers, exploring craft, memory, and material knowledge through contemporary design practices. Presented as part of Design Doha 2026.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Art Basel

Founded in 1970 by gallerists from Basel, Art Basel today stages the world's premier art shows for Modern and contemporary art, sited in Basel, Miami Beach, Hong Kong, Paris, and Qatar. Defined by its host city and region, each show is unique, which is reflected in its participating galleries, the artworks presented, and the content of parallel programming produced in collaboration with local institutions for each edition. Art Basel's engagement has expanded through new digital platforms including Zero 10 and the Art Basel App, and initiatives such as the *Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report* and *Survey of Global Collecting*, the Art Basel Awards, and the Art Basel Shop. For further information, visit artbasel.com.

About Art Basel Qatar

Launched in February 2026, the inaugural edition of Art Basel Qatar embedded itself in Qatar's vibrant cultural landscape and established a new, long-term platform for artistic exchange, institutional engagement, and art market development in the MENASA region. Bringing together leading galleries from around the world, Art Basel Qatar provides an unparalleled gateway showcasing exceptional artistic talent from the Global South and beyond.

Art Basel Qatar is committed to developing the regional art market, supported by a year-round program that complements the annual fair. Anchored in a long-term partnership with Qatar Sports Investments (QSI) and QC+, the inaugural edition was met with an exceptional response from the international art community, reflecting the strength, relevance, and ambition of Art Basel's presence in Qatar.

Art Basel Qatar Selection Committee

Lorenzo Fischì, Galleria Continua
Gordon VeneKlasen, VeneKlasen Gallery
Daniela Gareh, White Cube
Shireen Gandhi, Chemould Prescott Road
Sunny Rahbar, The Third Line
Mohammed Hafiz, ATHR

About Qatar Sports Investments (QSI)

Qatar Sports Investments (QSI) is a leading, global strategic investment group focused on world-class assets across sport, entertainment, lifestyle, and culture. Founded in 2004, QSI brings hands-on expertise, innovative capital solutions, and a long-term vision to each of its investments. Its portfolio includes the iconic football club Paris Saint-Germain (PSG), the global professional padel tour Premier Padel, the historic Portuguese football club Sporting Clube de Braga (SC Braga), and Belgian football club KAS Eupen. With a proven track record of transformative impact, QSI continues to shape the future of cultural and entertainment experiences worldwide.

About QC+

QC+ is a cultural strategy and experience group shaping how culture is lived, shared and activated across art and design, hospitality, retail, tourism and cultural destination development. Operating at the intersection of culture, commerce and experience, QC+ develops strategies, platforms and multidisciplinary concepts that connect cultural insight with commercial

opportunity, creating new ways for people to engage with culture while driving creative and commercial growth.

Its portfolio includes Qatar Creates, MIHAD and award-winning dining destinations including Jiwan and IDAM by Alain Ducasse, alongside a growing range of cultural, hospitality and commercial ventures.

We don't just preserve culture. We cultivate it. QC+: The Art of Cultural Commerce™.

Partners

Art Basel Qatar's Lead Partner is **Visit Qatar**.

Visit Qatar is the main marketing and promotional arm of Qatar Tourism, dedicated to promoting and expanding tourism in Qatar by cultivating its rich culture, developing thrilling attractions, enhancing Qatar's calendar, becoming the leading MICE destination in the region, and diversifying events and luxury experiences. Visit Qatar is rooted in Service Excellence, boosting the entire tourism value chain, and increasing local and international visitor demand in Qatar. Through our network of international offices in priority markets, cutting-edge digital platforms, and marketing campaigns, Visit Qatar is expanding Qatar's presence globally and enhancing the tourism sector.

As the Lead Partner for Art Basel Qatar, Visit Qatar curates a welcoming space that brings together conversation, creativity, and cuisine, offering a glimpse of Qatar's spirit and contemporary identity. Through this collaboration, Visit Qatar reinforces the nation's position not only as a premier travel destination but as a place to live, create and imagine new possibilities.

