

PRESS KIT SEPTEMBER 2017

**BEIRUT
ART
FAIR**

21/24 SEPT 2017

beirut-art-fair.com

Beirut, Lebanon

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21/24 SEPT 2017



8TH EDITION

BEIRUT ART FAIR

SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2017

PRESS KIT

September 2017

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ORIENT YOUR MIND!

In this, its eighth edition, BEIRUT ART FAIR continues its commitment to a strong and unique engagement with the world of contemporary art in highlighting the artistic scenes of Lebanon and the Arab world. International recognition of the fair continues to grow alongside the number of participating artists, reflecting the global interest surrounding the preoccupations, concerns and interests which inspire their work. Our wish is to amplify these voices, and this year the fair presents a hitherto unseen selection of both new galleries and focused exhibitions, including one specifically tied to the notion of Arab identity.

The focus of the 2017 edition of BEIRUT ART FAIR is threefold: to foster a spirit of expansion and renewal, to promote the discovery of young talents, and to unfold a new perspective on the recent history of creation and collecting in Lebanon.

For the second consecutive year, in both its main section and in REVEALING, BEIRUT ART FAIR has opted to use greater selectivity in its choices, in an effort to better meet the expectations of collectors, galleries and influencers. This year, 51 galleries from 23 countries have confirmed their participation in the fair, and we are pleased to welcome a fresh and exciting group of international galleries. We are well aware that a principal motivation for galleries participating in BEIRUT ART FAIR is the chance to encounter an established, structured market. More than anywhere else in the Middle East, the scene in Beirut offers a dense and diverse network of collectors, both local and international, situated in a context of profound culture and openness to the world. This is the market that we hope to export beyond the Lebanese borders.

In this regard, BEIRUT ART FAIR reinforces its program, headed by a centerpiece exhibition focused on Lebanese collections and curated by Rose Issa.

Rose Issa, a London-based, Lebanese-Iranian author, curator, and internationally recognized specialist in Middle East contemporary art, will curate *OUROUBA, THE EYE OF LEBANON*, exploring the recent, complex history of the concept of "Arabicity." Featuring loans from the most important private and public collections in Lebanon, the exhibition will highlight the aesthetic, conceptual and socio-political concerns that have surfaced in the Arab world over the last decade, while offering visitors the keys to better comprehend these issues.

BEIRUT ART FAIR will also include a space dedicated to Khalil Gibran's renowned *The Prophet*, illustrated by Rachid Koraïchi. For the first time, Gibran's illustrations, created for the first English edition of *The Prophet* in 1923, are presented alongside Rachid Koraïchi's latest interpretation consisting of 49 drawings as a message of hope and peace.

Through the support of Bankmed, our long-time partner, BEIRUT ART FAIR presents an exhibition on "Food Art." Mixing poetry and humor with aesthetic and culinary research, the exhibition offers an exploration of the relationship between art and culinary creation.

Finally, BEIRUT ART FAIR increases its selection and space dedicated to the second edition of REVEALING, a platform upon which the fair can both showcase and support a number of promising young artists.

For the 6th consecutive year, we are also proud to welcome the BYBLOS BANK AWARD, whose mission is to encourage young Lebanese photographers by offering them privileged access to the main players in the market. For the second time, the award will be accompanied by a workshop led by internationally renowned French photographer Aurélie Pétreil, whom the fair has invited to work with two young Lebanese photographers.

In order to promote familiarity with and understanding of the various regional art scenes, BEIRUT ART FAIR 2017 will also present a series of roundtable discussions and debates, alongside a VIP program that includes visits to studios, private collections and museums.

We would like to thank His Excellency Mr. Saad Hariri, President of the Council of Ministers, for his patronage, as well as all of our partners, and especially cultural institutions, including the Culture and Tourism Ministries of Lebanon, the Institut Français du Liban, and the Lebanon Tourist Office in Paris. We would also like to express our gratitude to Bankmed, our main partner since the creation of the fair, our privileged partner Société Générale de Banque au Liban, Byblos Bank, the Hotel Le Gray, Commercial Insurance and the media. Their support is what makes this 8th edition of BEIRUT ART FAIR possible.

We would also like to extend our warmest thanks to the members of our selection committee: Basel Dalloul, Abraham Karabajakian and Tarek Nahas, who for the second consecutive year have generously offered their support, trust and friendship.

LAURE D'HAUTEVILLE

Founder & Fair Director

BEIRUT ART FAIR

BEIRUT ART FAIR was created in 2010 and is directed by Laure d'Hauteville, an exhibition curator and former journalist. BEIRUT ART FAIR's Artistic Director is Pascal Odille, an expert in modern and contemporary art (member of C.N.E.S.). Marine Bougaran directs the fair's photography section as well as its "Projects" spaces.

The 7th edition of BEIRUT ART FAIR, which took place in September 2016, included 45 galleries from 20 countries and welcomed more than 23,000 visitors (compared to 21,000 in 2015). The event registered a turnover of \$3.2 million, representing a 25% increase in average earnings per gallery compared to the previous year.

Since its first edition in 2010, which gathered 30 galleries, 30 artists and 30 works for a turnover of approximately USD \$800,000, BEIRUT ART FAIR has established itself as a must-see event for Lebanese collectors and for anyone interested in the art of the region.

The streamlined 2016 edition of BEIRUT ART FAIR was marked by a focused emphasis on developing and solidifying the fair's quality and reputation. As a result, BEIRUT ART FAIR is a stronger and more assertive platform, able to meet the expectations of a new generation of regional and international art lovers and collectors.

Discovery and rediscovery are the pillars on which the identity of this fresh, energetic, one-of-a-kind fair is founded.

BEIRUT ART FAIR offers a singular space characterized by a degree of freedom of expression and cultural diversity unmatched in the region, helping it to highlight and promote the specificities of the Middle East's vibrant creative art scene.

The contemporary creative scene in Beirut is distinguished by a tremendous energy, supported by the presence of an established market based on a network of important historical galleries and exciting young ones. Along with Lebanon's traditional openness to the world (most notably thanks to the vast Lebanese diaspora), these criteria represent the strength of the Lebanese capital and of BEIRUT ART FAIR.

