

The Islamic Art Museumscape: The Jameel Gallery 20th Anniversary Conference

The V&A's Jameel Gallery for the Islamic Middle East turns 20 years old in 2026. In this conference, museum professionals and art historians from around the world discuss current trends and issues effecting the presentation of Islamic art in museums today.

This event is part of the V&A's Jameel Programme, celebrating 20 years of The Jameel Gallery with Community Jameel.

Please note that this programme is subject to change.

Friday 17th July
The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre
V&A South Kensington

Entrance to the Lecture Theatre is via the Silver Gallery (Room 66) on Level 2 of the Museum. You can find the location on the V&A's digital map: [V&A Digital Map | Interactive Museum Floor Plan](#)

- 10 Museum opens / Registration
- 10.15 Welcome and opening remarks: **Anna Jackson**, Keeper, Asia, V&A
- 10.30-10.50 **Tim Stanley**, Senior Curator Middle East, V&A
“The starting point: The Jameel Gallery in 2006”
- 10.50-11.20 Coffee break
- 11.20-12.35 **Panel 1: Looking into object histories**
Inês Fialho Brandão (Head of Cultural Mediation, Calouste Gulbenkian Museum, Lisbon) – “Postcards from the periphery: current trends in provenance research” (*online presentation*)
Qamar Adamjee (Provenance Researcher, Asian Art Department, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York) – “Object histories on view: Incorporating provenance research into the gallery”
Omniya Abdel Barr (CIB Research Fellow, V&A/Egypt Heritage Rescue Foundation) – “Stolen Fragments: Architecture and Loss”
Moderator: **Moya Carey** (Curator of Islamic Collections, Chester Beatty, Dublin)

12.35-1.35 Lunch (not provided)

1.35-2.50 **Panel 2: Engaging communities**

Seif El Rashidi (Director, The Barakat Trust) – “Hands on Islamic Art: A participatory approach to meaningful curation”

Silke Ackermann (Director, History of Science Museum, University of Oxford) – “A mindset, not a project. Eight years of learning with, and from, MultakaOxford”

Dima Srouji (Tutor, School of Architecture, Royal College of Art, and former Jameel Fellow) – “Making Contemporary Material Culture from Palestine: Four Moons from Home”

Moderator: **Noorah al-Gailani** (Curator of Islamic Collections (the Arab World), The British Museum)

2.50-4.05 **Roundtable discussion: New approaches to Islamic art collections**

Ladan Akbarnia (Head of Curatorial & Professor of Islamic World Collections, The Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge)

Glaire Anderson (Senior Lecturer in Islamic Art, History of Art, University of Edinburgh/ Digital Lab for Islamic Visual Culture & Collections)

Keelan Overton (Independent Scholar, California, and Director of the Emamzadeh Yahya Project (2021–present))

Rachel Dedman (Jameel Curator of Contemporary Art from the Middle East, V&A)

Discussant: **Margaret Graves** (Minassian Associate Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture, Brown University)

4.05-4.35 Coffee break

4.35-5.50 **Panel 4: Looking to the future**

Stefan Weber (Director, Museum of Islamic Art / Pergamon Museum) – “Lessons learned, mistakes included: the new Islamic Art Galleries in Berlin” (*online presentation*)

Farida Al-Husseini (Director, Islamic Arts Biennale) **and Abdul Rahman Azzam** (Head of AlMadar Partnerships) – “The Islamic Arts Biennale: The Orbit of Islamic Arts”

Julia Gonnella (Director, The Lusail Museum) – “Art, Power, Dialogue: Introducing Lusail Museum” (*online presentation*)

Moderator: **Mounia Chekhab Abudaya** (Deputy Director of Curatorial Affairs, Museum of Islamic Art, Doha)

5.50-6 Closing remarks: **Mariam Rosser-Owen, Curator Middle East, V&A**

6 Visits to the Jameel Gallery. The Museum will remain open until 10pm.