

Art Destination Jordan

Art Events

## Darat al Funun - 30th Anniversary



## Truth is black, write over it with a mirage's light - 1

30th Anniversary Inaugural Exhibition

13 February - 17 May 2018

Darat al Funun, Amman

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Thirty years ago Suha Shoman and supporters launched an initiative in support of contemporary artists from Jordan and the Arab world, laying the foundation for what would become Darat al Funun, a 'home for the arts'. It became a meeting place for artists, a hub for artistic practices, experimentation, and critical discourse, and an oasis for researchers and fellows, in the midst of the turmoil surrounding us. Artists, performers, architects, designers, archaeologists, researchers, poets, writers, musicians, and filmmakers believed in a common vision.

Today, Darat al Funun is housed in six renovated historical buildings dating from the 1920s, with restored archaeological remains in the garden of a Byzantine church built over a Roman temple. In addition to programming exhibitions, artist talks, film screenings, performances, poetry readings and concerts, Darat launched the Summer Academy in 1999, ran multi-disciplinary workshops, initiated an exchange residency program, opened The Lab for experimental art projects, established a Ph.D. fellowship for academic studies on Arab art, and more.

Starting around the millennium, the world as we knew it imploded. Wars brought political and socio-cultural upheavals, population transfers, identity crises, and environmental disasters. Lost causes still await resolution. The internet age and social media accelerated globalization.

For its anniversary, Darat al Funun invited artists of all disciplines to pause and reflect, to re-imagine our world, and to reinvent their narrative, following the challenge set by Mahmoud Darwish in his poem 'To A Young Poet':

*Truth is black, write over it  
with a mirage's light*

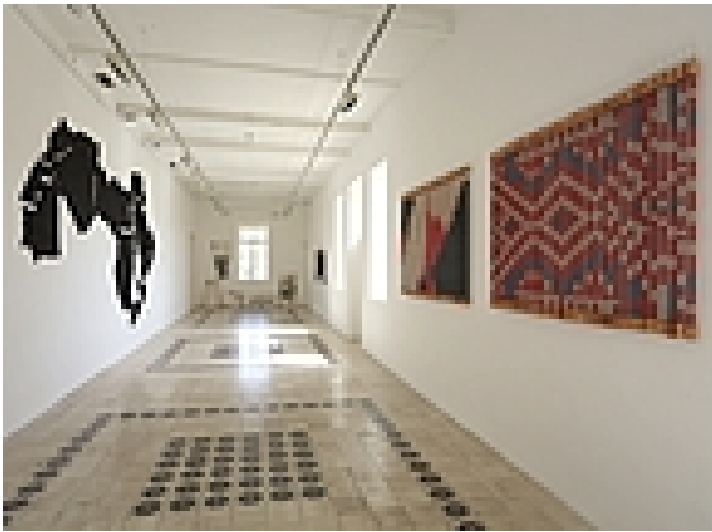
Over one hundred artists answered the call. In three phased exhibitions planned for 2018, established artists side by side with emerging artists will be featured, together forming a constellation of new narratives and interrogations.

Participating artists in this first exhibition are:

Akram Zaatari (Lebanon), Amal Kenawy (Egypt), Ayham Alsammak (Jordan), Dana Kaoukji (Jordan), Dana Rousan (Jordan), Dina Mufti (Jordan), Firas Shehadeh (Jordan), Hassan Khan (Egypt), Haya Abdul Hameed (Jordan), Himat Ali (Iraq), Hosam Omran (Jordan), Ibn Talib (Jordan), Isidro López-Aparicio (Spain), Jihad Al Ameri (Jordan), Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige (Lebanon), Marwan Rechmaoui (Lebanon), Mohamad Badarne (Palestine), Mohammed Zakaria (Jordan), Munjed Qasim (Jordan), Oraib Toukan (Jordan), Rabih Mroué (Lebanon), Rana ElNemr (Egypt), Sahel Al Hiyari (Jordan), Tala Abdulhadi (Jordan), Wasim Zaid Habashneh (Jordan), Yasmeen Sabri (Jordan), and Yasmine Alnabulsi (Jordan).

