WHATSON

September 2016

The five Dubai art exhibitions you should see this month

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From wooden sculptures to vintage photos and painting workshops, here are our favourite art exhibitions showing in September...

1. Poetry In Wood September 18 to October 30 Chaouki Choukini Green Art Gallery

For the next two months Green Art Gallery will be home to some weird and wonderful wooden sculptures by Lebanese artist Chaouki Choukini. Based in Paris, Choukini claims that his work is a reflection of his memories, particularly his childhood memories of south Lebanon. Spanning more than four decades, you can spot a variety of cultural and artistic influences.

2. When Time Does Not Exist September 14 to October 27 Gulf Photo Plus

Photographers Stephane Lagoutte and Randa Mirza have joined forces to create this series, telling the story of Beirut as a city in limbo. While Lagoutte focuses on the city's past, playing around with vintage photographs he found in a crumbling luxury hotel, Mirza looks to the future and has captured the contradiction of the city's gleaming billboards.

3. Judy Rifka: RETROactive September 18 to November 3 Judy Rifka Jean-Paul Najar Foundation

A big player in New York City's '70s art scene, Judy Rifka's work – think big, energetic, abstract paintings – is not to be missed. She'll be running open talks and workshops in the gallery from September 6 while also working on a new series of pieces, which will be on show from September 18 alongside her earlier work.

4. Passages September 20 to November 10 Bruno Barbey Philippines The Empty Quarter

Before smart phones and digital cameras there was Bruno Barbey. The award-winning Moroccan-born French photojournalist began working for Magnum, the photographic cooperative, back in the 1960s. For about 50 years he's travelled the globe, capturing some of the world's biggest events, from student riots in Paris to civil wars in Nigeria and the Middle East. Catch some of his most famous pieces in Dubai this month.



5. Visceral Silence September 18 to November 7 Visceral silence Carbon 12

This exhibition combines two very different abstract artists, aiming to raise questions about language and communication. Lebanese artist Christine Kettaneh has used keys to create some of her pieces as a way of exploring the idea of ownership and possession. Meanwhile, the fascinating sculptures by Berlin-based Austrian artist Monika Grabuschnigg are inspired by the 1980s Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.