



**MAUMAUS**  
Residency Programme

**Press Release | 08.01.2025**

**Jawad Al Malhi**  
**WA BA3DEN**  
**18.01 – 13.04.2025**

**18.01 | 16h** Opening of the exhibition  
**17h** Guided visit with Jawad Al Malhi and Tina Sherwell

The Maumaus residency programme presents the Palestinian artist Jawad Al Malhi at Lumiar Cité. 'Wa Ba3den', Al Malhi's first exhibition in Portugal, is based on a selection of paintings from a series with the same name, created in Ramallah between 2018 and 2023. For Alta de Lisboa, the neighbourhood in which the gallery is located, the artist has selected works of a thematic density that also suggest associations with the gallery's urban context. The possibility of viewing the exhibition from the street through the gallery's glass façade was an important starting point for the conception of the exhibition.

The show's Arabic title, 'Wa Ba3den', has multiple meanings. On the one hand, the phrase can be translated as 'afterwards', but in vernacular speech Wa Ba3den can also be translated as an exclamation similar to 'oh, that again', uttered when recurring misfortunes occur.

Al Malhi's subjects in this series are mainly young men, whose gestures seem at once familiar and alien, ghostly, shadowless, and in their fragmentary state detached from a world that the painter withholds from us, confronting the viewer with a strange tension. The individuals and groups appear timeless, peaceful, sometimes fatalistic, lost somewhere between events that have happened and events that are yet to happen echoing the different possible meanings of *wa ba3den*.

Undoubtedly referring to a here and now in the Middle East, Al Malhi's 'silent' paintings are based on the artist's observation of recurring fleeting moments of everyday life, which in turn are derived from an unrepresented epic history. Al Malhi engages with known histories and at the same time emancipates his paintings through his fragmentary approach.

**Jawad Al Malhi** (1969) lives and works in East Jerusalem. In 2009, he was part of Palestine's first official participation in the Venice Biennale. His group exhibitions include: 'Thinking Historically in the Present', Sharjah Biennial 9 (2023), 'Global(e) Resistance', Centre Pompidou (Paris, 2020); 'Intimate Terrains: Representations of a Disappearing Landscape', Palestinian Museum (Birzeit, 2019); NSK State Pavilion, Venice Biennale (2017); Art Dubai (2016); and 'Provisions for the Future', Sharjah Biennial 9 (2009). His solo exhibitions include: 'Is There a Place for Me Here?/Is There Any Room at the Inn?', The Walled Off Hotel (Bethlehem, 2017); 'House No. 197', ERG (Brussels, 2017); and 'Measures of Uncertainty', Al Ma'mal Foundation (Jerusalem, 2014). Since 2000, he has participated in educational projects with children, young people and teachers.

The artist and the artistic director, Jürgen Bock, are available for talks, interviews or guided tours with the press.

For further information, please contact:

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Lumiar Cité

Rua Tomás del Negro, 8A 1750-105 Lisbon, Portugal

Wednesday to Sunday, 15h to 19h, or by appointment

Bus: 798 stop Rua Helena Vaz da Silva, 717 stop Av. Carlos Paredes Metro: Lumiar (exit Estrada da Torre)

Production:



Funded by:



Support:

