

Weaving Stories



Celebrating Kuwait through textile arts



Sheikha Altaf Al-Sabah, founder of Al Sadu Society with Ali H. Al-Youha, Secretary General of Kuwait's National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, US Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence R Silverman and British Ambassador to Kuwait Matthew Lodge among other distinguished guests and visitors. —Photographs by Yasser Al Zayyat, Jamie Etheridge and Aziz Al Mutawa

By Jamie Etheridge

Al Sadu Society launched Monday evening an unique interactive textile exhibition, Weaving Stories as part of its 2016/2017 cultural season. The exhibition, opened under the auspices of Sheikh Salman Sabah Al Salem Al-Homoud Al Sabah, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs, is comprised of a series of woven panels created by more than 30 individual textile artists in Kuwait and from the United States. Sheikha Altaf Al Sabah, founder and patron of Al Sadu Society, developed the idea in collaboration with local weavers, designers and textile artists to help engage the community in one of Kuwait's most beautiful and lasting artistic traditions.

Project Manager Shelby Allaho, independent crochet artist and textile collaborator, organized the contributions, working with 30 independent artists and makers to develop the woven panels around five themes reflecting the heritage of Kuwait: Traditional Kuwait, Modern Kuwait, Desert, Islamic Motifs and the Sea. For this exhibition, Sadu House also consulted with Lesli Robertson, an artist, Fulbright Specialist, and professor of fiber arts at the University of North Texas. Weaving, knitting, crochet, mixed media, dyeing, embroidery, macramé and other techniques were used in the creation of the panels, which were then combined to create the larger thematic stories representing Kuwait. All the panels are woven into a 'tent divider' frame reflecting the Bedouin tradition of the

desert tent. A communal loom was also set up for visitors to contribute to a community woven project. The exhibition is part of Al Sadu House's contribution to the celebrations marking Kuwait as the Capital of Islamic Culture 2016. Weaving Stories is an initiative by Al Sadu Society, under the patronage of Sheikha Altaf Al Sabah, made possible with the support of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the US Embassy and the Fulbright Program. The exhibition will be available for viewing at Al Shaheed Park until November 13 from 9am to 1pm and 4pm to 9pm in the Multipurpose Hall.



Ali H. Al-Youha, Secretary General of Kuwait's National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters weaves using the communal loom set up at the Weaving Stories exhibition from Sadu House at Al-Shaheed Park Monday evening.



Weaving Stories - Contributing Artists

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Abdullah Al-Hussainan | Manal Al Maimooni |
| Afifa Behbehani | Marlyn Kamal Youssef |
| Amal Al Fadel | Muneera Al Houti |
| Antonio da Silva | Muthaira Muslim |
| Arwa Saifuddin | Naheda Al Baqsa |
| Aisha Khalid | Nawal Al Baker |
| Ceyda Oskay | Ranju Gandhi |
| Faiza Al Amiri | Seta Naser Mohammad |
| Ghada Ibraheem Al Moosa | Shelby Allaho |
| Hayfa Al Mughni | Suad Murad |
| Hanan Al Kazemi | Suzanne Mannolini |
| Kanwal Zarien Bukhari | Uzma Nadeem |
| Khayt Group members | Wafaa Al Kandari |
| Laila Al Sulaiman | Zahra'a Ebrahimi |
| Laila Yasser | Fiber Arts Program |
| Lesli Robertson | Students, University of North Texas |

JUMEIRAH GROUP TAKES ICONIC BRAND EXPERIENCE TO KUWAIT

Jumeirah Group, the global luxury hotel company, has announced its annual GCC roadshow across key markets in the region, which will include a stop in Kuwait City on November 13, 2016 at the idyllic Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa, located in the secluded area of Messilah along the shores of the Arabian Gulf. The roadshow events, sponsored by Emirates and Royal Caribbean International, will highlight Jumeirah Group's latest offerings, including Jumeirah Al Naseem, the newest addition to its portfolio. Dubai based international comedian Nitin Mirani will entertain guests and the evening will feature a gala dinner and raffle draw. Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa features seven restaurants and stylish lounges, the tranquil Talise spa, and a stunning beachside. It is one of the most popular luxury resorts among Emirati and Saudi travelers in the GCC. Travelers from Kuwait are amongst the top five source markets across Jumeirah Group's portfolio of hotels around the world the group, and registered a 5% increase in room revenue for the first 10 months of this

year in comparison to the same period in 2015. Alison Broadhead, Chief Commercial Officer at Jumeirah Group said: "The Jumeirah Group properties are iconic throughout the world, offering the pinnacle of the Arabian hospitality experience combined with luxurious modern facilities and amenities. Guests from Kuwait are incredibly important to all of our hotels, and it is our pleasure to take this roadshow to our partners in the Kingdom, giving them a taster of our portfolio and what is yet to come from the Jumeirah Group. By meeting with our local partners and travel agents, we are able to develop a greater understanding of the needs of Kuwaiti travelers, in order to help us continuously improve our offerings to ensure we deliver an unforgettable experience with every Jumeirah stay." Guests can now book into Jumeirah Al Naseem, the latest addition to Madinat Jumeirah and to Jumeirah Groups' portfolio of hotels in Dubai. Meaning sea breeze in Arabic, Jumeirah Al Naseem is firmly anchored on the Arabian coast and on the city's longest stretch of private beach

offering unparalleled views to Burj Al Arab Jumeirah, whilst charting new waters in the Dubai luxury hospitality scene. The new 430-key beach resort is set to open on December 1, 2016 and will be previewed for Kuwaiti visitors during the roadshows. The youngest member of Jumeirah Group's successful Arabian Resort family of hotels will offer exquisite facilities, including over ten food and beverage outlets, five swimming pools, its own beach club, landscaped gardens and a custom designed seawater-fed turtle lagoon. The contemporary interior design of the large guest rooms is inspired by sand dunes, blue skies, sea breeze and Dubai's heritage of pearl diving and Bedouin traditions. In addition to the Jumeirah Al Naseem property, the roadshow events will showcase the Group's hotels and resorts in Maldives, Europe and the GCC. Earlier this year, the Group launched the Burj Al Arab Terrace, a 10,000m2 outdoor space that stretches 100 meters out into the sea, and comprises Scape Restaurant & Bar, two pools, dedicated butler-serviced cabanas, and a beach area with luxury day and sunbeds. The

Terrace is a world-first in marine and off-site construction, having been developed at a shipyard site in Finland, and then transported by ship to Dubai in eight pieces. The company will also soon

launch family-style five bedroom villas in its Jumeirah Vittaveli property, catering to the specific travel requirements of guests from Kuwait to The Maldives.

