

JEWELRY

Bulgari announces inaugural winner of Bulgari Contemporary Art Award

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Dubai-based artist Nima Nabavi at the Italy Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai. Image credit: Bulgari

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Italian jeweler Bulgari, in partnership with Dubai Culture, has named the winner of the first edition of the Bulgari Contemporary Art Award.

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The winner, Dubai-based artist Nima Nabavi, was announced during a ceremony at the Italy Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai. The winner was chosen from a shortlist of three artworks selected by the award's jury.

Art of the city

The Bulgari Contemporary Art Award was launched in 2021, calling on UAE national and resident artists to submit artworks that reflect the theme "Beauty Connects People." With this, artists crafted pieces that expressed how beauty connects people, and how cities like Dubai and Rome are connected to that beauty and inspiration.

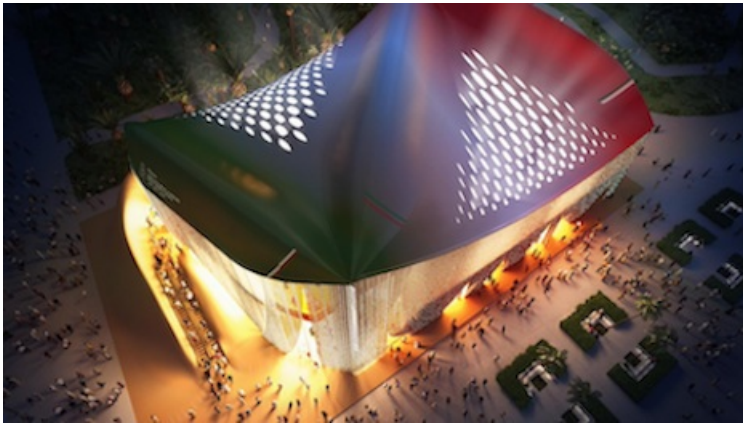
A panel of three artists and experts, Giuseppe Moscatello, Nujoom Alghanem and Patricia Millns FRSA, visited the exhibition held in February at the Van de Goudenberg Art Gallery in Dubai's International Financial Centre spotlighting the participating works.

The committee then shortlisted three artists from the 15 artworks: Mr. Nabavi, Juma AlHaj and Kamal Alzubi.

As the winner, Mr. Nabavi received a trophy that combines a silhouette reminiscent of Bulgari's iconic doorways and storefronts with architectural ornaments inspired by Dubai's Al Fahidi and Al Shindagha historical neighborhoods.

The trophy's materials also hold great cultural significance with a frame fabricated from the woods of the UAE's national tree, Al Ghaf, a symbol of heritage. The design also utilizes native mother-of-pearl inlaid motifs as well as brass.

Bulgari continues supporting artistic efforts that blend house heritage with cultural influences.



Bulgari brought its Italian savoir-faire to the Dubai Expo 2020. Image credit: Bulgari

Last fall, Bulgari highlighted #MadeInItaly art and craftsmanship through a series of initiatives as the official platinum sponsor of the Italy Pavilion at Dubai Expo 2020.

With this partnership, the jeweler aimed to enrich the narrative journey through art and beauty that explore Italian excellence. Inspired by the Expo's slogan "connecting minds, creating the future," Bulgari aimed to enhance the concept of beauty from an Italian perspective ([see story](#)).

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