

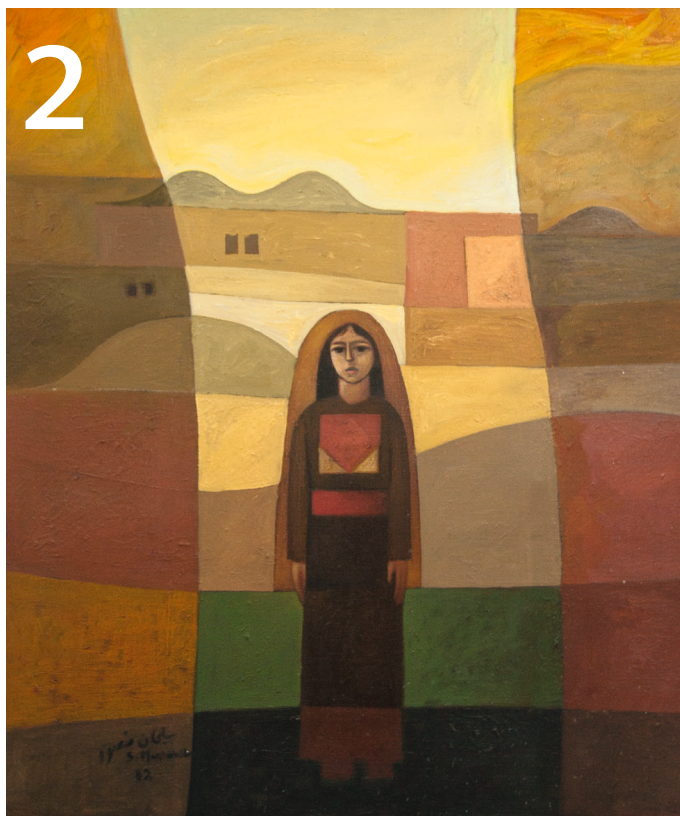
## 2. GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE

At **Tabari Artspace in DIFC**, the work of three Palestinian artists explore the themes of identity through painting, photography and sculpture. Hazem Harb, Mohammed Joha and Sliman Mansour take part in *El Beit*, an inter-generational exhibition that reflects on the collective experience of lost identity and displacement in Palestine. Harb's collages, inspired by Lake Tiberias in the Galilee, take shape with a mixture of archival images of the lake as well as photographs the artist has taken himself. A large image depicts the interior of a home at Lake Tiberias, which transforms a part of the gallery into a space reminiscent of a Palestinian home.

Creating a dialogue, modernist Mansour's works are placed atop Harb's photographs, allowing both artists to rebuild and re-imagine a homeland that has become inaccessible to most. Mansour is one of the country's most celebrated artists (he was born in Birzeit and currently lives in Jerusalem) and will show works from his famed *Ten Years in Mud* series, which was born out of his movement to boycott Israeli-imported art supplies and use only locally-sourced materials such as mud, henna and clay.

As for Joha, his 14 collages examine the systematic destruction of Palestinian homes as a result of the conflict. Some fictional and some drawn from his memories, the homes consider the themes of childhood, freedom, identity and revolution.

As two generations of Palestinian artists dialogue through *El Beit*, the exhibition offers a critical insight into the ongoing impact of the conflict and its effect on shaping national identity and legacy. From February 6. [Tabariartspace.com](http://Tabariartspace.com)



## 3



*Clockwise from top: Sliman Mansour's Girl in the Village; an image by award-winning photographer Tanya Habjouqa; Tasneem Sultan's documentary-style work*

## 3. RE-FRAME

**Cameras at the ready as Gulf Photo Plus** holds its annual GPP Photo Week from 7-12 February, marking the 14th edition of the festival. 'Shift Your Focus', this year's theme, explores how shifting focus is both an important technical aspect of photography and a vital part of the creative process. Some of the world's leading photographers take part in the festival, including documentary photographer Tanya Habjouqa and wedding and documentary photographer Tasneem Sultan. The latter has gained fame of late thanks to her insightful documentation of human rights topics specific to gender and social issues in Saudi. In 2016, Sultan was selected by British Journal Photography among the best 16 emerging photographers, and

later joined Rawiya – the first all-female photography collective from the Middle East aimed at presenting an insider's look at this complex region. Incidentally, Rawiya was co-founded by Habjouqa, who won the World Press Photo Award in 2014 for her social documentary-style work. Her photographs are part of the collections of MFA Boston, Institut du Monde Arabe and Carnegie Museum of Art. Other highlights to look out for include Khalik Allah's *Souls Against the Concrete*, an exhibition of raw night-time portraits taken on a Harlem street corner which will come up at Concrete, and *Beyond Here is Nothing* by Laura El-Tantaway, a photographic meditation on the notion of home, on show at GPP. [Gulfphotoplus.com](http://Gulfphotoplus.com)