



QATAR MUSEUMS ANNOUNCES UNPRECEDENTED CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR FALL 2022:

- **COMPLETE REINSTALLATION OF THE ICONIC MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ART**
- **QATAR'S LARGEST EVER EXHIBITION PROGRAMME, SHOWN ACROSS EIGHT MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES**
- **PREVIEW EXHIBITIONS OF MAJOR NEW MUSEUMS IN DEVELOPMENT**

DOHA, 29 June 2022 — Qatar Museums today announced a wide-ranging series of cultural initiatives in fall 2022 that confirm the nation's position as a preeminent arts and culture destination in the region and internationally. The programme will begin in September, with exhibitions remaining on view into 2023. The announcement follows the recent transformation of Qatar Creates from a limited period of events into a year-round national cultural movement that curates, promotes, and celebrates the diversity of cultural activities in Qatar.

Anchoring the cultural programme is the opening in October of a completely reimagined and reinstalled Museum of Islamic Art (MIA), designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect I M Pei, a celebrated landmark in the heart of Doha. The MIA will present its collection in completely new thematic interpretations to engage with audiences both local and international. It will also include a new family trail.

Accompanying the reopening of the MIA is a wide-ranging programme of exhibitions across eight museums and galleries in Doha. These include:

- Baghdad: Eye's Delight at the Museum of Islamic Art showcasing one of the greatest cities in the Islamic world;
- contemporary multimedia creations by artists **Sophia Al-Maria** and **Taysir Batniji** at **Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art**;
- an exhibition on the rich cultural heritage of nomads in the Central Sahara, Arab Middle East, and Central Eurasia/Mongolia at the **National Museum of Qatar**;
- a show celebrating the history of football and the sport's greatest competitions at the recently opened **3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum**;
- **Maison Valentino** exhibition that pays homage to its founder at M7

- exhibitions on the **Art Mill Museum** of international modern and contemporary art, designed by Alejandro Aravena and ELEMENTAL, and on the **Lusail Museum**, designed by Herzog & de Meuron, giving visitors their first glimpse of what they can expect from these two new art institutions now being developed by Qatar Museums.

As Qatar prepares for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, Qatar Museums is also transforming the nation's landscape into a vast outdoor art museum with the installation by fall 2022 of more than 40 new and commissioned public artworks throughout Doha and the nation, in a variety of public spaces including parks and shopping areas, educational and athletic facilities, Hamad International Airport and Q-Rail stations, as well as select stadiums that will host the World Cup Games.

Many of the QM exhibitions for autumn 2022 are part of the Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture programme. In the World Cup year, QM has greatly expanded this annual initiative of bilateral exchange to celebrate the cultures of two dozen nations of the MENASA region. Exhibitions include:

Sophia Al-Maria: ~~INVISIBLE LABORS~~ *daydream therapy*

16 September 2022 – 21 January 2023

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art

Part of Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture

Sophia Al-Maria: ~~INVISIBLE LABORS~~ *daydream therapy* brings together existing and new works for the Qatari American artist's first large-scale, multi-part museum exhibition in the Middle East. For this exhibition project, Al-Maria (b. 1983) invites various artists, curators, scholars, and communities into a dialogue around histories, dreaming, futures and the Gulf's relation to the surrounding regions. The exhibition, which consists of a variety of media including installations, video-work, and commissioned soundscapes, foregrounds the importance of storytelling and speculative narratives as strategies of survival, imagination, and reclaiming stories. Sophia Al-Maria: ~~INVISIBLE LABORS~~ *daydream therapy* is curated by researcher and independent curator Amal Al Haag in close collaboration with Mathaf's assistant-curator Abdulrahman Mohammed Alkubaisi.

Taysir Batniji: No Condition is Permanent

16 September 2022 – 21 January 2023

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha

Part of Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture

Presented within a global context of social uncertainty and fragility of historical narratives, the exhibition No Condition is Permanent is conceived as a reflective space dedicated to the artist Taysir Batniji (b. 1966 Gaza). The show is a survey that puts works in dialogue, featuring productions and reproductions of his art created between 1997 and 2022. During this period, the artist lived in France, but his life and work meditate on Palestine. While the exhibition's title refers to a single artwork, the curatorial narrative and works on display look at Batniji's diverse practice using photography, drawing, video, installation and performance. This exhibition is co-curated by Abdellah Karroum and Lina Ramadan.

