AYYAM GALLERY
‘10:52’

Featuring painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, video, and installation work by some of the region’s foremost names in art, ‘10:52’ is a collective exhibition that commemorates the tenth anniversary of Ayyam Gallery and highlights all 52 artists that have had solo shows at its different locations in the past decade. The multigenerational line-up includes the likes of modernist Leila Nneur, sculptor Mustafa Ali, painter Sama Halaby, among others. Reflecting a timeline of initiatives that have distinguished Ayyam Gallery as one of the region’s foremost galleries, from its launch in Damascus as a multi-platform space for Syrian art to its most recent programming in Beirut and Dubai, the extensive roster of artists celebrates the gallery’s presentation of photography, conceptual art, and painting over the years.

LAWRIE SHABIBI GALLERY
‘UNSEEN’

A group show of recent works by Adel Abidin, Farhad Alarmia, Asad Fauwell, Driss Ouadahi, Nathaniel Rackowe and Shahpour Pouyan, each artist in ‘Unseen’ presents an independent work of art that together makes the exhibition a comprehensively eclectic body of work. Abidin pays homage to the late icon Michael Jackson, Alarmia references the qualities of the Russian Avant-Garde, Pouyan presents 39 drawings that symbolically explore the ideas of human preservation, Rackowe’s work explores the trauma of losing his homeland of Palestine in 1948, and Ouadahi confronts the Palestinian question by looking to dystopian fictional narratives. Alternatively, Fauwell focuses on the forgotten Algerian women who fought alongside their male counterparts in the war of independence and Ouadahi and Rackowe continue their preoccupation with urban environments.

CARBON 12 GALLERY
‘VISCERAL SILENCE’

In Visceral Silence, two of Carbon 12’s artists invest the Aseria gallery space with distinctly different works that raise common questions about language and composition. Beirut-based Christine Ketanee presents three works based around keys, a symbol of ownership and possession but also of exclusion and separation. In contrast, the syntax of composition is even more explicit in the work of Austrian artist Monika Grabuschnigg’s, whose Relics Collectiv was inspired by Afghan war rugs and craft-based reflections of geopolitical conflict. Presenting audiences with an important commentary on cultural voyeurism and the link between artwork and consumer commodity, Visceral Silence is a collection of sculptures that spring from shiny, multi-dimensional translations of flattened shapes, pieced together by a peculiarly visceral grammar.


Ayyam Gallery, Dubai. Ayyam Gallery Tel +971 43236242. Until 29 October.

Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, Dubai. Lawrieshabibi.com Tel +971 43469906. Until 10 September.