

Mille World

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The Exhibitions to Check Out Within the Region and Beyond This Summer

From Cairo to NYC

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'Backbone' by Salasil, Carbon 12, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

"Backbone" delves into the intricate connections and vulnerabilities of structures that bind and support us, both physically and metaphorically. Running until Aug. 31, the exhibition draws inspiration from the word "سند" in Arabic, which means someone who has your back. "Backbone" examines these concepts through various artistic mediums including painting, sculpture, video, sound, and textiles.

The exhibition invites six artists—Nour Malas, Alia Hamaoui, Malik Thomas Jalil, Kais Dhahifi, Jana Ghalayini, Audrey Large, and Théophile Blandet—who engage in themes of risk and interruption. Malas's spontaneous gestures transport viewers into endless inner voids, capturing the emotional and confrontational; while Hamaoui's work, inspired by architectural structures viewed in motion, distorts and builds spaces that reflect our inner worlds.

Jalil's use of natural materials and delicate textiles crafts feverish narratives of spectral figures, invoking a voyeuristic gaze that traces psychological journeys. Dhahifi integrates industrial aesthetics with engraved aluminum, referencing both ancient knowledge and futuristic technology. Meanwhile, Ghalayini's work reveals personal introspections, transforming presence into proof of existence via traditional weaving methods. Offering new perspectives on the world and questioning what we consider tangible are Large and Blandet, who challenge the reliability of vision through their exploration of distinct visual languages.