



## Sunday, May 22 | Day 1

9:00 – 9:30 AM	<b>Registration</b> NYUAD Institute Conference Center Lecture Hall Foyer
9:30 – 9:45 AM	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>  <b>Salwa Mikdadi</b> , New York University AD <b>Nada Shabout</b> , Association for Modern & Contemporary Art <b>Sultan Al Qassemi</b> , Barjeel Art Foundation
9:45 – 11:00 AM	<b>Panel I: Painting: Questions of the Liminal Space</b>  <i>Beyond Figuration: Exploring the space between the abstract and the figurative in Marwan's painting</i> <b>Charlotte Bank</b> , University of Geneva  <i>Sam Francis: The Expansive Edge of 1960s Abstraction</i> <b>Elizabeth Buhe</b> , NYU  <i>Discussant:</i> <b>Anneka Lenssen</b> , UC Berkeley  <b>Q&amp;A</b>
11:00 – 11:30 AM	<b>Break &amp; Refreshments</b> Atrium
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	<b>Panel II: Violence of Abstraction</b>  <i>Clandestine Aesthetics: Abstracted Photography in Wartime Algeria</i> <b>Tina Barouti</b> , Boston University  <i>Part Flesh, Part Data: Permutations of Black Square</i> <b>Sandra Skurvida</b> , FIT-SUNY  <i>Discussant:</i> <b>Saleem Al-Bahloly</b> , Forum Transregionale Studien  <b>Q&amp;A</b>
1:00 – 2:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b> The Torch Club D2
2:00 – 3:30 PM	<b>PANEL III: Anonymous Modalities</b>

*Understanding abstraction in artistic expressions in contemporary media of the Arabian Gulf*

**Maha Al-Saati**, University of Dammam, Saudi Arabia

*Speculation and Spectacle: Oil and Modernization in Kuwait*

**Michael Kubo**, MIT

*Discussant:*

**Jessica Gerschultz**, University of Kansas

### **Q&A**

**3:20 – 4:00 PM**

### **Break & Refreshments**

Atrium

**4:00 – 5:00 PM**

*Curatorial Tour: Diana al Hadid Exhibition*

Maya Allison, NYUAD Chief Curator & Director

**5:00 – 6:30 PM**

### **Break & Refreshments**

Atrium

**6:30 – 8:00 PM**

### **PUBLIC PROGRAM**

NYUAD Conference Center (A6)

*Middle Eastern Films Before Thy Gaze Returns to Thee—in Less than 1/24 of a Second*

**Jalal Toufic**, Director of the School of Visual Arts at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA)

*Immediately followed by a public reception*

## **Monday, May 23 | Day 2**

**9:00 – 9:30 AM**

### **Registration**

Institute Conference Center

Lecture Hall Foyer

**9:30 – 11:00 AM**

### **PANEL IV: Painting: Choosing Abstraction**

*Fahrelnissa Zeid Unbound: Inner Necessity and the Articulation of Abstraction with Representation*

**Adila Laïdi-Hanieh**, Independent Scholar

*Abstraction in Saudi Art: one solution, various situations*

**Eiman Elgibreen**, The Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Saudi Arabia

*Discussant:*

**Nada Shabout**, University of North Texas

### **Q&A**

**End of Day 2**

Tuesday, May 24 | Day 3



Hosted by Barjeel Art Foundation

Al Qasba Theater, Sharjah

Welcome

9:30 AM

Sultan Al Qassemi, BAF

Nada Shabout, AMCA

10:00 – 11:30 AM

**PANEL V: National Narration: Abstraction in Place**

*Architecture-Art-Architecture: Constructing Baghdad's Modernism*  
**Amin Alsaden**, Harvard University

*Abstraction, 'Iranian Modernism,' and the Question of Global-Local Art*  
**Combiz Moussavi-Aghdam**, Art University in Tehran

*Abstraction: Modernization Challenged, Representation Dismantled*  
**Ilhan Ozan**, Research and Programs at SALT, Istanbul

*Discussant:*  
**Salwa Mikdadi**, NYUAD

**Q & A**

11:30 – 11:50 AM

**Break & Refreshments**  
Al Qasba Theater, Sharjah

11:50 – 1:00 PM

**PANEL VI: Abstraction in Performance**

*Dialogical Abstraction in Halim El-Dabh's Expression of Zaar (1944)*  
**Delinda Collier**, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

*Generative abstraction in the media artworks of Mounir Fatmi and Arthur Jafa*  
**Laura Marks**, Simon Fraser University

*Discussant:*  
**Anneka Lenssen**, UC Berkeley

**Q & A**

6:30-7:45 PM

*Unconference: Abstraction Unframed*  
Sharjah Art Museum

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