

## **Riyadh Art Unveils 'Echoes of Land' Exhibition by Italian Artist Davide Rivalta at Al-Nafal Park**

**February 25, 2025, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia** – Riyadh Art, led by the Royal Commission for Riyadh City (RCRC) in partnership with the Italian Embassy in Riyadh, has unveiled a collection of contemporary sculptures by Italian artist Davide Rivalta. As part of a broader cultural collaboration between RCRC and the Italian Embassy, this initiative brings contemporary public art to Al-Nafal Park, located in Riyadh's Diplomatic Quarter. The bronze sculptures highlight Riyadh Art's commitment to cultural dialogue and expanding access to public art.

### **Davide Rivalta: Exploring the Relationship Between Nature and Urban Spaces**

Born in 1974, Davide Rivalta is renowned for his striking, life-sized sculptures of animals, distinguished by their raw, textured surfaces. His work captures the untamed essence of wildlife, prompting viewers to reflect on their connection with the natural world. Rivalta's sculptures have been exhibited in cities across the globe, with this latest installation marking his first contribution to Riyadh Art's public art program.

### **'Echoes of Land' – A Tribute to Nature and Cultural Heritage**

Under the theme *Echoes of Land*, the installation at Al-Nafal Park features majestic depictions of a cheetah, lion, lioness, and buffalo, symbolizing the region's deep-rooted connection to wildlife. These sculptures highlight the intersection of nature and urban life, encouraging public engagement and contemplation of the Kingdom's environmental and cultural heritage.

This installation also brings attention to conservation efforts, particularly for species like the cheetah, which once thrived in the Arabian Peninsula. By introducing these sculptural representations to Riyadh, Rivalta's work serves as a reminder of the delicate balance between human development and natural ecosystems.

### **A Cultural Dialogue Through Public Art**

As part of Riyadh Art's broader vision, this installation strengthens the city's cultural dialogue and international artistic collaborations. Curated as part of the program's commitment to integrating contemporary art into public spaces, the collaboration with Davide Rivalta highlights the value of meaningful artistic exchanges.

Speaking about the significance of the project, Omar AlBraik, Senior Director of Public Art at the Royal Commission for Riyadh City (RCRC), stated, "Working on this collaboration with Davide Rivalta has been an enriching process that aligns with Riyadh Art's commitment to engaging the public through meaningful artistic interventions. Art has the power to transform public spaces, spark conversations, and connect people with their surroundings in ways that are both profound and unexpected. By bringing Rivalta's work to Riyadh, we continue to expand the city's artistic landscape, ensuring that diverse voices and creative perspectives are accessible to all."

## Riyadh Art: Expanding Public Art in Saudi Arabia

With the unveiling of this installation, Riyadh Art continues its mission to transform Riyadh into a global cultural destination. Since its launch in 2019, Riyadh Art has installed over 550 public artworks, engaged 500+ local and international artists, and hosted 6,500 community engagement activities, attracting 9.6 million visitors and spectators. These efforts contribute to Saudi Vision 2030's goal of enhancing the Kingdom's cultural and creative economy.

Through initiatives like this, Riyadh Art expands access to contemporary art, enhances public spaces, and strengthens cultural dialogue by bringing diverse artistic perspectives to the city's evolving landscape.

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### About Riyadh Art

Riyadh, the capital city of Saudi Arabia, is on a 10-year mission to become one of the world's most livable and competitive cities, a global center which is open for business and that welcomes the world. With a young and rapidly growing population of 7+ million residents, Riyadh is transforming into a vibrant and cosmopolitan metropolis.

Art and culture reflect the spirit of a city. That's why the Riyadh Art project has been developed to turn the whole capital into a creative canvas – a gallery without walls – to enrich lives, ignite creative expression and kindle the creative economy. Riyadh Art is a demonstration of the open, accessible and creative transformation of the capital, where the exchange of ideas through creative expression develops a deeper sense of mutual understanding and respect.

The Riyadh Art project will have a positive impact on people, bringing everyday moments of joy to residents and visitors alike, while instilling a greater sense of civic pride and creating a more beautiful city for everyone to enjoy. It will also spark the development of the new creative economy and have a positive effect on attracting new businesses to invest in the city.

For more information about Riyadh Art and its initiatives, visit [www.riyadhart.sa](http://www.riyadhart.sa) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

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