



TUWAIQ
SCULPTURE



FAQ OPEN CALL

4th TUWAIQ SCULPTURE - ENERGY OF HARMONY

Table of Contents

1. About Tuwaiq Sculpture	3
2. About Artists	5
3. About Sculpture Proposals	6
4. About The Selection Process	7
5. About Venue And Sculpture Relocation	9
6. About Riyadh Art	10

1. About Tuwaiq Sculpture

What is Tuwaiq Sculpture?

Tuwaiq Sculpture is an international sculpture symposium as part of Riyadh Art, one of the largest public art projects undertaken in the world today. Taking place annually since 2019, Tuwaiq Sculpture has so far engaged over 60 internationally renowned sculptors and thousands of visitors.

In 2023, the 4th edition of Tuwaiq Sculpture will host a group of 30 local and international sculptors from around the world coming together to create original sculptures that will become a permanent part of Riyadh's urban fabric.

What is the aim of Tuwaiq Sculpture?

To promote new dialogues in line with Riyadh Art's vision and create cultural platforms where local and international artists meet and collaborate, effectively contributing to the enrichment of the cultural scene in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

What is the significance of the name Tuwaiq?

Tuwaiq Mountain (Jabal Tuwaiq) is a large series of natural rock and cliff formations in Saudi Arabia. Extending for a distance that reaches 800 km, this narrow escarpment belongs to the world's most prominent geographical landmarks. Many narrow valleys (wadis) run along its sides, such as Wadi Hanifa, and a group of towns lie on its central section, including Riyadh.

The name Tuwaiq comes from the plural of the word 'touq' which means a ring or a collar in Arabic, as Tuwaiq Mountain wraps around the deserts of the Najd plateau in central Arabia. Tuwaiq Mountain, which is said to be familiar to every citizen of Saudi Arabia, often serves as a point of reference for the strength and perseverance of the Saudis' spirit.

When and where is the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture taking place?

Tuwaiq Sculpture begins on January 8, 2023 and finishes on February 10, 2023. Selected artists are scheduled to arrive in Riyadh on January 4, after which they can prepare for the live sculpting event that will take place alongside workshops, talks, and school visits that are part of the symposium. The sculptures must be finished by

February 4, after which the post-symposium exhibition officially opens on February 5, 2023, and closes on February 10, 2023.

The 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture takes place in JAX District, Riyadh's creative hub – an industrial area with over 100 warehouses. JAX District aims to become the new destination for arts and culture in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

What is the theme of the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture?

The theme for the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture is ***Energy of Harmony***.

Art reflects on the fundamental characteristic of human existence—the ongoing synthesis of the opposing forces that propel our time on Earth. Omnipresent dualities are as quintessential to conversations about aesthetics as they are rooted in everyday life. To attain harmony means to encapsulate the equilibrium existing between contrast and similarity, variation and repetition, sparsity and abundance, inactivity and vibrance.

Energy of Harmony encourages artists to reimagine sculptural possibilities and capture manifestations of ephemeral processes of introducing and witnessing transformative change. Shape-shifting transformations draw parallels with the act of composing music: seamlessly weaving a choir of different voices and embracing diversity to reach rhythmic unity. Articulating the experience of interdependence, *Energy of Harmony* also echoes principles of the art of calligraphy and urban design, whose sustained emphasis on integrity, balance, and cohesion leads to creating the whole that is larger than the sum of its parts.

Energy of Harmony establishes points of connection and focus within the urban environment of Riyadh, giving a heightened awareness of co-existing structures, voices, and patterns.

What are the public engagement activities included in the program of the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture?

Tuwaiq Sculpture features a vast array of workshops, school visits, and panel discussions held by local and international speakers, in line with the artistic and cultural framework of the program.

More information on workshops, school visits, and panel discussions will be announced in due course.

2.About Artists

Who can apply in the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture?

Artists from all over the world are welcome to submit their applications to Tuwaiq Sculpture. To apply, artists must have at least five years of experience in sculpting and exhibiting works permanently or temporarily in outdoor spaces and galleries.

How many artists participated in the previous editions of the symposium?

