



Contemparabia is a non-profit initiative providing a unique opportunity to experience the extent of cultural activities in the Gulf and the Levant, which takes place from 7-19 March 2010.

Following the success of the inaugural year and the unprecedented worldwide media interest it created, Contemparabia 2010 incorporates the most exciting new cultural destinations in Beirut, Amman, Damascus as well as the established tour across the Gulf including Art Dubai.

Each featured city has a full programme that incorporates artists' studio visits, special performances, music/live events, gallery tours, visits to private collections and homes, architectural tours, private visits to fashion designers' showrooms, historical tours, etc. as well as meeting key practitioners, art patrons and figures in each city.

Some of the highlights will include; special event with The Royal Film Commission in Amman, a presentation of visions and plans for the Red Sea Institute of Cinematic School. In Damascus, Contemparabia guests will be taken for a guided tour with the architect Hakam Roukbi of Beit Farhi, the home of the successful banker and chief nancial adviser to the Ottoman sultanate, followed by visits to cutting edge galleries and a hosted event at Villa Moda, a converted 15th century stable. After arrival in Beirut, the guests will be taken on a walking tour of Beirut through artists' eyes with the artist Zena El Khalil and designer and owner of Bokja,

Maria Hibri. There will be a special trip to Said with the Arab Image Foundation and architect Youssef Haidar and hosted events at all galleries as well as visits to a hosted Dia Diwan reception with established and emerging fashion designers.

The program gives a key insight into the cultural landscape and artistic practice in the region and provides the chance to meet like-minded individuals whilst enjoying a tailored program that goes beyond a touristic experience of the Middle East.

Spanning the Levant and Gulf region, Contemparabia has become an ideal platform for launching new initiatives and exhibitions and promotes dialogue, exchange of ideas and collaboration. It is a growing initiative without boundaries and aims to extend its scope of cultural itineraries around the region.

*Image Logo and Text courtesy of Contemparabia 2010
www.contemparabia.com*