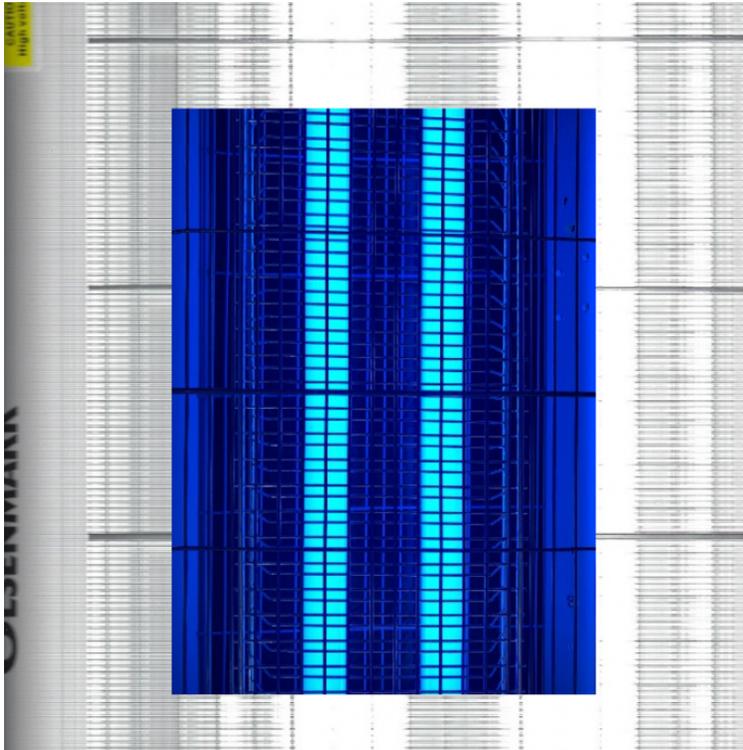


18 April 2022

## How Have New Realities and the Covid Pandemic Impacted Artists and the Arts Sector in the UAE

By Dr. Sofie Kazan

<https://www.sharjahmuseums.ae/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?guid=8f1f59d0-eb93-4eb2-832c-b8aa8da9b6a0>



Other local artists who used the enforced isolation creatively, include Sarah Al Mehairi. Al Mehairi's online "Artists Talks," began in April 2020. Now in its second season, the informal conversations with artists about their work proved to be a great success. Sarah was named one of 2020's "Artists to watch." Al-Mehairi said: "With the pandemic, we started to look inwards as artists." She admitted to recognising how reliant she had become on fairs and museums to inspire and provide a context for her work. Al-Mehairi was due to attend the prestigious Salama bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Emerging Artists Fellowship (SEAF), which she did online and in-person, gaining valuable insights and motivated her artistic practice. *Borrowed and Placed* is from the experimental body of work that belongs to that period. It explores her hyper-awareness of self and surroundings, the interconnection of objects, forms, visible or forced similarities. Like dreams or unfolding pages in a book, this represents a state of betweenness and continuum, connection and communication.