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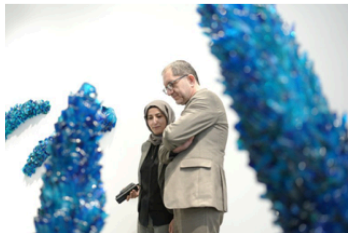
Translucent Threads of Life by Yousra Wahba at Firetti Contemporary, Dubai, UAE

PUBLISHED ON : DECEMBER 8, 2023 BY SLAVA NOOR



For her debut solo exhibition, *Translucent Threads of Life*, at Firetti Contemporary, Yousra Wahba celebrates nature, identity, and the resilience of women. The exhibition unveils the beauty found in life's unconventional and wild aspects, embracing the unique allure that emerges from such unorthodox forms. Comprising of four distinct series of works, the exhibition invites visitors to embark on a journey through translucent layers, exploring the fusion of science and art while encouraging an appreciation for the beauty that arises when boundaries are pushed.

Wahba's sculptures and installations predominantly utilize transparent resin, a medium thoughtfully chosen for its symbolic resonance. This clear, luminous, and untamed material skillfully reflects the intricate dance of life, mirroring the simultaneous peril and beauty of existence. Employing alchemical processes that involve the manipulation of temperature and pressure, the artist transmutes liquid transparency into solid form, creating sculptures that symbolize both delicacy and strength—an artistic embodiment of the resilience inherent in nature and women alike.



As you enter the gallery, the journey commences with the series *Wild Beauty Unveiled*. These bold, red-layered sculptures draw inspiration from the invincible spirit of women and delve into the metaphorical significance of plant life and marine ecosystems. These elements transcend mere symbols; they represent the multifaceted layers of the human experience. These sculptures defy conventional notions of beauty, embodying the dualities of danger and delicacy, strength and fragility. Each piece unfolds as a visual narrative, inviting viewers to witness the untamed allure that emerges when boundaries are pushed—a symbol of beauty flourishing amidst adversity, a testament to the inherent strength and delicacy within the female spirit, thriving when met with courage and grace.



Continuing through the exhibition, viewers encounter *Interconnected Echoes – Tidal Rhythms*. These sculptures resonate with the rhythmic patterns of ocean tides, delving into the intricate tapestry woven by the rhythmic movements of the ocean, the azure blooms of marine life, and the fractal beauty of coral. These sculptures gracefully mimic the ebb and flow of the ocean, capturing the dynamic interplay between humanity and nature. Transparent threads intertwine, visually portraying the unseen forces that shape our existence. Just as tides harmonize with the moon's influence, our lives intricately dance within the greater cosmic rhythm.



The *Harmony Unbound – Immersed in the Quiet Blue* series presents an immersive installation. In this space, Wahba's personal journey aligns with rhythmic currents, fostering introspection and self-discovery within the tranquil blue surroundings. Comprising sculptures bathed in shades of blue reminiscent of the ocean, this installation serves as metaphors for life's fluidity, where elements of identity, memory, and culture seamlessly intertwine. 'Harmony Unbound' isn't static; it's a dynamic, living entity that immerses us in a sensory journey beyond the ordinary. It mirrors the interdependence between humanity and the natural world, conveying our shared pursuit of change, liberation, and the enduring quest for harmony.



Inspired by a quote from Kuwaiti-born Palestinian-American writer and human rights activist Susan Abulhawa, who wrote, “It wasn’t long after that when I went into the quiet blue, that place without time, where I could soak

up all the juices of life and let them run through me like a river” in her book ‘The Blue Between the Sky and Water,’ this series resonates deeply. Abulhawa’s work offers a poignant exploration of the Palestinian experience, providing a humanizing perspective on a complex and deeply rooted conflict. It weaves together themes of family, identity, resilience, and the enduring connections between people and their homeland.

Much like Abulhawa’s evocative words invite readers to delve into the profound aspects of the human experience within the Palestinian context, Yousra Wahba’s sculptures and installations encourage viewers to reflect on universal themes. These include identity, resilience, and the intricate interplay of life and nature. Through ‘Harmony Unbound,’ Wahba pays homage to the profound philosophy inherent in Abulhawa’s writing, crafting a visual narrative that echoes the themes of change, liberation, and the enduring quest for harmony found in ‘The Blue Between the Sky and Water.’

Finally, we arrive at the series *Exquisite Moments*, where Wahba urges us to “Pause and relish the exquisite moments of life.” This final series encourages us to appreciate the delicate balance between strength and fragility. Here, thinner layers of translucent sculptures symbolize life’s transient nature, where movement and resilience coexist. These artworks explore both conceptual and aesthetic boundaries, fusing biology, science, and art into a harmonious whole.

As you conclude this captivating exploration, you carry with you the echoes of these translucent layers, a testament to the intricate dance of existence. *Translucent Threads of Life* is a celebration of the unconquerable human spirit, the ever-changing rhythm of nature, and the exquisite moments that grace our lives.



About Yousra Wahba

Yousra Wahba (born 1977, Saudi Arabia) is an Egyptian artist celebrated for her exploration of the interplay between nature, memory, and emotion. Her art revolves around the profound concept of freezing memories, encapsulating distinct experiences, and evoking emotions, all within the confines of time.

With a background in Pharmaceutical Science, she skilfully bridges science and art, pushing the boundaries of her chosen materials to create sculptures that capture the vibrancy of the natural world. Her artwork embodies a perpetual sense of transformation, beautifully mirroring the ever-evolving nature of both the natural world and the human experience.

Yousra’s art is marked by a play of contrasts, such as light and dark, transparency and opacity, mirroring the complexity of life. Her work delves into the interconnectedness of nature and human existence, revealing the patterns found in biology and emotions and inviting viewers to reflect on the beauty of life’s fleeting moments.