**Noor Riyadh to feature *Vertical Horizon*, an ambitious artwork that connects the two historical cities of Riyadh and Rome**

* *The interactive work by Quiet Ensemble brings the two capitals together through a fascinating system of cameras and microphones*
* *Noor Riyadh, which runs from Nov 3 to Nov 19 with over 190 incredible artworks, also features stunning desert installations, live music, talks, tours and much more*

***Riyadh, November 06, 2022* –** Noor Riyadh, one of the most exciting and ambitious festivals of light and art in the world, is to feature a light installation that connects the two historical cities of Riyadh and Rome.

*Vertical Horizon* is an interactive piece by Quiet Ensemble – founded in 2009 by Fabio di Salvo and Bernardo Vercelli – that revolves around a system of cameras and microphones set up around two light and video installations. One is in King Abdullah Park in Riyadh, the other is in Rome.

**Nouf AlMoneef, the Noor Riyadh Program Manager, said:** “In this interactive and interconnective work, *Vertical Horizon* turns Riyadh into the epicenter of this new artistic installation, making Noor Riyadh both a global compass and a conductor of what happens in other parts of the world. The installations will broadcast an abstracted livestream of the area around the site, so that visitors in the Saudi capital can see those in the Italian capital, and vice versa.”

Broadcasts of this incredibly thoughtful piece of work will be shown every evening from 6pm to 1am until the close of the Noor Riyadh festival on Sunday, November 19.

*Vertical Horizon* is one of over 190 incredible artworks – and more than 500 fascinating activities – taking place at the second edition of Noor Riyadh, held under the theme *‘We Dream of New Horizons’*.

Among them are the incredible artworks situated in the beautiful desert dunes outside Riyadh entitled *OASIS* by Arne Quinze, and *AXION* by Christopher Bauder. Belgian conceptual artist Quinze’s 16-meter-high installation, spanning 40 meters wide, places observers in an open-air museum where public art seems larger than life. The power of colors is strongly reflected in this aluminum light installation, which makes a clear statement that the effervescence of all spectrums of light is needed in our society.

*AXION* by German artist Bauder, meanwhile, explores the ultimate horizon: outer space. Created specifically for deserts and other dusty environments, *AXION’S* sprawling array of mirrors and spherical objects makes it look like a giant scientific device for space exploration or particle detection. But once inside, it is a reflection on the potential of axions – a hypothetical elementary particle – dark matter, and the idea of the unknown.

**LIVE MUSIC, TALKS, WORKSHOPS AND MORE**

But what most certainly is known at Noor Riyadh is the abundance of artistic choices on offer. The comprehensive public program includes 10 live music performances scheduled throughout the festival’s duration. The music series can be heard at King Abdullah Park, and tickets can be booked free of charge on NoorRiyadh.sa.

Engaging guided tours of the five hubs –King Abdullah Park, Salam Park, Diplomatic Quarter, JAX District, and KAFD – are another way to immerse yourself in Noor Riyadh. Each tour will delve into the stories behind impressive artworks, including *Amplexus* by Grimanesa Amoros and Flightgraf’s immersive *An Imaginative World*.

Workshops are key components as well, with architecture, illumination, and calligraphy opportunities all on offer. Participants can venture into performance art, experiment with photographic and video techniques, and learn how to make their own camera obscura. Elsewhere, creative experiences such as artist-led tours, an artistic hunt, and even a four-day collaborative installation activity are also available.

Talks and panel discussions in both Arabic and English will take place throughout the festival, with topics ranging from technology in art, lucid dreaming, meditative practices, and Noor Riyadh’s curatorial themes. Family activities – encouraging young ones to delve into the enriching world of art as much as possible – are a big part of Noor Riyadh. Specific activities for children to learn and develop include Rainbows, Magnetic Marvels and We Light Riyadh.

**Tickets and attendance at Noor Riyadh**

Most of the outdoor citywide artworks for Noor Riyadh, which takes place across five main city hubs and 40 locations in the Saudi capital, are non-ticketed and open to all. However, some artworks require prior booking. Special activities such as workshops and talks may be ticketed with a nominal charge. Noor Riyadh aims to donate all the funds raised through ticket sales to charitable causes. The full program and tickets are available soon on Noor Riyadh’s website and app.

**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, Nada 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](http://www.instagram.com/noorriyadhfestival/)

Twitter: [@NoorRiyadhFest](https://twitter.com/NoorRiyadhFest)

Facebook: [@NoorRiyadhFestival](http://www.facebook.com/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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