Harper's Bazaar Arabia

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8 Standout Artworks Not To Miss At Art Dubai 2019

By DELARA ZAND

https://www.harpersbazaararabia.com/art/fairs-and-events/must-see-artwork-art-dubai-2019? fbclid=IwAR3q9_Ap05vTsboEVjVoiVpOF1itPcCaQhKVnDPTkksVHT3DwCqneWe3Di8



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Anahita Razmi, 'Reign Coat #1'

This piece, a seemingly decorative object at first glance, is part of Anahita Razmi's art of the 'Take Me To Your Leader' series, centring around the notion of 'cross-cultural misunderstandings' and examining identity, inspired by her own mixed heritage. She points, in this series, to inaccuracies in the representation of Eastern culture by those in the West and, in this case, to cultural miscommunication. This garment, using the silhouette of a traditional Japanese jinbaori, but fabricated from Persian carpet, is a nod to and contemporary recreation of the eclectic Persian carpet jinbaori on show in Kodaiji Temple in Kyoto. On display at Carbon 12's booth, it harks back to a cultural exchange of the 16th century 'gone wrong'; when Persian carpets began to arrive in Japan via the Silk Road, they were used as fabric to conceive lavish jinbaoris rather than used as a domestic furnishing, since placing the luxury material on the floor did not align with local custom.