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9 Up-And-Coming Gallerists Chart the Path To—and Beyond—Showing at Art Basel Miami Beach

by Sam Falb

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Nadine Knotzer and Kourosh Nori. Image courtesy of Carbon 12.

Carbon 12, Dubai

Nadine Knotzer and Kourosh Nori, Co-Founders

Describe the gallery's year in three words.

"Illinx," collaborations, and Dubai-chocolate!

Can you share the gallery's best moment, and the moment that gave you the most pause this year?

Receiving the acceptance letter from Art Basel for our participation at Art Basel Miami Beach was a very special moment. Together with Nour Malas, we had selected ABMB as the venue to bring her beautiful and powerful project to life. In December 2024, while exhibiting at NADA Miami, we watched the Syrian regime fall. It was an incredible moment in history that we get to show via Malas's eyes exactly a year later in Miami at Art Basel Miami Beach. The moment that gave us the most pause this year was probably somewhere with no phone reception in the mountains.

How are you reflecting on 2025 as you approach 2026?

Proud of a strong year with beautiful exhibitions at the gallery: Edgar Orlaineta's first solo show in the Middle East, Michael Sailstorfer's exhibition teaching us so much about his approach with materials and ways to look at energy, the pleasure of inviting Iraqi/Scottish Malik Jalil Thomas Kydd for his first solo show ever, Bernhard Buhmann, long-term Carbon 12 artist, curatorial debuts with an incredible show, and closing the year with the gallery's 100th exhibition with Gil Heitor Cortesão, marking his 5th solo show at the gallery. Approaching the new year with a new artist representation announcement (more soon), Anahita Razmi's long-awaited solo show, and probably the most exciting moment for the art community in the Middle East: the opening of the inaugural edition of Art Basel Qatar, where we will have the pleasure of exhibiting a solo project with Emirati artist Sarah Almehairi.

What are you hoping to gain from your Art Basel Miami Beach debut?

There is only one first-time showing at Art Basel! We need to make sure we let that sink in and enjoy that moment and the privilege. We are excited to gain new experiences while we share this moment with our artist and strive to place her powerful work in great collections, sparking new and meaningful conversations.

What do your New Year's resolutions look like for the gallery?

We have put so much heart into the gallery, and the first thought and wish is to continue this further, contributing to our art scene and our artists' journeys while building growth. Naturally, with a busy calendar of fairs, travel, and a very small team, we don't get to spend the same amount of time at artists' studios as we did in the past. A resolution and a wish would be to spend more quality hours with our artists in their studios, as well as more one-on-one meetings with collectors. Investing in purposeful gatherings!