1. The Pretenders
It comes as no surprise to learn that Austrian artist Bernard Buhmann has a master's degree in sociology and communication science—his return to Dubai for his second solo show at Carbon 12 goes straight to the heart of the tricky question of modern-day self-perception. In this era of social media and endless selfies, we're all the pretenders his show title refers to, endlessly changing our image to project an 'ideal' vision of ourselves to the world. Whether that's for good or bad is for you to decide.

September 15 to October 28
Carbon 12 Gallery, Unit D37, Street 8, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz, Dubai. Free. Tel: (04) 3406016. Taxi: Alserkal Avenue. carbon12dubai.com

ARE YOU FEELING 22?
As one of the best ways for the UAE's emerging art population to find a public platform, it's no surprise that open calls have become a popular art initiative across the region with recent shout outs from Dubai and Sharjah leading the pack. Now it's Abu Dhabi's turn to get in on the act. Taking inspiration from Taylor Swift's hit song 22 (yes, really), The Space is inviting students and recent graduates to submit work for an upcoming show, which will focus on the rise of global youth culture. Which means that the brief, beyond its obvious restrictions in age, is wide open to interpretation.

Email jpegs of your work (under 2MB) as well as an artist statement and biography to 22artshow@gmail.com. Include your name, a photocopy of your passport, phone number and affiliated university.