## Art on 56th

## Johanna Jonsson Abchee

Johanna Jonsson Abchee is a Swedish-Iraqi mirror designer, currently based in Beirut. Raised in Stockholm, she sought inspiration in her childhood travels, living between Saudi Arabia, Greece, Laos and Spain. She then moved to Beirut to pursue studies in advertising and marketing. After getting married and raising three children, Johanna began reflecting upon her own journey and experiences, both literally and metaphorically, through mirrors. In this vein, she expresses: "A mirror is the most intimate connection to yourself. It's shallow and profound at the same time, presenting you with a choice – to see the superficial or if you dare, go deeper."

Johanna launched Karma J in 2009 and quickly earned her spot as a newcoming artist at Beirut's Design Week in 2014. In 2016, she was then selected at La Serre in Dubai as an Aspiring Artist for a solo exhibition. That same year, Karma J was inaugurated in both the commercial and residential sectors in Dubai, as well as Beirut. She then won the International A Award in Italy for *The Rebel* in 2016.

Her path since teems with personal and professional growth, through reflections and the conception of new collections. She affirms: "Since knowledge is as infinite as the universe, the understanding of self (and of others) is an everlasting journey."

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Art on 56th Gallery is an independent visual art gallery in Beirut, Lebanon. It was founded by Noha Wadi Moharram in 2012, and is rooted in Gemmayzeh, the capital's booming artistic and cultural neighbourhood.

In addition to presenting a roster of local artists to an international audience, the gallery's mission is to promote both established and emerging contemporary artists from the Middle East and beyond. This results in a colourful exchange, highlighting the powerful meaning of images and creativity within a society.

The gallery exhibits artworks in a large variety of media, including painting, sculpture, work on paper, photography and video installation.

**Opening Hours:** 

Tuesday – Friday: 10 - 7 pm

Saturdays: 10 - 6 pm

Sundays and Mondays: Closed