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# 'Dubai Design Week 2017': The World of Design Comes to the Middle East

BY BLOUIN ARTINFO | NOVEMBER 10, 2017



A rendering of The New Home of "Abwab," featuring a cloud-like structure created from discarded bedsprings by Fahed+Architects. (Courtesy: Fahed + Architects)

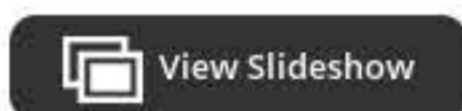
Dubai Design Week 2017, inarguably, is the most important design event in the Middle East, bringing together designers, architects, artists and thought-leaders in a six-day-long celebration of design and creativity.

This year the city comes alive with more than 200 events and activities spread across various locations during event, November 13-18. The Dubai Design District, the site of 90 events, is the festival's hub. The Dubai International Financial Center, the Etihad Museum, and Hamdan Bin Mohammed Heritage Center are the other top venues attracting design lovers from different parts of the world.

The Downtown Design trade show returns to the festival with its fifth edition, featuring 25 countries and an impressive array of 150 contemporary designers. London's Royal College of Art, California's Stanford University and Melbourne's RMIT are among the 90 top universities participating in the annual Global Grad Show, the world's largest exchange platform for design graduates. A celebration of regional design talent, "Abwab," or "doors" in Arabic, returns in a new home that features a cloud-like structure created from discarded bedsprings by Fahed + Architects. Among the speakers at this year's Design Week is Sir David Adjaye, a star in the world of architecture, who has won a nomination for Beazley Designs of the Year for his National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. "Iconic City," "Graphics RCA: 50 Years and Beyond," and "Once Upon Design" present a curation of works ranging from graphic design to contemporary-product and furniture design.

Specially commissioned installations dot the exhibition space in the design district including an eye-catching structure that plays with light devised by Lujaine Rezk and Albert Kolambel. "The team has been thrilled to work with an incredible range of designers, companies and sponsors to stage an event that is bursting with possibilities for visitors from near and far," said William Knight, head of Design for Dubai Design Week. The Dubai Design District's chief operating officer, Mohammad Saeed Al Shehhi, adds that "each year, this event is growing in size and reach and it will continue to be an anchor platform for the design community."

This article appears in the November 2017 edition of Art+Auction.



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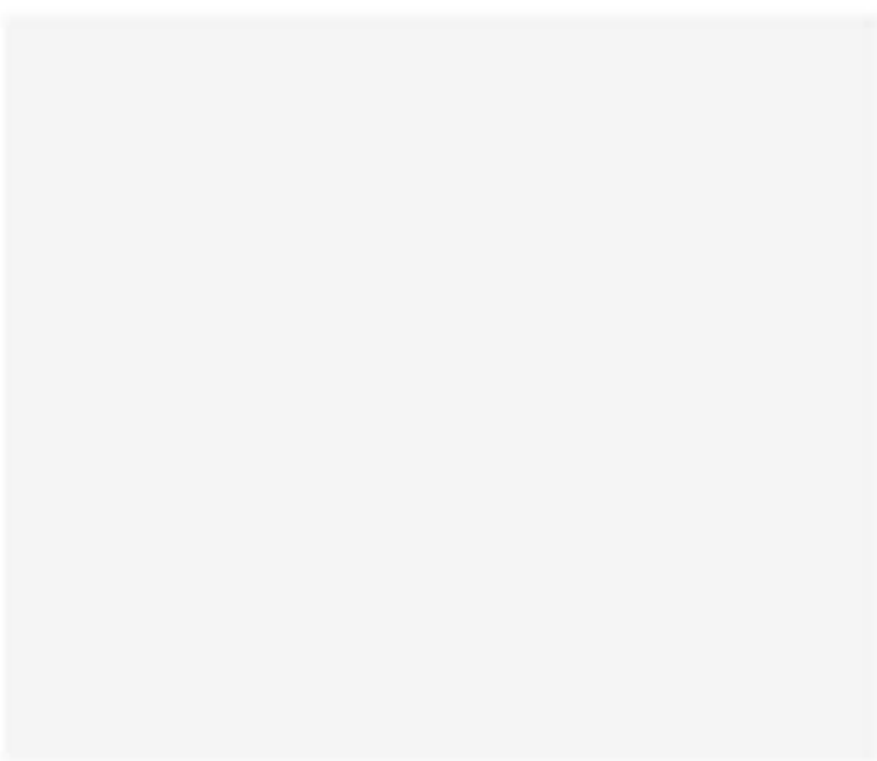
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