

Al Jaw

The Artistic Journal of the Arab World





**“An Untitled Body” by Sara Chaar
at Gallery Claude Lemand, Paris**

The exhibition questions the conflicting ideas between biological characteristics and social constructions of identity. Chaar's new work uses microscopic fragments of chromosomes and cells to create an abstract representation of her body.



“I'm 33 Years Old and I've Never Been on a Plane”

Palestinian photographer Abdel Rahman dedicates his work to documenting bitter realities surrounding daily life in Gaza. This picture, as the cover one, is part of a project which won the International Committee of the Red Cross 2018 photo competition. It tells a story of dreams and hopes shattered by poverty and closure.

Connected to the world by internet and social media, Gaza youth is separated from it by movement restrictions. For most of the young Gazans, travelling remains an unattainable dream. Most photographs were taken at Rafah Crossing, which connects Gaza to Egypt. Rafah is considered to be the main gateway out of Gaza, and it opens sporadically.

MUSIC

Lots of news, starting with the concert of Syrian & German duo Shkoon in Beirut, December 26.

They will present their new album “Masrahiya”, mixing dub, hip hop, deep house & electro.



Their tour continues in Europe, with London, Barcelona & Paris in February.

Also, Elyanna sang “Ghosn Zeytoun” for the opening of El Gouna Festival, paying tribute to Palestinians. The concert was a hit, & was massively shared on social networks.

Syrian band Aghiad released their EP, “Liman”. Bridging Eastern & Western music influences, the album combines melodies and rhythms from both sides of the Mediterranean Sea, in Arabic, Turkish & French.

New Cultural Center in Jeddah

The Saudi Ministry of Culture has announced the forthcoming inauguration of the Tariq Abdulhakim Centre, a new initiative aimed at preserving and celebrating Saudi Arabia's intangible musical & cultural heritage.

The centre will host a museum dedicated to Saudi musician Tariq Abdulhakim. It will also include research and archives units dedicated to the preservation of Saudi heritage. first Arab to receive it.



Followed by 418,000 followers on TikTok, 26-year-old violinist Esther Abrami works on modernising classical music & democratising it among the youth. With a diploma from prestigious College of Music in London, her videos exploded on social media during Covid, in which she plays the violon like a rock guitarist & covers popular songs such as “Hunger Games” . Collecting awards (“Social Network Star” in 2019, “Rising Star” by BBC Music Magazine in 2021, ...), she also pursues a modelling career with major labels. Her second album, “Cinema”, is now out.

An abstract painting featuring a dense, textured composition of vibrant colors including red, blue, green, yellow, and black. The brushstrokes are expressive and varied in direction, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall effect is a rich, multi-layered visual experience.

**“Back to Nature”
in Marrakech, at Gallery Tindouf**

**The collective exhibition runs from 23.12 to 11.02
with artists Lalla Essaydi, Rita Alaoui, Tahar
Ben Jelloun, Ilias Selfati, Bill West, Abdelmalek
Berhiss, Damien Bonnaud & Rachid Bouhamidi
(picture)**

**Fashion Trust Arabia
7 winners, 2023 edition**

Womenswear designer Amir Al-Kasm (Syria, see picture) and Renaissance founder Cynthia Merhej (Lebanon) were the main laureates, winning first prize in the evening wear category.

Lebanese designer Ahmed Amer won in the ready-to-wear category; British-Lebanese designer Katarina Tarazi in the jewellery category; and the designer duo behind the eyewear brand 'A Better Feeling', Omar Taha and Lily Max (Egypt), in the accessories category.

Moroccan menswear designer Adam Elyassé won Franca Sozzani Debut Talent prize, & Nigerian designer Adeju Thompson was awarded the Guest Country prize.



Sharjah's Mleiha and Al Dhaid Fort added to Islamic World Heritage list

Archaeological discoveries in the area over the years point to the crucial role Mleiha played in trade across the Arabian Peninsula.



Hunna Arts & Culture

It is an initiative open to visual artists, writers, poets, film-makers, painters, fashion designers, performers, environmentalists and practitioners of all nationalities, ages and profiles. Artists can also move into the residence with their children. The association was founded in 2022, and is a collective of women and mother artists made up of Flavia Juska Béchara, Caroline Hatem, Rima Kaddissi, Sawsan Bou Khaled, Yal Solan & Chantal Mailhac.



Open letter - Gaza

Some of Britain's most heralded playwrights, actors & theatre directors signed a letter calling for the release of members of a Palestinian theatre group, the Freedom Theater, who have been in Israeli custody since 13.12, while also decrying the destruction of cultural sites in the West Bank & Gaza. Caryl Churchill, Vicky Featherstone, Dominic Cooke and Maxine Peake were among the 1,000 signatories of the letter. The Jenin-based Freedom theatre was founded in 2006 & has toured the world extensively.

