

Abu Dhabi exhibition proves a hit as artists display colourful works

MODERN CONTEMPORARY SHOW ATTRACTS 58 GALLERIES WORLDWIDE

BY EMAN MOHAMMED
Abu Dhabi Deputy Editor

Abu Dhabi Prominent artists are currently displaying their creative art works in the capital, at the ArtParis-Abu Dhabi exhibition.

The event was inaugurated by Her Highness Shaikha Fatima Bint Mubarak, Chairperson of the UAE General Women's Union and Chairperson of the Arab Women's Organisation.

A number of the artists told *Gulf News* that they felt honoured to participate and display their works at the fair. Rachid Khimoune, a French-Algerian painter and sculptor based in Paris said: "I'm very interested to be part of this exhibition that brings together artists from all over the world in the Middle East."

Original works

He considers it a best opportunity to display his art works in the Arab region and at the same time to see original works produced in the region. Five of Khimoune's small sculptures from his collection dubbed "children of the world" are displayed in the exhibition. They include 21 monumental bronze-casting carvings depicting children from all over the world.



AHMED KUTTY/ Gulf News

Attraction the Narghiles of French artist Patrick Mimran

Art lovers check out the many attractive works on display, during the Art-Paris Abu Dhabi 2008 event. The modern and contemporary art fair is currently being held at the Emirates Palace.

The modern contemporary arts exhibition will continue till November 21 with the participation of 58 galleries drawn worldwide, 700 artists from 22 countries, with more than 3300 creative works.

The annual event is held under the patronage of General Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan,

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and organised in partnership with Abu Dhabi Authority For Culture and Heritage (Adach), Tourism Development and Investment Company (TDIC).

Jalal Luqman, an Emirati artist who is displaying two

paintings through an international art gallery, said "I'm proud to display my works with other high profile international artist. It's a chance for me to learn more about other artists and also improve my works."

Luqman's work titled "The Smile" attracted a big crowd as it looks like the

famous Mona Lisa painting by Leonardo da Vinci.

Qatari artist Yousef Ahmad is displaying one piece of work at the fair, but for him the experience is very important. "It gives the real picture about what is happening in the region in the field of arts and how it is reflecting on the international level," he said.

Film festival announces Indian and Asia-Africa lineup

Dubai international show proposes to feature new filmmaking talents also from Afghanistan and Bangladesh

Staff Report

Dubai Dubai International Film Festival on December 11-18 has announced its lineup for Indian and Asia-Africa segments.

The Indian Cinema segment will include *Kanchivaram* set in the 1940s, telling the tale of silk

weaver Vengadam (Prakash Raj), and *Tera Kya Hoga, Johnny!* set in Mumbai's back-streets.

Uma da Cunha, Programmer, Celebration of Indian Cinema Segment, said: "films in this segment are thematically diverse this year. Adoor Gopalakrishnan is back this year with his

