

Wadi Finan Art Gallery presents Raya Kassisieh at Abu Dhabi Art 2025

Date: 17 – 23 November, 2025

Wadi Finan Art Gallery is pleased to present a solo booth by London and Amman based multidisciplinary artist Raya Kassisieh whose practices trace the intersections of grief, memory, and resilience through the lens of land. In a time when violence uproots lives and histories, this work turns to the natural world as both witness and teacher, reflecting on the ways landscapes hold trauma and regeneration side by side.

In this new body of work, Kassisieh translates the archive of grief, heritage and absence into sculptural paintings, tracing shadows of plants and land encountered during her three- months stay in Mahis at the Finan Farm. The diverse work present celebratory as an embodiment of intergenerational memory and transformation. Her process becomes a dialogue between soft and hard materials and vibrant and dark contrasts that invites viewers into a space of reflection and presence.

Raya Kassisieh, born 1991 in Amman, Jordan, lives and works between Amman and London.

Drawing from her heritage and background in textiles and pattern making, Raya Kassisieh's multidisciplinary practice explores the politics of the body, its ties to land and ecology, and the quiet architectures of grief that move through both. Her sculptural recreations of natural forms and archival objects emerge from the terrains she inhabits, in this presentation it including the rural landscape of Mahis, where close attention to soil, plant and slow decay shaped her understanding of how loss settles into material life.

Working with fibers and metals, she treats the body as a pliable site for re imagination, a vessel shaped by memory and environment. Through steel, copper, silks, wool and cotton, she investigates thresholds between the human and more than human world while considering how grief behaves as a form of ecology in itself, a process of erosion, absorption and eventual renewal. In her practice, natural and fabricated forms hold autonomy through states that blur fixity and change, much like grief itself which shifts, reforms and leaves traces across time.

Kassisieh studied at Pratt Institute, New York, and completed her MA in Sculpture at the Royal College of Art, London. Recent exhibitions include, Islamic Art Biennale, Jeddah (2025); Hunna Art, Kuwait (2024); Bermondsey Project Space, London (2024); Bayt al Mamzar, Dubai (2022); Asia Culture Center, Gwangju (2022); and Hangar Space, Amman (2022).

Wadi Finan Art Gallery was founded in Amman in 2008 with a simple belief: that art can foster understanding and bring communities closer together. Over the years, it has become one of Jordan's leading spaces for contemporary art, connecting regional voices with wider audiences and building an evolving dialogue between the local and the international. The gallery supports artists whose practices reflect the social, cultural, and environmental conditions of the Arab world, artists who work with honesty, experimentation, and a deep sense of place. Through exhibitions, publications, and partnerships, Wadi Finan Gallery seeks to nurture long-term artistic growth and amplify narratives that are often overlooked or underrepresented. Rooted in community yet outward-looking, Wadi Finan Gallery continues to act as a meeting ground between artists, collectors, and institutions, committed to shaping a more visible and connected future for Arab contemporary art.

For further information

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