

# A GUIDE TO DUBAI DESIGN WEEK

Selina Denman rounds up the exhibitions, pavilions, classes and competitions at this year's design festival, which showcases the talent of regional and international creatives



**NOV 15**

**ICONIC CITY: LOADING... CASA**  
The Iconic City exhibit has been a highlight of Dubai Design Week since it began and, this year, the spotlight will be on Casablanca. Curator Salma Lahlou has commissioned new works from a sound artist, graphic designer, photographer and interior architect to portray the Moroccan city. The exhibition will provide an insight into the design culture and atmosphere of one of the region's key hubs for creative industries and manufacturing.

November 14 to 18; 10am to 9pm; D3

**NOV 13**

**SEE**

**GRAPHICS RCA: FIFTY YEARS AND BEYOND**  
This exhibition celebrates the milestone anniversary of a graphic design course at the Royal College of Art, which marked the beginning of a break with commercial art, and saw graphic design emerge as a major force in business and culture. The exhibition features rarely seen works from the RCA archive, including designs by alumni who have gone on to become leading practitioners: Film Society posters; stamps commissioned by the Royal Mail; the infamous student magazine *Ark*; and early examples from pioneers of digital design.

November 13 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Atrium, building 5, D3

**NOV 14**

**ATTEND**

**DOWNTOWN DESIGN**  
One of the lynchpins of Dubai Design Week, this fair presents a mix of established and emerging brands. The fifth edition of Downtown Design will showcase more than 150 companies from 25 countries. Each day of the event will feature a series of industry talks and panel discussions targeted at the region's architecture and design community. Register to attend at [www.downtowndesign.com](http://www.downtowndesign.com).

November 14 to 17; 10am to 9pm; Waterfront platform, D3

**SEE**

**THE APARTMENT #3 - DESIGN FROM THE 60S TO THE 70S**  
For the first time, a gallery has transformed itself into a permanent apartment concept, in which objects and furniture vary and change regularly. The Apartment #3 exhibits artworks, decorative arts and furniture from Europe from the second half of the 20th century, by designers such as Mathieu Matégot, Pierre Guariche, Marco Zanuso, Serge Mouille, Charlotte Perriand, Herta and Paul Amirani, Joseph-André Motte and Pierre Paulin. Visitors are welcome to wander around the apartment to experience these iconic, rare finds and one-of-a-kind collectibles.

November 13 to March 13; 10am to 7pm; La Galerie Nationale, Unit 27, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1

**ATTEND**

**INDUSTRY TO LUXURY**  
What does luxury mean today? This year, the DRAM initiative has invited four UAE-based designers from different design disciplines (product designers Ayah Al Bitar Farah Nasri and photographer Ammar Al Attar) to use industrial and mass-produced materials sourced from the Ras Al Khair area to create a "luxury" item.

November 13 to 18; 12pm to 6pm; No 7, Street 22a, Community 612, Ras Al Khair Industrial 1

**ATTEND**

**CHOCOLATE MAKERS TOURS**  
Dubai's Mirzam creates chocolate with just three ingredients: cocoa beans, unrefined cane sugar and a small amount of cocoa butter. The production process has been designed to be transparent, so visitors to the chocolate factory can experience every aspect of chocolate making, from roasting cocoa beans to the hand-wrapping of each bar. Book your spot at [www.mirzam.com](http://www.mirzam.com).

November 13 to December 13; Tour for children: 10.30 and 12.30am; Adults: 3pm and 5pm; Mirzam, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1

**SEE**

**EVERY THING WE TOUCH**  
Paula Zuccotti is an acclaimed design expert, artist and photographic novelist. For her book *Every Thing We Touch* (published by Viking - Penguin Random House), Zuccotti travelled the world with a simple premise in mind: can we make sense of someone else's life through the objects they touch in a day? Zuccotti's exhibition, *Every Thing We Touch - Dubai Design Week*, will explore the cultures that make up Dubai, using everyday artifacts as the storytellers, and examining the similarities and differences between these objects.

November 13 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Ground floor, building 6, D3

**ATTEND**

**DESIGN IN A DIGITAL WORLD**  
This conference aims to bring together researchers and practitioners to explore, evaluate and present creative work and research results focusing on the future of design, the impact of digital technology and design education in a digital world.