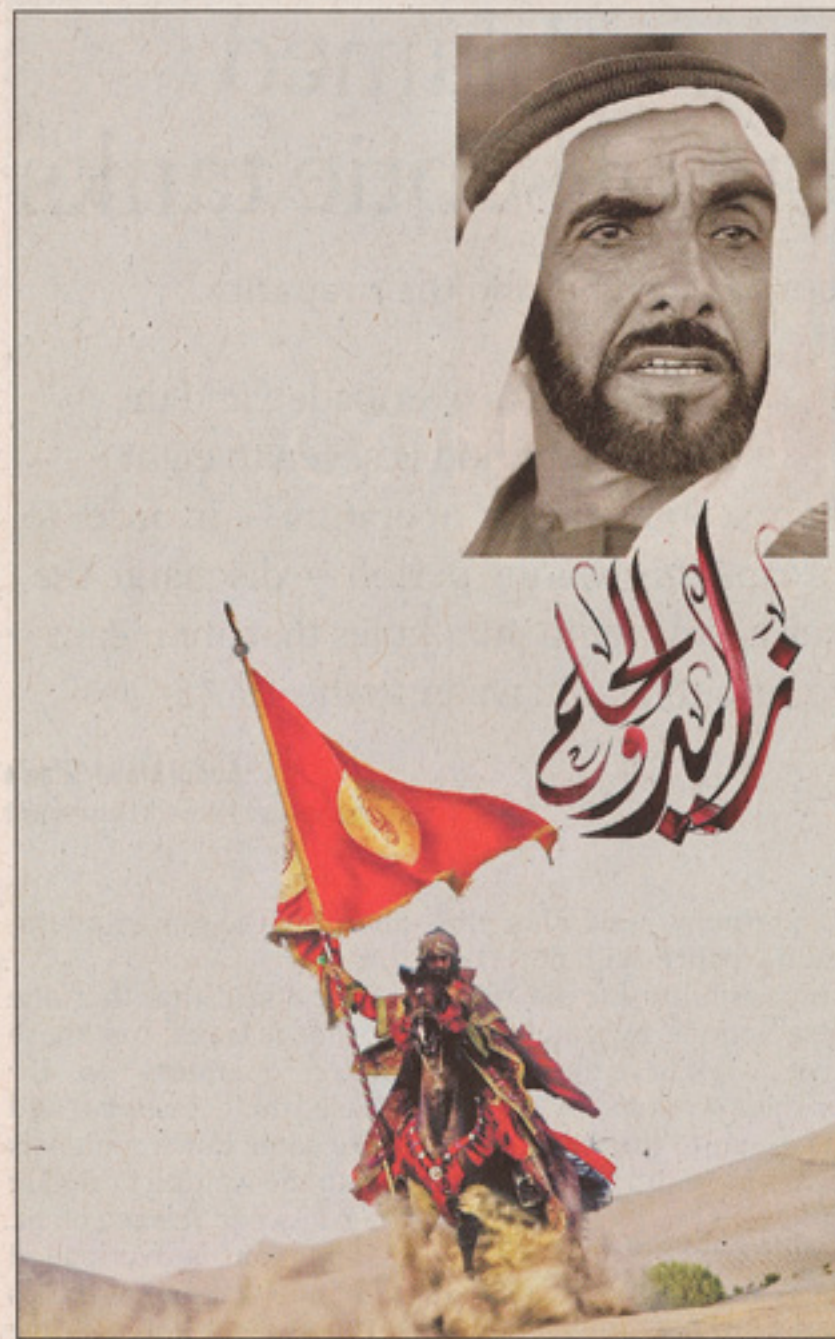
new omnibus film, and a number of up and coming directors from which we can expect to hear more in the future. Each year this segment presents quality Indian art-house cinema, where value statements about universal truths take place in technically astute cinema."

In the Asia-Africa seg-

ment, the documentary *Peace Mission*, which explores popular film locations in Lagos, will be shown. *Tokyo Sonata* is a film about Ryuhei Sasaki, who cannot admit to his family that he has been sacked from his job.

Nashen Moodley, Director, Asia-Africa segment,

said: "In this companion section to the Asia-Africa competition, we wanted to demonstrate that there are burgeoning film industries and great filmmaking talent in Africa and Asia, and that interesting cinema is coming from unlikely places such as Afghanistan and Bangladesh."



Supplied picture

Nation's dream

A poster of the musical *Zayed and the Dream*, a musical play by Abdul Halim Caracalla.

Musical on Zayed to celebrate National Day

Producer says artistic work first of its kind

BY EMAN MOHAMMED
Abu Dhabi Deputy Editor

Abu Dhabi A musical play by Maestro Abdul Halim Caracalla will be held to celebrate the UAE's 37th National Day in the capital, said an official.

The work, titled *Zayed and the Dream*, is the first of its kind artistic venture, said Mohammad Khalaf Al Mazroui, Director General of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, in a press statement.

Under the guidance of General Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Sup-reme Com-

mander of the Armed Forces, the musical will be presented to the audience by the authority in cooperation with Caracalla Dance Theatre. The musical is a bright artistic vision inspired by the life of the late Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

"Art occupies a high place in the history of a land and its civilisation. Artistic works are the manifestation of the artists' and in turn the spirit of the people of the land," said Al Mazroui.

Ivan Caracalla, director of the play said: "Zayed and the Dream," is a musical which is a call for beauty, creativity, love and peace.

BRIEFS

MUSIC

SYRIAN SINGER TO PERFORM IN CAPITAL NEXT MONTH

Abu Dhabi The prominent Syrian singer Sabah Fakhri will perform in Abu Dhabi next week, said an official. The legendary singer will restart the Oriental Sounds Festival launched by Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage last May which hosted a prominent Arab singer in the last Thursday of every month. "The event will continue monthly to bring to life the authentic Arab singing and heritage arts which are loved by a wide range of people," Abdullah Al Amieri told *Gulf News*. The festival will bring to Abu Dhabi's audience great Arab artists as well as singers, composers, and lyrics writers.

800-DEYAAR
www.deyaar.ae

CONFERENCE

Session to discuss nuclear energy

Abu Dhabi The 14th annual energy conference, "Nuclear Energy in the Gulf", will discuss the peaceful application of nuclear energy, proliferation risks, climate change and will assess the risks of a civilian nuclear program. It runs for three days starting November 24. The conference is organised by the Emirates Centre for Strategic Studies and Research. Members from GCC countries will attend along with experts from Sweden, Germany, Austria, India, Pakistan, and others.

— Compiled from staff reports