

Lawrie Shabibi
Unit 21, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1
P.O. Box 123901, Dubai, UAE
T | +971 (4) 346 9906
F | +971 (4) 346 9902
E | info@lawrieshabibi.com

lawrieshabibi

PRESS RELEASE

Lawrie Shabibi at Art Dubai 2025

Booth M2 & D4 - Johara Hall

Modern | Mehdi Moutashar

Contemporary | Saif Azzuz, Shaikha Al Mazrou, Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim, Elias Sime

16 – 20 April 2025

Madinat Jumeirah

Lawrie Shabibi is pleased to participate in the 2025 edition of Art Dubai, presenting works in both the *Contemporary* and *Modern* sectors.

For **Art Dubai Contemporary** we bring together a diverse group of artists from various cultural backgrounds and artistic disciplines, including, Saif Azzuz (b. 1987, Libyan-Yurok), Shaikha Al Mazrou (b. 1988, UAE), Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim (b. 1962, UAE), and Elias Sime (b. 1968, Ethiopia). These artists, ranging from sculptors and painters to installation and mixed-media practitioners, pioneer fresh perspectives that merge natural motifs with artistic expression. Shaikha Al Mazrou's sculptural experimentations reflect her exploration of tension and materiality, while Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim's practice often brings him in direct contact with nature, using materials like hashed leaves and clay. Saif Azzuz's vibrant paintings blend elements of abstraction and surrealism, characterized by dynamic colour and fluid movement, evoking a deep connection to the natural world.

Lastly, Elias Sime's distinctive practice transforms technological materials—colourful wires that he braids, circuit boards, and electronic components—into intricate, layered compositions that blur the boundaries between technology, nature, and abstraction.

Coinciding with Art Dubai, Lawrie Shabibi will present *Through The Window* - በመስኮቱ ውስጥ, a solo exhibition of Elias Sime's work at the gallery, offering visitors an extended opportunity to engage with the artist's innovative practice.

For **Art Dubai Modern**, we are thrilled to exhibit works by Mehdi Moutashar (b. 1943, French-Iraqi) offering a striking exploration of geometric abstraction, with a particular focus on the square as a foundational element. Featuring a selection of pieces primarily from the 1980s this selection highlights Moutashar's deep engagement with minimalism and Islamic artistic traditions, where repetition, symmetry, and precision form the core of his visual language.

The square, both as a structural framework and a conceptual motif, dominates the compositions. Moutashar's works from this period reveal a rigorous approach to form, reducing visual expression to its essential components while engaging with the historical legacy of calligraphy and architectural ornamentation. Through bold contrasts, refined colour palettes, and dynamic yet disciplined arrangements, he transforms this simple shape into a vessel for movement and depth, challenging the viewer's perception of space.

Moutashar's work, blending Eastern and Western influences with a fusion of tradition and modernity, holds significant relevance in contemporary abstraction. This presentation celebrates a pivotal decade in his artistic journey, highlighting the square's enduring potential as both an aesthetic and conceptual exploration.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Lawrie Shabibi is a contemporary art gallery housed in Dubai's Alserkal Avenue. The gallery supports the long-term development of the careers of young international contemporary artists with a focus on those from the Middle East and North Africa. The gallery also organises art historical exhibitions working with an older generation of artists from the region. Liaising with curators, institutions, museums and collectors the gallery has successfully introduced international artists to the region whilst at the same time presenting Middle Eastern artists to the international contemporary art community. By holding a regular programme of exhibitions, screenings and talks, publishing catalogues and participating in international art fairs, Lawrie Shabibi has been a forerunner in the development of the contemporary art scene in Dubai.

For more information on Lawrie Shabibi please visit: www.lawrieshabibi.com

PRESS INQUIRIES

For press inquiries please contact:

Sarah Aiman

E. sarah@lawrieshabibi.com

T. +971 4 346 9906