

ART D'ÉGYPTE

Night at the Manial Palace Museum

Nothing Vanishes, Everything Transforms

Art D'Égypte is pleased to present *Nothing Vanishes, Everything Transforms*, the second in a successful series of pop-up shows to be held at different heritage sites across Egypt. Curated by Nadine Abdel Ghaffar, *Nothing Vanishes, Everything Transforms* will be on view from October 28 - November 28, 2018, and will be inaugurated with *A Night at the Manial Palace Museum*. This collection of artworks, installations and performance pieces by thirty two of Egypt's foremost contemporary artists will be presented at the Manial Palace Museum in Cairo designed by Prince Mohammed Ali Tewfik, creating a unique dialogue between contemporary Egyptian artists and Prince Mohammed Ali's creative journey. The inaugural event will be held under the auspices of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities. H.E. Dr. Khaled El-Enany, Minister of Antiquities will present heritage preservation initiatives undertaken to promote and conserve Egypt's rich cultural heritage.

This is the second year that this bold curatorial event has taken place. In October 2017 Art D'Égypte held its very successful inaugural event *Eternal Light* at the Egyptian Museum in the heart of Tahrir Square. Art D'Égypte, a privately owned, multidisciplinary art consultancy, continues their innovative approach to creating a dialogue between contemporary art and Egyptian heritage. This year guests will have the unique opportunity to observe contemporary Egyptian art in a profound discourse with the magnificent Manial Palace on Rhoda Island, housing a number of exquisite buildings and a unique botanical garden. This open air museum holds a unique collection of Persian, Ottoman, neo-Mamluk and Rococo artefacts and architectural gems.

For one enchanting evening, attendees of *Nothing Vanishes, Everything Transforms* will be able to witness a unique blending and creative response by Egyptian contemporary art practitioners to the exquisite setting of the Manial Palace. Guests will experience how the backdrop of the Manial Palace imbues the contemporary works with deeper resonance and enhances their ability to build the next layer of the Egyptian story. Witnessing the presence

of contemporary artwork in this setting will stimulate the audience to question long-held interpretations of Egyptian culture.

In many people's minds, Egypt invokes visions of pharaohs, temples and pyramids or of the turbulent politics of the past six years. Little is known on an international level about the wealth of culture that was collected, inspired and commissioned in Egypt during the early 20th century. Little is also understood about of modern and contemporary art that seeks to transcribe the social, political and cultural issues of the present—or simply to portray contemporary life—by drawing on the visual motifs of Egypt that underpin the Egyptian identity to this day. *Nothing Vanishes, Everything Transforms* brings together works by Egypt's most prominent contemporary artists to show the world that Egypt continues to play a crucial role in contemporary artistic and cultural life. The artworks on display draw upon various elements of the styles, movements, colours and themes of art and transform them into multi-faceted conversations that reflect and reinterpret the complexity of Egyptian culture for the 21st century's global audience.

In addition to creating new markets for Egyptian art, highlighting the complexity and richness of the Egyptian cultural landscape, this exhibition also aims to draw attention to rehabilitation initiatives of the Manial Palace Museum. In conjunction with the planned events, Art D'Égypte has succeeded in helping the Ministry of Antiquities secure sponsorship from private sector donors for several vital projects at the museum.

Participating artists (see annex 1):

1. Adam Henein
2. Ahmed Badry
3. Ahmed Farid
4. Ahmed Karaly
5. Alyaa Kamel
6. Ahmed Askalany
7. Diaa Dawood
8. Esmat Dawestashy
9. Farida el Gazzar

10. Ghada Amer
11. Hazem Mestekawy
12. Huda Lotfi
13. Islam Shabana
14. Khaled Hafez
15. Magdi Mostafa
16. Maged Mikhail
17. Maher Dawoud
18. Malak Yacout
19. Marawan el Gammal
20. Mohamed AbdelKerim
21. Mohamed Abla
22. Mohamed Monaiseer
23. Nadine Hammam
24. Nihal Wahby
25. Said Badr
26. Sarkis Tonsounian
27. Shady el Noshokaty
28. Yasmine el Meligy

List of writers who contributed the exhibition catalogue:

Dr. Omniya AbdelBarr (V&A Museum, London)

Dr. Nada Shabbout

Dr. Ridah Mourni

Dr. Paul-Gordon Chandler

Dr. Doris Abouseif (SOAS, London)

