

OPEN CALL
ARTIST INVITATION

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1. General Information

1.1. Background

The rapid growth in population and subsequent urban expansion of Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia in the last two decades, together with a booming economy, has created an opportunity for the city to revitalise the urban landscape through art and cultural development. Riyadh Art was launched as part of Riyadh's Four Grand Projects by the Custodian of Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz on March 2019, under supervision of the Committee of Grand Projects chaired by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Royal Commission for the City of Riyadh, with an aim to transform the city of Riyadh into an open gallery.

The Royal Commission for Riyadh City is committed to Riyadh Art's vision by encouraging excellence in the design of artistic interventions, public buildings, parks, streets, and infrastructure. Royal Commission for Riyadh City recognizes that public art, along with architecture, landscape architecture, urban design, environmental-based design, and historic preservation are some of the tools the city can use to face this challenge.

Riyadh Art will engage aspects of Riyadh's landscape, urban form, history and culture that make the city distinct and special among the world capitals. It will also aim to reflect Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 plan and create strong, meaningful connections between the citizens of Riyadh, their community, and civic life.

Riyadh Art's vast scope has been divided into a group of 10 projects and two annual festivals: Tuwaiq Sculpture and Noor Riyadh.

1.2. Tuwaiq Sculpture

Tuwaiq Sculpture is an international sculpture symposium as part of Riyadh Art, one of the largest public art programmes undertaken in the world today. Taking place annually since 2019, Tuwaiq Sculpture has so far engaged over 70 internationally renowned sculptors and thousands of visitors.

Celebrating its 5th edition, Tuwaiq Sculpture will host a group of 30 local and international sculptors in 2024. The artists will create original artworks that will later become an integral part of Riyadh's urban fabric. The entire process will be open and accessible to the public, as a live sculpture-making event based at a special location in Riyadh.

The Aim: 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.

For more information visit: <http://www.riyadhart.sa>

1.3. Key Definitions and Terms

Symposium – the 5th edition of Tuwaiq Sculpture that is taking place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 14 January to 8 February 2024.

Exhibition – a post-Symposium on-site exhibition that will open on the 10 February and close on 24 February 2024.

Management Team – a dedicated team that are responsible for managing the planning and delivery of Tuwaiq Sculpture.

Delivery Provider - an agency appointed to plan, operate and deliver Tuwaiq Sculpture under the supervision of the Symposium Management Team.

Artists – creative practitioners who will be contracted by the Delivery Provider. Delivery Provider is also responsible for issuing the artist fee and arranging and paying for travel and accommodation for Artists.

Contractual Arrangements - whilst the contractual arrangement for the project will be between the Artists and Delivery Provider, Artists will assign Riyadh Art the right to own the sculpture and to permanently display it in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

1.4. Dates and Scope of Work

Symposium will take place from **14 January to 10 February 2024 (Thursday, 8 February will be the last working day for the artists)**, Exhibition will take place from **10 February to 24 February 2024**.

Artists are expected to arrive in Riyadh on Thursday, **January 12** and leave Riyadh **not earlier than 12 February**. Artists are required to work throughout the Symposium and be present at the opening of the Exhibition.

1.5. Theme

The curatorial theme for Tuwaiq Sculpture 2024 is “**Dimensions of Movement**”.

“Dimensions of Movement” evokes the essence of progress and expansion, reflecting the accelerating advancements of modern society. Like a contemporary tribute to Futurism, an artistic and social movement of the early 20th century, this theme captures the vitality of Riyadh's transformation and the ambitious drive towards innovation and new horizons. It beckons sculptors to craft bold, awe-inspiring artworks that transcend boundaries, convey a sense of speed and power, expand perceptions of space and time, and embody the Saudi spirit of progress and boundless potential.

Keywords: progress & expansion, passion & optimism, speed & power, scale & variety, and dynamism.

1.6. Sculpture Relocation

After the Exhibition, the sculptures will enrich the Riyadh Art's collection and later become a permanent feature of the Saudi capital's urban fabric. The exact relocation site is going to be announced in due course.

