

# lilia ben salah

Art Dubai Digital 2026

Amal Abdenour & Zoulikha Bouabdellah

Booth X21

17-19.04.2026



Zoulikha Bouabdellah, *Envers-Endroit*, 2016

Still, 2 Channel Video, 6 mn, color & sound

Edition of 6

© Zoulikha Bouabdellah / Adagp, Paris

Courtesy Zoulikha Bouabdellah & lilia ben salah

For Art Dubai Digital 2026, Galerie lilia ben salah brings together **Amal Abdenour** (1931–2020) and **Zoulikha Bouabdellah** (b. 1977) in an intergenerational dialogue that places Arab women artists at the intersection of technology, history, transmission, embodiment, and memory.

Rather than approaching the digital as rupture or spectacle, the presentation traces a lineage. It reveals how different technological moments, from early electrographic processes to contemporary digital environments, become tools through which the body records displacement, experience, and political presence across time.

Academically trained in the fine arts, Amal Abdenour moved from mural and fresco traditions toward experimental media, becoming a pioneer of electrography. Beginning in the late 1960s, she developed radical uses of the first photocopier in France, producing intimate corporeal imprints that fused abstraction with lived and diasporic histories. In her work, technology becomes an apparatus through which memory is fixed, transmitted, and made visible.

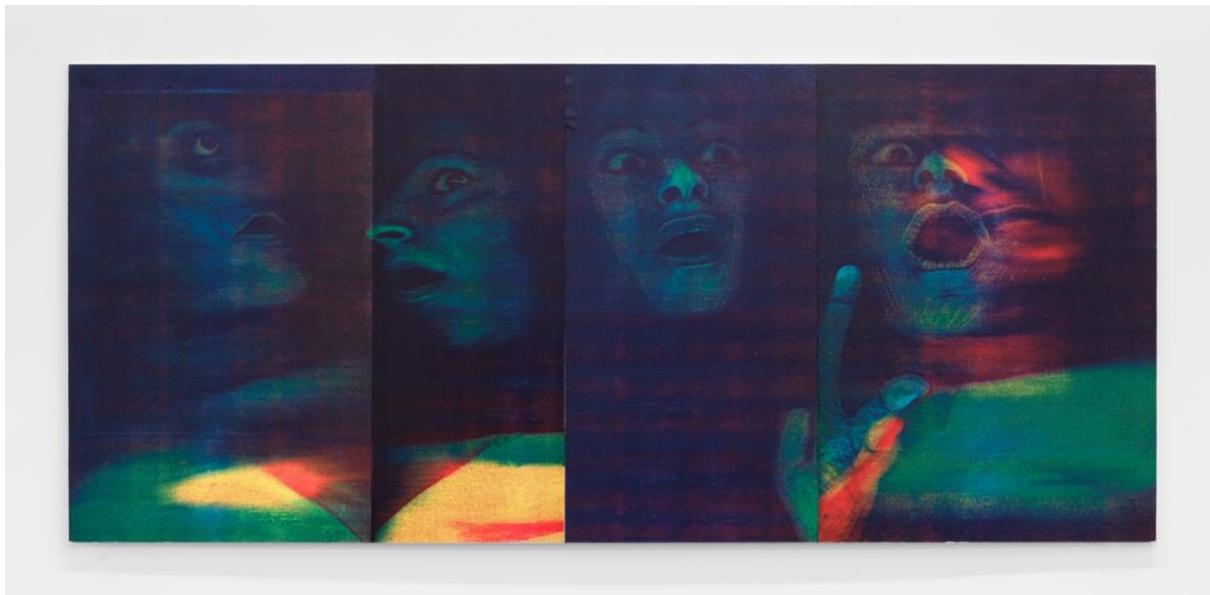
Working across video, installation, and photography, Zoulikha Bouabdellah extends this trajectory into digital media. Her practice unfolds through spatial and ornamental vocabularies, activating

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gesture, repetition, and participation. The body appears as both interface and witness, carrying history while continually reshaping it.

By placing these two artists in dialogue, Galerie lilia ben salah proposes a vision of digital art grounded in continuity. Technology emerges not as novelty, but as a medium through which memory persists, circulates, and becomes embodied again.

This presentation affirms the decisive role of Arab women artists in shaping experimental visual languages across generations, offering a perspective that is at once historical and urgently contemporary.