Rose Issa

Morad Montazami (Tate Modern, London)

Prince Abbas Hilmy

Dr. Amal nasr

Gilles Gouthier

Valerie- Hess

Dr. Zahi Hawas

Walaa el Deen (Manial Palace Museum Director)

Related Events

Saturday, October 27, 2018

5:30 – 9:30 pm. Exhibition private opening at the Manial Palace

Commence this journey with a grand tour at the Palace designed by Prince Mohammed Ali Tewfik, where Contemporary Egyptian art will be displayed. Witness a unique dialogue between Contemporary Egyptian artists and Prince Mohammed Ali's creative journey.

Sunday, October 28, 2018

10:00 am – 3:00 pm. City art walk

Experience the latest contemporary art that Egypt has to offer in the heart of the capital, and tour downtown Cairo with some of Egypt's most reputable architects unravelling the stories behind hidden gems and architectural marvels. These city walks are held in collaboration with **Ismalia Group**, a company that is transforming Cairo's heart into a modern hub, while respecting Cairo's authentic heritage.

5:00- 7:00 pm. A tour at the Egyptian Museum, Tahrir Square

Celebrating the one-year anniversary of Art D'Égypte's inaugural event "Night at the Museum".

Saturday, November 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2018

11:00 am – 1:00 pm. Lectures held by international speakers, educators and writers to give Egyptian Art students exposure about the international art scene.

Lectures are powered by Inertia, CIB, The British Council, and the Institut Français.

Interviews can be arranged upon request with:

H.E. Dr. Khaled El-Enany, Minister of Antiquities; H.E. Dr. Sameh Shoukry, Minister of Exterior; H.E. Dr. Zahi Hawass, former Minister of Antiquities; Valerie Hess co-author of

Mahmoud Said Catalogue Raisonee; Eng. Samih Sawiris, Chairman of Orascom Development Holding; Rose Eissa Curator, Writer and publisher based in London; H.E. Stephane Romatet, French Ambassador; Ghada Amer, Mohamed Abla and Khaled Hafez, contemporary artists; Nadine Abdel Ghaffar, founder of Art D'Égypte; and Egyptian artists participating in the exhibition.

More interviewees will be announced closer to the date, as we're having international VIPs attending.

Exhibition Sponsors

All events are privately funded by Art D'Égypte and exhibition sponsors:

Inertia is a leading Egyptian real estate company whose purpose is to develop distinctive, valuable, and dynamic projects throughout Egypt. Since 2007, our goal has been to provide more than just properties; we aim to build thriving, vibrant communities that put the interests and needs of our clients first. We firmly believe that art and culture are instrumental in enriching society and we are honoured to support Art d'Égypte in their efforts to promote Egyptian art and artists.

At Inertia, we believe that art is a way of life; it provides us with the key to celebrating life in all its beauty and passion. Our collaboration with Art d'Égypte and our ongoing commitment in supporting the arts and culture scene in Egypt highlight our conviction that fostering creativity is vital to building environments that not only satisfy our basic human needs, but also nourish our souls.

Over the years, **Commercial International Bank – Egypt (CIB)**, Egypt's leading private-sector bank, has maintained its commitment to community development by leading initiatives and funding ideas and events in many diverse sectors including the arts, culture, social welfare, and sports. Believing that the advancement of a nation stems from improving the culture and aesthetic sense of society, CIB has been diversifying its activities in support of artistic endeavours throughout Egypt.

The bank's steadfast commitment to community development has contributed greatly to preserving Egyptian art and culture while also enriching the bank's private art collection. As

a core part of the bank's CSR agenda, CIB works hard to uncover hidden artistic talent across Egypt by shedding light on distinctive artwork through supporting young student artists in the faculties of fine arts across Egypt.

The bank has been sponsoring major events to nurture Egyptian art talents, such as the exclusive sponsorship of Cairo Symposium, the Annual Egyptian Youth Salon and the Upper Egypt Salon. CIB also supports Egyptian artists participating in international events, including La Biennale di Venezia, one of the world's most prestigious arts and culture events, and the Florence Biennale. As part of its commitment to nurturing the Egyptian cultural landscape, CIB is proud to support *Art D'Égypte* in their second consecutive year for its role in highlighting the richness of Egyptian contemporary art on local, regional and international levels.

Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD)

- A decade and a half of sustainable development.

