

## Noor Riyadh: Five artworks that you must see – and five things that you must do

- *The capital city's annual light and art festival runs from Nov. 3 - 19, 2022, with an accompanying exhibition 'From Spark to Spirit' from Nov. 3, 2022 – Feb. 4, 2023*

**Riyadh, November 10, 2022** – With more than 190 artworks by over 130 artists, plus 500 activities within its public program, Noor Riyadh offers plenty to see and do. The annual festival of light and art is on its second edition until November 19, illuminating the capital Riyadh across 40 locations and five hubs: the Diplomatic Quarter, King Abdullah Financial District (KAFFD), Salam Park, JAX – a new creative zone in the capital city – and King Abdullah Park.

But where to begin with so many incredible artworks to choose from? Let this little guide of five artworks to see and five things to do shine a light on your epic Noor Riyadh journey of discovery...

### **Five artworks to see at Noor Riyadh**

#### ***The Eleventh View of Time*, Basmah Felemban**

In *The Eleventh View of Time*, artist Basmah Felemban seeks to build an imaginative world, looking beyond the human to offer a different perspective on the city.

Installed the middle of Al Hayer Lake Park's Ringing Bird Lake, Felemban's work uses video projections that reflect on the water's surface. Its narration, told from the perspective of a catfish, draws from Indonesian author Ikhda Ayuning Maharsi Degoul's collection of poems, "The Gold Fish" and tells the story of origin and migration, as well our concept of time and humanity's relation to the world.

**Timings:** 6pm to 1am

**Location:** Al Hayer Lake Park

For more information, visit the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

#### ***IN LINEAR RES*, SCARLETMOTIFF**

*IN LINEAR RES*, from SCARLETMOTIFF – the creative name of Noel Apitta from Kampala, Uganda – is the artist's first immersive audiovisual installation. The freestanding LED light sculpture brings to life a stream of consciousness, a mix of daydreams and visions of the future.

Blending African traditional instrumentation and vocal storytelling, *IN LINEAR RES* features an electronic sonic identity wholly its own. Each arrangement and soundscape within the work is original and, together, they forge a rich and immersive aural landscape like no other.

**Timings:** 6pm to 1am

**Location:** Aladel Square

For more information, visit the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

#### ***I see you brightest in the dark* by Muhannad Shono**

*I see you brightest in the dark* by Riyadh-born artist Muhannad Shono is a large-scale immersive multi-room intervention traversing the floors of an a 1980's building in the heart of the capital city's Malaz district.

Each floor features a site-specific installation that uses white thread and light to produce luminous structures. In their shifting forms, the configurations speak to one another as visitors move from basement to roof. The audience is invited to follow these threads, and with them, a journey through loss, devotion and surrender unfolds.

**Timings:** 6pm to 1am

**Location:** Bayt Al Malaz

For more information, visit the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

#### ***Keep It Alive* by eL Seed**

In *Keep It Alive*, eL Seed builds on the concept of a wise saying as a form of malleable oral tradition, which, extensively used and understood, transmits a wider culture and its values as well as individual experience.

Visitors can walk through the French-Tunisian artist's immersive installation, which contains a series of rooms and corridors shaped by the form of a series of corridors and rooms shaped by hanging sheets of fabric printed with poems in the artist's distinct calligraphic style. Playing throughout are recordings of the words of Bedouin poet



Abdallah ad-Dindan, one of the greatest storytellers of the Arabic oral tradition. Visitors will be drawn by the voices into different spaces, finally reaching a place of gathering at the centre of the installation.

**Timings:** 6pm to 1am

**Location:** Wadi Namar

For more information, visit the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

### **PIER AND OCEAN by François Morellet**

With the installation *Pier and Ocean*, created in collaboration with Japanese artist Tadashi Kawamata, French light artist François Morellet recognizes the influence of Dutch painter Piet Mondrian.

In *Pier and Ocean*, Morellet's composition of neon tubes with an alternating rhythm of light flashes recreates the movement of the sea, while Kawamata's nest structure and wooden jetty reinforce in a striking dialogue the work's immersive character. In combination, the two provide a unique tension that lends a special quality to the installation.

**Timings:** 6pm to 1am

**Location:** Wadi Namar

For more information, visit the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

### **Five things to do at Noor Riyadh**

#### **WORKSHOP: Experiments in Photosensitivity: Experimental Film + Video**

How can unexpected light sources— fire, flares, sunbursts, sparklers—help spark new creative outlooks on processes with which we've become perhaps too comfortable? These get-your-hands-dirty workshops in English and Arabic will look at cultivating innovation and inventiveness around different photographic techniques, as well as experimental film and video and printmaking.

**Dates and Timings:** Ongoing until November 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, from 8:30pm to 10pm

**Location:** King Abdullah Park

**Price:** SAR50

For more information, visit the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

#### **TALK: Celebrating Art in Riyadh City**

Noor Riyadh is a moment when the city comes together to celebrate art and creativity. This conversation brings together art experts to discuss what makes the 2022 edition stand out and how the platform feeds into other aspects of the capital's developing cultural and urban scenes as it builds momentum towards 2030. Including presentations from artists who have undertaken large-scale commissions which are unveiled this month, this is an unparalleled opportunity to learn about Riyadh's thriving public art programs.

**Speakers:** Rashed AlShashai, Saad AlHowede, Yasmeen Sabri (Moderator)

**Date and time:** Saturday, November 12, 4pm

**Location:** JAX District

More information on the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

#### **TALK: Ode to the City (Arabic)**

How does an artist Homing in on the role of surroundings in inspiring, producing and affecting artistic practices, we invite the artists whose oeuvres are instigated by urban and rural environs at a time of rapid change to divulge their thoughts.