1.7. Artist Selection and Jury Panel

Tuwaiq Sculpture aims to work with Artists who create meaningful artworks with a powerful narrative that represent the values of Saudi Arabia's 2030 Vision, enriching the overall quality of life, and inspire the creative spirit of Riyadh's citizens and visitors.

Tuwaiq Sculpture ensures a fair, 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** – Artist participation in previous symposia, education, 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 and proposes a sculpture relevant to public space.

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** – Artists 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.

Jury Panel for Tuwaiq Sculpture 2024 consists of five renowned experts:

1. **Dr. Khulud Albugami** – Sculptor and academic.
2. **Nojoud Alsudairi** – Cofounder of Syn Architects, an artist and architect whose practice focuses on identities rooted in urban contemporary Saudi culture.
3. **Dr. Fahad Aljebreen** – Sculptor and Assistant Professor of Art Education at King Saud University; Associate Curator of Tuwaiq Sculpture
4. **Sebatiano Barassi** – Curator and Art Historian, who has held curatorial positions at the Courtauld Gallery, the University of Cambridge, and the Henry Moore Foundation in the UK.
5. **Marek Wolynski** – Curator of Tuwaiq Sculpture, Chair of Jury Panel

Priority will be given to high-quality proposals by artists who have not participated in previous editions of Tuwaiq Sculpture. All Jury Panel's decisions are final. Due to the expected number of submissions, no feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

1.8. Material and Working Environment

- a. Artists will be working in a live environment open to visitors, including university students, school tours, representatives of embassies, and the general public. While all the visits will be led by professional tour assistants, artists are encouraged to engage with the visitors while working on site.
- b. Each Artist will be supplied with approximately **6 cubic metres** of granite originating from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This should be used for both the sculpture and the base. Artists are required to create a base for their sculpture and specify the dimensions and colour of the base.
- c. Artists will select the granite colours from the following: beige, pink salmon, and green. Artists are encouraged to work with more than one colour.
- d. 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 is **H3m x L2m x D1m**.
 - 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 pieces of granite, excluding the base, should not exceed 4 (four) pieces.
- e. Each artist is expected to create one sculpture. Artists are invited to submit up to two different proposals. If selected, Artists will be informed which sculpture proposal was selected.

1.9. Tools and Equipment

All required tools and equipment will be provided. However, Artists can bring their own tools (including cutting, polishing and air tools) if they require for their own technical and creative desires. The following tools and equipment will be included, but not limited to:

- Bosch big and small grinders
- Makita wet diamond core drill bits (90 x 450; 90 x 450; 120 x 45; 160 x 450; 200 x 450; 250 x 450)
- Granite Cutting Disks (4.5"; 5"; 7"; 9")
- Polishing discs (36; 40; 60; 80; 100; 120; 220; 280; 320)
- Bosch Hilti Drill multi drill
- Bosch Hammer L Box drill
- Bosch Hammer drill bits (30mm x 45cm; 25mm x 45cm; 20mm x 45cm; 15mm x 30cm; 10mm x 30cm)
- aluminium lineal 1, 2, and 3 metre length
- stainless steel round bars (15mm; 20mm; 30mm)
- extension for diamond blade (200mm and 300mm)
- polishing paper discs 110pcs 6 holes M14 and 9 inch mixed boxed
- polishing flinch M14 100mm angle grinder polisher sander
- polishing flinch 9-inch angle grinder polisher sander
- diamond discs for marble cutting super pro (115mm; 125mm; 230mm)
- diamond cutting discs
- iron cutting discs
- concrete drill bits 30mm x 45
- 7-inch polishing pads for granite
- Hikory hammers (1.13kg; 2kg; 5kg; 10kg)
- Chisels
- Core drill machines
- Cuturi pneumatic air hammer bottle type Size R and T
- air system for Cuturi; Cuter key
- Chisels for Cuturi pneumatic hammers, different head types
- Makita electric air blower
- Air duster gun compressor
- electric air compressor; line hose, air tube for compressor; air fittings
- transparent marble glue with hardener

- white marble glue / filler with hardener
- wooden battens (15cm x15cm 100cm; 10cm x10cm 100cm)
- portable aluminium extend scaffold tower 3m
- steel corner squares; iron fox wedges; side cutters
- insulated screwdriver set; utility knives; short blades
- spirit levels; working pencils; marker pens; wooden stools; 8m tapes
- ear defenders; working gloves; protective glasses and protective masks

Artists are obligated to follow the rules of the storage lending of the tools and shall be held liable for any damages that were caused by them.