In 2017, BEIRUT ART FAIR presents:

- 51 participating galleries (including 29 first-time participants)
- 23 countries*
- 230 artists
- 1,400 works of art

*Algeria, Armenia, Bahrain, Belgium, Chile, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, Sultanate of Oman, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and Uruguay

BEIRUT ART WEEK

From September 19 to 26, BEIRUT ART WEEK continues its annual tradition of bringing contemporary art to the heart of Beirut.

This unique, offsite program will include 27 offerings that highlight the cultural heritage of Beirut, deployed in public spaces and in some of the city's most prestigious shops. BEIRUT ART WEEK is supported by Lebanon's Ministries of Culture and of Tourism, the Municipality of Beirut, Solidere, and by participating boutiques.

This artistic circuit showcases important works including one by Romero Britto in partnership with the Beirut Marathon, in addition to the monumental sculptures of Mauro Corda and of Helidon Xhixha. An open-air cinema will also unfold on the terraces of the Opera Gallery in collaboration with the Festival of Lebanese Film. Dedicated to short films, this projection will also pay homage to internationally renowned and award-winning directors.

September 19 program

6pm	Hotel Le Gray - Welcome drink
6:45pm	Paneraï, cocktail
7:15pm	Boutique Hermès, cocktail
8:15pm	Boutique ELIE SAAB, cocktail and viewing of the Ready to Wear Collection Fall Winter 2017-2018
9pm	Opera Gallery, cocktail and showing of three short films in collaboration with the Lebanese Film Festival:

Submarine (2016) by Mounia Akl follows the rebellious young Hala through the garbage crisis in Lebanon as she refuses to leave in spite of the risks that surround her. The film was nominated to the 2016 Cannes Film Festival as well as to the International Mediterranean Film Festival of Montpellier. It was awarded at the Dubai International Film Festival, the Denver International Festival, and the Atlanta Film Festival.

Waves 98 (2015) by Ely Dagher takes place in Beirut's chaotic suburbs and follows the story of the teenage Omar in an adventure that will change his life forever. The film was awarded the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival in 2015 and was awarded at the Chicago International Film Festival, the Tampere Film Festival, and the Namur International French-Language Film Festival.

After Shave (2005) by Hany Tamba recounts the story of Abou Milad, an elderly, roaming barber who lost his salon during the Lebanese civil war, and of the day when the reclusive Monsieur Raymond calls upon his services. The film won a César for best short film in 2006, was awarded at the International Film Festival of Clermont-Ferrand, and was also nominated at the Locarno International Film Festival.

BEIRUT ART WEEK offers its visitors a singular, one-of-a-kind experience of the streets at the heart of Beirut.

For more info : <https://www.beirut-art-fair.com/beirut-art-week.html>

FOOD ART BY BANKMED LEMONS AND RAINBOWS

This year, Bankmed lends its support to a refreshing, playful and collaborative exhibition with the objective of revealing the artistic dimensions of food.

Mixing poetry and humor with aesthetic and culinary research, the exhibition offers an exploration of the relationship between artistic formation and culinary creation and presents the work of artists **HALA AUDI BAYDOUN, JOSEPH EL KHOURY, LINA SHAMMA** and **RAFFI TOKATLIAN**.

Through her conception of a "fountain of contemporary art," Nelly Zeidan Choucair, the curator of the exhibition, has developed a reflection on the theme of *juicing* – in which drinking becomes a synonym for eating – focused on lemons, the Mediterranean fruit *par excellence*.

Present in literature since Antiquity, food has occupied the field of contemporary art since the 1960s, when Daniel Spoerri became one of the first to use food in his artistic practice.

Today, Food Art unites creators of multiple backgrounds and viewpoints for whom food nourishes the subconscious and the imagination. The varied consistencies, colors and flavors of food serve also as a foundation for works of art in their own right. Food's perishable nature means that each piece of Food Art acquires an element of ephemerality. One's manner of consumption is also a reflection of one's way of life and of one's ideas; of one's mode of organization and one's politics.

"So, would you like a piece of contemporary art?" Nelly Zeidan Choucair playfully asks.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

THREE MAJOR LEBANESE COLLECTORS

BEIRUT ART FAIR's selection committee includes three of Lebanon's most important art collectors.

The continuity of their commitment to the fair and the value of their expertise provide BEIRUT ART FAIR with an exceptional guarantee of coherence and stability. These prominent actors are in direct contact with the artistic networks of Beirut, of Lebanon and of the region as a whole. Their participation in the selection committee reflects a common desire to establish, share and transmit a broader vision of contemporary creation in the Levant.

Basel DALLOUL

Based in Beirut and Cairo, Basel Dalloul is the Chairman and CEO of Noor Group, a leader in the field of information technology that provides internet, telephone and video services to over 135 countries across the globe. Dalloul is a recognized authority in IT and was among the initiators of a revolutionary approach to Internet services in the Egyptian market, while also pioneering the delivery of Internet access to underserved areas in Africa and the Middle East. One of the most important collectors in the region, he has gathered some 3,500 exceptional works into the Ramzi and Saeda Dalloul Art Foundation: mostly paintings and sculptures, with recent additions of installations, photography, and video art.

Abraham KARABAJAKIAN

Abraham Karabajakian is the founder of Loyalty Investments & Insurance in Lebanon and Loyalty Insurance Brokers in Romania. In 2010 he co-organized and curated the exhibition *Pieces for a Museum* in order to raise awareness of the need for a modern and contemporary art museum in Beirut. In 2012, Karabajakian and his business partner Roger Akoury opened KA Modern and Contemporary Art, a private collection of modern and contemporary art - partly on view in the "KA" space near Beirut's Marina of Dbayeh - that includes more than 600 works by major artists from Lebanon. He is also a co-founder and member of the Board of Trustees for BeMA - Beirut Museum of Arts, and serves as vice-president for the Mare Foundation - Museum of Recent Art in Bucharest.

Tarek NAHAS

Tarek Nahas is a business lawyer whose passion for photography has led him to build an important collection of works since 2000. Nahas loves to share his passion with a wider audience, as he did in the 2015 exhibition *Open Rhapsody, a Journey into Photography and Video Collections* at the Beirut Exhibition Center, which he co-curated with Jean-Luc Monterosso (Director of La Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris).

