



# art exchange

## PUBLIC PROGRAMME

### LAUNCH PARTY!

**Thursday 3 October, 6–8 pm**  
Join us in raising a glass to the amazing work of Farah Al Qasimi.  
Speeches at 6.30 pm  
Refreshments served.

### ARTIST'S TALK:

**Thursday 24 October, 6–8 pm**  
Join artist Farah Al Qasimi in conversation with curator Jess Twyman.  
Followed by Q&A.  
Refreshments and Dan's dahl served.

### LUNCHTIME TOUR:

**Wednesday 30 October, 1–2 pm**  
Come along for a tour of 'Abort, Retry, Fail' and find out more about the ideas and inspiration behind the show.

### FILM NIGHT:

**Escaping isn't always something bad**  
**Thurs 7 November, 6 - 7.30 pm**  
Join us for a screening of short films by artists Ahaad Alamoudi, Adham Faramawy Zein Majali, Farah Al Qasimi and Larissa Sansour.  
Followed by Q&A.  
Refreshments and Dan's dahl served.

### WEEKEND TOUR:

**Saturday 9 November, 2–3 pm**  
Art Exchange's curators will take us on a tour of Farah Al Qasimi's exhibition.

### **ALL WELCOME**

**All our events are FREE.**  
No need to book – just turn up.  
For further information visit  
[www.artexchange.org.uk](http://www.artexchange.org.uk)

FAIL

>01.10.24

>09.11.24



**FARAH  
AL QASIMI**  
ABORT,  
RETRY,  
FAIL

>01.10.24

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# FARAH AL QASIMI

ABORT,  
RETRY,  
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Through photography and film, Farah Al Qasimi captures glimpses of everyday life and the entangled relationship between identity, gender and colonial legacy.

'Abort, Retry, Fail' takes its title from the computer error message that flashes up on Farah Al Qasimi's now defunct family computer. It connected her to the outside world in the early days of dial up internet and until its recent malfunction, it was a portal to escape from reality through gaming – as a pirate, a gun slinging biker, or a tiny ball bouncing off the edges of the screen.

This exhibition brings together photography and film in an index of attempts to transcend the natural world through entering fictional realities. We see gamers transported elsewhere – absorbed in fantasy realms of exploration, escapism and play. Interspersed amongst these images are photographs that capture overlooked moments of everyday life, where seemingly mundane places and objects converge in an attempt to reveal our estranged relationship to the natural world.

Our sometimes complex relationship with nature is further explored in Farah Al Qasimi's film 'Signs of Life' also on show at Art Exchange.

## ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

**Farah Al Qasimi** (b. 1991, UAE) lives between New York and Abu Dhabi. She received her Master of Fine Arts in Photography and Music from the Yale School of Art in 2017. Since then, her work has been acquired by prominent collections including Museum of Modern Art, New York; Guggenheim Museum, New York; Guggenheim, Abu Dhabi; Centre Pompidou, Paris; and Tate Modern, London where she has a room dedicated to her work.

Solo exhibitions include The Third Line (2024), Delfina Foundation, London (2023) DC/O Berlin (2023); The Art Gallery of Western Australia (2023); Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (2021); Wayne State University Undergraduate Library, (2020); and Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai (2019). In spring 2020, Public Art Fund showed her photographs at over 100 bus stops across New York City.

Her book *Hello Future*, published by Capricious in 2021, was shortlisted that same year for the Aperture Foundation Photobook Prize.

This exhibition was originally commissioned by Delfina Foundation with the generous support of Abu Dhabi Festival and Delfina's Family of Supporters. We are also immensely grateful for the support of The Third Line.