Nuqat Conference 2016

Speakers and Content

Update: 26.9.2016

THIS DOCUMENT OVERVIEWS THE FOLLOWING:

A. CONFERENCE CONTENT
B. SPEAKERS, PANELISTS AND ROUNDTABLES
C. WORKSHOPS
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E. CULTURAL DIWANIYA

A. CONFERENCE CONTENT

a) The Theme

The Seventh Sense
Powering the Creative Economy
NUQAT 2016

The oil economy is a thing of the past. For nations to keep moving forward, their economies must rely on multiple resources and skillsets. Humans' creative and intuitive capacities are becoming more and more valuable resources in sustaining worldwide evolution.

How can we heighten the human and the humane elements of each and every profession and field, so as to create more jobs for people and empower the creative potential of all industries? How do bankers, laborers, lawyers, parents, athletes, engineers, doctors, and mechanics practice creativity? If we feel our inspiration and innovation are lacking, how can we identify more opportunities to express ourselves in work and life?

This NUQAT conference we will be looking at the ways the seventh sense, ie "the mechanism of the human mind that produces new ideas"[1] can develop innovation in the industries of the Arab world and beyond. Looking at the idea of "alternative energy," we propose that creativity should play a larger role in powering our economies as we move forward.

We aim to bring together differing viewpoints about the ways inspiration and creativity are sparked and sustained all over the world as part of national and global economies. Inviting theorists, academics, artists, writers, designers and innovative thinkers from all walks of life, the Nuqat conference will provide the opportunity to exchange ideas, share skills, spark collaborations and delve into the possibilities of the future.

[1] Duggan, William. "The Seventh Sense: How Flashes of Insight Change Your Life." Columbia Business School Publishing, 2015.

b) Flow of Talks and Panels
(√) confirmed

DAY 1

1. What is the Creative Economy?

- **a.** What is our Moral compass? - Munir Fasheh (√)
- **b.** The creative economy in the Middle East - Sultan Al Qassemi (√)
- **c.** Retrospect: Trial & Error of the Kuwaiti Creative Industry - TBDS
- **d.** Culture and Urbanism – Rashid Bin Shabib (√)
- **e.** Diminishing Materials, Flourishing Cultures – Dr. Farah Al Nakib
- **f.** New ways of schooling, New modes of Learning (education) – TBD
- **g.** What's happening to Arabic content writing? – Ma'n Abu Taleb (Ma3azef.com) (√)
- **h.**

Discussion Panel: *Arabic Content: Where is it coming from and where is it going?*

- Ma'n Abu Taleb (Ma3azef.com) (√)
- Nasser Al Sarami (Head of Media – Al Arabiya)
- Yarub Bourhama (Director/activist) (√)
- Beopen.me (Jassim Al Qamis) (writer/activist) (√)
- TBD [Journalist-writer]

DAY 2

2. Cultivating the Creative Economy

a. Recognizing Inspiration that builds ecosystems – Majdi Ghorbel - Vakay Eyewear (√)
b. Connecting Creators to cluster - The Digital Wormhole - Amar Bakshi (Shared Studios) (√)
c. From Inspiration to Industry – Noura Al Kaabi (√)
d. Musician talks about Passion - (Oum or Khaled Al Shaikh or Ghalia Bin Ali)
e. Taking action to find inspiration (Couch Session with Saud Al Sanousi) (√)

Discussion Panel*: Does Passion need a license to drive? Censorship, intellectual property and policy.*

- Aisha Salem (US Embassy) - Intellectual Property (√)
- Bothayna Al Essa – Censorship (√)
- Amar Bakshi - Collaboration and Networking (Distance) (√)
- Sh. Intisar Salem Al Ali
- Sofana Dahlan
- Moderator Required

DAY 3

3. The Future of Creative & Economy:

a. Funding the Industry – Abdullah Absi (Zoomal) (√)
b. 3D labs that could change the World – Loay Malahameh (3DMENA) (√)

c. The Emerging "Experience Economy" - Nolan Bushnell (co-founder Atari) (√)
d. The future of Digital Economy in the ME - Abdullah Al Zabin (√)
e. What if Theatre …. ? - Essam Al Kazemi (√)
f. **Performance Talk** : The multi-disciplinary past and future (The Holistic Creator) – Zahra (Zouz)Al Mahdi and Yousif Yaseen (√)