Majaz: Contemporary Art Qatar

16 September 2022 – 25 February 2023
Location: Masrah Almaared, Mathaf
Part of Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture

The Fire Station: Artist in Residence will celebrate young local and regional talent in *Majaz: Contemporary Art Qatar*, on view from September 16, 2022, through February 25, 2023. The Artist in Residence Alumni Exhibition will celebrate five years of the Artist in Residence (AIR) programme at the Fire Station and the flourishing art scene in Qatar. In January 2021, the Fire Station invited 14 AIR alumni to participate in a six-month-long programme to develop new works for this exhibition. An additional 25 AIR alumni will be featured in the exhibition, where they will showcase works in a variety of disciplines including painting, sculpture, and new media, and explore different perspectives and reflections to unveil personal, cultural, and global concepts. The works will be displayed in dialogue with each other highlighting elements of storytelling. The exhibition is curated by Saida Al Khulaifi Acting Head of Residency Programs and Amal Zeyad Ali, Exhibitions Coordinator at the Fire Station.

World of Football

3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum
1 October 2022 – 1 April 2023

In 2022 Qatar hosts the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™—the first time the world's biggest football tournament will be hosted in the Middle East. The Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum's *World of Football* exhibition celebrates this historic occasion. And like a football match itself, it is displayed over two halves. The first half—*Football for All, All for Football*—examines the universal and global appeal of football; the beautiful game that is played, watched, and enjoyed by millions regardless of age, gender, nationality or socioeconomic status. The second half—*The Road to Doha*—follows the long journey to Qatar 2022, from the first FIFA World Cup matches in Uruguay in 1930, to the final at the Lusail Stadium on 18 December 2022. Visitors to the exhibition can relive memories of some of the greatest World Cup moments of the past, get behind the scenes of Qatar's successful bid to welcome the world, and see the country's plans. The final *FIFA Making Memories* section will grow during the exhibition, as objects and artefacts are added to celebrate and record historic milestones as teams make new World Cup history at Qatar 2022. The exhibition is supported by FIFA Museum, Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy, National Football Museum (UK), Musée National du Sport (France), and Qatar Football Association.

Labour of Love: Embroidering Palestinian History

12 October 2022 – 28 January 2023
QM Gallery Katara
Part of Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture

Labour of Love: Embroidering Palestinian History will take visitors on a journey of discovery of tatreez embroidery as woven into the social, economic, and political fabric of Palestinian society, through different historical periods.

The exhibition elucidates the symbols of traditional embroidered Palestinian dress (thobe), and explores tatreez through the lenses of gender, labour, commodification, and class.

The exhibition thus traces the shift of tatreez from a personal practice, made with love, to national symbol, and onto a product circulating in the global marketplace.

The exhibition is curated by Baha Jubeh, Collections Manager at the Palestinian Museum, and draws from collections of Qatar Museums and the Palestinian Museum.

Experience Al Jazeera

19 October 2022 – March 2023

Fire Station, Doha

"Experience Al Jazeera" captures how Al Jazeera Media Network, over the past 25 years, has grown from a single pioneering TV channel to a global media phenomenon. The exhibition explores the meteoric trajectory of Al Jazeera, its emphasis on the human story, its founding values, editorial integrity, creative processes, and the technologies involved in the creation of award-winning content in multiple formats across a range of platforms. The Al Jazeera exhibition also includes interactive exhibits, such as a 'Studio Experience', where visitors can experience the Al Jazeera studio setting first-hand, and an 'Al Jazeera Immersive' section, which explores the use of virtual and augmented reality storytelling techniques in broadcasting. The "Experience Al Jazeera" exhibit illustrates the Network's commitment to professionalism, independent journalism in the pursuit of the truth to inform and inspire its audiences globally.

Art Mill Museum 2030

Qatar Flour Mill Warehouse and Al Najada Heritage House #15, Doha

24 October 2022 – 30 March 2023

The Art Mill Museum 2030 exhibition announces the future museum of international modern and contemporary art developed by Qatar Museums in Doha. It introduces the vision and the definition of the museum, conceived by Catherine Grenier, as well as the architecture by the studio ELEMENTAL, led by the Pritzker Prize-winning architect Alejandro Aravena. Due to open in 2030, the Museum will transform an industrial flour mill site on the Corniche. It will include a Creative Village and a Garden by VOGT Landscape Architects, led by Günther Vogt. The Art Mill Museum will house an exceptional and completely international collection constituted over the last 40 years with multidisciplinary works of great diversity, dating from 1830 to the present.

