

## FULL LINE-UP AND PROGRAMMING FOR ART DUBAI'S FIRST EDITION OF *RESIDENTS* ANNOUNCED



Studio spaces at in5, Tashkeel and Warehouse421 (left to right).  
Courtesy in5, Jalal Abuthina and Tashkeel, and Warehouse421.

**FEBRUARY 5, 2018, DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** – Art Dubai announced today the full line-up of artists and galleries taking part in the inaugural edition of **Residents**, as well as a range of workshops and public programming, which will take place in the lead-up to the fair across the three different residency spaces: **in5** and **Tashkeel** in Dubai, as well as **Warehouse421** in Abu Dhabi.

Launching as part of Art Dubai's 12<sup>th</sup> edition in 2018, Residents is a unique residency programme cum gallery section for international artists, invited to the UAE to immerse themselves in the local art scene and to create a body of work which merges their distinct artistic practice with their surroundings. The final works will be on show in the new section of the fair, presented by the artists' respective galleries.

The inaugural edition of Residents will be accompanied by a range of public events and open studios, hosted by the residency spaces, giving the public an opportunity to interact with the artists and follow the production of their works up until their presentation at Art Dubai 2018. The programme will conclude with a round-table discussion, including representatives from each of the residency spaces as well as the artists.

**Art Dubai's Artistic Director Pablo del Val commented:** "The artists will immerse themselves in the local culture and plan to use materials sourced in the UAE; it will be extremely interesting to see how this influence will manifest itself in the works produced for the fair. In the final exhibition at Art Dubai, visitors can expect a powerful display, in which each work tells its own story – one of blending in and belonging – not unfamiliar to those living in the UAE."

## ARTISTS PARTICIPATING IN THE INAUGURAL EDITION OF RESIDENTS

### In5:

**Poonam Jain** (1x1 Art Gallery, Dubai)  
Born in 1989 in Bangalore, India. Lives and works in Bombay, India.

**Tato Akhalkatsishvili** (Erti Gallery, Tbilisi)  
Born in 1979 in Tbilisi, Georgia, where he now lives and works.

**Farshad Farzankia** (Galerie Kornfeld, Berlin)  
Born in 1980 in Tehran, Iran. Lives and work in Copenhagen, Denmark.

**Yasuaki Onishi** (The Mine, Dubai)  
Born in 1979 in Osaka, Japan, where he now lives and works.

**Victor Ekhiamenor** (Tyburn Gallery, London)  
Born in 1970 in Udomi-Uwessan, Nigeria. Lives and works between Lagos, Nigeria and Maryland, USA.

### Tashkeel:

**Zohra Opoku** (Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle)  
Born in 1976 in Altdöbern, Germany. Lives and works in Accra, Ghana.

**Jennifer Ipekeli** (Öktem&Aykut, Istanbul)  
Born in 1988 in Istanbul, Turkey, where she now lives and works.

**José Lerma** (ROBERTO PARADISE, San Juan)  
Born in 1971 in Seville, Spain. Lives and works in Chicago, USA.

### Warehouse421:

**Faris Alosaimi** (Lakum Artspace, Riyadh)  
Born in 1991 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he now lives and works.

**labadiou Piko** (Orbital Dago, Bandung)  
Born in 1984 in Prabumulih, Indonesia. Lives and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

**Kristina Alisaukaite** (The Rooster Gallery, Vilnius)  
Born in 1984 in Klaipeda, Lithuania. Lives and works in Vilnius, Lithuania.

## RESIDENTS 2018 WORKSHOPS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

### in5:

in5 will hold an open studio on Saturday, March 10, from 12-4pm, offering the public the opportunity to meet the artists, see their work in progress and learn more about their practice by engaging with them directly. To find out more, visit [infive.ae](http://infive.ae)

A list of the Residents at in5 is available here:

### **TATO AKHALKATSISHVILI**

«IS YOUR BODY A HEAVEN» is the artist's latest series of works on which he intends to continue working during his residency in Dubai. The series is comprised of large-scale canvases, depicting different colors, organisms of our universe and underlining advantages or disadvantages of our living planet. Put together through personal memories and historical research rather than precise depictions of a geographical location, Tato's landscapes act as a metaphor for the psychological conditions of our time.