November 13; 10am to 5pm; American University in the Emirates, International Academic City, block 7

**ATTEND**

**DAVID ADJAYE IN CONVERSATION WITH SULTAN AL QASSEMI**  
David Adjaye is regarded as one of the world's most influential architects and designers. This conversation with Sultan Al Qassemi will cover topics such as the process by which Adjaye approaches the projects he is commissioned to design; whom he communicates with beyond the client; and his sources of inspiration.

13 November; 7pm to 8pm; DXBOW Mainstage, building 4, D3

**INTERACT**

**HOW TO DRESS YOUR BED LIKE AN INTERIOR DESIGNER**  
Professional linen company Linen Obsession will provide inside tips on how to create a great-looking bed, looking at things like what size pillows and duvets you really need to create a sleek and professional-looking interior, and the basic items to add to your linen cupboard. Thread count, Egyptian cotton and saateen will all be explained, and the secrets of what makes hotel linen look so great will also be revealed.

November 14 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Waterfront Event Space, D3

**INTERACT**

**GLOBAL GRAD SHOW**  
The Global Grad Show will showcase innovative projects from leading design schools around the world. Presenting more than 200 projects by students from 91 universities in 40 countries, the exhibition provides a first glimpse at the ideas and technologies that may well shape our future. Prepare to be impressed.

November 14 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Waterfront Event Space, D3

**ATTEND**

**BOOK LAUNCH: SACRED LIGHT**  
This book explores how natural and artificial light have played a key role in sacred Islamic architecture throughout history, and how light has been employed to give each Islamic dynasty its own identity. Five historical mosques have been carefully chosen, visited and photographed in order to cover different major dynasties, from the Umayyads to the Ottomans. The book also offers technical illustrations that help explain the different lighting scenarios for each mosque, and photography that celebrates these unique architectural masterpieces.

November 14; 3.15pm to 4.30pm; Office 106A, building 6, D3

**ATTEND**

**MAKE WORKS UAE AND THE MADE IN UAE MOVEMENT**  
Tashkeel is launching the Make Works UAE directory of fabric makers, material suppliers, workshops and manufacturers in the city - the first of its kind. Make Works UAE will be a platform where creative minds can connect, making local manufacturers supporting the Made in UAE movement. The event will begin with an interactive talk by founder of Make Works UAE, and Jumanah coordinator for Make Works UAE. A mod discussion will then discuss the potential of the Works directory, the wider topic of manu UAE, and the relationship between design

**INTERACT**

**LET'S PLAY FOR CHANGE**  
This exhibition, presented by Ikea, is designed to transport viewers to "another world filled with wonder, delight, mystical illusions and surprises". Captivating design elements will encourage kids, teenagers and grown-ups to engage in play, while the outdoors has been brought indoors to present creative ways of living sustainably.

November 13 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Atrium, building 7, D3

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November 13 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Urban Studio, Office 107B, building 7, D3

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15 November; 5pm to 6pm; DIDI Space, mezzanine level, building 7, D3



NOV 16

ADHAB

The exhibition has been a highlight of past Dubai Design Weeks and is the only initiative to offer a snapshot of regional design talent from the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. For 2017, the concept has evolved into a single pavilion featuring 101 products from 15 countries.

November 14 to 18; 10am to 9pm; between building 4, D3

SWAROVSKI OPEN STUDIO

The debut Atelier Swarovski Home collection, featuring pieces by Fredrikson Stallard, Aldo Bakker, Kim Thomé and Ron Arad, will be on display at the Swarovski Creative Centre. Visitors can pre-order the range, which includes centerpieces, vases, bowls and candleholders.

November 13 to 18; 10am - 9pm; building 7, D3

INTERACT

NOV 17

EMERGING GREEN DESIGNERS WORKSHOP

Professor Camilo Cero, Daniel Chavez and Juan Roldan will lead a workshop designed to foster awareness around sustainability. Using the facilities and tools of the Fab-Lab at the American University of Sharjah's College of Architecture, Art and Design, participants will create a designed object by reshaping only recycled materials, including scrapwood and plywood. The final prototype of the furniture piece will be completed during the workshop.

November 17; 10am to 6pm; College of Architecture, Art and Design, American University of Sharjah

NOV 18

UNEXPECTED DUBAI

To celebrate the launch of the Montral Nomad Guide to Dubai, the brand is hosting a photo exhibition in its flagship studio in D3. Guests can rediscover Dubai through the lens of various Montral contributors and will be able to get a printed version of the city guide while there.