Nahas is also a member of several committees at major contemporary art museums in Europe.

PARTICIPATING GALLERIES

Classic booths: 35 galleries and institutions, including 15 first-time participants*

- 392rmeil393 Lebanon
- Agial Art Gallery Lebanon
- Aida Cherfan Fine Art Gallery Lebanon
- Albareh Art Gallery Bahrain
- Alfred Basbous Foundation* Lebanon
- Analix Forever* Switzerland
- Aramé Art Gallery* Armenia
- Artspace Hamra Lebanon
- Artistique Gallery* Qatar
- Artlab Lebanon
- Bel Air Fine Art Gallery France, Switzerland, Italy, Lebanon
- Boghossian Foundation* Belgium
- ContiniArtUK* United Kingdom
- D21 Art Projects* Chile
- EMMAGOSS Lebanon
- Espace Jacques Ouaiss Lebanon
- Galerie Fadi Mogabgab Lebanon
- Galerie Nathalie Obadia* France, Belgium
- Rochane Galerie d'Art* Lebanon
- Galerie Tanit Lebanon
- Galerie Esther Woerdehoff* France
- Gallery One Palestine
- Gowen Contemporary Switzerland
- Hafez Gallery* Saudi Arabia
- Hajer Azzouz La maison de la plage* Tunisia
- Hamazkayin Lucy Tutunjian Art Gallery Lebanon
- Kapopoulos Fine Arts* Greece
- Kozah Art Gallery Syria
- LAS Lebanese Autism Society Lebanon
- Les Ateliers sauvages Algeria
- Mark Hachem Lebanon, France, United States
- Slotine* France
- South Border Gallery Lebanon
- Wadi Finan Art Gallery
- & Linda Aboukhater Jordan
- YenakArt Villa* Thailand

For more information, please see the appendix

REVEALING BY SGBL

DISCOVERING THE MOST PROMISING YOUNG TALENTS OF THE ME.NA REGION

REVEALING by SGBL seeks to give a chance to the best young artists of the ME.NA region by offering a platform for them to 'get discovered'. Each selected gallery will showcase an artist of especially promising talent, offering privileged access for collectors and fairgoers and promoting the creation of professional contacts among the various actors present at the fair.

The 2017 edition of REVEALING by SGBL will welcome 26 galleries, including 16 first-time participants*.

- 392rmeil393 Lebanon
- Archiraar Gallery* Belgium
- Artlab Lebanon
- Art Sablon* Belgium / United Kingdom
- Artspace Hamra Lebanon
- Begramoff* Belgium
- Christian Berst* France
- Galerie Dominique Fiat* France
- Galerie Esther Woerdehoff* France
- Galerie Comparative – Artisyoun* France
- Galerie Danielle Bourdette-Gorzowski* France
- Galerie Depardieu* France
- Galerie Détails* France
- Gallery One Palestine
- Gowen Contemporary Switzerland
- Mark Hachem Lebanon, France, United States
- Hafez Gallery* Saudi Arabia
- L&B Contemporary Art Gallery* Spain
- Mashrabia Gallery of Contemporary Art Egypt
- Polansky Gallery* Czech Republic
- Salwa Zeidan Gallery United Arab Emirates
- Riwaq Oman Gallery* Oman
- South Border Lebanon
- Trazos Gallery* Uruguay
- Wadi Finan Art Gallery
& Linda Aboukhater Jordan
- Zawyeh Gallery* Palestine

For more information, please see the appendix

REVEALING by SGBL is made possible through the support of Société Générale de Banque au Liban.

CENTERPIECE EXHIBITION

OUROUBA, THE EYE OF LEBANON by ROSE ISSA

Since 2001, Arab societies have been powerless witnesses to violent events which have brought not only chaos in their midst, but also the frightening extension, on a scale both national and international, of a terrorism purporting to be 'Islamic.'

The disintegration of the Arab world, with its succession of violence, war and the pillaging of historical sites in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Yemen, Libya and Lebanon, has led to a sense of collective urgency which directs creative minds of the region to reflect even more intensely on life – on its resilience and beauty – despite the surrounding mental and physical chaos. How do artists from this region, many of them secular, express, offset, or avoid the turbulence, corruption, humiliation and surveillance so present in their daily lives? How do they express *ourouba* – *arabicity* – a sense of their Arab identity?

The exhibition ***Ourouba, The Eye of Lebanon*** at the heart of BEIRUT ART FAIR 2017 focuses on artistic productions and acquisitions of the 21st century and features installations, paintings, photography, video and sculptures from major private and institutional collections throughout Lebanon. Curated by London-based expert and specialist of the Arab world Rose Issa, ***Ourouba*** reflects the aesthetic, conceptual and socio-political concerns of the Arab region over the past fifteen years. Following the success of the *Arabicity* exhibition at the Bluecoat Gallery in Liverpool (UK) in 2010 and *Arabicity II* at the Beirut Exhibition Centre in 2011, ***Ourouba, The Eye of Lebanon*** celebrates life and memory, deconstruction and reconstruction, turbulence and peace, and, occasionally, humour. A reflection on the recent history of the Arab world unites the selected works.

In the currently booming and vibrant cultural scene of Beirut, ***Ourouba*** demonstrates the ways in which artists and collectors with different tastes and visions challenge the confines of their identities and reshape the borders of their cultural traditions.

After exploring some twenty public and private collections in Lebanon and selecting 62 works by 39 artists, Rose Issa emphasizes the fact that certain collectors are also artists, and their homes often true works of art. These personal collections, both large and small, are quite different from certain monumental institutional collections being developed under on-going censorship in the Gulf.

Although many collections include Western artists, and others mix antiquities and modern art with contemporary artworks, the pieces selected for this exhibition reflect a 21st century aesthetic and the socio-political concerns of Arab artists. The collectors who have supported these artists and underpinned the relevance of their work form the foundation of ***Ourouba, The Eye of Lebanon***.

