

THE KURATOR

[The Kurator](#) / [Share](#)

Meet the protagonists in the UAE's art scene

Proof that magic can happen with a catalogue of two inspired artists and a bustling trio

Last updated: June 28, 2022 | 17:31

Tanya Kassab

5 MIN READ

Follow us +



We use essential cookies to make our site work. With your consent, we may also use non-essential cookies to improve user experience, personalize content, customize advertisements, and analyze website traffic. For these reasons, we may share your site usage data with our advertising and analytics partners. By clicking "Accept," you agree to store on your device all the technologies described in our [Cookie Policy](#). You can change your cookie settings at any time by clicking "[Preferences](#)."

Preferences

Accept

The UAE has given birth to five conceptual artists who formed its first generation of contemporary artists in the early '80s, and artist Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim is one of them. The 58-year-old Khor Fakkan native is part of the UAE's first generation of artists, those who dared back when visual arts were not seen as culturally valuable and weren't even taught at university.

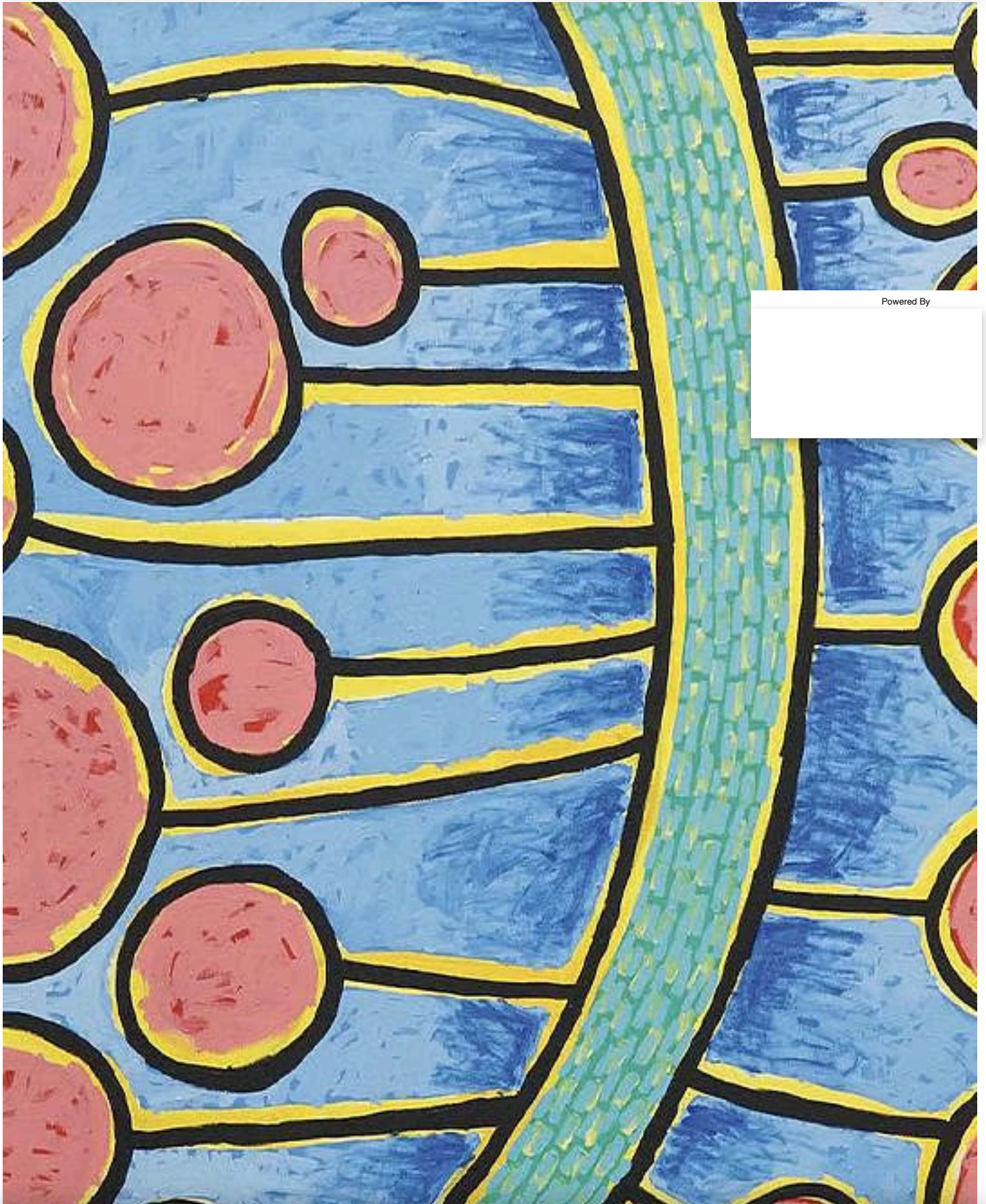
And yet, this once-police officer gave up a serious practice in 1986 for a world of color and expression upon meeting his mentor, the late artist Hassan Sharif. He then became a founding member of the Emirates Fine Art Society and created Art Atelier at the Khor Fakkan Art Centre.

