



Behind the Frame: New Group Exhibition at ATHR Gallery in Jeddah Explores the unsung role of Art Handlers

ATHR is pleased to announce *Behind the Frames*, opening 17 September – 02 November 2025 at ATHR Gallery, Space 2 and 3, Office Towers Serafi Mall Tahlia St. Jeddah.

The exhibition is the culmination of weeks of introspection by our five dedicated art handlers at ATHR gallery. They have made a selection of artworks based on their interests and personal connections with the pieces, as well as the artists behind them. We invite visitors to delve into the minds of our art handlers and explore their favorite artworks.

While the artist often takes center stage, the vital role of the art handlers remains largely unseen. These skilled individuals transform bare gallery walls into meaningful spaces, carrying, installing, and protecting artworks throughout their journey. Their work combines technical expertise with curatorial insight, balancing logistics and conservation while ensuring that art is presented beautifully and safely.

As awareness grows around the systems supporting cultural production, this exhibition highlights these essential workers — the invisible infrastructure of the art world. Without them, exhibitions do not open, art does not move, and collections remain unseen.



Featuring works by: Asma Bahmim, Ayman Yossri Daydban, Dana Awartani, Haji Noor Deen, Moath Alofi, Mohammed Alfaraj, Rami Farook, Reem Al Nasser, Sara Abdu, and Sultan Bin Fahad.

About the Art Handlers:

ABDUSELAM AMZA

Art Handling Supervisor

Abduselam has been with Athr since its earliest days, playing a vital role in shaping the gallery's exhibitions and installations. A self-taught art handler, he has developed his technical expertise and precision through years of hands-on experience. His meticulous approach to handling and installing artworks has earned the trust of artists, collectors, and colleagues alike. Known for his reliability, leadership and keen attention to detail, Abduselam is an indispensable member of the team, ensuring that every work of art is cared for with the highest level of professionalism.

RAMADAN BAKHSH

Packing & Crating Specialist

Ramadan is ATHR's dedicated packing and crating specialist, bringing a wealth of knowledge and skill to the team. With over three decades of experience living in Saudi Arabia, and an intimate familiarity with Jeddah, he is an invaluable resource for both procurement and logistics. His deep understanding of materials—particularly textiles—plays a crucial role in production and installation, ensuring artworks are transported and displayed with the utmost care. Ramadan's craftsmanship, resourcefulness, and reliability make him an indispensable part of the gallery's operations.

OLI ABDUR RASHID

Art Handling Assistant

Oli plays a significant within ATHR's art handling team, providing steady support across exhibitions and installations. Having gained his skills through hands-on experience alongside senior art handlers, he continues to sharpen his expertise with each project. Known for his easygoing disposition and eagerness to learn, Oli brings a sense of calm and positivity to what is often a high-pressure, deadline-driven environment. His dedication, adaptability, and team spirit make him a trusted and integral member of the gallery's operations.

RAMON CABATUANDO

Technician & Workshop

Ramon is ATHR's lead technician and carpentry expert, bringing precision and craftsmanship to every project. Though he entered the field without a background in art, he has taught himself the skills of art handling and installation through dedication and experience. Ramon's technical expertise is central to realizing complex scenography and ensuring that artists' visions are faithfully brought to life. His resourcefulness, problem-solving mindset, and commitment to quality make him an indispensable member of the team.

**RONALD SENO*****Inventory Keeper***

Ronald is one of the newer members of ATHR's art handling team, yet his potential and professionalism have been evident from the very beginning. With a background in design and sketching, he provides valuable support in creating technical drawings for production, ensuring accuracy and clarity in execution. His experience in audio-visual setup further strengthens the gallery's exhibition capabilities, adding a versatile layer of expertise to the team. Ronald's keen attention to detail and strong grasp of inventory management make him exceptionally well-suited to oversee the movement and care of the gallery's collection. Reliable and multifaceted, he continues to grow into an indispensable member of the team.

JIMMY SANTOS***Warehouse Keeper***

Jimmy is the newest member of ATHR's art handling team, bringing with him an energy and positivity that uplift the entire workplace. Entrusted with the care and organization of the gallery's art storage, he approaches his role with dedication and a strong willingness to learn. His sunny disposition and collaborative nature make him a natural fit within ATHR's diverse team, fostering an atmosphere of trust and camaraderie. By combining his reliability with a genuine team spirit, Jimmy is steadily becoming an invaluable presence in the daily life of the gallery.

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