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Major exhibition of Arab art from the Barjeel Foundation opens in Paris

Anna Seaman | March 1, 2017

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Curated by Philippe van Cauteren, the artistic director of S.M.A.K. Belgium, and Karim Sultan, Curator at Barjeel Art Foundation, this exhibition explores the act of exhibition-making and the role that a collection has in the construction of art history, within an emphasis on Arab modern and contemporary art.

Titled *Chefs-D'oeuvre De L'art Moderne Et Contemporain Arabe*, the exhibition highlights the role of the collection in defining artworks as masterpieces by displaying major works from the collection alongside works by lesser well-known artists. The exhibition aims to illustrate the methods that occur behind the scenes during the presentation and the conservation of artworks in an exhibition.

The exhibition will be split into two sections: a room which brings together leading artists from the collection in an archetypal museum scenography or 'white cube' format, and a second space focused on presenting the 'back rooms' of the museum. The works in this second room appear as objects of study, granting the visitor a rare intimate experience with these works.

Major artists include: Adel Abdessemed, Hassan Sharif, Mohammed Cherkaoui, Marwan Kassab Bachi, Kader Attia, Rachid Koraichi, Chafic Abboud, Asim Abu Shakra, Shakir Hassan Al-Said, Achraf Touloub and Etel Adnan.

www.barjeelartfoundation.org