November 13 to December 31; 10am to 7pm; Ground floor, building 7, D3



MAURO PORCINI TALK

This compelling presentation by Mauro Porcini, chief design officer at Pepsico, will highlight how design and design thinking are vital to any successful brand. Porcini will look at how designers are working side by side within businesses to create incredible experiences and share amazing stories.

November 17; 5pm to 6pm; DXBOW mainstage, building 4, D3

ATTEND

GREY AREA

A series of achronomic courses served on custom-designed tableware will take diners on a colourless culinary journey, courtesy of Tinkah and Inked.

November 13 to 18; 8.30pm; Unit 57, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1

DXB DESIGN HUNT 2017

An ambitious trio of architecture and interior design undergraduates, Maral Berenjian, Noor Alsaqqa and Hadeel Hisham, will lead fellow UAE students in the first ever DXB Design Hunt. Competing student teams have one day to go out and about mapping the built environment, while hunting for inspiring architecture and design locations that exemplify Dubai's design aesthetic.

November 18; 9.45am to 6pm; Unit 79, Alserkal Avenue, Al Quoz 1

SEE



ATTEND

VASE D'AVRIL

Twenty-five years ago, friends Catherine Levy and Sigolène Prébost launched the iconic April Vase by Tsé & Tsé. To celebrate this anniversary, 30 designers have exhibited their versions and interpretations of the Vase d'Avril at famous concept stores around the world, including Merci in Paris, HP DECO in Tokyo, Please Do Not Enter in Los Angeles and now Comptoir 102 in Dubai.

November 13 to 18; 8.30am to 9pm; Comptoir 102, Jumeirah Beach Road



DESIGN THERAPY POP-UP

Do you have a brand, design or digital challenge that you are struggling with? The Design Therapy pop-up by Maek Design offers free consultations to help you work through challenges. Each consultation will last between 10 and 30 minutes, depending on the nature of the challenge. Participants can apply for a consultation appointment by registering at the pop-up, or turn up and wait.

18 November; 10am to 3pm; Urban Studio, office 107B, building 7, D3

INTERACT

INTERACT

SERAC BENCHES

Designed by Zaha Hadid and Patrik Schumacher, and manufactured by Italian Lab, the Serac Bench was developed as an urban sculpture for seating and resting that seamlessly integrates with its environment. The design rediscovers the fluid, continuous nature of Hadid's work, exploring relationships between solid and void, object and ground, form and function - an evolutionary lineage that is evident throughout her repertoire.

November 13 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Multiple locations, D3

INTERACT

DUBAI

Apical Reform is unveiling a new interactive public sculpture, simply called Dubai, that attempts to capture the vibrant spirit of the emirate.

November 13 to 18; 10am to 9pm; Between buildings 4 and 6, D3

INTERACT

THE RIPE DESIGN MARKET

The Ripe Design Market will gather local start-ups and small businesses, including designers, trend-setters, taste-makers and culinary artisans. Visitors can pick up fresh, local organic food from the Ripe Organic Stand, while engaging with local artists and enjoying activations, pop-up shops and workshops for children.

November 17 to 18; 10am to 7pm, D3

STOP AND COLLABORATE! BY MAYAR EL HAYAWAN

Participants in these workshops will work in groups to design a Wellform-sized poster, to encourage collaboration and experimentation. Young graphic designers will be encouraged to discover different practices and methodologies, while faced with the challenge of designing a poster within a short period of time.

November 16 and 17; 10am to 4.30pm; Tashkeel, Nad Al Sheba 1

AN ARCHITECTURAL TOUR THROUGH BASTAKIYA

In partnership with the Alserkal Cultural Foundation, Swiss designer and architect André C Meyerhans will lead an exploration of the history and Dubai's Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, while explaining the value of historic districts and how to best keep them alive.

November 18; 3pm to 4pm; Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood, Heritage House No. 13

MYSTERY OF DIAMONDS

In association with the International Gemological Institute, 5GRIFFITY will host two educational seminars aimed at young jewellery enthusiasts from the age of 7. Each seminar has up to 12 places.

November 18; 4pm to 6pm; Office 402, Building 8, D3



THE RIPE DESIGN MARKET is UAE website, a suppliers, country. The very be an interactive meet with skilled zing and nt. The launch lk by Fi Scott, na Taha; project odedated panel thial of the Make nufacturing in the signer and maker.