

The Third Line at VIMA Art Fair 2026

Booth C3

15 – 17 May 2026

Preview: 14 May 2026

The Third Line is pleased to participate in the second edition of VIMA Art Fair with a solo presentation of new paintings by Sarah Awad. The works extend the artist's distinctive painterly language that layers vivid hues rendered in bold, free-flowing forms and confident brushstrokes.



Sarah Awad, *Uncertain Shelter*, 2026, Oil and Vinyl on Canvas, 167.64 x 111.76 cm.

Drawing on art historical movements such as Fauvism, Color Field abstraction, and Neo-Expressionism, Awad adopts vivid, expressive color palettes while introducing a personal visual vocabulary. Fluid female figures emerge from and recede into fields of color, creating compositions that are at once abstract and figurative. Color also operates as subject—and structure—guiding the viewer's eye while destabilizing fixed points of reference; the seemingly dissonant hues generate a sense of movement and tension across the canvas.

In this new body of work, Awad deepens her investigation into the relationship between color and form, foregrounding painting as an active site of transformation where forms emerge, shift, and continually renegotiate their boundaries. Presented at VIMA Art Fair, they attune visitors to the shifting visual rhythms of their surroundings.

Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige in *The Waves Crashing*

Film Program: Friday and Sunday, 15 and 17 May 2026

Special Screening: Saturday, 16 May 2026 at Rialto Theatre, Limassol

Curated by Kostas Stasinopoulos

In parallel, *Waiting for the Barbarians* (2013) and *Palimpsests* (2017) by Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige will be featured in *The Waves Crashing*, the film program of VIMA 2026, curated by Kostas Stasinopoulos.

Waiting for the Barbarians is a film developed in response to Constantine P. Cavafy's poem of the same title. Reflecting on shared ties to the Middle East, the work unfolds through panoramic views of Beirut that shift between movement and stillness, as well as between sweeping perspectives and intimate detail. Through subtly animated photography, the film creates a disquieting sense of time as both suspended and in motion, evoking a broader atmosphere of instability and uncertainty.

Palimpsests examines archaeological and geological processes to uncover layers of urban history beneath the ground, presenting time as a dense accumulation of overlapping eras. Through a montage of drone and microscopic imagery, shifting scales, and varied rhythms, Hadjithomas & Joreige create a fragmented yet continuous view of time, where destruction and renewal intersect across past and present.

About Sarah Awad

Sarah Awad (b. 1981, Pasadena, CA, USA) is a Los Angeles-based painter whose work explores color and form through richly layered compositions that are at once abstract and figurative. Awad has had solo exhibitions at Night Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA; The Third Line, Dubai, UAE; Blossom Market, Los Angeles, CA, USA; and Diane Rosenstein Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

She has been included in group shows at The Third Line, Dubai, UAE; Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Philippines; LA Louver, Venice, Italy; V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark; Long Beach City College Art Gallery, CA, USA; and Galerie Ernst Hilger, Vienna, Austria. Awad is the 2011 recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation MFA Grant and her work has been reviewed in *Artillery*, *Modern Painters*, *Art in America*, *Artsy Editorial*, *ArtScene*, and *New American Paintings*, among others.

Her work is in the permanent collections of Dallas Museum of Art, Texas, USA; The Britely, West Hollywood, CA, USA; and Hotel Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA, USA; Barjeel Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE. Awad currently teaches on the faculty of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts at UC Irvine and is based in Los Angeles.

About Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige

Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige (b. 1969, Beirut; live/work: Beirut and Paris) are artists and filmmakers whose multidisciplinary practice spans photography, video, installation, performance, sculpture, and cinema. Their work examines the construction of images and imaginaries, often drawing on personal and political narratives to recuperate stories obscured or silenced by history. Through a documentary-inflected approach to filmmaking—establishing intimate relationships with the various people who become subjects in their work—the artists explore memory, absence, and the production of social memory, particularly in contexts shaped by war and displacement.

Hadjithomas & Joreige have exhibited internationally at institutions including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum, Centre Pompidou, and Hamburger Bahnhof, and have participated in major biennials such as La Biennale di Venezia and documenta 14. Their work is held in leading public and private collections worldwide.

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, Poursan 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.

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