



**10** DEC 2009

# Dubai's Renowned Artspace Gallery Proudly Presents Palestinian artist Kamal Boullata

*A diverse and moving exhibition of contemporary paintings*

Artspace Gallery is pleased to be showcasing an innovative selection of works by the Palestinian Artist Kamal Boullata at an exhibition that is taking place from the 9th to 31st of December.

Boullata's work is well regarded around the world and is considered one of Palestine's great contemporary artists. His works are included in public collections and important institutions such as The British Museum, London; Institute du Monde Arabe, Paris; New York Public Library, New York; The Khalid Shoman Foundation, Amman; Jordan National Gallery, Amman, Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah and the Bibliotheque Louis Notari, Monaco.

Boullata is also known for writings on Arab and Palestinian art. He has published books and written articles which have appeared in anthologies, periodicals and exhibition catalogues.

Abdulla bin Hamad Bin Sougat, Chief Executive Officer of DIFC Lifestyle Group, said "The Dubai International Financial Centre is keen to continuously enhance its offerings in the field of art and culture for both its community and the wider public in Dubai. As Kamal Boullata is one of the Arab World's contemporary art prodigies, hosting his exhibition at the Gate Village is an

important event that enriches the arts and culture calendar in the region. Bullata's works have been welcomed and showcased by the finest art institutions around the world. Now Artspace is providing an opportunity to art lovers in the UAE and the region to view his masterpieces."

The paintings on display will present Arabic words and numbers, expressing the relationships between geometry, color and light. Boullata's inspiration comes from Al-Hasan Ibn Al-Haitham, who was a calligrapher, mathematician and physicist among many other things. This particular exhibition of Boullata's works is dedicated to this leading Arab pioneer.

### **The Middle East Art Fund**

Young countries, with young eyes are seeing the world differently and re-producing sights, sounds and textures in fresh and exciting new ways. Major work from the Arab Middle East and surrounding countries is sweeping into the art world and major auction houses as an important new contender. This fast moving, rapidly evolving new Middle East art market led to Daman Investments developing an innovative new fund devoted to contemporary regional art - the Daman Middle East Art Fund. Launched in the first quarter of 2008 with a capital of AED 50 Million, qualified, interested investors and grass roots art connoisseurs known to the Manager were invited to form a new fund that could take part in and capitalize on this rapidly evolving, dynamic new entry into the global art scene. The Middle East Art Fund strictly invests in contemporary art with a specific focus on the Middle East with a clear objective to capitalize on that interest while contributing to the expansion of art within Middle Eastern and regional culture as well as across borders. Sponsoring projects and incubating new artists is part of the activities undertaken by the Fund in projects ranging from sponsoring the publication of new authors to funding group exhibitions and one man shows. The Fund is on a constant lookout for Middle Eastern artists globally, who have a strong potential to outperform. The Fund rigorously evaluates each art piece and its provenance as well as the artist prior to making the investment.