Ourouba demonstrates the various routes and roots that nourish artists from the Arab world, whether they live in the region or abroad. The selected works reflect the events

that have shaped their artistic research, their aesthetic choices and their personal journeys.

List of Participating Artists

- Youssef Abdelke (1951-, Qamishli, Syria)
- Adel Abidin (1973-, Baghdad, Iraq)
- Ziad Abillama (1969-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Ziad Antar (1978-, Saida, Lebanon)
- Nadim Asfar (1976-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Kader Attia (1970-, Dugny, France)
- Ayman Baalbaki (1975-, Odeissé, Lebanon)
- Oussama Baalbaki (1978-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Mohamad Said Baalbaki (1974-, Odeissé, Lebanon)
- Marwan Kassab Bachi (1934-2016, Damascus, Syria)
- Ginane Bacho (1947-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Serwan Baran (1968-, Baghdad, Iraq)
- Jean Boghossian (1949-, Aleppo, Syria)
- Zoulikha Bouabdellah (1977-, Moscow, Russia, Algerian / French)
- Ali Cherri (1976-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Ziad Dalloul (1953-, Soueida, Syria)
- Tagreed Darghouth (1979-, Saïda, Lebanon)
- Ali Omar Ermes (1945-, Tripoli, Libya)
- Mounir Fatmi (1970-, Tangier, Morocco)
- Mona Hatoum (1952-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Abdul Rahman Katanani (1983-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Hana Mallalah (1958-, Thee Qar, Iraq)
- Ahmed Mater (1979-, Tabouk, Saudi Arabia)
- Randa Mirza (1978-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Nabil Nahas (1949-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Mahmoud Obaidi (1966-, Baghdad, Iraq)
- Walid Raad (1967-, Chbanieh, Lebanon)
- Mohammad Rawas (1951-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Raeda Saadeh (1977-, Umm, al-Fahm, Palestine)
- Tanya Bakaklain Safieddine (1954-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Marwan Sahmarani (1970-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Nada Sehnaoui (1958-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Amer Shomali (1981-, Kuwait)
- Mahmoud Shubar (1965-, Babel, Iraq)
- Hanibal Srouji (1957-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Hady Sy (1964-, Senegal/Lebanon)
- Katya Traboulsi (1960-, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Sharif Waked (1964-, Nazareth, Palestine)
- Fadi Yazigi (1966-, Latakia, Syria)

We would like to thank the following institutions, foundations and private collections for their generous loans.

Claude & Samir Abillama, Ayman Badreddine, Saleh Barakat, Nadine Begdache, Collection Ramzi & Saeda Dalloul Art Foundation, El Nimer Collection, Hubert Fattal, KA Modern & Contemporary, Naïla Kettaneh Kunigk, MACAM, Mohammad Matar, Laurence & Tarek Nahas, Yola Noujaim, Saradar Collection, Mazen Soueid, Rania Tabbara, and some private collectors who wish to remain anonymous.

ROSE ISSA

Based in London since the 1980s, Rose Issa is an independent curator, writer, producer and specialist in the visual arts and cinema of the Middle East. Through Rose Issa Projects, she has produced numerous exhibitions in collaboration with international private and public institutions, including the Crawford Art Gallery, Cork (2014); Virginia Commonwealth University Qatar, Doha (2014); the Victoria and Albert Museum, London (2006, 2013); Leighton House Museum, London (2013; ongoing since 1992); Beirut Exhibition Center (2010-11); the Bluecoat Arts Centre, Liverpool (2010); Tate Britain, London (2008); the European Parliament, Brussels (2008); the State Museum of Oriental Art, Moscow (2007); the Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg (2007); ING Bank, Geneva (2007); the Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), Berlin (2004); The CCCB (Contemporary Cultural Center), Barcelona (2003); the IFA - Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (2002-3), Stuttgart; the Barbican Art Centre, London (1995, 2001); and the Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam (1996-1997, 2011-2013).

LEBANON MODERN!

KHALIL GIBRAN'S THE PROPHET BY RACHID KORAÏCHI

Khalil Gibran's philosophical poem *The Prophet* is universal, both in its content and by virtue of its immense popularity.

It remains a book of records: the most read after the Bible, translated into fifty languages, with tens of millions of copies sold worldwide and no fewer than 70,000 pages devoted to it on the Internet, not to mention discussion forums, sites and blogs.

The philosophy of Khalil Gibran reminds us of what is most divine in man. His book is truly prophetic, for the "*wonder before life*" that he conveys so poetically, for the depth and wisdom of his thoughts, and for the truth of the precepts he inspires.

This exhibition juxtaposes for the first time the illustrations and drawings made by Khalil Gibran for the first English edition of *The Prophet* with those created for the recent edition by Rachid Koraïchi.

Thanks to the journal of his friend Mary Haskell, we know that Khalil Gibran produced the illustrations presented in this exhibition - ten watercolors and two drawings that frame the 28 chapters of *The Prophet* - between 1920 and 1923.

Rachid Koraïchi has been attached to Khalil Gibran's text since his adolescence. In this exhibition he presents a very complete set of 49 drawings, offering the opportunity to re-read this masterpiece of modern literature.

"I first discovered Khalil Gibran's *The Prophet* when I was in high school in Algeria. We were in the midst of war and it was for me a deep shock to discover a text that carried within it the ideals of peace, of tolerance, and of love in the midst of our experience of horror..." says Rachid Koraïchi.

"During these terrible times in which violence is rampant, power is monopolized by dictators and ruling classes, and thousands of migrants are sinking in the Mediterranean sea, wisdom is more than ever a necessity. And beauty. More than ever, Khalil Gibran's words are essential. Gibran tells us things that every human aspires to live and to be, things that unite all religions. To read *The Prophet* is to follow a journey, to be inspired by precious thoughts, to reconnect with humanity. More than ever."

With the support of **Gibran National Committee**

Pascal Odille

Curator & Artistic Director of BEIRUT ART FAIR

THE BYBLOS BANK AWARD

Byblos Bank established its Photography Program in 2012 with the goal of creating the right conditions for emerging Lebanese photographers to support themselves through their art. This is achieved primarily by placing these gifted artists at the heart of the market, bringing them closer to collectors, gallery owners, established professional photographers, and the media.