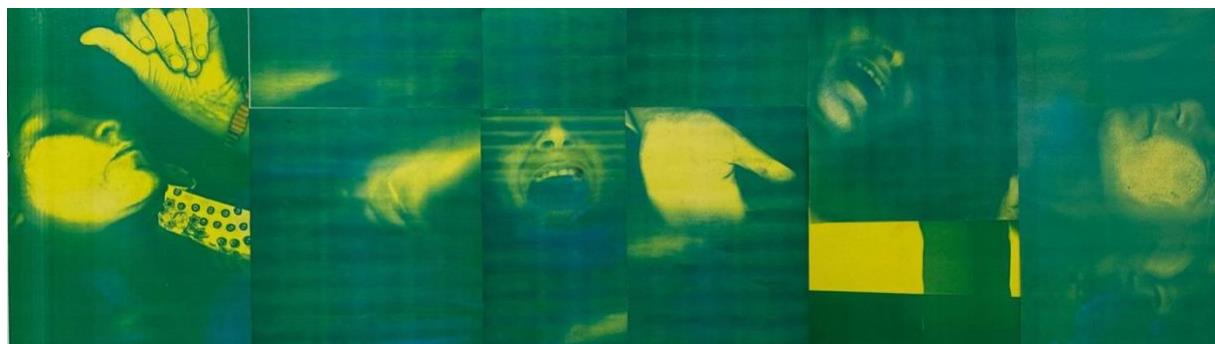
Amal Abdenour  
*Maman ne pleure pas ! Je suis bien ! 1, 1974-79*  
Electrography on Ranxerox  
41 x 93 cm (16 1/8 x 36 5/8 in.)  
© Enseigne des Oudin  
Courtesy Enseigne des Oudin & lilia ben salah

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## About Amal Abdenour (1931–2020)

Amal Abdenour was a French-Palestinian artist whose life and practice unfolded between Cairo and Paris. Academically trained in the fine arts, she transitioned from mural and fresco traditions to experimental image-making, becoming a pioneer of electrography. From the late 1960s onward, she developed radical uses of the first photocopier in France to create corporeal imprints that merged abstraction with lived experience. Her work positions the body as a site of memory and transmission, where exile, history, and identity are inscribed through technological processes.

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Amal Abdenour  
*Autoprtrait en vert et jaune*, 1974  
Color Ranxerox on paper  
33 x 111 cm (13 x 43 3/4 in.)  
© Enseigne des Oudin  
Courtesy Enseigne des Oudin & lilia ben salah

# **lilia bensalah**

## **About Zoulikha Bouabdellah (b. 1977)**

Born in Moscow and raised in Algiers, Zoulikha Bouabdellah works across video, installation, photography, and digital media. Her practice is profoundly spatial and sculptural, mobilizing ornament, script, and gesture to construct environments in which the body becomes both participant and measure.

As articulated by Professor Silvia Naef (University of Geneva), her work can be understood as “making images without making them,” approaching abstraction as a living language through which visual memory is produced, transmitted, and transformed. Through technological systems, the body emerges as an active archive, continuously rewriting history in the present.

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# **lilia ben salah**

## **About the gallery**

lilia ben salah gallery is committed to working alongside artists, both emerging and established, whose assertive and independent practices actively contribute to the dynamics of cultural hybridization that are essential to the development of societies. Through its programming, the gallery strives to support artists and collaborate closely with them, to invite curators to conceive new projects, and to strengthen relationships with institutional partners while also engaging in off-site initiatives and international art fairs. Furthermore, the gallery aims to offer a broader reading of recent art history by bringing contemporary creation into dialogue with the major contributions of historical artists originating from Africa and the Middle and Near East, thereby highlighting the continuity, richness, and diversity of these artistic conversations beyond geographic boundaries. Located in the Matignon district of Paris, the gallery is situated within a key context for an international audience of collectors and art institutions.

## **À propos de la galerie**

La galerie lilia ben salah s'engage aux côtés d'artistes, émergents ou établis, dont les pratiques affirmées et indépendantes participent activement aux dynamiques d'hybridation culturelle, essentielles au développement des sociétés. À travers sa programmation, la galerie oeuvre à soutenir les artistes et à travailler avec eux en étroite collaboration, à inviter des commissaires à concevoir des projets, à se rapprocher des acteurs institutionnels tout en participant à des projets hors les murs et à des foires internationales. Par ailleurs, la galerie souhaite proposer une lecture élargie de l'histoire de l'art des dernières décennies, en mettant en regard la création contemporaine et les contributions majeures d'artistes historiques originaires d'Afrique et du Moyen et Proche-Orient, afin de révéler la continuité, la richesse et la diversité des dialogues qui traversent ces scènes au-delà des frontières géographiques.

Implantée dans le quartier Matignon à Paris, la galerie s'inscrit dans un environnement de référence pour un public international de collectionneurs et d'institutionnels.

## **Informations pratiques / Practical Information :**

Art Dubai Digital 2026

Mina Salam, Madinat Jumeirah Conference & Events Centre

**Exhibition from 17 - 19 April 2026**

Opening times:

Friday 17th / Saturday 18th, 2:00 - 7:00 pm & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 – 6:00 pm

# **lilia ben salah**

**Exposition du 17 au 19 Avril 2026**

Horaires d'ouverture :

Vendredi 17 / samedi 18 de 14h à 19h & dimanche 19 de 12h à 18h

**For press inquiry, please contact / Pour plus d'information, veuillez contacter:**

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