

COMMERCIAL

# Interior design

The essential guide for Middle East interior design professionals

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The rise of  
the Emirati  
designer

CHECK OUT WHAT  
KHALID SHAFAR  
HAS TO SAY

Saving  
water

LEARN HOW  
KITCHEN AND  
BATHROOM  
DESIGNERS ARE  
GOING GREEN

# Byzantine revival

SEE HOW RAFFLES ISTANBUL REACHED  
TO THE PAST FOR INSPIRATION





Glass pieces brought by Lebanon's Carwan Gallery

## Design Days Dubai looks to high number of galleries

THE FOURTH EDITION OF DESIGN DAYS DUBAI WILL SEE A RECORD-BREAKING NUMBER OF GALLERIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD, WITH 21 EXHIBITORS HAILING FROM MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES

**UAE:** Set for 16 March to 20 March of this year, Dubai's leading design trade fair Design Days Dubai looks forward to its highest number of galleries ever, with nearly half of them coming from Arab countries.

The regional country most represented through its sheer number of exhibitors is the UAE, with Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Qatar following shortly after.

Cyril Zammit, fair director, Design Days Dubai, explains: "Since the inception of Design Days Dubai, we knew the city's key

assets of connectivity, commerce and lifestyle would be the perfect nest to transform the city into a regional capital for design.

"We witnessed a great number of initiatives in town and in the country like Dubai Culture—Design Road Professionals and Tashkeel, but also a growth in maturity in the educational offer. Talents are in the country or come to Dubai as there is this tremendous positive energy and a great opportunity to produce on site too. Designers based in the UAE know that they can count on a po-

litical vision, a transparent market rule and a great audience from various horizons."

Among the many Middle Eastern exhibitors are 1971 from Sharjah, 19th Century Antiques from Dubai, Fadi Sarriedine from Dubai, VCUQatar from Qatar, Carwan from Lebanon, Cities from Saudi Arabia and Naqsh Design House from Jordan. The fair will also witness the launch of Aljoud Lootah Design Studio from Dubai, which will include the Emirati designer's first whole range of furniture pieces.

Another highlight of the fair will be the 10 year anniversary celebration of famed Lebanese designer Nada Debs, as well as the regional opening for a new series of vases by Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid for Austrian firm Wiener Silber Manufactur.

Zammit explains: "There is a strong and vibrant new scene ready to pop up soon. This year's edition will prove that point by showcasing the very first collection of Emirati Aljoud Lootah, but also a brand new name on the market Art by AMN from Ajman."



This chaise longue will be exhibited by KSA's Cities



Vases from Carwan Gallery



Table from Dubai-based Nakkash Gallery



South Africa's Southern Guild will be exhibiting again

He adds: "Tashkeel will demonstrate that we can showcase and sell design pieces entirely made in the country and Sharjah is now opening a brand new space, 1971, which will also be present at the fair. The designers here have understood and assimilated the high benchmark we put when

we launched Design Days Dubai in 2012."

Other countries that will be represented at the fair include France, Australia, the UK, Brazil, the Netherlands, Belgium, Hungary, South Africa, Italy and Taiwan, among others. With designers from 20 countries coming together

to create a global platform for design, the fair has effectively turned Dubai into a regional hub for the artistic craft.

"As [we] grow year after year, Design Days Dubai continues to cultivate recognition and awareness for design in the region, serving to establish Dubai as a

global cultural hub," says Zammit.

"The upcoming 2015 edition of the fair will exhibit the world's most diverse collection of exhibitors and designers from 20 countries, and ground-breaking works for the audience to further enhance their experience around the subject of design."