- The first Tuwaiq International Sculpture Symposium (Tuwaiq Sculpture has been adopted as a consolidated name from the fourth edition on) was inaugurated at the Tuwaiq Palace in the Diplomatic Quarter in 2019. The symposium featured 23 sculptors, including three Saudi artists and 20 international sculptors.
- The second edition of the symposium was launched in 2020 and featured 20 sculptors, including two Saudi artists and 18 from abroad. The artists created sculptures in the Diplomatic Quarter, inspired by the famous Jabal Tuwaiq.
- The third edition of the symposium was launched in 2021 and featured 20 sculptors, including four Saudi artists and 16 international artists. The edition was held in the JAX District of Riyadh.

How many artists will participate in the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture?

Thirty artists will be invited to participate in the 4th edition of Tuwaiq Sculpture.

Will there be an artist fee or a prize for participating in 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture?

All selected artists will receive an artist fee of 37,500 SAR for their participation in the symposium.

4th Tuwaiq Sculpture does not follow a competition format and there will be no other special awards or prizes on top of the artist fee outlined above.

Will the travel expenses be paid for?

The following will be provided for each artist: roundtrip economy flight ticket, visa, ground transportation from and to the airport as well as between the hotel and the symposium site, hotel accommodation and food and beverages (three meals a day).

3.About Sculpture Proposals

How many sculpture proposals can I submit?

Artists are invited to submit their proposals for either one sculpture (either in granite or in sandstone) or two sculptures (one in granite and one in sandstone).

If selected, artists will be informed which sculpture proposal was selected by the Jury Panel.

Can I propose a sculpture I already created?

Only sculpture proposals for new, original artworks are eligible.

If selected, how many sculptures can I create?

Each selected artist is expected to create one sculpture.

What kind of stones will the artists be sculpting?

Artists at the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture will use either granite (beige and dark brown) or sandstone (White Riyadh Stone). Both stones originate from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Each artist will be supplied with approximately **6 cubic metres** of granite (colour: salmon) or **2 cubic metres** of White Riyadh Stone (sandstone). This should be used for both the sculpture and the base. Artists working in sandstone are required to create a base for their sculpture in granite and specify the dimensions of the base.

What are the stone dimensions?

Artists will define the exact measurements for how the stones should be cut, following the guidelines and parameters below:

- i. The standard size of granite and Riyadh Stone is up to **3 metres** (in any dimensional length, height, or depth). The standard size of a block of granite cut by the quarry is **H3m x L2m x D1m**. The maximum size of a block of White Riyadh Stone (sandstone) is **H3m x L1m x D0.65m**. Artists working in sandstone are required to create a base for their sculpture in granite.

- ii. Artists with extensive expertise in working with granite have a possibility to request pieces of granite up to **4 metres** (in that case, the maximum size of a block of granite cut by the quarry is H4m x L2m x D1m).
- iii. The number of granite or Riyadh Stone pieces, excluding the base, should not exceed **three**.

What tools will be provided?

All the tools and equipment provided by the organisers is outlined in the open call document. Artists are responsible for arranging and shipping any additional tools and/or equipment they require to create their artworks.

Will the artists have assistants?

Artists will be provided with professional assistants onsite throughout the symposium. Each artist will be provided with one assistant.

4. About The Selection Process

What are the selection criteria?

Tuwaiq Sculpture, under the umbrella of Riyadh Art, ensures a competitive, transparent and efficient process to select artists' submissions. The selection process will be conducted by Tuwaiq Sculpture Jury Panel, and is based on the following six criteria:

1. **Artist Experience** – including participation in previous symposia and exhibition history.
2. **Concept Presentation** – Artist demonstrates important and contextually relevant aspects of the sculpture proposal.
3. **Relevance** – Artist demonstrates a clear understanding and creative interpretation of the theme.
4. **Artist Approach** – Artist demonstrates a distinct use of the medium with a strong integration of elements and principles of sculpture design.
5. **Originality** – Artist proposes a unique and distinct artwork.
6. **Technique and Style** – Artist demonstrates their own technique, style, and methods of using rough or soft surfaces in the finishing of the work, there is clear evidence of great attention to detail.

Who is on the Jury Panel of Tuwaiq Sculpture?

Jury Panel consists of five world-renowned experts:

1. **Dr. Effat Fadag** – An acclaimed academic whose work revolves around the arts, culture, and heritage of Saudi Arabia.
2. **Alaa Tarabzouni** – Director of ATHR Gallery, Architect and Artist whose practice focuses on art in relation to urbanity and the built environment.
3. **Ali Al-Tokhais** – Sculptor with over 40 years of experience, expert in stones originating from Saudi Arabia.
4. **Johannes von Stumm** – President of Oxford Art Society, Past President of the Royal Society of Sculptors in the UK, Sculptor with 40 years of experience.
5. **Marek Wolynski** – Curator of Tuwaiq Sculpture, Chair of Jury Panel.