### **FARSHAD FARZANKIA**

How do memories from our childhood and our perception of the everyday change over time? Looking to Jean Michel Basquiat as his hero and to the language of Neo-Expressionism in his large iconic paintings, Farshad Farzankia remixes references from the 80's to today to tell powerful narratives of migration and power relations in his works. During his residency in Dubai, the artist will further explore the use of everyday objects revolving around memories of his childhood such as icons, commemorating important ideals which he embraces.

### **VICTOR EHIKHAMENOR**

Visual art is one of the few ways a people's history can never be obliterated. In his work, Victor Eikhamenor draws from his personal experience of how much he has learnt about his past ancestors through the works they produced more than what the written history that is not based on any art reference can ever teach him. This is a universal phenomenon, because most races have been able to keep their essence from generation to generation through the history of their art. The artist looks at aboriginal art as well as Islamic writing and explores how these are visually related to his own mark making, however different their actual meanings may be.

### **YASUAKI ONISHI**

For the presentation at Art Dubai 2018, Onishi will peel back the codified processes behind his environments and photographic works, as well as premier a brand new sculpture, conceived for Art Dubai 2018. Taking inspiration from Dubai, he will draw on the dual nature of the production and waste cycle of a modern society, which he does by fusing found materials and glue to form a nexus of invisible coordinates for the bodies of waste that accumulate as vast dead zones, or preserved trash mountains, and re-imagine them as the counter-memorials of a city's history.

### **POONAM JAIN**

Poonam Jain is interested in pedagogy and architecture. Both as spaces that we occupy and dwell in. Language, numbers, home and equations formed between them. Alphabets and numbers are the first lessons taught in school, which then becomes the lens through which the world is viewed. Counting as a religious act, political, domestic, economic act. Within his works, he constantly merges these notions to understand the micro narratives formed by the language of numbers. Measuring and counting as act of power and/or hope. Also, focusing on the tools used to do this: chanting mala, rulers, votes, protests, vending machines, bank slip notes, currency, books, shopping and statistics.

### **Tashkeel:**

Tashkeel will hold a series of workshops on Sunday, March 11, as well as open studios on Monday, March 12, from 10.30am-1pm.

There are limited spaces available for the workshops, which are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up by booking online at [tashkeel.org/workshops](http://tashkeel.org/workshops)

### **ZOHRA OPOKU: *From Paper to Fabric. Introduction to Screen-Printing*** WORKSHOP

**Date and Time:** Sunday, March 11, 10am-1:30pm

**Instructor:** Zohra Opoku

**Location:** Tashkeel, St. 5 and 20, Nad Al Sheba, Dubai

**Age Group:** 16+

With a keen and disciplined eye for textile and design, Zohra employs installation, sculpture and photography at the helm of her practice. During this workshop, participants will work with Zohra on their own textiles, exploring her process of screen-printing on to fabric. This workshop provides an opportunity to learn the basics of creating and exposing a screen using either found imagery or a chosen photo, transferring this image on to fabric.

**JENNIFER IPEKEL: *Languages of Flowers. A Botanical Workshop***  
WORKSHOP**Date and Time:** Sunday, March 11, 6pm-8pm**Instructor:** Jennifer Ipekkel**Location:** Tashkeel, St. 5 and 20, Nad Al Sheba, Dubai**Age Group:** 16+

In an era of unprecedented technological innovation, we can often forget the connection we hold to nature. During this workshop, participants will be asked to think about time, exploring the secret language of nature in an animalistic perspective. Using the work of Karl Blossfeldt's magnified photographs of plant life as a tool to study forms in nature. How do we consider these shapes and how do we interact with these structures to build our perception. The workshop will enable participants to view plants and the nature around us in a different capacity as well as provide a sound demonstration using an interactive electronic device that reads electrical variations and records impulses and reactions when attached to leaves or roots.

**Warehouse421:**

Warehouse421 will hold open studios on March 13, from 6-8pm, and workshops on February 21 and March 14.