ADVERTISING



Powered By





Powered By

We use essential cookies to make our site work. With your consent, we may also use non-essential cookies to improve user experience, personalize content, customize advertisements, and analyze website traffic. For these reasons, we may share your site usage data with our advertising and analytics partners. By clicking "Accept," you agree to store on your device all the technologies described in our [Cookie Policy](#). You can change your cookie settings at any time by clicking "[Preferences](#)."

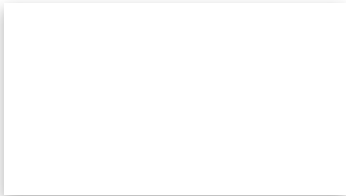
Green Boulevard, Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 155x155 cm

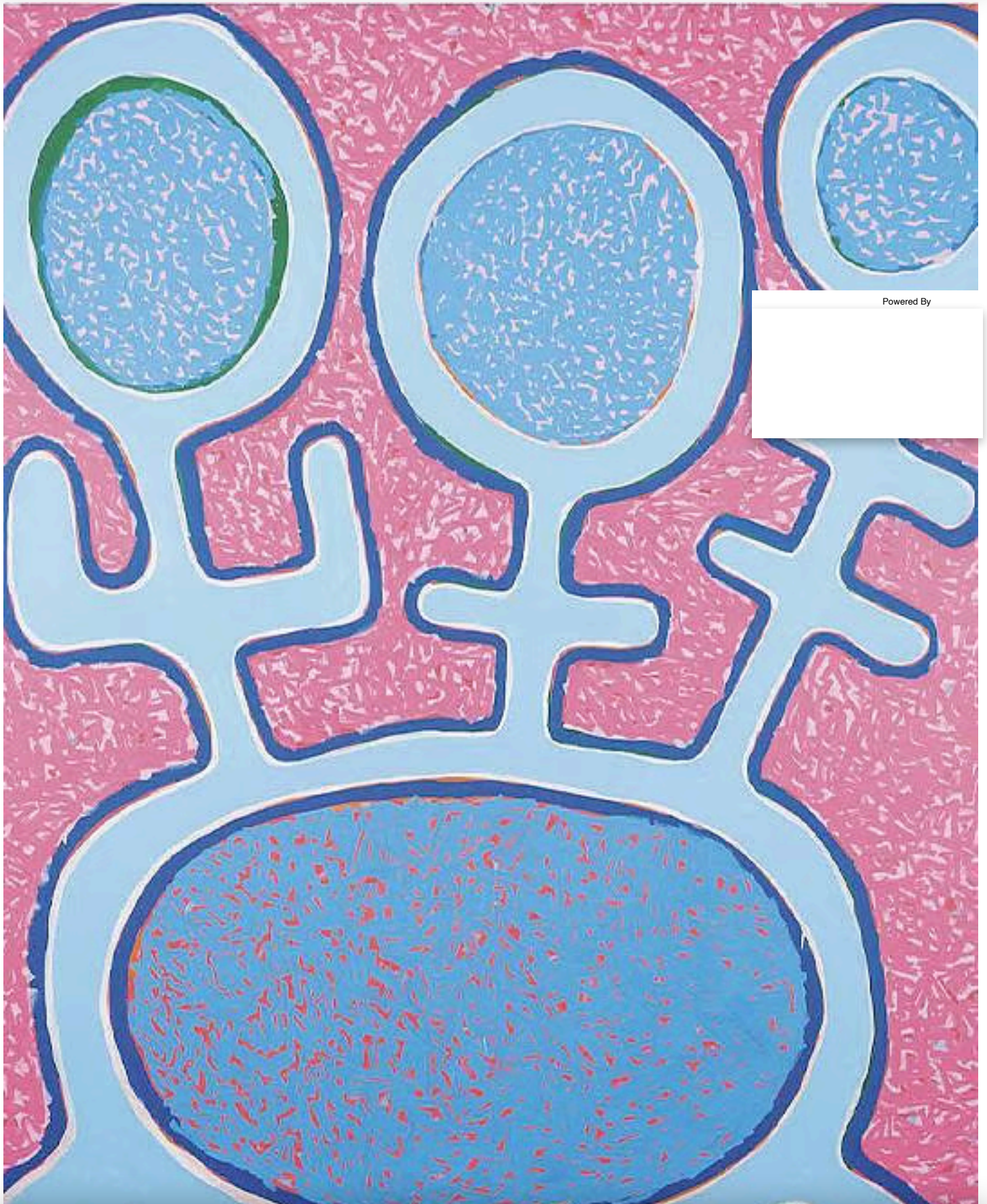
Supplied

Khor Fakkan, nestled between the Gulf of Oman and the Hajar Mountains, has been a source of inspiration to the artist. His handcrafted quirky installations and sculptures mimic his natural surroundings, with special odes to his homeland's desert and sea landscapes. Ibrahim's work also represents the UAE's multifaceted society and its environment through his unique yet relatable approach to abstraction.