1.10. Travel and Artist Fee

- The following will be provided for each Artist: economy flight ticket (including two checked bags), ground transportation from and to the airport in Riyadh as well as the symposium, hotel accommodation and food and beverages (three meals a day).
- The artist should ensure that the checked bags conform to the size and weight limitations and are properly declared and secured to avoid any issues during transportation.
- An artist fee of 37,500 (SAR) will be paid to every participating Artist. Delivery Provider will aim to pay the fee within 30 days from the closure of Tuwaiq Sculpture 2024 exhibition and in compliance with the required work conditions. In case an artist does not complete the sculpture for any given reason, the fee will not be paid.

1.11. Artists Eligibility and Responsibilities

- Artists must have at least five years of experience in stone carving.
- Artists agree to propose an original artwork that has never been created before and is not a copy of a previously made sculpture. If selected, Artists agree to create the proposed sculpture exclusively for Tuwaiq Sculpture and not to recreate it elsewhere after the Symposium.
- Artists may not change any part of the selected project during the working period except in agreement with the Curator and Riyadh Art.
- Artists confirm they are aware that they will contribute to one of the largest public art projects undertaken in the world today. Artists are expected to contribute to the public engagement programme, including panel talks and press activities.

Artists agree to be photographed and filmed for the Symposium and Riyadh Art documentation and marketing purposes.

- e. Artists are responsible for shipping any additional tools and/or equipment they require for the Artwork.
- f. Artists must bring with them the selected maquette and/or model for the project. Sketches will not be accepted.
- g. Artists grant Riyadh Art the right to own the sculpture maquette and/or model for Exhibiting and Marketing purposes and the sculpture maquette and/or model shall be handed over to Riyadh Art at the end of the Symposium
- h. Artists' companions will not be permitted to attend the Symposium, but are welcome to attend the Exhibition on their own expense.
- i. By signing the participation declaration, Artists grant Riyadh Art right of ownership and transfer of title to the sculpture and to permanently display it in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at its discretion, surviving the terms of this agreement and in perpetuity.
- j. As the owner of the sculptures, Riyadh Art reserves the right to relocate the sculptures anywhere within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- k. The selected Artists will receive an invitation and this document will act as an agreement from the Riyadh Art team to be signed and returned back.
- l. Artists will be invited to create only one sculpture. If a selected Artist submits two proposals, the Jury Panel decides which sculpture is to be created.
- m. The exact working days for artists are from January 14 to February 8, with a total of 23 working days (approx. 184 working hours) during this period. Artists are expected to work on site for 8 hours per day, Monday to Saturday, with Sundays off. The last day of work on site is Thursday, February 8.
- n. Riyadh Art will provide one professional assistant per artist onsite to support Artists. Artists are not allowed to select their own assistants and the assistants will be rotating between Artists, depending on specific tools and progress in sculpting. Management and rotation of assistants and allocation of additional assistants (more than one per artist) remain at the discretion of the Curator, Associate Curator, and the Artists Assistants Manager. Artists are prohibited from privately financing assistants and other team members.
- o. Throughout the live sculpting process is accessible to the public, Artists are required to wear Tuwaiq Sculpture branded clothing (e.g., t-shirts) and avoid clothing visibly showcasing any other brands.
- p. Artists might be accompanied by university sculpture students supporting, assisting and learning from Artists and their assistants.
- q. Artists are encouraged to participate in the Community Engagement programme, including panel talks and engagement with visitors, among other activities (dependent on relevant invitations and availability).

1.12. Health and Safety

- a. All Artists must comply with Health and Safety regulations of Tuwaiq Sculpture.
- b. Riyadh Art will provide public liability insurance.
- c. All Artists are responsible for their own medical insurance to cover all requirements for their stay in KSA.
- d. All participants should comply with international and KSA COVID regulations.
- e. In case of any failure to accomplish the work within the designated period of time, due to unforeseen reasons such as illness, accident or deliberate reasons such as neglect or recklessness or lack of cooperation and understanding with the work team, Riyadh Art will then decide on the Artist's participation status.

