

Wusum Gallery at Abu Dhabi Art 2024

Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates - 18 November 2024 - **Wusum Gallery** is thrilled to announce its participation in **Abu Dhabi Art 2024**, marking the first representation from Qatar. We are proud to present the work of three Doha-based artists **Hamad AlFayhani** (Qatar, b. 1999), **Noora Al Hardan** (Qatar, b. 1999), and **Ameni Abida** (Tunisia, b. 1997). While in our **E5 booth** in the **Emerge Section** each artist offers a unique trajectory, their practices converge on a shared investigation of space—not simply as a physical structure, but as a lived experience, a memory, an allocator of belonging.

Hamad AlFayhani's work delves into the psyche of 'safe spaces'. Through abstract visual language, he explores the emotional facets of the spaces we deem protective, secure, or habilitating. AlFayhani invites us to consider how environments shape mental well-being, reminding us that physical boundaries and psychological states are often interconnected.

Noora Al Hardan's artistic practice involves a delicate excavation of neglected spaces, captured through photography and an innovative use of materiality. Al Hardan invites us to revisit places that are often dismissed or forgotten, questioning how these spaces implant themselves within our collective memory. In doing so, she invites us to reconsider the structures that silently shape cultural identity, encouraging a re-examination of spaces we might otherwise overlook.

Ameni Abida defines space from a deeply personal, almost diaristic approach. As a 'third culture kid', her work embodies the movement between geographies and the layering of cultural experiences that form her internal landscape. Her explorations navigate themes of identity and belonging, examining how one finds roots amid a series of relocations. Abida's spaces are at once intimate and expansive, mirroring the complexity of negotiating selfhood within and across borders.

Together, these artists offer a mediation on spatiality as a multidimensional experience. They encourage us to pause and rethink space as something beyond the tangible—conceiving it instead as a sphere for memory, identity, and emotional resonance. Through their perspectives, space transforms into a narrative, one that holds fragments of personal and collective histories.

Artist Biographies

Hamad AlFayhani (Doha, b. 1999) is a Qatari visual artist and filmmaker whose work centres on isolation, illness, and the underlying relationship between beauty and suffering. A graduate of Northwestern University in Qatar, AlFayhani works across film and photography to survey the emotional landscapes of his personal experiences. His visual compositions often employ proximity and distance to map the broader social and cultural conditions we endure. AlFayhani's conceptual framing is rooted in his exploration of parallel realities, where beauty and pain, tradition and modernity, coexist. Through his art, he captures the fragile yet enduring nature of existence—revealing how opposites can resonate in harmony.

Noora Al Hardan (Doha, b. 1999) is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice spans painting, printmaking, installation, and photography. A graduate of VCUarts Qatar with a BFA in Painting and Printmaking, Al Hardan explores the relationship between architectural forms and memory in her art. She is particularly fascinated by light leaks, filters, and distortions, which play a significant role in her photographic process, allowing her to reimagine familiar spaces. Through her lucid compositions, often focusing on abandoned or local sites that hold overlooked resonance. Her work considers the presence of absence, using distortion to shift our perceptions of the ordinary. By doing this, she transforms these spaces into intimate and monumental spatial experiences, reflecting on how we see, remember, and inhabit the built environment.

Ameni Abida (Sfax, b. 1997) is a self-taught artist, living and working in Doha. She holds a degree in Culture and Politics from Georgetown University and an MA in Museum and Gallery Practice from University College London. Her upbringing was marked by a series of relocations—each move prompting a reinvention of her environment and, by extension, a do-over for herself. Her artistic trajectory is deeply personal, echoing her ongoing exploration of new environments and the emotional landscape they kindle. Working across painting, drawing, illustration, and digital media, she seamlessly blends conventional painting techniques with the digital and oftentimes intermixes both in her practice. Through her paintings, she delves into notions of permanence and ephemerality, portraying homes not merely as a physical space, but as a temporal realm that shelters fleeting moments and transient routines. Still, she finds stability in instability, beauty in transition, and home in sun-kissed family reunions in Tunisia.

Abu Dhabi Art 2024 - Emerge Section - E5

20 - 24 November 2024

Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi

Please find a link to HR images on Dropbox, [here](#).

About Wusum Gallery:

Founded in 2023, Wusum Gallery is a newly launched contemporary art gallery located in Doha, Qatar. With a mission to nurture young talents and celebrate the contributions of established artists, the gallery aims to create an engaging art space and platform. Through a robust exhibition programme and cross-disciplinary collaborations, Wusum Gallery seeks to cultivate a sustainable art ecosystem, providing local and regional artists with a vibrant space that encourages creative exploration, innovative expression, knowledge dissemination, and a deep appreciation for the arts.

For further information, please contact:

Wusum Gallery | +974 5116 9117 | info@wusumgallery.com

Elina Sairanen, Gallery Director | +974 5995 2644 | elina@wusumgallery.com

Wadha Al-Aqeedi, Cofounder | +974 3336 3593 | wadha@wusumgallery.com