The exhibition will present the vision of the museum, the architectural project, and the signature garden. To reflect the transformation of the site and to demonstrate how the Art Mill Museum will be a place for contemporary creativity, artists have been commissioned to create films and photographs establishing parallels between the former flour mill and the future museum. The exhibition will take place in two locations in Doha: the site of the flour mill plant that will later welcome the new construction and the recently restored Al Najada Heritage House #15.

The exhibition is curated by Aurélien Lemonier, Art Mill Museum Curator of Architecture, Design and Gardens, and Maryam Al Thani, Curator, Exhibitions Department, Qatar Museums.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION:

Site 1 – Qatar Flour Mills Warehouse: “From Flour to Art”

Access: Prior reservations are necessary on Qatar Museums website.

Times: Saturday to Thursday 10:00 to 17:00, Friday 14:00- 19:00

Site 2 – Al Najada Heritage House # 15: “The Museum’s Garden”

Address: Al Najada District, Old Doha

Times: Saturday to Thursday 10:00 to 17:00, Friday 14:00- 19:00

Prior reservations are necessary on Qatar Museums website

Lusail Museum: Tales of a Connected World

QM Gallery Al Riwaq

24 October 2022 – 2023

Qatar Museums (QM) will present a special exhibition at Al Riwaq Gallery that introduces a new museum designed by Herzog & de Meuron currently under development in Lusail. The new museum will draw on its world-class collection of Orientalist art, archaeological artefacts, and media from prehistoric times to the 21st century to create a new, enlightened, and constructive way of looking at the world to understand who we are, where come from, and where we are going.

The exhibition, anchored in Lusail, home of Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, founder of Qatar, will explore moments of encounter and the vast networks across the Indian Ocean World which make connections possible. The exhibition is curated by Dr. Xavier Dectot, Director of the Lusail Museum, with Kholood Al Fahad, Curator; Monira Al Khayarin, Researcher, Dr. Sophie Bostock, Curator of Drawings, and Dr. Giles Hudson, Curator of Photographs. The exhibition is designed in collaboration with museum specialists Studio Adrien Gardère and Barker Langham.

Baghdad: Eye’s Delight

26 October 2022– 25 February 2023

Museum of Islamic Art

Part of Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture

Baghdad: Eye’s Delight celebrates Baghdad as the most important and influential city ever created in the Islamic world. The exhibition will reveal Baghdad’s outstanding heritage as the capital of the great Abbasid caliphs (750-1258 CE) but also of the 20th century when the city once again experienced a renewed period of prosperity with the discovery of oil. The display takes the visitor on an imaginary tour across centuries, highlighting Baghdad’s role as a city of power, scholarship, and riches. It also explores Baghdad’s role as a city of industry and commerce, from the flourishing trade under the Abbasids to the development of modern infrastructure in the 20th century. The journey ends with a look at the city’s social fabric, its cosmopolitan population and many traditions, which have – despite war and destruction – enabled the city to thrive, time and time again. The exhibition is jointly curated by Dr. Julia Gonnella, Director, Museum of Islamic Art and MIA Curatorial Team: Dr. Mounia Chekhab Abudaya, Dr. Tara Desjardins, Nicoletta Fazio and Simone Struth. The exhibition features objects on loan from 22 lenders including the Louvre, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Benaki Museum, the Vatican, and the Barjeel Foundation.

On the Move

27 October 2022 – 14 January 2023

National Museum of Qatar

On the Move explores the lives of nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoralists across three distinct regions: Central Sahara, Qatar, and Mongolia. The exhibition explores how these groups have created and maintained rich and meaningful social lives while producing complex and beautiful cultural forms in challenging environments. *On the Move* features a rich selection of objects, historical images, and archival footage from the collections of the National Museum of Qatar and other Qatar Museums' Collections, along with loans from international museums including the National Museum of Mongolia, Musée du Quai Branly, and Weltmuseum Vienna, among other institutions. The exhibition is curated by Prof. Lila Abu-Lughod (Department of Anthropology, Columbia University); Tania Al Majid (Associate Curator of Social History and Ethnography, National Museum of Qatar); Faisal Al Naimi (Director of Archaeology, Qatar Museums); Dr. Haya Al Thani (Director of Curatorial Affairs, National Museum of Qatar); Dr. Anja Fischer (Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna); and Dr. Elizabeth Turk (Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge).

Forever Valentino

October 2022 – April 2023

M7

On occasion of Qatar Creates 2022, Maison Valentino will pay homage to its founder with an exhibition curated by Massimiliano Gioni and Alexander Fury. Forever Valentino will be Maison Valentino's largest show to date and its first presentation in the Middle East.