1.13. Intellectual Property Rights and Ownership

- a. The contract is intended to establish the terms and conditions of the artist's participation in the symposium and to ensure that both the artist and Riyadh Art have a clear understanding of their respective rights and obligations.
- b. The Artist remains the sole owner of all Intellectual Property Rights in the Artwork. The Artist shall have the unrestricted right to reproduce images of the Artwork for their customary artistic and professional purposes, including, without limitation, use in books, publications, materials and exhibitions dealing with the Artist's artistic work. Riyadh Art shall grant the Artist or its designer reasonable access to the Site and the Exhibition for the purpose of creating photographs and/or videos documenting the completed and installed Artwork.
- c. Notwithstanding point (a), the Artist grants Riyadh Art an irrevocable, global, sub-licensable, royalty-free, non-exclusive licence to exhibit, reproduce and distribute depictions of the Artwork to the public, to transmit or otherwise communicate a display of the Artwork to the public (including but not limited to slides, film, photographs, branded merchandise, exhibition collateral, video, television, online and other electronic or broadcast media) for any purpose including marketing purposes, which may involve Riyadh Art appointed agencies. Any reproduction or subsequent exhibition of the Artwork produced or it's maquette as a result of Agreements/ Contracts entered into by the Artist shall be credited in accordance with the Copyright Notice.
- d. The Artist grants Riyadh Art an irrevocable, global, sub-licensable, royalty-free, non-exclusive licence to Exhibit, Showcase and Relocate the Artwork anywhere within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as well as, the submitted maquette by the artist.
- e. The Artist shall be credited in the Exhibition as the sole artistic creator of the Artwork in a form to be agreed upon by the parties, such as a customary plaque. The Artist shall also be credited in any materials in which a depiction of the Artwork is reproduced and in all other customary and appropriate circumstances (for example, where the Artwork is clearly visible and the architect and/or any

other creative participant is credited). The Artist will collaborate with Riyadh Art to provide all applicable names and/or credit lines so as to ensure appropriate recognition of in-kind donors and collaborators.

- f. The Artist will provide a Copyright Notice, which shall be included, in all customary circumstances where reasonably possible, when a depiction of the Artwork is reproduced.

1.14. Schedule

Date	Activity
10 September 2023	Deadline for Artists to submit an application form via online portal (the cut-off time is 10 September 2023, 23:59 GMT+3)
October 2023	Announcement of the selected Artists
October 2023	Deadline for receiving information on the final dimensions of stone blocks cuts from the selected Artists
12 January 2024	Arrival of Artists to Riyadh
14 January 2024	Start of Tuwaiq Sculpture and receipt of work tools
8 February 2024	Last day of sculpting
10 February 2024	Exhibition Opening
24 February 2024	End of Exhibition

1.15. Artists Submissions

To apply, Artists are required to complete and submit an online application form.

Link: <https://riyadhart.sa/en/opencall/5th-tuwaiq-sculpture-open-call/>

The key submission documents include:

- **Part 1:** Participant Information, including name, surname, nationality, country of residence, address, and contact details.
- **Part 2:** Professional Information, including biography, photo portrait, exhibition history, and five photos of previous stone sculptures with relevant captions.
- **Part 3:** Sculpture Proposal, including title, size, and description of the proposed sculpture.

- **Part 4:** Participant Declaration and signing the agreement (agreeing to all that is outlined in the open call).

By signing this document, I confirm, understand, and agree to all the terms & conditions and I will comply with all requirements as outlined above.

Signature:

Date:

1.16. Contact Details and Queries

If you have a question about the Artist Call or Tuwaiq Sculpture, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document available on the open call website.

If you have a specific question that is not answered in the FAQ document, please send an email directly to the Tuwaiq Sculpture Team. All correspondence must be sent to the following email address only: tsopencall@riyadhart.sa

We look forward to receiving your application.