

Between Then and Now

Lulu M., Masoud Albulushi, and Mubarak Al-Malik

In 2016, Lulu M., Masoud Albulushi, and Mubarak Al-Malik, three emerging artists came together in a shared exhibition at al markhiya gallery, each carrying a distinct visual language, personal inquiry, and evolving artistic voice. A decade later, they return — not to repeat a beginning, but to reflect on the distance traveled since.

Between Then and Now marks ten years of artistic development shaped by experimentation, persistence, and personal transformation. Though connected by a common point of departure, each artist has followed a markedly different trajectory, moving through various media, and exploring memory, abstraction, materiality, and identity from their own distinct perspectives.

This exhibition is not a retrospective, but a reunion of trajectories. The works presented explore the way time alters artistic practice: how certain ideas continue to form while others dissolve, and life experience reshapes the relationship between artist, place, and expression. Together, the exhibition becomes a record of maturation — not only of these individual artists, but of a regional art scene that has transformed itself over the last decade.

For Mubarak Al-Malik, the journey reflects his deepening engagement with form, atmosphere, and cultural resonance. Lulu M.'s practice reveals an increasingly intimate and layered visual sensitivity, shaped by emotion, experimentation, and personal reflection. Masoud Albulushi's work carries a dialogue between movement, belonging, and contemporary experience.

Reuniting after ten years, *Between Then and Now* offers more than a celebration of the passing of time. It becomes a meditation on continuity: on what it means for artists to grow alongside one another while moving independently through time. In returning to the same gallery after a decade, the artists also return to an earlier version of themselves — carrying with them the traces, fractures, discoveries, and convictions accumulated along the way.