Over the course of six years, the Byblos Bank Award for photography has evolved into one of the most prestigious photography awards in Lebanon. This milestone was reached thanks to six successful years of partnership with BEIRUT ART FAIR, six years of commitment from emerging Lebanese photographers, six years of support from experts in the field of artistic photography, and six years of fruitful collaboration with the media. The sixth edition of the Byblos Bank Award for photography also marks a major step forward in the bank's continuous efforts to support photography as an art form in Lebanon. Many participants have been able to develop their talents and build their careers, thus laying the foundations for a diverse Lebanese photography market.

Organized in cooperation with BEIRUT ART FAIR, the annual Byblos Bank Award for Photography is the high point of this endeavor.

Curator of the exhibition: Marine Bougaran

More on the Byblos Bank Award at visit www.byblosbankaward.com

The BYBLOS BANK AWARD price will be awarded on Sunday, September 24 at 5:30 pm at Booth A5.

Members of the Jury

- President: Agnès Grégoire, managing editor of Photo Magazine, France
- Special Advisor: Noël Nasr, photographer and director of the photography program at Université Notre Dame –Louaizé (Lebanon)
- Federico Freschi Dean of the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture of Johannesburg, South Africa
- Marc Mouarkech Director of the Arab Image Foundation, Lebanon
- Judith Peyrat Art dealer, France

This year, French photographer Aurelie Pétreil directed a weeklong workshop in June dedicated to the theme "Gesture and its construction" with Yara Bsaibes and Joe Ghanem, two young Lebanese photographers.

The resulting works will be shown at Booth A5bis (BYBLOS BANK WORKSHOP).

CONFERENCE AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Friday, September 22

Booth A21 (Conference & Literary Cafe "e-éddé")

5pm-6pm

Political Disorientation - Artistic Reorientation

21st Century Arab artistic production

Roundtable and discussion

Moderator: Rose Issa

Participants:

Michket Krifa*, author, artistic director and visual arts commissioner - Africa & the Middle East

Little by little, photography in this region has taken root in the margins outside of political upheaval and conflict. Often controlled, censored in many countries, images have slowly but steadily become emancipated and have become a fundamental means of testimony, of expression and of the representation of life in this region. Faced with the political chaos of the past thirty years, which eliminated previous landmarks and points of reference, photographers, whether they be documentarians or artists, are able to reorient us upon societal and existential axes.

Dr. Alexandre Kazerouni*, researcher at the Ecole normale supérieure, professor at Sciences Po Paris and author of "Le Miroir des Cheikhs" (*The Mirror of the Sheiks*)- Presses Universitaires de France, 2017

Seen from the perspective of the Arab world's artistic scene, the 21st century began the day after the Second Gulf War in 1990-1991, and not after September 11 or in the wake of the "revolutions" of 2011. This conflict, which was for the Middle East the major manifestation of the end of the Cold War, opened a period of cultural liberalization in which the regional centers were located, paradoxically, in the Arab peninsula. This change in the political geography of Arab art, though at first disorientating, was also a moment of cultural and artistic reorientation, of a passing from the "modern" to the "contemporary," and above all the dissolution of the borders around Arab identity.

A book signing with Rose Issa and Dr. Alexandre Kazerouni will follow the conference.

***Michket Krifa** has been an author, artistic director, and a commissioner of visual arts and photography of Africa and the Middle East for more than 25 years. She has organized numerous thematic and monographic exhibitions and brought attention to several artists who are today internationally known. Michket Krifa was the artistic director of the 8th and 9th editions of *Bamako Encounters*, the Biennale of African Photography, and the commissioner for the Middle East at Photoquai 2015. She is the author and the editorial director of several books and articles on photography and the visual arts. She has collaborated with both public and private institutions in Europe and abroad. Michket Krifa has also served on juries and selection committees for several prizes in photography and the visual arts.

***Dr. Alexandre Kazerouni** is a political scientist who specializes in the contemporary Muslim world with a focus on cultural policies in the Persian Gulf. He is a researcher at the École normale supérieure, Université Paris Sciences et Lettres and teaches at Sciences Po Paris. In 2017 he published *Le Miroir des Cheikhs: Musée et Politique dans le Principautés du Golfe Persique* (*The Mirror of the Sheikhs: Museum and Politics in the Principalities of the Persian Gulf*) with Presses Universitaires de France.

BOOK SIGNINGS

At the Literary Cafe "e-éddé" - Booth A21

Friday, September 22

6pm - 6:30pm

Rose Issa: *Ourouba, The Eye of Lebanon*

Published by Rose Issa Projects / BEIRUT ART FAIR, 2017

Rose Issa / Juliet Cestar / Venetia Porter: *Signs of our Times: From Calligraphy to Calligraffiti*

Merrell Publishers London, New York / Rosee Issa Projects, 2016

Alexandre Kazerouni: *The Mirror of the Sheikhs: Museum and Politics in the Principalities of the Persian Gulf* - Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 2017

Saturday, September 23

7pm - 7:30pm

Rachid Koraïchi / Khalil Gibran "The Prophet" - "Lorsque l'amour vous fait signe, suivez-le" - ed. Thierry Magnier, 2017

7:30pm-8pm

Naïla Kettaneh-Kunigk / François Cardinali - "Sous le signe de Tanit"
Ed. Michel de Maule, 2017

BEIRUT ART FAIR, DAY BY DAY & VIP PROGRAM

In Orange: VIP Program

In Black: Program open to the public

The VIP Pass is valid for two people provides access to:

- BEIRUT ART FAIR
- Beirut Design Fair
- VIP lounge by HOME Magazine (Booth A7)
- 1 copy of the catalogue (to be retrieved on September 21, 2017)

Monday 18 September

To confirm your attendance, please RSVP before September 5, 2017 at: vip18sept@beirut-art-fair.com

4:30pm to 6:30pm: Opening of the exhibition "**Sacred Catastrophe: Healing Lebanon**" by artist Zena el Khalil at Beit Beirut (Maison Jaune, Sodeco)
Curators: Beatrice Merz & Janine Maamari

Multidisciplinary artist and writer Zena el Khalil seeks to transform Beirut into a "city of light" through 40 days of public performance and an exhibition of her site-specific "healing" paintings, created in locations that have endured violence, trauma and environmental disasters throughout Lebanon's turbulent history of wars and invasions.