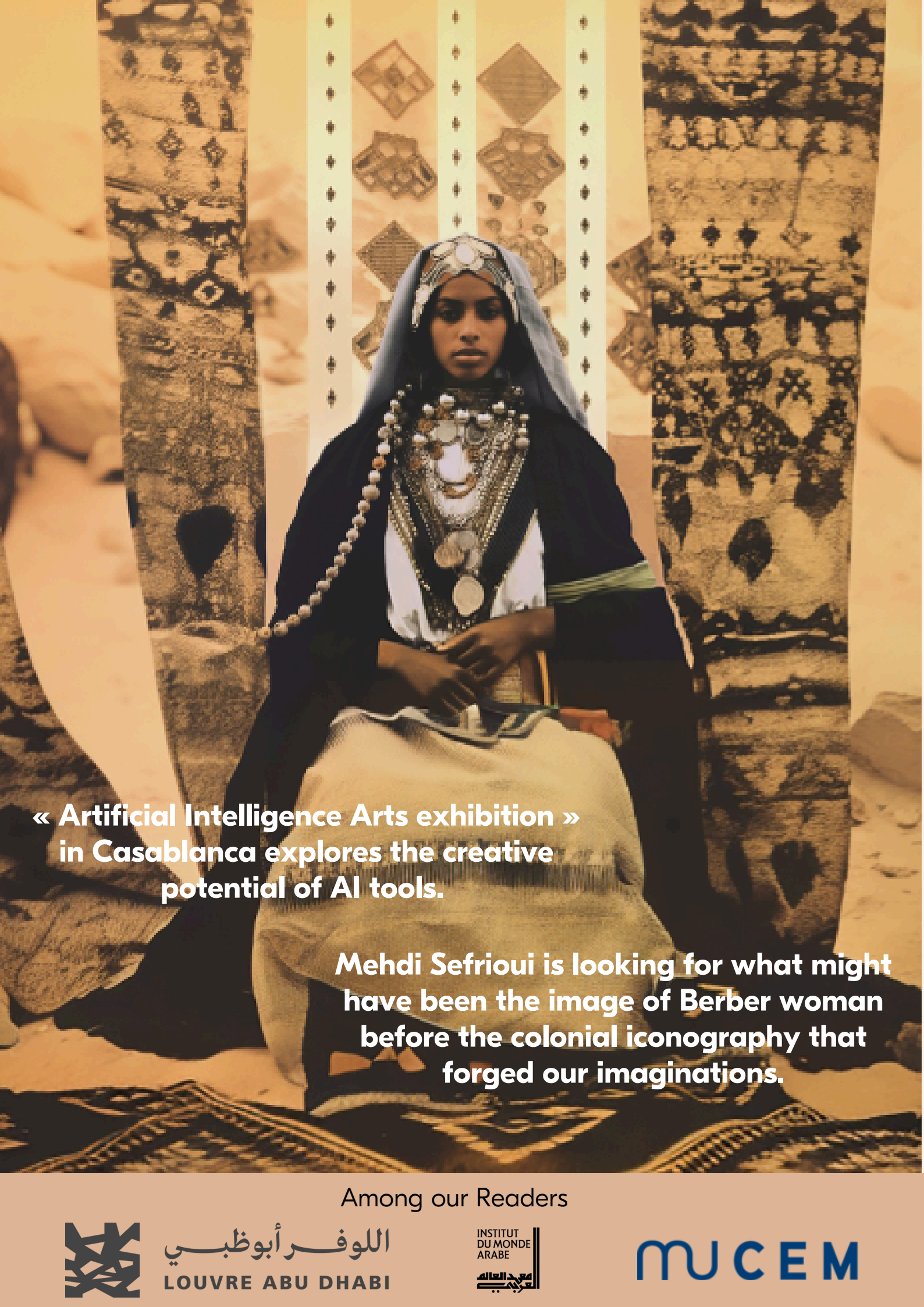




Gaza Monologues

The Gaza Monologues are testimonies written by Ashtar theater in 2010, after the first war on the Gaza Strip. Tragically, they are still accurate today. They highlight the horrors, hopes & resilience of the Gazans to a wider audience, bringing out the voices of children & people in Gaza.

Performed in multiple languages, it is directed by Matthieu Loos.



« Artificial Intelligence Arts exhibition »
in Casablanca explores the creative
potential of AI tools.

Mehdi Sefrioui is looking for what might
have been the image of Berber woman
before the colonial iconography that
forged our imaginations.

Among our Readers



اللو فر أبو ظبي
LOUVRE ABU DHABI



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