Discussion Panel: *The Tech Industry Driving the Creative Economy?*

- Nolan Bushnell (√)
- Abdullah Al Zabin (Moderator) (√)
- Mohammad Jaffar
- Noura Al Kaabi (√)

Exploration Sessions

These sessions are closed roundtables with special invites to be held simultaneously on Saturday 12th at 11am – 2:30pm

1. **Addressing the Design Deficit in the Gulf led by Laila Al-Hamad (Zeri Crafts)** (√)

In today's mass production age, how can we reinstate the importance of craftsmanship? Has technology rendered the human hands-on approach obsolete? How can we start laying a foundation for a design culture that can respond to the urgent issues confronting us? Can we draw inspiration from within our culture? Are there examples we can learn from? What policies and strategies can be enforced to nurture the development of creative and cultural industries in the Middle East?

2. **Architecture and Urbanism led by Madeenah** (√)

How does architecture and urbanism play a central role in modern cities? How does zoning and planning, and city walkability affect the general public? How does an anthropological approach to design affect human behaviour within the urban environment and encourage further social and cultural interaction? How has oil urbanisation and state-led planning impacted social behaviours and relations in Kuwait? How can we restore the cosmopolitan, diverse, and productive community that was prevailing in Kuwait's urban society pre-oil?

3. **Funding Creative and Cultural Industries (Pending)**

Government grants and funding, crowd-funding, angel investors, private equity portfolios and so on need to be directed towards investing in innovative and creative businesses and industries. What needs to be done Do we have small-scale successful models that we can capitalize on? Can large corporation collaborate with SMEs to develop a financial sustainable economy? How is culture financed around the world? How can me monetize content in the digital world?

B. SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS INVITATION STATUS

Confirmed

1. Sultan Al Qassemi (Founder – Barjeel Art Foundation)
2. Nolan Bushnell (Founder of Atari, Chuck E. Cheese, Brainrush)
3. Amar Bakshi (Shared_Studios)
4. Abdullah Al Zabin (CEO – Lumba Inc.)
5. Munir Fasheh (Educator – Arab Education Forum)
6. Zahra (Zouz The Bird) Al Mahdi (Artist)
7. Rashid Bin Shabib (Cultural Catalyst)
8. Majdi Ghorbel (Vakay) (Product Design and Entrepreneurship)
9. HE. Noura Al Kaabi
10. Yousif Yaseen (Musician)
11. Abdullah Absi (Zoomal – Crowd Funding)
12. Essam Al Kazemi (Performance Art)
13. Dr. Farah Al Naqib

Discussion Panelist Confirmation:

1. Bothayna Al Essa
2. Yarub Bourhama
3. Jassim Al Qamis
4. Aisha Al Salem

C. WORKSHOPS

1. Nuqat workshops
    1. "Creative Pivoting for Entrepreneurs" *Conducted by Yara El Adib* (sponsored by Bleems) (√)
    2. "Tag A Wall" *Conducted Yazan Halwani* (sponsored by Elevation Burger) (√)
    3. Education in Gaming: Deliver content through Gaming
    4. The Daily Future: Improve everyday objects or problems using technology (Product Design workshop with Farah Al Humaidhi & Hassani Brothers)
    5. Designing the Trends of Tomorrow: Imagining the future "outfits/fashion" with wearable technology
    6. Creative Education for Teachers (Matching artists with Maths and Sciences teachers to develop interactive methods to deliver current schooling content) – by CCE UK
    7. Creative Leadership – Luma Shehab-Eldin (√)
    8. Food in Motion Photography
    9. Digital Type Design Workshop by Tarek Atrissi

2. Open Call Workshops
    1. Sadu inspired Product Design and Craftsmanship (Sadu House) (√)
    2. Painting (NCCAL & Center of the Arts)
    3. Ceramics (NCCAL)

3. Kids Workshops
    1. Center of the Arts (√)
    2. Engineering for Kids
    3. The Reading Room by Tamdeen (√)

4. University Workshops
    1. Boosting your Employability in the Creative Industry (Injaz) (Multiple Universities) (√)
    2. Graphic Design Basics and Typography by Tarek Atrissi (AUK) (√)

D. COMPETITIONS

1. Wajha: A regional competition for designing the storefronts of small shops such as barber shops, butcher shops, tailor shops… (√)

E. CULTURAL DIWANIYA (2 hr open dialogue sessions)
(Hosted by Kuwait National Council for Arts)

a. Music
b. Publishing and Novel Writing
c. Arts
d. Theatre