7:00pm: Departure from Hotel Le Gray for Rachana (Northern Lebanon) – Visit of the Alfred Basbous Foundation – Gala Dinner

8:30pm: Studio visit

9:30pm: Dinner in the gardens

11:30pm: Return to Beirut, arrival at Hotel Le Gray at 12:30am

Tuesday 19 September

BEIRUT ART WEEK, 19-26 September 2017

6:00pm: Opening of BEIRUT ART WEEK, Downtown Beirut

Departure in front of Hotel Le Gray, followed by a guided visit of 27 stops

6pm	Hotel Le Gray - Welcome drink
6:45pm	Panerai, cocktail
7:15pm	Boutique Hermès, cocktail
8:15pm	Boutique ELIE SAAB, cocktail and viewing of the Ready to Wear Collection Fall Winter 2017-2018
9pm	Opera Gallery, cocktail and showing of three short films in collaboration with the Lebanese Film Festival

Program: <https://www.beirut-art-fair.com/beirut-art-week.html>

Wednesday 20 September

BEIRUT DESIGN FAIR, 20-24 September 2017

6:00pm to 10:00pm: VIP opening of Beirut Design Fair at BIEL, Hall 3 (please present your BEIRUT ART FAIR VIP pass at the entrance)

10pm: Closing of Beirut Design Fair

10:00pm: Gala dinner (by invitation)

Thursday 21 September

BEIRUT ART FAIR, 21-24 September 2017

Under the high patronage of
the President of the Council of Ministers

His Excellency Mr. Saad Hariri

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm: Opening of BEIRUT ART FAIR at BIEL, Hall 2 (upon presentation of your VIP pass)

6:00pm to 10pm: Opening of the VIP LOUNGE by HOME MAGAZINE - Booth A7
Events & Entertainment Program: Music, Performance, and Tastings

6:05pm: Visit of *Food Art, Lemons and Rainbows* supported by Bankmed – Booth A0 -
Exhibition curator: Nelly Zeidan Choucair

6:15pm: Guided visit of **OUROUBA: THE EYE OF LEBANON** with Rose Issa, exhibition curator

6:45pm: Presentation of the photography workshop with Aurélie Pétrel - "**Gesture and its construction**" and young artists Yara Bsaibes and Joe Ghanem

7:30pm: Guided visit of LEBANON MODERN! Khalil Gibran's **The Prophet**, illustrated by and in the presence of the artist Rachid Koraïchi
Exhibition curator: Pascal Odille

8:30pm: "**Equilibro**" - artistic performance by artist Maria Gimeno
In Maria Gimeno's art performance, a woman with plates on her head balances on stilts; because she is dressed as a man, the action refers to a woman's experience in a man's world.
Booth A21 (Conference and Literary Cafe "e-éddé")

10pm: Closing of BEIRUT ART FAIR

10:15pm: Gala dinner, Hotel Le Gray (by invitation)

Friday 22 September

To confirm your attendance, please RSVP before September 5, 2017 at: vip22sept@beirut-art-fair.com

10:30am: Departure from Hotel Le Gray

11:00am to 12:30pm: Guided visit with artist Zena El Khalil of the exhibition **Sacred Catastrophe: Healing Lebanon** at Beit Beirut (Maison Jaune, Sodeco)
Curators: Beatrice Merz & Janine Maamari

1:00pm to 2:30pm: Guided tour of the permanent collection of the Sursock Museum (Achrafieh). Free time for lunch

2:30pm: Departure for Jal el Dib – (Greater Beirut)

3:00pm to 4:00pm: Guided tour of the Aïshti Foundation and visit of the **Good Dreams, Bad Dreams: American Mythology** exhibition
Curator: Massimiliano Gioni

3:30pm: Opening of BEIRUT ART FAIR, BIEL, Hall 2

4:00pm: Departure and return to BEIRUT ART FAIR, BIEL, Hall 2 (arrival at 4:30pm)

5pm to 6pm: Roundtable and discussion
(Conference and Literary Cafe “e-éddé” Booth A21)

Political Disorientation - Artistic Reorientation

21st century artistic production from Arab artists

Moderator: Rose Issa

Participants:

Michket Krifa*, author, artistic director and visual arts commissioner - Africa & the Middle East

Dr. Alexandre Kazerouni*, researcher at the Ecole normale supérieure, professor at Sciences Po Paris

6pm to 6:30pm - Book signing in the Literary Cafe “e-éddé” (Booth A21)

Rose Issa: **OUROUBA, THE EYE OF LEBANON** published by Rose Issa Projects / BEIRUT ART FAIR, 2017

Rose Issa / Juliet Cestar / Venetia Porter: “Signs of our Times: from Calligraphy to Calligraffiti” - Merrell Publishers London, New York / Rose Issa Projects, 2016
Alexandre Kazerouni: *The Mirror of the Sheikhs: Museum and Politics in the Principalities of the Persian Gulf* (Presses Universitaires de France, 2017)

7:30pm: Departure from BIEL, Hall 2, BEIRUT ART FAIR, for Chtaura (Bekaa)

8:30pm: Guided visit of the Emile Hannouche Museum

9:30pm: Dinner and traditional dances in the gardens

9:30pm: Closing of BEIRUT ART FAIR

Midnight: Departure for Beirut (arrival at 1:00am in front of Hotel Le Gray)

Saturday 23 September

To confirm your attendance, please RSVP before September 5, 2017 at: vip23sept@beirut-art-fair.com

10:30 am: Departure from Hotel Le Gray

11:00am to 1:30pm: Guided visit of the exhibition **Midad: The Public and Intimate Lives of Arabic Calligraphy** by M. Rami El Nimer, collector and Director of the Dar El-Nimer Foundation for Arts and Culture, followed by a brunch

2:00pm to 4:00pm: Visit of the collection of the Ramzi & Saeda Dalloul Art Foundation, with Mr. Basel Dalloul, Collector and Director

