

canvas

ART AND CULTURE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND ARAB WORLD



I'M SORRY

AN EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW OF THE
MIDDLE EAST AT THE 56TH

VENICE BIENNALE

PLUS THE SEVENTH *YOUNG COLLECTORS* FEATURE

THE LAST WORD

AIDA MAHMUDOVA

The Azeri artist on Joan Mitchell's paintings, being a chef, Tair Salakhov and YARAT.

Looking back at my career in the art world, I wish I had: More time to myself in order to reflect on my inspirations.

The art world's biggest crime is: Controlling and taming artistic processes.

If there is one era I would go back to, it would be: The second part of the 19th century.

My biggest vanity is: The urge to become a better individual.

You would be shocked to know that I: Don't have a computer.

It would make my parents proud to know that: I'm happy.

If I had to summarise in one word, I would say that art is: Endless.

I am happiest when: I discover something beautiful.

My biggest pet peeves are: Aggressive individuals and people with no manners.

Mankind is capable of great: Love and destruction.

If I were stranded on an island that had abundant food, shelter and electronics, the three things I would take with me are: Books, red wine and insect repellent.

For inspiration, I go to: Closer to nature.

Life would be meaningless without: My loved ones.

I owe my success to: My family and my roots.

The three things I look for in an artwork are: Strong emotions, intellect and aesthetics.

My best art investment is: YARAT.

The exhibition that left a big impact on me was: *TRA – Edge Of Becoming* at the Palazzo Fortuny in Venice, 2011.

My biggest vice is: Working myself up over silly things.

I just don't understand: How the universe works.

If I weren't doing what I do, I would have been: A chef.

The artwork that best describes me is: Joan Mitchell's paintings.

The artist I'd want my portrait created by: Tair Salakhov.

Bad art is: Just bad art and nothing more.

I'd like people to remember my: Team and what we have done.

Without art, the world would: Not exist.

I wish people wouldn't: Destroy each other.

Creativity can be crushed by: Commercialism.

