

Press Release

## Rana Samara portrays her Inner Sanctuary at Zawyeh Gallery, Dubai

The solo exhibition '*Inner Sanctuary*' explores the artist's own intimate personal space

May 2022 -Zawyeh Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of a new exhibition at Alserkal Avenue, Dubai titled *Inner Sanctuary* by the young Palestinian artist Rana Samara. Opening on 22 May, the exhibition showcases a body of work focusing on the exploration of her own intimate space from an emotional perspective.

Samara depicts the inside of her world with fine details incorporating daily objects and furnishing. She explores her personal space; the lounge, the bedroom, the corners in her favorite café and other familiar places. Samara uses colors, motifs, and shapes to convey her sentiments showing her content, calmness, anxiety, or frustration, even though she leaves out one central aspect: humans. Her series is a bid to capture traces of precious moments that people leave behind. Her paintings are clearly influenced by her deep sentiments towards those places.

The work is executed using the artist's unique signature of charming vibrant colors and stunning decorative motifs. The exhibition presents large paintings as well as small sized ones on the contrary to her previous exhibitions which consisted of large scale canvases.

Samara is a Palestinian artist who was born in Jerusalem. Her previous project, *Intimate Space*, explored societal norms, sexuality, gender roles and other factors of daily lives of women who reside in overcrowded refugee camps and rural communities in Palestine. In this project, she turns the focus inwards towards her own experience.

Samara has participated in a number of exhibitions and art fairs including Contemporary Istanbul (2019), Art Dubai (2017 & 2019) and Beirut Art Fair (2017).

The exhibition runs until 28 August 2022 daily from 11 am - 7 pm



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