Currently on View:

Your Brain to Me, My Brain to You

Through 20 December 2022

National Museum of Qatar

Your Brain to Me, My Brain to You is a new large-scale immersive video installation by internationally renowned Swiss artist Pipilotti Rist (b. 1962). Commissioned by the National Museum to meet the unique dimensions of its gallery, the video is the artist's first museum installation in the Middle East. The installation invites visitors to embark on a journey of self-discovery through a multisensory experience that inspires introspection and awe. A key feature of the work are "pixels" that comprise 12,000 LED lights strung on cables throughout the gallery for visitors to navigate. Representing neurons, constantly firing and communicating with each other, the pulsing resin-encased bulbs have been programmed in choreography with a soundscape and featuring abstract footage of Qatar's landscapes. *Your Brain to Me, My Brain to You* is curated by Qatar Museums' Curatorial Advisor, Tom Eccles, with the National Museum's Head of Exhibitions, Bouthayna M Baltaji.

A Sneak Peek at Qatar Auto Museum Project

Through 20 January 2023

Mawater Gallery, National Museum of Qatar

The National Museum of Qatar presents *A Sneak Peek at Qatar Auto Museum Project*, an exhibition introducing the new Qatar Auto Museum, designed by the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA), led by Pritzker Architecture Prize winning architect Rem Koolhaas. The exhibition explores the significance of automotive design in the 20th century and the impact of automobiles on culture.

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About Qatar Museums

Qatar Museums (QM), the nation's preeminent institution for art and culture, provides authentic and inspiring cultural experiences through a growing network of museums, heritage sites, festivals, public art installations, and programmes. QM preserves, restores, and expands the nation's cultural offerings and historical sites, sharing art and culture from Qatar, the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia (MENASA) region with the world and enriching the lives of citizens, residents, and visitors.

Under the patronage of His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and led by its Chairperson, Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, QM has made Qatar a vibrant centre for the arts, culture, and education in the Middle East and beyond. QM is integral to the goal of developing an innovative, diverse, and progressive nation, bringing people together to ignite new thinking, spark critical cultural conversations, educate and encourage environmental stewardship and sustainable practices, and amplify the voices of Qatar's people. Since its founding in 2005, QM has overseen the Museum of Islamic Art and MIA Park, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of Qatar, QM Gallery Al Riwaq, QM Gallery Katara, 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum, and Dadu, Children's Museum of Qatar, which is currently under development.

Through its newly created Creative Hub, QM also initiates and supports projects—such as the Fire Station Artist in Residence, the Tasweer Qatar Photo Festival and the creative hub for innovation, fashion and design M7—that nurture artistic talent and create opportunities to build a strong and sustainable cultural infrastructure.

Animating everything that Qatar Museums does is an authentic connection to Qatar and its heritage, a steadfast commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, and a belief in creating value through invention.

About Qatar Creates

Qatar Creates curates, celebrates, and promotes cultural activities within Qatar.

Working with partners in museums, film, fashion, hospitality, cultural heritage, performing arts, and the private sector in Qatar, the Qatar Creates platform amplifies the voice of Qatar's creative industries, directly connecting audiences to events.

About Years of Culture

Culture is one of the most effective tools to bring people closer together, encourage dialogue, and deepen understanding between nations. Under the leadership of its Chairperson Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Qatar Museums (QM) developed the annual “Years of Culture” initiative — an international cultural exchange that deepens understanding between nations and their people. Though formal programming lasts only one year, the ties of friendship that are strengthened and formed are long-lasting.

In celebration of its 10th anniversary, the 2022 Year of Culture will offer programming from the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia (MENASA). The Qatar-MENASA Year of Culture 2022 will include countries and communities from: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Bhutan, Egypt, India, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Qatar-MENASA Year of Culture 2022 has been developed in collaboration with leading organizations in Qatar, including Doha Film Institute, Education Above All, Katara Cultural Village, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar Charity, Qatar Football Association, Qatar Foundation, Qatar Museums, Qatar National Library, Qatar National Tourism Council, Qatar Olympic Committee, Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy, with assistance from Doha-based embassies of participating countries. The Qatar-MENASA 2022 Year of Culture is supported by Qatar Airways.

Previous Years of Culture have included: Qatar-Japan 2012, Qatar-UK 2013, Qatar-Brazil 2014, Qatar-Turkey 2015, Qatar-China 2016, Qatar-Germany 2017, Qatar-Russia 2018, Qatar-India 2019, Qatar-France 2020, and Qatar-USA 2021.

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