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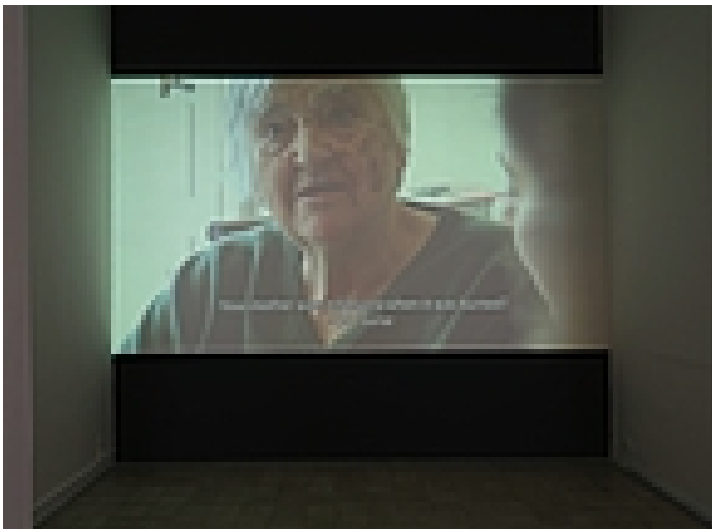
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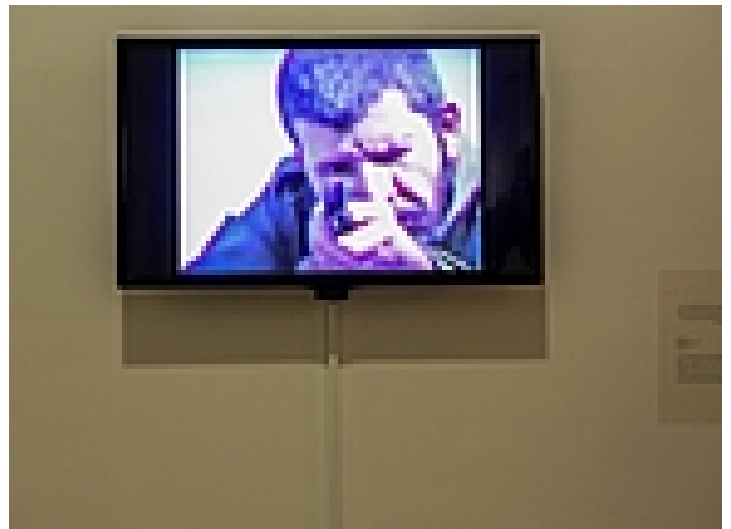
Exhibition view



Hadjithomas & Joreige



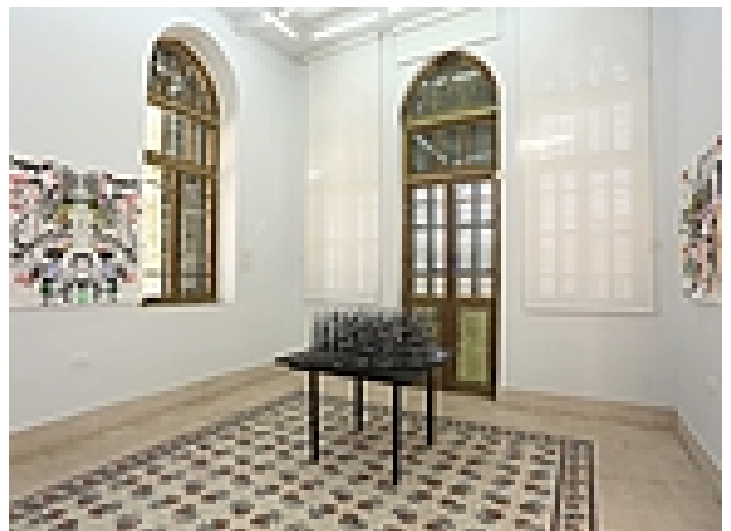
Hadjithomas & Joreige



Rabih Mroué



Isidro López-Aparicio



Exhibition view.

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Second Exhibition:  
3 July - 4 October 2018

Third Exhibition:  
23 October 2018 - 24 January 2019

The exhibitions will be accompanied by a full program of artist talks and performances, films from our archive selected by artists, a cultural production seminar and an archival exhibition curated by the Darat al Funun fellows, curators in conversation, workshops, performances, and more.

(From press information)

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## Address, opening hours

### Darat al Funun

The Khalid Shoman Foundation  
13 Nadeem al Mallah St.  
Jabal al Weibdeh  
Amman  
Jordan

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Email](#)

[Location on map](#)

Opening hours:

Sat - Thu 10 am - 7 pm

Fri closed

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*Related content*



## Darat al Funun 30-3

23 Oct. 2018 - 14 March 2019. Third of the exhibition series to celebrate the 30th anniversary. Extensive photo tour.



## Darat al Funun 30-2

3 July - 4 Oct. 2018. Second exhibition to celebrate 30 years of succesful work to support contemporary art in Jordan.



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**Darat al Funun**

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The most important Jordanian art center, located in six historical buildings, with an archaeological site in the garden.

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## Al Weibdeh walking tour

From Paris Square down the hill through meandering streets and stairways to Darat al Funun

## Art exhibitions and events

### Art Destination Jordan

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Web guide, including informative photo tours with interactive maps and special presentations of venues, sites, events

In cooperation with the  
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