**Speakers:** Abdullah AlOthman, Nasser Almuha, Afia Bin Talib (Moderator)

**Date and time:** Saturday, November 12, 7pm

**Location:** King Abdullah Park

More information on the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

#### **CREATIVE EXPERIENCE: Artistic Hunt**

The Artistic Hunt is the perfect way to experience all five hubs at Noor Riyadh, while providing stacks of fun and learning for the young people in your life.

Armed with a booklet, UV torch and their wits and sleuthing skills, the quest begins to find all the clues and solve all the riddles. Perfect for kids who love art – or kids who are experiencing art for the first time – the interactive learning



experience involves finding out about different parts of the world as well as art itself. And... there's also an incentive if you complete all five festival hubs at Kindi Plaza (Diplomatic Quarter), King Abdullah Park, Salam Park, King Abdullah Financial District and JAX District. Each event starts at 8pm. Happy hunting!

**Dates and times:** November 12 (JAX), November 13 (King Abdullah Park), November 14 (Salam Park), November 15 (KAFD), November 16 (Diplomatic Quarter), starts at 8pm

**Location:** All hubs; meeting point at Noor Riyadh kiosks/information booth

**Price:** SAR50

More information on the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

### **CREATIVE EXPERIENCE: Artist reflections at Wadi Hanifa Park**

In a special connection with art and nature, Bashaer Al Hawsawi, Gisela Colon, Sarah Brahim, Ahaad Alamoudi and Abdullah Al Othman are showing work at Wadi Hanifa Park. Go for a walk along the bank of the Wadi to experience their artworks and gain deeper insight into their natural contexts and artistic themes such as life, renewal, and memory. Afterwards, just a short walk away, immerse yourself in Sarah Brahim's *Da Anima* performance film under the viaduct.

**Date and time:** Wednesday, November 16 at 8pm

**Location:** Wadi Hanifa Park; meeting point: across the road from the spiral tower

More information on the [Noor Riyadh website](#)

**ENDS**

**For more information regarding Riyadh Art and Noor Riyadh, please contact:**

Riyadh Art Media Center  
[info@riyadhart.sa](mailto:info@riyadhart.sa)

### **Notes to editors**

About Noor Riyadh

Noor Riyadh is a citywide annual festival of light and art which launched in March 2021. The 2022 theme, '*We Dream of New Horizons*', alludes to a reflective hopeful future and refers to the shining light of dreams. The 2022 edition of the festival includes over 190 artworks by more than 130 artists – with 34% from Saudi Arabia – including large scale public installations, projections and interventions across the city of Riyadh, as well as a world-class exhibition entitled '*From Spark to Spirit*'. Artworks will be accompanied by a diverse public and community program, including tours, talks, workshops, family activities and music.

Noor Riyadh combines the highest quality light artworks from leading international and Saudi artists, across the largest city footprint of any light art festival worldwide. Staged under Riyadh Art, the festival aims to nurture local talent and inspire youth to drive Saudi Arabia's creative economy.

Noor Riyadh 2022 will take place in the following locations: King Abdullah Park, Salam Park, Diplomatic Quarter, JAX District, KAFD, Bayt AlMalaz, Al Masmak, Aladel Square, Imam Muhammad bin Saud Square, Riyadh High Court, Wadi Namar, Kindi Square, Oud Square, Yamamah Park, Asheeh Park, Cultural Palace, Wadi Hanifah, The Ritz-Carlton Riyadh, Olaya Park, King Fahad National Library, Narcissus Riyadh Hotel, Centria Mall, Al Faisaliah Tower, Kingdom Centre, Majdoul Tower, Ghadeer Walking Trail, The Zone, Digital City, U Walk, Al Nakheel Park, Boulevard Riyadh City, JAX District Valley, King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue, AlNada South Park, Alwaha Park, as well as Prince Abdulaziz bin Muhammad bin Ayyaf Park, Riyadh Front, King Khalid International Airport, Riyadh Exhibition & Convention Center, and Lakes Park

Website: <http://noorriyadh.sa>  
Instagram: [@noorriyadhfestival](#)  
Twitter: [@NoorRiyadhFest](#)  
Facebook: [@NoorRiyadhFestival](#)

Noor Riyadh is presented by Riyadh Art and the Royal Commission for Riyadh City.

### **About Riyadh Art**

Riyadh, the capital city of Saudi Arabia, is on a ten-year mission to become one of the world's most livable and competitive cities, a global city which is open for business and that welcomes the world. With a young and rapidly growing population of 7+ million residents, Riyadh is transforming into a vibrant and cosmopolitan global city.



Art and culture reflect the spirit of a city. That's why the Riyadh Art project has been developed to turn the whole capital into a creative canvas – a gallery without walls – to enrich lives, ignite creative expression and kindle the creative economy. Riyadh Art is a demonstration of the open, accessible and creative transformation of the capital, where the exchange of ideas through creative expression, develops a deeper mutual understanding and respect.

The Riyadh Art project will have a positive impact on people, bringing everyday moments of joy to residents and visitors alike, while instilling a greater sense of civic pride and creating a more beautiful city for everyone to enjoy. It will also spark the development of the new creative economy and have a positive effect in attracting new businesses to invest in the city.

Website: [www.riyadhart.sa](http://www.riyadhart.sa)

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