

*Fresh Perspectives from Dubai*

# VISION

## In pictures: the best of Shubbak at the British Museum



*Patricia Clarke*  
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Palestinian artist Larissa Sansour speaks at Survival of the Artist. The symposium on art in times of conflict was organised by The Mosaic Rooms and Shubbak Festival, and took place at the British Museum London on 2 July 2017 - Joyce Nicholls, courtesy of The Mosaic Rooms

***Vision* presents an image gallery of Sunday's far-reaching *Survival of the Artist* event, organised by The Mosaic Rooms and hosted at London's British Museum, which explored contemporary art and politics in the Arab region**

'How can art and artists in the Arab world survive and respond in times of conflict?'

This was the central question at *Survival of the Artist*, a day of art installations and talks hosted by The Mosaic Rooms at the British Museum in London as part of [Shubbak 2017](#), which explored pressing questions of freedom and history in the art world.

Visitors were welcomed by two original art installations in the prestigious museum's Great Court: *Inanimate Village* by Saudi Arabian artist Zahrah Al Ghamdi and Syrian artist Issam Kourbaj's *Unearthed*, two pieces that reflected on the politics of space and architecture in the Arab world.



Attendees could then make the most of a day of panel discussions, with prestigious speakers including Hammad Nasar, curator of the [UAE National Pavilion at the Venice Biennale](#), among other noted curators, artists and cultural commentators.

Interspersed among the talks was a groundbreaking theatre performance – *For the Absent Ones – Parallel Crossings*, by theatre artists Abdullah Alkafri, Moez Mrabet, Jon Davis and Jonathan May. The audio performance captivated the audience with its exploration of travel politics through multisensory media.

All in all, *Survival of the Artist* was an honest platform for questions ranging from the role of nationality and history to conflict and controversy in the region, with important exploration of the role of artists within this context. *Vision* presents a gallery of the insightful event.

*Vision.ae* will be reporting live from Shubbak, in London from 1-16 July.

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