**Press Release**

**Louvre Abu Dhabi Brings New Digital Experiences to**

**Audiences at Home**

* *Enhanced digital assets and activities allow the public to immerse themselves in the museum’s collection and exhibitions*
* *New features include a 360-degree virtual tour of the museum’s latest international exhibition, “Furusiyya: The Art of Chivalry Between East and West”, available* [*here*](https://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/art/exhibitions/furusiyya-the-art-of-chivalry-between-east-and-west)
* *All digital assets are accessible for free on Louvre Abu Dhabi’s* [*website*](http://www.louvreabudhabi.ae) *and social media channels. Stay tuned for additional programmes to launch in the coming weeks.*

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**Abu Dhabi, 20 April 2020**: Louvre Abu Dhabi is adding to its digital offering, providing free access to more content through virtual tours, video, audio and downloadable activities. This development brings Louvre Abu Dhabi’s stories of cultural connections – of its artworks and exhibitions – to audiences around the world, ensuring that the museum remains accessible.

“While Louvre Abu Dhabi is temporarily closed, our mission of sharing stories of cultural connections continues,” said **Manuel Rabaté, Director of Louvre Abu Dhabi**. “Turning to art in difficult times can be truly inspiring and rewarding. Louvre Abu Dhabi has been developing and adding to its digital offerings, providing further access to rich content and enhancing the experience for our audiences from the comfort of their own homes. New digital features include a virtual 360-tour of our most recent exhibition, as well as online resources and activities that bring our collection to life. We will continue to tell the stories of our museum, with the hope that they offer solace, peace and inspiration,” he added.

The first phase of Louvre Abu Dhabi’s expanded digital offering includes **exploration and discovery** of the museum’s collection and exhibitions through Louvre Abu Dhabi’s website, mobile app and “Art From Home” online resources;**make and play**, a series of online videos and colouring activities for families and children; and rich digital **learning resources** for teachers to engage with their students.

The museum will launch additional programmes in the coming weeks and months, including immersive audio and virtual tours of the permanent galleries, an immersive science fiction experience of the museum’s iconic architecture, excerpts from Louvre Abu Dhabi’s publications available on the website, enhanced content on past exhibitions, and more.

Louvre Abu Dhabi is also a part of CulturAll, a new initiative launched by the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi to bring the emirate’s cultural landmarks online for audiences to enjoy their offerings from home. Follow @abudhabiculture and #CulturAll and stay tuned for experiences from the museum.

**EXPLORE AND DISCOVER**

**360 Virtual Tour of *Furusiyya: The Art of Chivalry Between East and West***

Audiences can still experience Louvre Abu Dhabi’s most recent international exhibition through a 360 virtual tour available on the museum’s website. *Furusiyya: The Art of Chivalry Between East and West* explores the ancient roots of chivalry and how distinct practices of combat and knightly values led to a specific culture in the Islamic East and the largely Christian West.

In this virtual tour, visitors can navigate throughout the entire exhibition and select 18 of the artworks on view for a closer look through clicking on a digital tag. Pieces include Louvre Abu Dhabi’s spectacular *Ottoman Horse Armour* from the late 15th century, installed alongside a European *Horse and Knight Armour* from the first quarter of the 16th century, on loan from Musée de l'armée; a cameo from 260 A.D. depicting the *Fight between Emperor Valerian and King Shapur* from the collections of Bibliothèque Nationale de France; and the Turban Helmet of *Sultan Bajazet II* from Musée de l’armée, among other works.

The virtual tour is accessible [here](https://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/art/exhibitions/furusiyya-the-art-of-chivalry-between-east-and-west). Captions for artworks are available in English, French, and Arabic.

Additional digital content for the exhibition includes an audio tour of the exhibition available on Louvre Abu Dhabi’s mobile app and website, an interactive young visitor’s guide that can be downloaded from the website, and an e-version of the exhibition catalogue that is available free of charge during the museum’s closure.

**Art from Home: Stories of Cultural Connections**

In this online resource, Louvre Abu Dhabi brings its collection to the public through a multi-sensory experience available on the museum’s website. Masterpieces from the collection are brought to life through a visual demonstration offering a closer look at the features of the artwork, an audio recording sharing an in-depth story of the piece, and easy-to-use activities, including colouring pages, that parents can download for their children.

Art from Home is accessible at [www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/art/online-content](http://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/art/online-content).

**Louvre Abu Dhabi’s Mobile App**

Discover the artworks of the museum galleries and the international exhibitions virtually through Louvre Abu Dhabi’s mobile application. The app contains more than 150 audio pieces, videos, text, pictures and 3D views of the museum’s architecture and artwork, and is available in seven languages including English, Arabic, French, German, Hindi, Mandarin, and Russian.

The Louvre Abu Dhabi’s mobile app is free to download from [Google Play](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nous.ladguide.prod) or [Apple Store](https://apps.apple.com/ae/app/louvre-abu-dhabi-guide/id1300130209) for both smartphones and tablets.

**MAKE AND PLAY**

A series of short educational videos for the whole family to create art inspired by the collection using simple materials.

Make and Play videos are accessible at [www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/learn/Online-activities](https://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/learn/Online-activities).

