

The National

July 11, 2024

Artist's Rooms returns to Dubai, here's what to know about the exhibition

Three creatives showcase an ethereal mix of photography, sculpture and installations at Jameel Arts Centre, tackling themes such as motherhood and modernism architecture

By Maan Jalal

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/arts-culture/art-design/2024/07/11/artists-rooms-jameel-arts-centre-dubai/>



The Artist's Rooms is back with an inviting and delightful introduction to the perspective and practice of three emerging creatives.

Now in its sixth year, the works in the exhibition are mostly drawn from the Art Jameel collection, focusing on talents from Asia and Africa. This year, presented in the three ground-floor galleries at [Jameel Arts Centre](#), featured artists include Australia's Sancintya Mohini Simpson, Filipino multi-disciplinary artist Augustine Paredes and British-Indian artist Amba Sayal-Bennett.

Sayal-Bennett's clean sculptural installations are simple but striking in gallery three. Spanning eight years of her practice, the works are an exploration, both in 2D and 3D, of the social-political contexts of architectural heritage, modernist ideologies and colonialism. With stylistic references to sci-fi elements, they examine traces of migration in architectural forms across continents while informing Sayal-Bennett's own history.

For example, Chandigarh in Punjab is referenced. The birthplace of her maternal grandparents, the city was designed by famed Swiss-French architect Le Corbusier, one of the pioneers of what is now regarded as modern architecture.

Through her precise sculptural works that mould themselves into the interior of the space, Sayal-Bennett takes these architectural concepts and examines how the concept of modernism fails within post-colonialist contexts.

Exploring themes about identity and history through various styles and aesthetic concerns, the Artist's Rooms is a thoughtfully laid out exhibition giving each artist's work breadth to feel contained but equally cohesive within the themes of the exhibition as a whole.

The Artist's Rooms at Jameel Arts Centre will be running until November 24