ADVERTISEMENT

Powered By





Powered By

We use essential cookies to make our site work. With your consent, we may also use non-essential cookies to improve user experience, personalize content, customize advertisements, and analyze website traffic. For these reasons, we may share your site usage data with our advertising and analytics partners. By clicking "Accept," you agree to store on your device all the technologies described in our [Cookie Policy](#). You can change your cookie settings at any time by clicking "[Preferences](#)."

Pink Garden, Mohamed Ahmed Ibrahim, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 250 x 200 cm

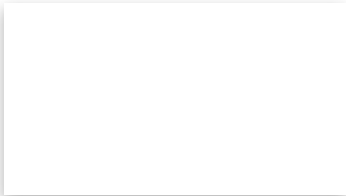
Supplied

The piece discussed here with the Art Curator is composed of hundreds of black symbols on a white canvas, a departure from the artists’ colorful work but still bustling with energy and life.

Liban-sud: AI guru Andrew Ng recommends: Read These 5 Books And Turn Your Life Aroun...

Sponsored | Blinkist: Andrew Ng’s Reading List

Powered By



Dubai: RTA renames UAE Exchange Metro Station

Google Brain Co-Founder Andrew Ng, Recommends: Read These 5 Books And Turn Your Life Around

Sponsored | Blinkist: Andrew Ng’s Reading List

Shah Rukh Khan shuts down Met Gala 2025 with royal Sabyasachi fit, bold bling, and modern Maharaja swag

Meet the protagonists in the UAE's art scene



≡ **GULF NEWS** 



2025 Guide to Global HR Compliance
Sponsored | Remote Health by SafetyWing

Adam Lambert, 43, Takes off His Makeup and Leaves Us Without Words

Sponsored | Today's NYC

UAE: Came empty-handed 40 years ago, Indian expat to return home a millionaire after Dh25 million Big Ticket win

Powered By

Ibrahim will represent the UAE in the next Venice Art Biennale, and his work will be featured in a solo exhibition at the National Pavilion UAE for the 2022 edition of La Biennale di Venezia.

Shaikha Al Mazrou

Shaikha Al Mazrou is what the UAE is all about; young, dynamic, creative, avant-garde. To sum it up, inspiring. Still in her early thirties, the Sharjah-native already has several solo exhibitions under her belt. Art had been hovering over Shaikha since a young age when she enjoyed drawing. When she heard about the College of Fine Arts and Design at the University of Sharjah, she switched from architecture studies to art, launching the journey that makes her today one of the most promising Emirati artists of her generation.

By her own admission, education has shaped Al Mazrou's creative path, and her practice is anchored in the history of art, borrowing from minimalism and conceptual art, with influences by artists such as Paul Klee, Carl Andre and Wassily Kandinsky.



We use essential cookies to make our site work. With your consent, we may also use non-essential cookies to improve user experience, personalize content, customize advertisements, and analyze website traffic. For these reasons, we may share your site usage data with our advertising and analytics partners. By clicking "Accept," you agree to store on your device all the technologies described in our [Cookie Policy](#). You can change your cookie settings at any time by clicking "[Preferences](#)."

Scales, Shaikha Al Mazrou, 2017, chamotte clay, copper, plaster, bronze, resin, cedar wood, beeswax, concrete, silicon and marble, 300x100x100 cm

Supplied

ADVERTISEMENT

Powered By

The artist is known for her sharp forms and eye-catching, thought-provoking sculptures and installations.

Her fascination with materiality in art has time and again led her to combine materials such as electronic waste or construction materials with color and form to create abstract geometric works.

ADVERTISEMENT

Al Mazrou has participated in group exhibitions in various cities across the world: Abu Dhabi, Barcelona, Kentucky-USA, Torino to name a few.

Her fascination with materiality in art has time and again led her to combine electronic waste or construction materials with colour and form to create abstract geometric works

Ramin, Rokni & Hesam

When an artist has vision, magic can happen. So, imagine the amazing art that can stem from a creative imagination multiplied by three. That is the force behind Dubai-based Iranian artists, brothers Ramin and Rokni Haerizadeh, and Hesam Rahmanian, aka Ramin, Rokni & Hesam.