**LEARNING RESOURCES**

Designed for children, educators and families, Louvre Abu Dhabi’s learning resources aim to enhance the visitors’ experience and extend it to classrooms and homes through engaging questions and interactive activities. The learning resources invite young and adult visitors to learn actively and make strong connections with the collection and the exhibitions by taking the lead as self-guides who direct their own experiences.

The free-to-download resources include: Educator’s Flashcards, Self-led Guides, Explore and Discover activities, Educator Resources Portfolio activities sheets, Educator Resources Portfolio Map, Educator Resources Portfolio resource guide, *Furusiyya: The Art of Chivalry Between East and West* Educators Guide, *Furusiyya: The Art of Chivalry Between East and West* Young Visitor’s Guide, a Museum Chatterbox, in addition to many other resources on previous international exhibitions and Children’s Museum exhibitions.

Learning Resources are accessible at <https://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/learn/learning-resources>.

All digital content is available in three languages (Arabic, English and French) and is accessible through Louvre Abu Dhabi’s website [www.louvreabudhabi.ae](https://www.louvreabudhabi.ae/en/learn/learning-resources) and social media accounts: Facebook (Louvre Abu Dhabi), Twitter (@LouvreAbuDhabi) and Instagram (@LouvreAbuDhabi).

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**Notes to editors**

Follow Louvre Abu Dhabi on social media: Facebook ([Louvre Abu Dhabi](https://www.facebook.com/LouvreAbuDhabi)), Twitter ([@LouvreAbuDhabi](https://twitter.com/LouvreAbuDhabi)) and Instagram ([@LouvreAbuDhabi](http://instagram.com/LouvreAbuDhabi)) #LouvreAbuDhabi

**ABOUT LOUVRE ABU DHABI**

Created by an exceptional agreement between the governments of Abu Dhabi and France, Louvre Abu Dhabi was designed by Jean Nouvel and opened on Saadiyat Island in November 2017. The museum is inspired by traditional Islamic architecture and its monumental dome creates a rain of light effect and a unique social space that brings people together.

Louvre Abu Dhabi celebrates the universal creativity of mankind and invites audiences to see humanity in a new light. Through its innovative curatorial approach, the museum focuses on building understanding across cultures: through stories of human creativity that transcend civilisations, geographies and times.

The museum’s growing collection is unparalleled in the region and spans thousands of years of human history, including prehistoric tools, artefacts, religious texts, iconic paintings and contemporary artworks. The permanent collection is supplemented by rotating loans from 13 French partner institutions, regional and international museums.

Louvre Abu Dhabi is a testing ground for new ideas in a globalised world and champions new generations of cultural leaders. Its international exhibitions, programming and Children’s Museum are inclusive platforms that connect communities and offer enjoyment for all.

**ABOUT MUSÉE DU LOUVRE**

The Louvre in Paris opened in 1793, during the French Revolution, and from the very beginning was intended to provide inspiration for contemporary art. Courbet, Picasso, Dalí and so many others came to its hallowed halls to admire the old masters, copy them, immerse themselves in masterpieces and improve and fuel their own art. As an ancient royal residence, the Louvre is inextricably linked to eight centuries of French history. As a universal museum, its collections, among the best in the world, span many millennia and miles, from the Americas to Asia. Over 38,000 artworks are grouped into eight curatorial departments, including universally admired works such as the Mona Lisa, the Winged Victory of Samothrace and the Venus de Milo. With 9.6 million guests in 2019, the Louvre is the most visited museum in the world. Open since 2012, the Islamic Art Department of the Louvre presents more than 3,000 objects, spanning 1,300 years of history and three continents, from Spain to Southeast Asia.

**ABOUT SAADIYAT CULTURAL DISTRICT**

[Saadiyat Cultural District](http://www.saadiyatculturaldistrict.ae/) on Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi, is devoted to culture and the arts. An ambitious cultural undertaking for the 21st century, it will be a nucleus for global culture, attracting local, regional and international guests with unique exhibitions, permanent collections, productions and performances. Its groundbreaking buildings will form a historical statement of the finest 21st century architecture; [Zayed National Museum](http://www.saadiyatculturaldistrict.ae/en/saadiyat-cultural-district/zayed-national-museum/), [Louvre Abu Dhabi](http://www.saadiyatculturaldistrict.ae/en/saadiyat-cultural-district/louvre-abu-dhabi/) and [Guggenheim Abu Dhabi](http://www.saadiyatculturaldistrict.ae/en/saadiyat-cultural-district/guggenheim-abu-dhabi/). These museums will complement and collaborate with local and regional arts and cultural institutions including universities and research centres.

**ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND TOURISM – ABU DHABI**

The Department of Culture and Tourism conserves and promotes the heritage and culture of Abu Dhabi emirate and leverages them in the development of a world-class, sustainable destination of distinction, which enriches the lives of visitors and residents alike. The organisation manages the emirate’s tourism sector and markets the destination internationally through a wide range of activities aimed at attracting visitors and investment. Its policies, plans and programmes relate to the preservation of heritage and culture, including protecting archaeological and historical sites and to developing museums, including Zayed National Museum, Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, and Louvre Abu Dhabi. DCT Abu Dhabi supports intellectual and artistic activities and cultural events to nurture a rich cultural environment and honour the emirate’s heritage. A key role is to create synergy in the destination’s development through close coordination with its wide-ranging stakeholder base.