
'October 17, 2019' Exhibition: From the streets to gallery walls - Christy-Belle Geha

Featured artwork includes photographs, paintings, sculptures, drawings, and installations made of barbed wires, rocks, newspapers, catheters, and screws.

- by [Christy-Belle Geha](#)
- Source: Annahar
- Date added: 8 December 2019
- Last update: 8 December 2019 | 18:19

BEIRUT: Lebanon's October 17 Revolution placed previously silenced artists in the spotlight. Artists moved their artwork from closed spaces and hidden walls, to public streets and immense murals.

Galerie Janine Rubeiz has opened its space to around 50 multidisciplinary artists who widely expressed themselves since the start of the national uprising and collected the rebellions' art work in an eponymous exhibition titled "October 17, 2019."

Nadine Begdache, the gallery's owner, decided to postpone all pre-scheduled exhibitions for the months of November and December to create the revolution-themed exhibition and to support the Lebanese artists of the revolution.

Photographer Manu Ferneini told Annahar how she once felt futureless, in her motherland which she left right after high school to study abroad.

• **NAYA| Speak up, survivors, it's time**

"I always felt a deep frustration, like time was at a standstill. It always seemed like people were living through dysfunction and did not seem to mind," she said. "Suddenly, there was a collective anger release on October 17. More than ever, I feel the need to reclaim the country that was stripped away from me by a corrupt political class. The best way for me to do that is through image-making."

Featured artwork includes photographs, paintings, sculptures, drawings, and installations made of barbed wires, rocks, newspapers, catheters, and screws.

"I think it's important to represent these events in our own alternative ways that fall outside the narrative imposed by the state. We are

leaderless both politically and artistically,” added Ferneini.

Aya Debes, another participating artist, explained how “people can’t separate themselves from the reality they’re unwillingly immersed in, so the artist is fully involved in what’s seen and felt by people.”

Ghassan Ouais, visual artist, realized that “the revolution caused the people to let out their muffled screams.”

“As an artist, you are capturing the eye of the seeker and the revolution. The purpose of this art is to let people connect with their imagination and make them understand the bitter-sweetness of their surroundings.”

The exhibition is subject to modifications and regular updates following the development of events.

The participating artists are Andra Kandil, Aya Debs, Ara Azad, Frederic Hussein, Ghassan Ouais, Nada Matta, Jacques Vartabedian, Lee Frederix, Ghada Zoughby, Dana Halawani, Thierry Chehab, Karim Chehade, Petram Chalach, Sacha Abou Khalil, Selim Mawad, Vincent Bassil, Zeina Badran, Ziad El Hage, Raghid Jomaa, Liane Rabbath, Lina Hussein, Kassim Dabaji, Lama Chidiac, Manu Ferneini, Michel Imad, Nancy Tohmé, Soha Ghandour, Marie Nassar, Sarah Richani, Marilyn Mokbel, Samar Mougharbel, Tania Nasr, Maria Bacha, Yasmine Bacha, Albert Saikali, Jamil Malaeb, Laure Ghorayeb, Hanibal Srouji, Mansour El Habre, Leila Jabre Jureidini, Alain Vassoyan, Elie bourgély, Rached Bohsali, Joseph Harb, and Greta Naufal.

-
-
-