ADVERTISEMENT

Ramin and Rokni were born in Tehran, Hesam in Knoxville. Iran and their love of art brought the childhood friends together, and they started speaking the same artistic language in their early twenties after attending private tutorials with influential painter Ahmad Amin Nazar. During that time, thirsty for knowledge, the three sketched, painted, read and discussed current affairs topics with other like-minded peers.

Powered By

A decade later, they moved to Dubai where they have been living and working together since. Their multi-studio is a piece of art in itself; every corner, from ceiling to floor, has been carefully curated and decorated through the vibrant live-work space that the Haerizadeh-Rahmanian experience can be truly understood by looking into the mind of three geniuses at once.

Their multifaceted house/live-in studio is a piece of art in itself. It is like taking a deeper look into the mind of three geniuses at once.

Today, the trio's practice constantly redefines the concept of a collective, as theirs is frequently developing and expanding to include friends, artists and writers at large. However, despite the strength and limitless creativity of the work they produce together, Ramin, Rokni & Hesam do not suppress individualism; they also work independently and each one has his own workspace.

ADVERTISEMENT

Whether working as individuals or as a collaborative, the three always put back into the arts whatever they make from their art.

Their rich roster of works tackle issues that constitute everyday realities: historical models and current effects of anti-Muslim racism; images that populate our everyday lives and how these affect our view of the world; grief, the body and healing; working and living in quarantine etc.

ADVERTISEMENT

The trio has participated in group exhibitions in prominent venues including the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi's The Creative Act in 2017; the inaugural Toronto Biennial of Art, the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Denmark and the Phillips Collection in Washington DC all three in 2019, and the 22nd Biennale of Sydney in 2020.

Powered By

Sign up for the Daily Briefing

Get the latest news and updates straight to your inbox

SIGN UP

YOU MAY LIKE

Incredible, the TV box everyone is talking about: Access all channels ?

Sponsored | Techno Mag

Shah Rukh Khan had to introduce himself at Met Gala: Fan backlash, journalists' take down and more

Only \$49 to get all the TV channels? It's now possible

Sponsored | Techno Mag

Fakhruddin General Trading partners with Bajaj to launch new store in Dubai

She Was Everyone's Dream Girl In 90's, This Is Her Recently.

Sponsored | Investructor

Met Gala 2025: Top shocking moments like Rihanna's baby bump, Shah Rukh swagger and Kamala Harris' fashion outing

She Was Everyone's Dream Girl In 90's, This Is Her Recently

Sponsored | Investructor

We use essential cookies to make our site work. With your consent, we may also use non-essential cookies to improve user experience, personalize content, customize advertisements, and analyze website traffic. For these reasons, we may share your site usage data with our advertising and analytics partners. By clicking "Accept," you agree to store on your device all the technologies described in our [Cookie Policy](#). You can change your cookie settings at any time by clicking "[Preferences](#)."

RELATED STORIES



AlUla Design Award winners crowned at Paris Design Week
2m read



Maison Aleph: Journey into world of exquisite pastries
4m read

Powered By



AlUla exhibition highlights the best of Arab design
1m read



Hand in Hand: Must see henna artist's solo exhibition
2m read

ADVERTISEMENT

Powered By

TRENDING STORIES

Song Joong-ki and Park Bo-gum: What went wrong?

2m read

Dubai: RTA renames UAE Exchange Metro Station

3m read

Met Gala 2025: Will Blackpink's Jennie, Lisa rule?

3m read

Kuwait eases e-visa rules for expats in GCC countries

2m read

Pakistan: Free housing land offered in Punjab

2m read

CBSE results 2025 on May 6? Board issues clarification

3m read

LATEST STORIES

Dubai Safari Park offers free tickets ahead of closure

53m ago · 2m read

DigiLocker access codes out ahead of CBSE results

56m ago · 2m read

What the caste census tells us about India’s future

1h ago • 4m read

Here’s why Kuwait Airport lost 14 airlines

1h ago • 3m read

Gold is beating silver: What should investors do?

1h ago • 2m read

Go back to top 

Network links: *GN Store*

About Gulf News

Reach by GN

Contact us

GN Focus

Work with us

Gulf News epaper

Terms & Conditions

Sitemap

Privacy Policy

Have your say

Advertise with us

Printing Services

Powered By

Find us on social



Download our app



© Al Nisr Publishing LLC 2025. All rights reserved.

We use essential cookies to make our site work. With your consent, we may also use non-essential cookies to improve user experience, personalize content, customize advertisements, and analyze website traffic. For these reasons, we may share your site usage data with our advertising and analytics partners. By clicking “Accept,” you agree to store on your device all the technologies described in our [Cookie Policy](#). You can change your cookie settings at any time by clicking “[Preferences](#).”