

The Third Line at Art Dubai Special Edition

Booth C7

15 – 17 May 2026

Preview: 14 May 2026

The Third Line is delighted to present a dynamic body of works by Farah Al Qasimi and Sara Naim at Art Dubai Special Edition. Bringing together a new body of photographs by Al Qasimi and works from Naim's *Tender Grain* series, the presentation explores photography as a medium shaped by perception and context. Through images of interiors, objects, and non-human life, both artists draw attention to the ways everyday moments or objects can reveal underlying structures of power, relation, and meaning.



Farah Al Qasimi, *Bird Market (Kuwait)*, 2025, Archival Inkjet Print, 20.32 x 25.40 cm. Edition of 3, 2AP.

Al Qasimi presents a new body of photographic works, capturing Arab life across various locations including Michigan, Texas, Kuwait, and the UAE over recent years. Idiosyncratic interiors, as well as everyday objects and non-human companions—such as *Watermelon on Cutting Board (Michigan)* (2018) and *Bird Market (Kuwait)* (2025)—are captured in stark, vivid colors. The images compose a coherent sense of life and the self that unfurls across time and place, despite the geopolitical forces that remain beyond the frame.

On the other hand, Naim approaches photography as a medium, experimenting with its representational logic and extending it into sculptural form through materials such as resin and steel. Works from the *Tender Grain* series draw on flora reliefs on Assyrian monuments, playing with scale and proximity. Together, the works examine how plants transgress borders, prompting the viewer to question our relationship to land and to borders.

الخط الثالث

the third line

Collectively, the works in the presentation offer new ways of looking at everyday moments. In Al Qasimi and Naim's treatment of the non-human, points of poetic convergence emerge—inviting us into a more attentive relationship with the worlds that unfold around us.

About Farah Al Qasimi

Farah Al Qasimi (b. 1991, Abu Dhabi) makes photographs, films and music. Often working with large-scale vinyl imagery and a multiplicity of photographic prints and screens, she is interested in the internet and its hierarchies of information and emotion. Many of her video works include primary narrators who are anthropomorphized. Through a highly collaborative practice, she has worked with hand-sewn puppets, falcons, African Land Snails, exorcists, and a Jack Sparrow impersonator. Underlying this work is a broader attention to the social and political conditions shaping artistic production today. 'The best thing art can do is deepen our compassion for others and transform that compassion into action,' she noted, expressing a desire for a future 'closer to collectivism and further from siloed individuality.'

Al Qasimi's work is in the collections of MoMA New York, Tate Modern, Guggenheim New York and Abu Dhabi, and she has participated in residencies at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine, Delfina Foundation in London, and the Chinati Foundation in Marfa. In 2025, she was selected as a Guggenheim Fellow, awarded by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

About Sara Naim

Sara Naim (b. 1987, London) blurs the boundaries between photography, sculpture, painting, and video. She investigates how meaning is constructed through inherited frameworks—language, symbols, and ideologies—and how these structures influence our understanding of self and world. Technological glitches often feature in her work as metaphors for the limits of language, highlighting the gap between lived experience and symbolic expression. Naim also probes the tension between intimacy and distance using pixelation and scale, which mirror the artist's relationship to Syria, her homeland, which was inaccessible to her for 15 years. Natural motifs such as flowers recur in her work as a means of linking personal ancestry and broader geopolitical conditions. By tracing how people and plants take root across borders, her work unsettles the idea of fixed political and bodily boundaries. Selected solo exhibitions include *From the Perspective of Language* and *Rose Tinted* at The Third Line, Dubai, UAE (2026, 2022), alongside international group exhibitions across Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and the USA. Sara lives and works between Dubai and London.

About The Third Line

Founded in 2005, The Third Line is a Dubai-based gallery that represents contemporary artists locally, regionally, and internationally. With 20 years of dedicated commitment to the arts, it has become a pioneering platform for established talent and emerging voices from the region and its diaspora. Through a dynamic program encompassing exhibitions, artist talks, and art book publishing, The Third Line fosters rich discourse around contemporary art practices from the region.

Represented artists include: Abbas Akhavan, Ala Ebtekar, Amir H. Fallah, Anuar Khalifi, Bady Dalloul, Farah Al Qasimi, Farhad Moshiri, Fouad Elkoury, Hassan Hajjaj, Hayv Kahraman, Huda Lutfi, Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige, Jordan Nassar, Kamran Samimi, Laleh Khorramian, Lamya Gargash, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarman, Nima Nabavi, Poursafar Jinchu, Rana Begum, Sahand Hesamiyan, Sara Naim, Sarah Awad, Shirin Aliabadi, Slavs and Tatars, Sophia Al-Maria, Tarek Al-Ghoussein, Vian Sora, yasiin bey, and Youssef Nabil.

Press Inquiries:

Insun Woo | insun@thethirdline.com