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Largest retrospective of UAE design to be unveiled at Design Days Dubai

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Design Days Dubai will be presenting ‘WASL’, the largest retrospective of UAE design to date, featuring up to 25 design pieces by emerging and established Emirati and UAE-based designers.

All 25 pieces on display have been either designed or produced in the UAE over the past five years – since the launch of Design Days Dubai in 2012, marking a positive milestone for the local design community.

“In the five years since the fair’s [Design Days Dubai] launch in 2012, the design scene has matured and fostered a new generation of designers. As a tribute to them we present WASL,” said fair director, Cyril Zammit.

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Rand Abdul Jabbar, Forma One

Works on show vary from furniture to lighting, floor and wall covering to graphic prints, showcasing the diversity of local talent present in the country.

Many of the design works have been created with support from local initiatives such as Tashkeel, 1971 Design Space, the Sheikha Salma Foundation, and the Sheikha Manal Young Artist Award.

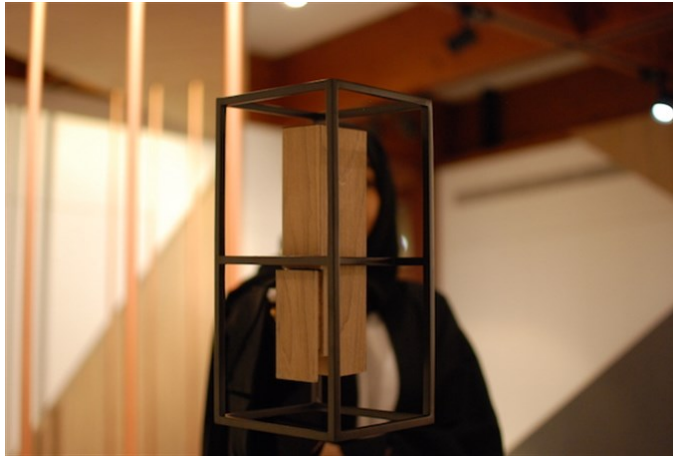
'WASL' presented at Design Days Dubai 2016 is the second installment of the exhibition, with the first showcase presented during Beijing Design Week in September last year, as part of the Dubai Guest City Programme and curated by Mouza Al Matrooshi.



Aljoud Lootah, Misnad (part of the private collection of the Salama Bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation)

“The exhibition binds established designers as well as emerging ones based in the UAE. Established designers such as Khalid Shafar and Aljoud Lootah run local product design studios and produce bespoke and iconic pieces of furniture in the UAE; and along with artist Zeinab Al Hashemi, have had their work displayed on international platforms,” says a release.

“Emerging designers include Talin Hazbar and Latifa Saaed, whose installation ‘Earth Hives’ was shown during the first Dubai Design Week last year. For local designers, cultural and local context play a vital role in the conception of these works and, along with the use of materials found locally, inspire the designers throughout their practice.”



Do4 Studio, Medkhan

Recent participants of major design prizes will also exhibit their works. These designers include Anna Szonyi, winner of Urban Commissions 2015; Ivan Parati, last year's winner of the Van Cleef & Arpels Middle East Emergent Prize, as well as Anjali Srinivassan, who has recently been named Swarovski's Designer of the Future 2016.

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