

Feb 25, 2020

## Last chance to see: catch these UAE exhibitions before the new art season arrives

By Alexandra Chaves

<https://www.thenational.ae/arts-culture/art/last-chance-to-see-catch-these-uae-exhibitions-before-the-new-art-season-arrives-1.984417>



The month of March promises to be busy for the UAE art scene. There's the return of Art Dubai, the emirate's international art fair that attracts thousands of visitors from around the world, plus Sharjah Art Foundation's March Meetings and upcoming major exhibition on art in the digital age, curated by Omar Kholeif. There will also be a series of gallery nights in Dubai, new exhibitions at Abu Dhabi's Warehouse 421, as well as the 10th anniversary of Sikka Art Festival.

But before all that kicks off, here are a few exhibitions to visit in the next two weeks before they end in time for the new art season.

...

### **Brainwashed by Nature: Olaf Breuning**

For his third solo exhibition at Carbon 12, Olaf Breuning looks to nature, addressing the environmental issues confronted by the world today. Using woodcut slices to produce playful landscapes, the Swiss-born artist wishes to evoke a simpler method of production that challenges the more industrialised and technological-driven processes of making art. The choice of material is also significant to the concept of the show, as the artist deliberately draws from natural elements to give a voice to nature itself.

Breuning's paintings travel from oceanscapes to valleys shadowed by dark clouds. His compositions can be interpreted in various ways. Initially, they may appear primitive and rough, but also exude a child-like way of viewing nature in vibrant and simplistic forms. At the same, these crude, patchy canvasses, borrowing the look of weather maps, can also be read as mirroring the turbulence of today's climate patterns.