There are limited spaces available for the workshops, which are offered on a first-come, first-served basis subject to registration on the website. Find out more on [warehouse421.ae](http://warehouse421.ae)

**IABADIOU PIKO: *Art Dubai Series: Painting***

A MEDITATION FOLLOWED BY A PAINTING WORKSHOP

**Date and Time:** Wednesday, February 21, 5:30pm-8pm**Instructor:** Iabadiou Piko**Location:** Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi**Age Group:** 16+**Price:** AED 40

Lead by visiting artist Iabadiou Piko, this is a painting workshop which begins with a meditation, an exploration into the things (the people, places, sights) which move you personally. It then takes you through from freehand sketching to materials as well as construction and techniques, ending with uninterrupted painting.

**KRISTINA ALSAUSKAITE: *Art Dubai Series: The Art Of Collage***

MULTI-MEDIA ART MAKING WORKSHOP

**Date and Time:** Wednesday, March 14, 5.30pm-8.30pm**Instructor:** Kristina Alsauskaite**Location:** Warehouse421, Abu Dhabi**Age Group:** 16+**Price:** AED 40

Lead by visiting artist Kristina Alsauskaite, the Art of Collage is a workshop in the art of collaging and acrylic painting. Using photocopies, old magazines, acrylic colours, brushes, sponges, stamps, coloured paper, dried plants and canvas as a basis, participants will be introduced to different artistic techniques. Each participant will be encouraged to create their own 'Universe' by using the materials provided.

## **Art Dubai:**

### **RESIDENTS 2018: *Creative Processes and Bonding Experiences in the UAE***

#### ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION

**Date and Time:** Saturday, March 24, 4pm-6pm

**Speakers:** Rekha Setpal, Head of Programmes and Partnerships at in5; Faisal Al Hassan, Public Programmes Manager at Salama Bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation (Warehouse421); Tamsin Wildy, Studio Manager at Tashkeel, and Residents 2018 artists, hosted by Pablo del Val, Artistic Director, Art Dubai

**Location:** Global Art Forum Tent, Fort Island, Madinat Jumeirah

**Age Group:** All ages welcome

A round-table discussion including visual presentations by Residents artists, during which they will discuss their experience at the residency space. The discussion will touch upon the residency supporters and the artists will be asked to share their experience during the program and their experience in Dubai/the process of making their work and how Dubai has inspired them throughout the residency.

**—END—**

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Art Dubai**

A leading international art fair, Art Dubai is the preeminent place to interact with Contemporary art from the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. For its 12<sup>th</sup> edition Art Dubai presents a unique line-up of 105 galleries from 48 countries, reaffirming the fair's position as a place of discovery with galleries from new markets rarely seen on the international stage exhibiting alongside leading galleries from established art centers. It will also showcase the largest edition of Art Dubai Modern – the world's only platform that exhibits museum-quality Modern works from the MENASA region, alongside the annual Modern Symposium of talks on the lives and legacies of artists operating in these regions in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Art Dubai 2018 inaugurates a new gallery section – Residents – that welcomes spaces whose artists will complete a residency in the UAE with work created during this period exhibited at the fair.

Beyond the gallery halls, the fair once again hosts an extensive collateral programme including the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Abraaj Group Art Prize, the Global Art Forum that takes on the theme of automation, and a series of commissions including the artist collective GCC, which will welcome audiences to Good Morning GCC at the fair and an engaging after-hours programme, including private visits to collections and to cultural institutions across the United Arab Emirates.

In addition to its March programming, the fair aims to continue to grow the cultural fabric of the city and the region with year round engagement including the art school Campus Art Dubai, an internship programme aimed at supporting the next generation of art practitioners and professionals, and Art Dubai Portraits, a film series casting light on MENASA artists and their practices.

Art Dubai is held in partnership with The Abraaj Group. The fair is sponsored by Julius Baer and Piaget, with Madinat Jumeirah as the home of the event. The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority

(Dubai Culture) is a strategic partner of Art Dubai and supports the fair's year-round education programme. MiSK Art Institute is the exclusive partner of Art Dubai Modern.

