

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ayyam  gallery



Abdul-Karim Majdal Al-Beik, *Pain*, 2012, mixed media on canvas, 180 x 180 cm

SUMMER COLLECTIVE

YOU + TOPIA II

18 June – 12 September 2019

Ayyam Gallery is pleased to present the second edition of *you + topia*, a collective exhibition featuring the works of leading contemporary artists from the Middle East.

About the Show

Over five hundred years ago, Sir Thomas More wrote 'Utopia'; a novel proposing an ideal form of human organisation. The word 'utopia' translates as 'no place', existing only as an unreachable state of perfection. Yet 'no place' is exactly how this generation feels about the idea of belonging. Instead, we live in a world where the majority of citizens have lost their hope in the existence of a system able to accommodate all of its inhabitants.

you + topia touches on cultural, social, and geo-political problems of contemporary Middle- Eastern artists. These artists use art as a battleground to reflect on anxiety and optimism, while offering a place of resistance in a climate where we co-exist between war and terror. In order to maintain identity within the ever-changing landscape between real and ideal, the artists depict their true tones through images of collapsing worlds and places of tension. In the meanwhile, the desire and expectations of a true 'utopia' reside on the borderline; a place of obstruction.

Featured in this exhibition are works by the artists, Rula Halawani, Abdul-Karim Majdal al-Beik, Sama Alshaiibi, Afshin Pirhashemi, Mouteea Murad, Tammam Azzam, Ammar Al Beik, and Faisal Samra.

About Ayyam Gallery

Founded in 2006, Ayyam Gallery is a leading arts organization that manages the careers of diverse established and emerging artists. Blue-chip art space in Dubai, a series of collaborative projects in the United States, Europe, Africa and Asia, and a multinational non-profit arts program have furthered the gallery's mandate of expanding the parameters of international art. With its widely respected multilingual publishing division and a custodianship program that manages the estates of pioneering artists, Ayyam Gallery has also contributed to recent efforts that document underrepresented facets of global art history.

Exhibition Facts

Exhibitions Dates: 18 June - 12 September 2019

Regular Hours: Sun - Thur : 10 am - 6 pm

Location: Ayyam Gallery, B11, Alserkal Avenue, Street 8, Al Quoz 1, Dubai

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