

Sensuality Manifesto

Curated by Roham Shamekh | Leila Heller Gallery | Dubai Design Week,
November 12–17, 2025

Sensuality Manifesto presents design as an embodied practice: a dialogue between material, body, and perception. Twelve artists explore fragility, delicacy, and sensuality across glass, porcelain, metal, light, and sound, revealing how objects can mediate experience, memory, and affective resonance.

Drawing on Greek *aisthesis* and Sanskrit *prana*, as well as transhistorical knowledge from Africa to the Americas, China to the Middle East, the exhibition situates the body as both instrument and vessel of intelligence. Fragility becomes resilience, delicacy becomes heightened awareness, and sensuality emerges as a language of relational and material cognition.

Within the gallery, objects respond to presence: glass breathes, porcelain listens, metal yields, and light modulates with movement. Visitors encounter an architecture of emotion, where somatic, cognitive, and affective registers converge, and design becomes a medium for meditation, memory, and human connection.

Participating artists: *Dale Chihuly, Melis Buyruk, Lucia Neamtu, Ryan Koopmans & Alice Wexell, Arad Khodabandehlou, Isabelle Besharat, Kouros Maghsoudi, Katya Emelyanova, Aref Montazeri, and Roham Shamekh*

"Sensuality is not indulgence. It is the memory of touch — the invisible dialogue between form and soul"— Roham Shamekh

LEILA HELLER GALLERY.