

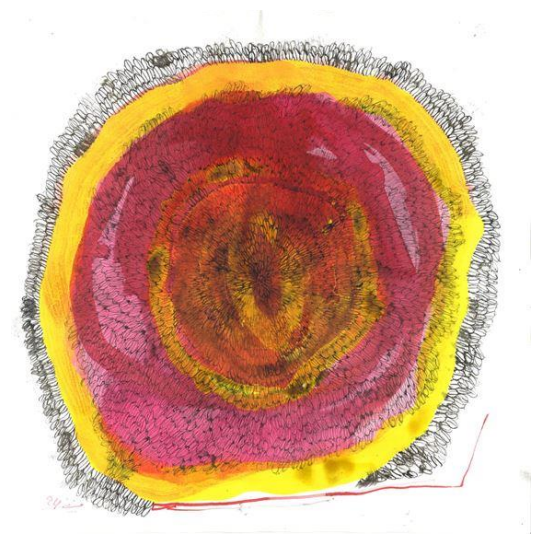
18 September 2025

Magpie

Monif Ajaj: Shams

By Magpie staff writers

<https://magpie.ae/event/monif-ajaj-shams/>



New ink drawings on paper and acrylic paintings on canvas from the French-based Syrian artist that offer viewers a journey through colour, symbolism, and contemplation. These are works that “reflect on the mystical power of nature, its geometry and order, and the existential questions it raises about human nature”, drawing inspiration from the fields of sunflowers that grow around Ajaj’s Dordogne home. The sunflower is in dialogue with a snake motif. – “while the sunflower follows light, embodying warmth and optimism, the snake [is] a signifier of temptation and betrayal; in other traditions, a symbol of renewal and healing. The works invite viewers to consider that within darkness lies the potential for renewal”.

To 31 October.

Above: Monif Ajaj, Untitled (2024)