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Art Plugged

At 20, VOLTA Basel Examines the Shifting Terrain of the Art World

As it marks its 20th year, VOLTA fair expands its focus with new global perspectives, solo presentations, and a debut pavilion for Middle Eastern and North African artists.

By Art Plugged staff writers

<https://artplugged.co.uk/volta-basel-2025-global-art-market-20th-anniversary/>



Spotlight on the Middle East and North Africa

For the first time, VOLTA introduces a regional pavilion dedicated to the Middle East and North Africa. Curated by Beirut-based writer and curator Randa Sadaka, the MENA Pavilion brings together artists whose work reflects a diversity of regional narratives, exploring identity, memory, and historical continuity.

Fann À Porter (Dubai) will present four Syrian artists—Ahmad Kasha, Majd Kurdieh, Mayar Obeido, and Rabee Kiwan—while Gallery Misr and Le Lab (both Cairo) contribute a range of sculpture and mixed media by artists including Khaled Zaki, Omar Chakil, Georges Mohasseb, Ahmed Bazazo, and Moataz Nasr. Other participants include Khawla Art Gallery (Abu Dhabi), Maya Art Space (Beirut), Mojdeh Gallery (Tehran), and Errm Art Gallery (Riyadh).

Marking a significant milestone, RARARES Gallery will represent the United Arab Emirates with a solo presentation by Emirati artist Sara Alkhayyal. Titled *Sensory Tapestry: A Cabinet of Folded Memories*, the project reflects a curatorial approach that merges regional specificity with wider contemporary concerns, addressing the tactile dimensions of cultural memory and lived experience.

VOLTA Basel 2025 opens on the 19th of June until the 22nd of June, 2025 at [Hall 4.U, Messeplatz 21, Basel](#)

