

Invitation to Attend and Cover the Press Conference:
An Artistic Demonstration for Gaza
Standing against the systematic erasure of Palestinians and their culture



Press conference and tour: Wednesday, February 7, 2024| 11:00-14:00

Opening to the public: Sunday, February 11, 2024| 14:00

The Palestinian Museum is honoured to invite you to attend and cover the press conference scheduled to be held prior to the reopening of its doors to the public. This reopening follows a nearly four-month-long closure since the start of the latest Israeli aggression and the ongoing genocidal war on the Gaza Strip. It takes the form of an artistic demonstration through which we will raise our voices loudly against the massacres and the attempts to erase and systematically annihilate Palestinians and our culture.

Speakers: Palestinian Museum Director General Amer Shomali; Palestinian Museum Board of Directors member Ehab Bseisso, PhD; artist Shareef Sarhan; and artist Tayseer Barakat.

Press Conference Itinerary:

- A 10-minute tour of *Women of Gaza*.
- A 10-minute tour of *The Disappeared*.
- A 20-minute tour of *This is Not an Exhibition*.
- Q&A and the chance to conduct interviews.
- Time allotted for internal and external photography.

This demonstration will take form through three parallel exhibition spaces mindfully designed to respond to this fateful moment:

For the **first space**, Eltiqa Art Gallery and Shababek for contemporary art have been invited to use the main exhibition hall of the Palestinian Museum as their space after the flames of war swallowed their spaces in Gaza. In this space, they present to us *This is Not an Exhibition*. This effort brings together more than 280 artworks by over 100 Palestinian Gazan artists that have been collected from West Bank homes, galleries, institutions and universities throughout historic Palestine, in partnership with more than 50 individual and institutional lenders. This moving act of solidarity was made possible by collective efforts that recognised the significance of this mission.

The **second space** is entitled *The Disappeared*, a solo exhibition by the artist Tayseer Barakat hosted in the Glass Gallery. Through the works that comprise it, Barakat has created a world built on loss in the broadest sense: of life and a sense of time, place, and ourselves, and thus our very existence.

The **third space**, *Women of Gaza*, is an ethnographic display in the Museum lobby comprised of traditional *thobes* (dresses) and jewellery. It tells the story of Gaza in all its details of creativity and material solidarity in the face of violent displacement, thus bearing witness to the eternal love embedded in the immortal heritage binding together the women of Palestine. It is the story of a past that has not passed and a future that has now begun.

We hope to see you there.

For any inquiries and to confirm your attendance, we ask that you contact the Palestinian Museum Media Coordinator

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