Frieze

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What Not to Miss at Frieze Abu Dhabi 2026

https://www.friezeabudhabi.com/en/articles/what-not-to-miss-at-frieze-abu-dhabi-2026



The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi and Frieze reveal highlights from the 89 exhibitors from 37 countries and regions participating in the inaugural edition of Frieze Abu Dhabi, taking place from 19—22 November 2026 at Manarat Al Saadiyat, at the heart of the Saadiyat Cultural District.

Frieze Abu Dhabi begins with the region. Pioneering figures from West Asia, North Africa and South Asia (WANASA) will be presented alongside leading international artists, while objects that once travelled the Indian Ocean will sit alongside ambitious new works by contemporary artists.

Across Galleries , Focus , Frieze Masters Abu Dhabi and Global Futures , the fair brings together presentations spanning centuries, connecting histories, generations and geographies. These connected histories are what make the fair distinct: a place of encounter that is both rooted in the region and global in outlook.

Dyala Nusseibeh, Director, Frieze Abu Dhabi: What is particularly exciting about this inaugural edition is the richness of conversation between artists and galleries from the region and around the world, and the depth of art-historical research underpinning their presentations. Frieze Abu Dhabi is a fair genuinely rooted in Abu Dhabi's cultural landscape, while bringing together extraordinary artistic practices across generations and geographies. From pioneering figures who have shaped the region's art histories to leading international contemporary artists, this edition reflects the diversity of perspectives and connections that make Abu Dhabi such a compelling place for discovery and dialogue.

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Sarah Almehairi engages with space, structure and abstraction, exploring material, language and the construction of identity; Carbon 12 will present works from her Off Centred series, in which surface becomes sculpture and negative space gains material presence.