

LINES OF BELONGING

Fawzi Baalbaki and Salman Al Malek

16 June – 16 August 2026

Lines of Belonging brings together Lebanese artist **Fawzi Baalbaki** and Qatari artist **Salman Al Malek**, who, across more than five decades of practice, have each developed a visual language grounded not in spectacle, but in human presence, emotional memory, and the enduring capacity of art to carry meaning beyond representation.

Though emerging from different geographies and sensibilities, both artists approach painting as lived experience rather than fixed image. Their works do not merely depict reality; they move through it — searching for intimacy, tenderness, identity, and continuity within rapidly transforming societies.

For **Fawzi Baalbaki**, the painted line is an act of emotional survival. Figures, animals, and intertwined forms emerge through simplified gestures that move between abstraction and recognition, inviting the viewer to complete what the line leaves open. His compositions hold warmth, solitude, companionship, and fleeting joy within surfaces of deliberate lightness.

Salman Al Malek approaches painting as both cultural memory and contemporary proposition, negotiating the relationship between authenticity and modernity. His work is deeply rooted in social consciousness while remaining open to formal experimentation. Art, for Al Malik, must hold a purpose, even when expressed through abstraction or colour.

Together, their works offer a space where form still carries feeling, abstraction remains human, and painting continues to serve as a bridge between memory, place, and shared experience.

(continued next page)