[artdubai.ae](http://artdubai.ae)

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## **About in5**

in5 is an enabling platform for entrepreneurs and startups, offering five key benefits through its robust startup framework, creative spaces and specialised industry centers, training and mentorship programmes, community wide networking events and access to investors, in5 nurtures ideas and businesses to their next phase of growth.

Launched by TECOM Group, in5's three specialised Innovation Centres provide aspiring students, entrepreneurs and startups with access to a diverse community of creative minds, facilitating the constant exchange of knowledge and passionate debate conducive to ideation.

in5 Tech, located at the heart of Dubai Internet City, features the latest cutting-edge technology and devices aimed at facilitating the process of turning innovative ideas into reality. Supporting startups in developing and enhancing established and disruptive technologies, from social media, web development and mobile applications to digital solutions, eCommerce, robotics, BigData, and augmented reality, in5 offers a vibrant community to experiment and bring imagination to life. Embedded in an inspiring, working environment, in5's members can unleash, debate and evolve their ideas with other like-minded community members.

in5 Media includes fully equipped production and recording studios, screening rooms and editing suites to give filmmakers, photographers, media content creators, sound engineers, and musicians the opportunity to develop their ideas and produce engaging content. Located in Dubai Production City, in5 provides media students, startups and entrepreneurs space for workshops, mentorships, and opportunities to work closely with other passionate and innovative minds, shaping and developing new ideas through discussions and creative dialogue.

in5 Design, based in the middle of Dubai's buzzing design district (d3), is home to a one-of-its-kind prototyping lab that includes the latest equipment, including 3D printers, electronics and modern machinery for designers from all schools of design including fashion, furniture, and architecture to name a few, working with metals, wood, plastic and textiles. Members not only have access to a creative community which provides a vibrant sounding board and echo chamber for new ideas, but also a dedicated library of raw materials and design workstations to develop their concepts into prototypes with the support of mentors and experts in the field of design.

Students, entrepreneurs and startups can be a part of the community that enables creative minds and ideas through a variety of memberships, ranging from access to the creative spaces and specialised facilities and events over to dedicated workspaces and private offices.

Find out more or submit your applications at [www.in5.ae](http://www.in5.ae)

## **About Tashkeel**

Established in Dubai in 2008 by Lateefa bint Maktoum, Tashkeel seeks to provide a nurturing environment for the growth of contemporary art and design practice rooted in the UAE. Through multi-disciplinary studios, work spaces and galleries located in both Nad Al Sheba and Al Fahidi, it enables creative practice, experimentation and dialogue among practitioners and the wider community. Operating on an open membership model, Tashkeel's annual programme of training, residencies, workshops, talks, exhibitions, international collaborations and publications aims to further practitioner development, public engagement, lifelong learning and the creative and cultural industries.

Tashkeel's range of initiatives include: **Tanween**, which takes a selected cohort of emerging UAE-based designers through a nine-month development programme to take a product inspired by the surroundings of the UAE from concept to completion; **Critical Practice**, which invites visual artists to embark on a one-year development programme of studio practice, mentorship and training that culminates in a major solo presentation; **MakeWorks UAE**, an online platform connecting creatives and fabricators to enable designers and artists accurate and efficient access to the UAE manufacturing sector; **Exhibitions & Workshops** to challenge artistic practice, enable capacity building and grow audience for the arts in the UAE; and the heart of Tashkeel, its **Membership**, a community of creatives with access to facilities and studio spaces to refine their skills, undertake collaborations and pursue professional careers.

Visit [tashkeel.org](http://tashkeel.org) | [make.works](http://make.works)

### **About Warehouse421**

Warehouse421 is a thriving hub for art and culture, design and creativity, performance and music in the heart of Abu Dhabi's historic Mina Zayed district. Converted from two former industrial warehouses, Warehouse421 showcases the works of local, regional and international artists, designers and performers throughout the year, while providing a rare glimpse into the processes and techniques behind their creations. Warehouse421 also encourages members of the public to explore their own creativity through interactive initiatives including talks, workshops, film screenings and performances. Designed by the respected Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG), Warehouse421 is supported by the Salama bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation as part of its mission to facilitate wider engagement with the arts and culture in the UAE.