



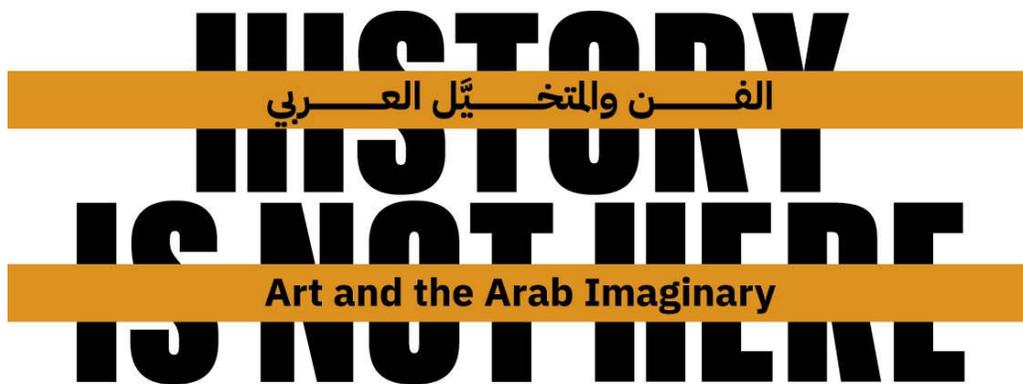
MINNESOTA  
MUSEUM of  
AMERICAN ART

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[Press images available here >>](#)

## Minnesota Museum of American Art and Mizna Partner to Present an Int'l Roster of Work by Arab Artists



MINNESOTA MUSEUM  
of AMERICAN ART

SEPT. 12 – JAN. 5

**mizna aïo**

Exhibition run dates: September 12, 2019 – January 5, 2020  
Minnesota Museum of American Art | Main Gallery

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### **\*\*PRESS PREVIEW\*\***

Tues., Sept. 10, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

The curators will be present and available for interviews. Refreshments will be served.

RSVP to [sschouweiler@gmail.com](mailto:sschouweiler@gmail.com).

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St. Paul, MN, Aug. 20, 2019: Minnesota Museum of American Art (the M) and Mizna, a St. Paul-based Arab arts organization, are proud to announce the exhibition, *History Is Not Here: Art and the Arab Imaginary*, which will open at the M on Sept. 12.

Coinciding with the twentieth anniversary of Mizna's flagship art and literary journal, the exhibition's roster is selected from the list of artists highlighted in its pages: Hamdi Attia, Basel Abbas and Ruanne Abou Rahme, Osama Esid, Fadlabi, Adelita Husni-Bey, Emily Jacir, Yazan Khalili, Joe Namy, Monira al Qadiri, Alaa Satir, Zineb Sedira, Athir Shayota, Nida Sinnokrot, Walid Siti, Raed Yassin, and Ala Younis.

This exhibition recognizes the so-called Arab world and its diaspora as multiform, made up of 22 countries with distinct histories as well as diverse ethnicities, languages, and religions. Through visual art, book art, installation, and video, the exhibition's 17 U.S.-based and international artists engage the "Arab imaginary" as a strategy for examining various social, cultural, and political positions, making connections between contemporary geopolitics and the histories that inform them.

These artists address challenges in representation, including misunderstandings, missteps, and the limiting and problematic terms that are often used to define the region, especially in the U.S. *History Is Not Here* rejects the idea of history as a fixed category and looks to alternative imagery and language structures from which new "imaginaries" can be generated.

*History Is Not Here* is curated by Heba Y. Amin (visual artist and curator of visual art for Mizna) and Maymanah Farhat (writer and independent curator), in collaboration with the M.

*This exhibition is supported, in part, with generous funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, St. Paul Cultural STAR, and Marbrook Foundation.*

For information about the exhibition and its related events, visit [mmaa.org/historyisnothere](http://mmaa.org/historyisnothere).

**\*\*[High-res press images available online.](#)\*\***

## **Key Dates:**

- **PRESS PREVIEW: Tues., Sept. 10, 10 – 11:30 a.m.**  
The curators will be present and available for interviews. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to [sschouweiler@gmail.com](mailto:sschouweiler@gmail.com).
- **[OPENING PARTY: Thurs., Sept. 12, 6 - 9 p.m.](#) \* Remarks at 7 p.m.**  
Admission is free \* RSVP requested \* Donation suggested  
Cash bar and music by DJ Yasmeenah. M members and Mizna subscribers get a free drink ticket.
- **OPENING DAY: Thurs., Sept. 12, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

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**Minnesota Museum of American Art** is one of the oldest visual arts organizations in Minnesota, with roots stretching back to the 19th century. Based in St. Paul, the M currently holds more than 5,000 artworks that showcase the unique voices of American artists, guided by the belief that art should reflect the constantly shifting landscape that defines the American experience. The M just opened its new museum facility in the Historic Pioneer Endicott in December 2018 and will expand further, with additional permanent collection galleries scheduled to open in 2021.

**Hours (beginning Sept. 12) \* Free Admission**

Mon. & Tues. – Closed

Wed., Fri., Sat. & Sun., 11 – 5 | Thurs., 11 – 8

**Address:** 350 Robert Street North, St. Paul, MN, 55101

**Note:** *The museum will be closed for installation of the exhibition from August 26 through September 11.*