

MOUFEH



INFLUENTIAL

Fashion • Art • Activism

GET CREATIVE

READY FOR -ING?

Injecting a dose of art and design to the culture scene in Dubai is the much-awaited -Ing Creative Festival. Back for its fourth consecutive year, the event – taking place at Dubai Design District from April 11-13 – will bring together renowned designers, animators and calligraphers from across the globe. Creative minds and their enthusiasts can learn tricks of the trade from industry experts, while participating in workshops hosted by calligrapher Seb Lester, graphic designer Jessica Walsh – best known for her collaborations with Jay-Z, Levi's, Adobe and *The New York Times* – and 'design junkie' Mitch Sinclair. Other notable speakers include Google's senior designer Joel Beukelman and advertising guru Ramsey Naja. Choose from around 50 workshops, spread across three days to take your talent to the next level. A three-day pass is available for Dhs920; Ingcreatives.com



Sunny The RV, Salvation Mountain California, Frankie Rattford, courtesy of the artist

Clothing, WINDE RIENSTRA



SPOTLIGHT ON: WINDE RIENSTRA

Dutch-born Winde Rienstra had one goal at the age of 12, to be a fashion designer. "I just knew I wanted to do something creative," she says. That dream waned with time, as she tested out other careers, including being an art teacher. It was only until she watched The Lunatics perform at a theatre festival that she realised her true calling was in fashion. "The costumes were interesting, the nature setting, décor with the lighting in the dunes – it was just magical," she says. Visiting the Middle East for the first time for -Ing Creative Festival, Winde will be hosting two accessory design workshops this year (April 11 and 12, 2:50pm - 5:50pm) while retailing accessories, and exhibiting a selection of handbags and shoes. The fashion designer's latest collection is inspired by the Royal Eise Eisinga Planetarium in Franeker, Netherlands, for which the Tilburg Textile Museum has helped her develop three designs on their unique machinery. "I'm looking forward to interacting with the talent," she says about -Ing Creative Festival. "I'm looking forward to meeting new people with different perspectives to inspire me." As for the future? Winde is working on several collaboration projects, "which I am very excited about."

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My main source of inspiration is the Planetarium of Eise Eisinga (1971) in Franeker.

Winde Rienstra

From left: Untitled artwork from *Resurrection Series*, Khaled Zaki, courtesy of the artist; *Mr. W*, Atelier M paintings, courtesy of the artist



A TALE OF REALITY

French artist, Myriam Schryve paints under the name 'Atelier M paintings', and has always been drawn to items that are slightly unconventional. *Mr. W* is part of her Inner Vision exhibition, which takes into consideration the limitations of the visually impaired. Each piece portrays a person the artist followed for 10 years, and each painting is known to provoke a reaction. Meanwhile, Egyptian artist Khaled Zaki's series of nine sculptures are on display at Tabari Artspace. Comprised of marble, his untitled work — inspired by shrapnel from the aftermath of the Egyptian revolution of 2011 — depicts the geopolitical unrest in the Middle East. *Inner Vision at La Galerie, Alliance Francaise Dubai, until May 5; Resurrection at Tabari Artspace, until April 25*

FUSING ART FORMS

"[I have] a desire to create paintings and sculptures. It ends up being your existence, obsession and necessity," says Manolo Valdés, a celebrated Spanish artist who is exhibiting in the UAE this month. "The Dubai show is very special because it is the first time I am going to a country where few people know my work." Manolo's topic types include portraits, still-life and landscape, and he is excited to showcase his work in the Middle East. "When I travel to a new place, I open my eyes more and I get very excited because I am going to encounter something new." Manolo has plans to exhibit in Geneva, Zurich and Italy later this year but, for now, is focusing on Dubai. "In addition to paintings, I am bringing monumental sculptures that will be installed on the streets, which means that even those people who will not visit the exhibition itself will still be able to see my work and enjoy it." *At Opera Gallery Dubai, until April 14*

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Nothing would make me happier than the Dubai public connecting to my work.

Manolo Valdés





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Get your fascinators ready for the Dubai Polo Gold Cup 2018, taking place on April 6-13 at Al Habtoor Polo & Resort Club. A series of the two premier Polo Tournaments in the Middle East, this cup is a medium eight-to-ten goal handicap tournament that witnesses Dubai's socialites in their finest attire. The family-friendly event is a calendar highlight, and one not to be missed. DubaiPoloGoldCup.com

New Zealand and Australian chefs Jesse Blake (left) and Kate Christou are launching a new food concept, Lowe, in partnership with KOA, to re-energise the food scene in the UAE



From left: Flair No. 5, The Ritz Carlton DIFC; Mina Brasserie, Four Seasons Hotel DIFC



DINING HOTSPOTS

DIFC has become a gastronomic hub at the centre of the city, especially with the launch of **Mina Brasserie** in the region's Four Seasons Hotel. A contemporary eatery complete with a sprawling al fresco terrace, guests can expect seasonal dishes including za'atar salmon and caviar with shallot potato cake, succulent wood-fired lamb chops, and decadent desserts such as the restaurant's s'mores bar. **Flair No. 5** at The Ritz-Carlton, DIFC is another place to visit for chilled out lounge beats and a botanically-influenced menu comprising sharing-style dishes such as charred rosemary flatbread. Sit back, unwind and "build your own drink" with a selection of fruits, herbs and spices. And keep your eyes peeled for **Lowe**, the all-new gourmet concept by KOA launching on The Palm Jumeirah this April. With New Zealand and Australian chefs Jesse Blake and Kate Christou at the helm of the kitchen, diners are in for a treat — the menu focuses on a sustainable and homegrown philosophy that is very of the moment.