3:30pm: Opening of BEIRUT ART FAIR, BIEL, Hall 2

4:00pm: Departure and return to BIEL, Hall 2, BEIRUT ART FAIR (arrival at 4:30pm)

5:00pm: Guided visit of **OUROUBA: THE EYE OF LEBANON** with Rose Issa, exhibition curator

6:00pm: Guided visit of LEBANON MODERN! Khalil Gibran's *The Prophet*, illustrated by and in the presence of artist Rachid Koraïchi.
Exhibition curator: Pascal Odille

7:00pm to 7:30pm: Book signings in the Literary Cafe "e-éddé" (Booth 21)

Naïla Kettaneh-Kunigk / François Cardinali: *Sous le signe de Tanit*, Éditions Michel de Maule, 2017

9:30pm: Closing of BEIRUT ART FAIR

9:30pm: VIP Cocktail/Dinner & music entertainment - MAISON RABIH KAYROUZ
(Please present your BEIRUT ART FAIR VIP pass)
Darwish Haddad Street- Beirut Port.

For the first time in Lebanon, opening of the exhibition: "**Forms and Patterns**"
A collaboration between the painter Pierre Malbec, the stylist Rabih Kayrouz and the ceramist Hala Matta.
Exhibition curator: Joanna Chevalier

Sunday 24 September

To confirm your attendance, please RSVP before September 5, 2017 at: vip24sept@beirut-art-fair.com

10:45am: Meet in front of the National Museum of Beirut (Mat'haf)

11:00am to 1:00pm: Guided visit of Beirut's National Museum and discovery of the world's largest collection of anthropoid sarcophagi, as well as over 520 pieces from the Palaeolithic period to the Ottoman Empire, including Phoenician stelae and rare Christian mummies

3:30pm: Opening of BEIRUT ART FAIR, BIEL, Hall 2

5:15pm: Presentation of the photography workshop with Aurélie Pétrel - "Gesture and its construction" and young artists Yara Bsaibes and Joe Ghanem
Booth A5bis

5:30pm to 6:00pm: Awarding of the BYBLOS BANK AWARD 2017 prize
Booth A5

9:30pm: Closing of BEIRUT ART FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

BEIRUT ART FAIR 2018: September 20-23
Focus on photography

ORGANIZERS

LAURE D'HAUTEVILLE

Laure d'Hauteville is the founder of BEIRUT ART FAIR, and has served as its Executive Director since 2010.

After studying art history at the Sorbonne, Laure discovered contemporary art, to which she subsequently devoted her full energy. In 1991 destiny led her to Lebanon, which she adopted as her second home.

A Member of AICA (International Association of Art Critics) with writer and critic Salah Stétié, Laure became a print and radio journalist for various Lebanese media, including *Le Commerce du Levant*, whose culture section she directed from 1995 to 2006.

Following this Laure returned to Paris, where she collaborated with Art Paris and helped to launch the first two editions of Art Paris Abu Dhabi (today known as Abu Dhabi Art Fair) in 2007 and 2008.

In 2010 Laure returned to Lebanon and founded BEIRUT ART FAIR, an international platform for artists from the ME.NA.SA (Middle East, North Africa, South & South-East Asia) region. Four years later, she conceived of SINGAPORE ART FAIR - with Lebanon as guest of honour.

Laure has created and organized events in numerous countries: the United Arab Emirates, France, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Singapore and the USA. She has also curated events at contemporary art galleries, museums and other institutions.

In 2014, she was listed by The Culture Trip as one of the 10 most influential women on the Middle-Eastern contemporary art scene.

In September 2016, Lebanon's Minister of Culture, H.E. Mr. Rony Araygi, awarded Laure for her 25 years of service in promoting the country.

Contact: laure.dhauteville@beirut-art-fair.com

ORGANIZERS

PASCAL ODILLE

Artistic Director - Expert Modern & Contemporary Art (C.N.E.S.)

Pascal Odille was made a member of the C.N.E.S (Chambre Nationale des Experts Spécialisés) in 1997 - becoming the youngest expert in France at the time.

He has worked for several auction houses in France, including Artcurial in Paris. Specializing in "large inventories", he notably led the execution of the collection of Pierre Restany and the estate of the sculptor Jean Robert Ipoustéguy. Pascal also serves as an art expert for various public institutions and collectors in the Middle East.

In 1990 he opened the REC gallery with an associate, and from 1995 to 2000 he was director of Galerie Pascal Odille in Paris. Subsequently, he oversaw the Galerie Becket Odille Boïcos from 2000 to 2011 while organizing numerous exhibitions in France, Italy and the United States.

At the same time, he was assigned to the "Auction Results" section of the French magazine *L'Estampille L'Objet d'Art*, before undertaking the creation of full-length articles. In 2016, he joined the Lebanese section of AICA (International Association of Art Critics).

Pascal has also curated several exhibitions, including the Ipoustéguy retrospective *Eros & Thanatos* at the Palazzo Leone da Perego in Milan (2009), the *William Utermohlen* retrospective at the Cultural Center, Millennium Park in Chicago, USA (2010) and *William Utermohlen, a Testimony on Alzheimer's* at the Cité des Sciences in Paris (2012).

Beginning in 2010, Pascal became artistic director of BEIRUT ART FAIR while also co-directing the fair. In 2014 he became artistic director of SINGAPORE ART FAIR, where he organized the "MENA Pavilion" in collaboration with Catherine David. He has staged the following exhibitions in Beirut: *This is not Wonderland* (2012), *Virtual Reality* (2015), and *Lebanon Modern! Women artists in Lebanon from 1945-1975* (2016).

A teacher at several institutions both in France and abroad, Pascal created the first Master's degree dedicated to the study of the art market at the EAC (Paris) from 2006 to 2013. He also teaches at Lebanon's Université St Joseph, at the Lebanese American University, and the E.S.A (École Supérieure des Affaires) in Beirut. An independent curator, he has worked on many exhibitions in France, Lebanon and the USA. He serves as art advisor to private collectors in Europe, Lebanon and the Gulf countries. He is also involved in the organization and implementation of numerous other cultural projects.

In 2016, Pascal Odille was decorated by Lebanon's Minister of Culture H.E. Mr Rony Araygi for his support of modern and contemporary Lebanese creation in the visual arts.