SFSD was established through an endowment from the Sawiris Family in 2001 with the aim of offering grants to support development projects and programmes implemented by NGOs, in partnership with the private and governmental sectors. Throughout the past 17 years, SFSD has promoted the participation and empowerment of Egypt's most underprivileged communities and improved their conditions by focusing on job creation, provision of high-quality education, addressing priority health topics, community development, and cultural awards.

The **Sawiris Cultural Award** is one of the most important roles that the SFSD play in supporting and enriching the culture in Egypt. The award was initiated in 2005, to recognize and encourage excellence in the literary works of emerging and established Egyptian writers, specifically for novels, short stories, screenplays, playwritings, and literature critique. SFSD will be launching a long awaited opportunity for our future artists seeking education abroad to enrich their talents in arts and culture. **The Sawiris Arts & Culture Scholarship (SACS)** targets highly motivated, talented and socially engaged applicants, who are aware of the important role that art plays in a flourishing and developing society.

Barjeel Art Foundation is an independent, UAE-based initiative established to manage, preserve and exhibit an extensive collection of Modern and Contemporary Arab Art. The

foundation's guiding principle is to support intellectual development of the art scene in the Arab region and to foster critical dialogue around contemporary art practices with a focus on artists with Arab heritage internationally.

Other supporters include: Azza Fahmy; Fairmont Nile Plaza (hotel partner); BMW (auto-motive partner); Ismaelia Group; Uber (transportation partner); DHL (logistics partner); Egypt Air; Abercrombie & Kent; Daghash Group; Sahara Printing Company; MO4 (media & production partner); Smartify; The Embassy of France; Institut français d'Égypte; and The British Council; and Carrier.

About the Manial Palace Museum

The Manial Palace Museum was built by Prince Mohamed Ali (1875 – 1954), son of the Khedive Mohamed Tewfik and brother of the Khedive Abbas Hilmy II. In 1902 the prince purchased 61,711 square metres of land, which was at the time a magnificent garden containing a residence of the French noble, Duke D'Aumont et de Villquier. The prince personally drew up the architectural plans and directed every detail of construction and decoration of the palace and its gardens. By 1937 the work was completed reflecting his personality, his culture and his love of art. The Palace compound has since provided an island of tranquillity from the dust and turmoil of a modernizing Cairo.

About the Egyptian Museum

Designed in the neoclassical style by Marcel Dourgnon and inaugurated in 1902, the Egyptian Museum on Tahrir Square is among the first purpose-built museum in the world. It boasts 107 halls brimming with artefacts dating from the prehistoric through the Roman periods, with most of the collection focused on the pharaonic era. In 1983, the building was classified as a protected monument under the control of the Ministry of Antiquities.

About Art D'Égypte

Art D'Égypte is a privately owned Egyptian multidisciplinary firm founded by Nadine Abdel Ghaffar to support the Egyptian arts and culture scene. It provides art consultancies to institutions, corporations and private collectors as well as curatorial services to artists, art centres and foundations, art projects, public spaces, museums, and art appreciators. The

team has a strong background and extensive experience in the Egyptian art market and aims to develop strong local, regional and international collaborations to enhance and promote the rich Egyptian art scene. The company's strategy is to organize a yearly pop-up show in a historic place in Egypt to shed light on the country's abundant cultural heritage and to connect the art of Egypt's past with that of the 21st century. By raising awareness, the team's target is to advance the international profile of modern and contemporary Egyptian art and to present a different view of Egypt to the world.

About Nadine Abdel Ghaffar

Nadine Abdel Ghaffar is a multitalented professional with a passion for art and culture. In 2003, she founded the interior design consultancy Veradeco and, since then, her hard work and dedication to art and design have helped her enhance the cultural and social development landscape in Egypt. In 2005, Abdel Ghaffar decided to take her love of art to a more professional level and established Art D'Égypte, a multidisciplinary art consultancy. She started organizing exhibitions in Egypt and Dubai to promote Egyptian art and artists, and she works tirelessly to expand her knowledge of the field and maintain her formidable connections to both collectors and artists. She is committed to documenting Egypt's modern art heritage and promoting Egyptian art worldwide. Thanks to her exceptional experience and deep commitment to the promotion of Egyptian art, she has succeeded in positioning Art D'Égypte as one of the most exclusive and sought-after art consultancies in the region.