For more information, visit <https://visitqatar.com/>.

Art Basel Qatar's Premium Partner is **Qatar Airways**.

Qatar Airways continues to leverage its global network to connect people, places, and cultures worldwide. As Art Basel's Premium Partner, the national airline of the State of Qatar serves as a catalyst for discovery and cultural dialogue. Through this long-term alliance, the airline supports Art Basel's prestigious annual exhibitions in Basel, Paris, Hong Kong, Miami Beach, and Qatar, helping connect audiences with exceptional artistic experiences and fostering cultural exchange on a global scale. Save up to 10% on your flight to Art Basel Qatar with promo code ARTBASEL.

Additionally, Art Basel Qatar's Associate Partners are UBS, **BMW and Audemars Piguet**;

UBS has a long history of supporting contemporary art and artists. UBS seeks to advance the international conversation about the art market through its global lead partnership with Art Basel, and as co-publisher of the *Art Basel and UBS Global Art Market Report* and the *Art Basel and UBS Survey of Global Collecting*. UBS also supports some of the world's most important arts institutions, events, and fairs. The firm also has one of the world's most significant corporate collections of contemporary art. The UBS Art Advisory supports the firm's UHNW and family offices clients with impartial advice across the lifecycle of collecting. For more information about UBS's commitment to contemporary art, visit ubs.com/art

BMW has been partnering with Art Basel for over twenty years now as part of the company's cultural engagement spanning more than half a century with hundreds of initiatives worldwide. Always guided by the belief that absolute creative freedom is as essential for artists to create meaning away from the bling-bling as it is for BMW's engineers and designers to come up with the best solutions for individual mobility both today and tomorrow.

Audemars Piguet believes that creativity feeds culture, connects people, and gives purpose to our lives. Through its dedicated contemporary art program, Audemars Piguet Contemporary,

international artists are commissioned to create artworks across a variety of scales and media, enabling artists to explore new territories in their practice.
Official Partners are **Media City Qatar** and **Zegna**; and its Official Hotel Partner is **Rosewood Doha**.

Art Basel's Global Lead Partner is UBS

For more information, please visit artbasel.com/partners.

Art Basel Qatar Visitor Information

Opening Hours

VIP days (by invitation only)

Tuesday, January 26, 2027
12pm–4:30pm: First Choice
4:30pm–8pm: First Choice and Preview

Wednesday, January 27, 2027
12pm–4:30pm: First Choice and Preview
4:30pm–8pm: First Choice, Preview and Vernissage ticket holders

Public days (access with a ticket or VIP card)

Thursday, January 28, and Saturday, January 30, 2027
12pm–1pm: VIP card holders
1pm–5pm: First time-slot ticket holders and VIP card holders
5pm–9pm: Second time-slot ticket holders and VIP card holders

Friday, January 29, 2027
1pm–5pm: First time-slot ticket holders and VIP card holders
5pm–9pm: Second time-slot ticket holders and VIP card holders

Time slots apply to ticket holders only.
For information on tickets and Premium Experiences, visit our Online Ticket Shop.

Media access

Online registration for press accreditation Art Basel Qatar will open in November. For further information, visit artbasel.com/accreditation.

Press releases and high-resolution images can be downloaded directly from artbasel.com/press.

Media interested in profiling exhibitors or artists, or accessing VIP opportunities, are invited to contact Art Basel's press office.

For the latest updates on Art Basel, visit artbasel.com, find us on Facebook at facebook.com/artbasel, or follow @artbasel on Instagram and WeChat.

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QC+, Megan Sprenger
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MCH Group, Lucia Uebersax
media@mch-group.com

Upcoming Art Basel shows

Paris, October 23–25, 2026
Miami Beach, December 4–6, 2026
Qatar, January 28–30, 2027
Hong Kong, March 25–27, 2027
Basel, June 17–20, 2027