Can I ask the Jury Panel for feedback?

Due to the expected volume of submissions, no feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants. All Jury Panel's decisions are final.

Once I have filled out the application online, can I change or add more files or renders of my work?

Once you have created an account with the open call platform, signing back in is simple. Just remember the email and password you used to create your account, and sign in to develop your application and submit it when ready.

If you have already submitted your application and would like to send additional documents please send an email to tsopencall@riyadhart.sa with the subject line: "[Full Name] - Tuwaiq Sculpture".

If I have a proposal for a workshop or a panel discussion for 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture, who do I contact?

If you would like to propose a workshop or a subject for a panel discussion, please outline your proposal in the "Additional Information" section of your submission.

Once you submit, please also send an email outlining your workshop and/or panel discussion proposal to tsopencall@riyadhart.sa. Please use the following subject line: "[Full Name] - Tuwaiq Sculpture - Workshop/Discussion"

When is the deadline for submissions?

Applications are accepted until September 25, 2022, 23:55 GMT.

When are the selected artists going to be announced?

The successful applicants will be announced by the end of October 2022.

5. About Venue And Sculpture Relocation

Where will the 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture be held?

The live sculpting, workshops, talks, and the post-symposium exhibition will be held at JAX District, the same location as the previous edition of the symposium.

Is Tuwaiq Sculpture open to the public?

Yes, Tuwaiq Sculpture is open for everyone and is free of charge. All public events will be outlined on the Riyadh Art website in due course.

Where will the sculptures be displayed?

During the exhibition (February 5 to 10, 2023) the sculptures will be on display at JAX District. After the exhibition, all the finished sculptures will be permanently installed in Qasr Al-Hukm District.

Where will the sculpture be relocated?

After the exhibition in February 2023, all sculptures will be permanently relocated to Qasr Al-Hukm District, the heart of the city, making the artworks a significant part of Riyadh's topography.

Qasr Al-Hukm has been a vital pillar of Saudi Arabia's history, with its historic role as the political, cultural, and commercial centre of Riyadh. It has been the residence of the ruler and the place where citizens could meet the king since the reign of Imam Turki bin Abdullah. The palace has witnessed several important historical events

since its inception to the present day.

The district contains yards and squares that include Justice Square, Imam Muhammad bin Saud Square and Safat Square, which have become designated for sightseeing, shopping and identifying historical sites in the palace.

The design of Qasr Al-Hukm (Rule Palace) draws on the traditional architectural styles and consists of two sections. The southern section of the palace has six floors and four towers and takes the form of a fortress that symbolises strength. There is a fifth tower at the centre for lightning, as well as for ventilation of the courtyards and offices below. The northern section of the building consists of five floors and stands as a single dramatic façade with few windows. The interior spaces are largely composed of courtyards and wide corridors that provide a sense of openness.

For more information on Qasr Al-Hukm and the District Development Project please visit: <https://www.rcrc.gov.sa/en/projects/qasr-alhukm-district>

Will artists decide on the exact location of their sculptures within Qasr Al-Hukm District?

The organizers of the symposium will make the decision about the exact locations. Artists are welcome to make non-binding suggestions that could support the relocation process.

6. About Riyadh Art

What is Riyadh Art?

Riyadh Art is one of the four grand projects launched by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud on March 19, 2019, under the supervision of the Committee of Grand Projects chaired by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense.

Riyadh Art is one of four grand projects being developed by RCRC that collectively transform the capital into an environmentally friendly, sustainable city which offers the highest standards of liveability and lifestyle, in line with the Kingdoms Vision 2030 goals.

Comprising more than 1,000 public art installations and supported by ten programs and two grand annual festivals, the project brings artworks and landmarks created by local and international artists to residential neighborhoods, gardens and parks, squares and public areas, metro and bus stations, bridges and pedestrian pathways, city entrances and tourist destinations in the city.

Riyadh Art is the first national public art initiative in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Riyadh Art will transform the city of Riyadh into a gallery without walls, and a creative powerhouse for the digital age.

Who should I contact if I have any further questions?

Please read carefully through the FAQ document as it provides a comprehensive overview of 4th Tuwaiq Sculpture. If you have a specific question, please contact tsopencall@riyadhart.sa