## **Selections Magazine**

## 26 September 2018 **A LOOK AT DUBAI'S ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS DURING THE NEW SEASON** By Anna Seaman

https://selectionsarts.com/art/a-look-at-dubais-artistic-highlights-during-the-new-season/



A solo exhibition of Mohammed Kazem's paintings, a new body of work by Shaikha Al Mazrou and a group photography exhibition that explores the complex nature of home are just a few of the highlights of the new season of exhibitions in Dubai.

Kazem's exhibition at Gallery Isabelle Van Den Eynde is notable because whilst the Emirati is well-known for his installation works and drawings, paintings are a relatively unknown aspect of his practice. He began experimenting with pigment saturation and hues early on in his career, but was always interested in the conceptual thread, which most often led him away from the medium of paint. Much of his concerns about the ever-changing urban landscape and traces of the human impact on the environment remain in this exhibition, they are just presented in a different

Over at Lawrie Shabibi, the gallery is exhibiting a solo show from Emirati Shaikha Al Mazrou. Al Mazrou has been with the gallery since 2015 and has developed her ideas of experimentation with colour and form to a conceptual and minimalist exploration of space and mass.

Gulf Photo Plus' annual community exhibition this year is entitled No Place Like Home, with a focus not on the location of home but on the emotional and sentimental value of a place as well as objects and other experiences that can remind us of our ideas of home.

At 1×1, a large-scale exhibition of the sculptural works of Sunil Gawde will be on display. Gawde, a prominent Indian artist, uses common objects, like window wipers, bulbs or magnifying glasses and takes them out of context dimension to emphasise their symbolical potential. He is concerned with the indecipherable gap between perception and reality as well as surrealism, which highlights the lack of logic in today's society. This concept is cleverly captured in a sculpture titled Still Alive III. It depicts an elephant, an embodiment of strength atop an egg, a symbol of fragility.

For the new season at Carbon 12 a group show of paintings explores figuration. The two-dimensionality of Bernard Buhmann's work juxtaposed with the fleshy forms in Jane Corrigan's pieces are just two examples of how differently this subject can be addressed. From Surrealism to Cubism and Expressionism, the artists are interested in reworking the classical portrait as well as elements of the absurd. Titled I can bite the hand that feeds me, and gently caress it too, the exhibition takes artists who simultaneously honour their influences and inject cynicism – thus biting the hand but caressing it too.

The Third Line are bringing a new artist to their impressive roster this September. Nima Nabavi has only started producing work in the past two years and he makes endless, emergent grids that follow mathematical parameters and have a soothing geometric aesthetic. Another artist working with geometrical abstraction is Nidal Khaddour, a young artist based in Al Ain. His work will be showing at The Workshop, a gallery focused on emerging talent and whose space will be reopening in September following a renovation. Khaddour's pieces will make an interesting addition to a well-rounded season of exhibitions throughout Dubai.