Snapshot: ‘Farah Al Qasimi’

The photographer captures both private and public spaces, while luring the viewer into complex narratives surrounding gender and national identity.

'Baviary' (2019) © Farah Al Qasimi

Jessica Heron-Langton AUGUST 9, 2019

Born in Abu Dhabi and raised between the UAE and the US, Brooklyn-based artist Farah Al Qasimi creates decorative and distinctive images.

Borrowing conventions from documentary photography and Renaissance painting, the 28-year-old photographer captures both private and public spaces, while luring the viewer into complex narratives surrounding gender and national identity.

“I’m trying to communicate that [life in the Emirates] is a lot more complex than many people assume it is,” said Al Qasimi in a recent interview. “And I mean even the people who are very familiar with it, who are from there, who have grown up there.”

'Farah Al Qasimi’ is showing at the MIT List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts to October 20

Follow @FTLifeArts on Twitter to find out about our latest stories first. Listen and subscribe to Culture Call, a transatlantic conversation from the FT, at ft.com/culture-call or on Apple
Podcasts

Copyright The Financial Times Limited 2019. All rights reserved.