Contact: pascal.odille@beirut-art-fair.com

ORGANIZERS

MARINE BOUGARAN

Director of Exhibitor Relations and of the "Projects" Space

After graduating with a Master's degree in the art market, Marine Bougaran joined Show Off (Paris), where she managed partnerships and exhibitor relations from 2009 to 2010. At the same time, she was in charge of scientific research for the Ipoustéguy retrospective *Eros & Thanatos* at the Palazzo Leone da Perego in Milan.

Marine joined BEIRUT ART FAIR in 2010 as an associate and a specialist in contemporary photography. Since then her expertise has expanded to encompass all fields of creation in the ME.NA region.

Also head of the fair's "Projects" space, Marine leads the organization of events in direct relation with the fair: the Byblos Bank Award, BEIRUT ART WEEK, and REVEALING by SGBL. She will also curate an exhibition at this year's J.A.B.A.L, whose revamped 2017 edition will be dedicated to comic book art.

Marine also actively participated in the creation of SINGAPORE ART FAIR in 2014, for which she served as General Coordinator.

Since 2013, she has worked as an art advisor with collectors and curators in international galleries, while also participating in the organization of seminars dedicated to photography in Europe and the Middle East.

Marine joined the EAC teaching team in 2013, where she leads courses on the art market and marketing.

Contact: marine.bougaran@beirut-art-fair.com

PARTNERS

Lebanese Ministry of Culture

www.culture.gov.lb

Lebanese Ministry of Tourism

www.lebanon-tourism.gov.lb

The Municipality of Beirut

Lebanese Tourist Bureau in Paris

Director : M. Serge Akl - <http://destinationliban.com>

L'Institut Français du Liban

www.institut-liban.com

Ecole Supérieure des Affaires - ESA

General Director: M. Stéphane Attali

www.esa.edu.lb

MAIN PARTNER: **BANKMED**



Headquartered in Beirut, Bankmed is recognized as one of the oldest banking and financial institutions in the MENA region. Since its opening in 1944, Bankmed has been at the forefront of Lebanese banking institutions, maintaining a prominent position as a leading, dynamic, and socially responsible bank with a firm

commitment to corporate social responsibility. The bank enjoys widespread presence in Lebanon with a network of 66 branches, in addition to a strong international presence in Switzerland, Cyprus, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Iraq and the Dubai International Financial Center (DIFC).

Bankmed offers its clients a wide range of innovative products and quality services. Beyond its financial activities, Bankmed seeks to share its passion for art with its clients. It has developed its own private art collection, and some of its art pieces are exhibited in its branches. Furthermore, as part of its corporate social responsibility, Bankmed supports a significant number of cultural events in Lebanon and in other countries where it is present.

Bankmed is proud of its partnership with BEIRUT ART FAIR. Through this collaboration, the bank has not only maintained its image as a leading financial institution but has also contributed to promoting Beirut's individuality across the globe.

PARTNERS

PRIVILEGED PARTNER: **SGBL - Société Générale de Banque au Liban**



A major banking player in the region, SGBL has positioned itself as a strong advocate of culture and the arts through its sponsorships and long term partnerships with cultural institutions. For several years the bank has supported the major actors of the region's artistic and cultural scene. It pays special attention to young artists and to the expression of their talents.

In this context, SGBL is proud and happy to partner with BEIRUT ART FAIR, the must-see event in Lebanon and the region for artists, galleries and art lovers. This year, SGBL will again sponsor the REVEALING space, a one-of-a-kind collective exhibition entirely dedicated to young contemporary artists from the ME.NA.SA region.

With this innovative and ambitious project, SGBL confirms its support for emerging talents and for new generations of artists. It thus affirms its commitment to celebrating and developing creation in multiple forms: painting, sculpture, photography, installation and video.

By allowing these gifted artists to meet the large, diverse audience of BEIRUT ART FAIR, REVEALING by SGBL aims to enlarge horizons, raise curiosity and encourage thinking about bold and daring creation in the free and booming culture of the region.

OFFICIAL HOTEL PARTNER: **HOTEL LE GRAY**



Le Gray has been a partner of BEIRUT ART FAIR since the fair's beginnings.

The hotel seeks to enhance the value of the cultural and artistic dimension of the Lebanese capital. This perennial partnership confirms a shared determination to place Beirut at the heart of international news related to art and culture.

PARTNERS

ESA BUSINESS SCHOOL



ESA is a high level school of management dedicated to the formation of the future leaders and directors of Lebanon and the Middle East and headed by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Paris Ile-de-France (CCIR). Recognized as an academic leader in Lebanon, ESA offers a platform of convergence and exchange between Europe, the Middle East and Lebanon whose mission is to train the country's elites to become the leaders of tomorrow. Working directly with and alongside businesses, ESA guides its students in the realization of their visions and helps them to achieve their goals through the training and support of teachers and directors. Situated in the center of Beirut and at the heart of the Middle East, ESA affirms its high standards as a Grande École Internationale, merging the skills of high-level students with the expertise of some of the highest-ranked specialists in the world.

Cultural Institutions



Main Partner



Privileged Partner



Fair Partners



Media Partners



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

BEIRUT ART WEEK 2017

Tuesday 19 September 2017 until Tuesday 26 September 2017

Opening: Tuesday 19 September 2017 at 6pm, Hotel Le Gray, Stop 1 (open to the public)

Place: Downtown Beirut

BEIRUT ART FAIR 2017

Thursday 21 September until Sunday 24 September 2017

Opening

Thursday 21 September 2017, 6pm - 10pm (by invitation)

Public opening hours

Friday 22 September until Sunday 24 September, from 3:30pm to 9:30pm

Location: B.I.E.L. – Hall 2

Beirut International Exhibition & Leisure Center, Beirut, Lebanon

Website: www.beirut-art-fair.com

Pictures available for the press: www.beirut-art-fair.com/photos.html



Facebook

www.facebook.com/BeirutArtFair



Twitter

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Instagram

[beirutartfair](https://www.instagram.com/beirutartfair)

BEIRUT ART FAIR 2018: September 20-23

Focus on Photography



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