The weather is rapidly heating up this week and we are soon approaching the holy month of Ramadan. We reviewed Dubai’s top 6 art exhibitions from the gallery openings last week. You’ll want to take note as we set our sights on the summer months with more urban street art joining the scope of this vibrant city.

**Carbon 12**  
Surface as Interface as Surface  
16th May – 15th July

Surface as Interface as Surface is a group exhibition that explores our classical understanding of two-dimensional art practices and breaks this literal frame of thought through artists’ experiments with materiality and metaphysics. Artists such as Bernhard Buhrman, Ralf Ziervogel and Thomas Arnolds present works in different layers that create dialogues between the artist, the work and the viewer. The surfaces of the physical objects reflect not only their physical material quality but they too create narratives of their own. At first glance Ralf Zievogel’s work appears to be a simple geometric shape. But as you get closer, the work reveals the composition’s lines are actually small, written words of obscene violence in ink. Founding Director of Carbon 12 Kourosh Nouri states, “The work is a very representative artwork of Ziervogel’s practice. The gesso-primed canvas creates an interesting ground for the artist to explore his incredible technical ability to turn sheer violence into words, yet creating a minimal and intimate feel from a distance.

Thomas Arnolds, Carbon 12. Photo: Carbon 12