Munira Al Sayegh

Dirwaza Curatorial Lab
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Munira Al Sayegh (born 1989) is an independent curator and cultural initiator based in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

She is the founder of Dirwaza Curatorial Lab, a curatorial incubator based in the United Arab Emirates.

She is an author and prominent public voice in the region emphasizing the importance of grassroots initiatives, narrative reclamation and non-institutional thinking in building regional art movements from the ground up.

Her contributions can be traced back to New York University Abu Dhabi's FIND project (2012) and she currently serves on the Advisory Board of the University's Art Gallery.

As part of the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi team, she curated the exhibition The Creative Act: Performance, Process, Presence (2017); her first curatorial project was Bayn: The In-Between (2017), the third edition of UAE Unlimited. She later curated the Art Talks program at Abu Dhabi Art. In parallel, she has joined and pioneered curatorial initiatives at Art Dubai since 2014, where she curated the Residents section (2019) and launched the Now series, in which she engaged with non-government funded creative platforms in the region. In 2020 she premiered The Cup and The Saucer on behalf of 421 (Sheikha Salama bint Hamdan Foundation). In 2021, Al Sayegh curated her first non-regional exhibition Between the Sky and Earth organized and hosted by the Middle East Institute in association with NYUAD gallery.

Since the start of Dirwaza Curatorial Lab, Al Sayegh has curated various exhibitions including Leadership Pavilion Project (Expo2020, Dubai, 2020), Zemanna (Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, 2022) and co-curated Hair Mapping Body; Body Mapping Land (ICD Brookfield, Dubai, 2021), she also curated While the Coffee Grounds Settle: Stories from Women in the UAE (Fathom Gallery, Washington D.C., 2022). Al Sayegh is a member of the UAE Ministry of Culture's Visual Arts Committee and the Dubai Collection's Steering and Curatorial Committee