



اللوفا أبو ظبي
LOUVRE ABU DHABI

Translation Studies

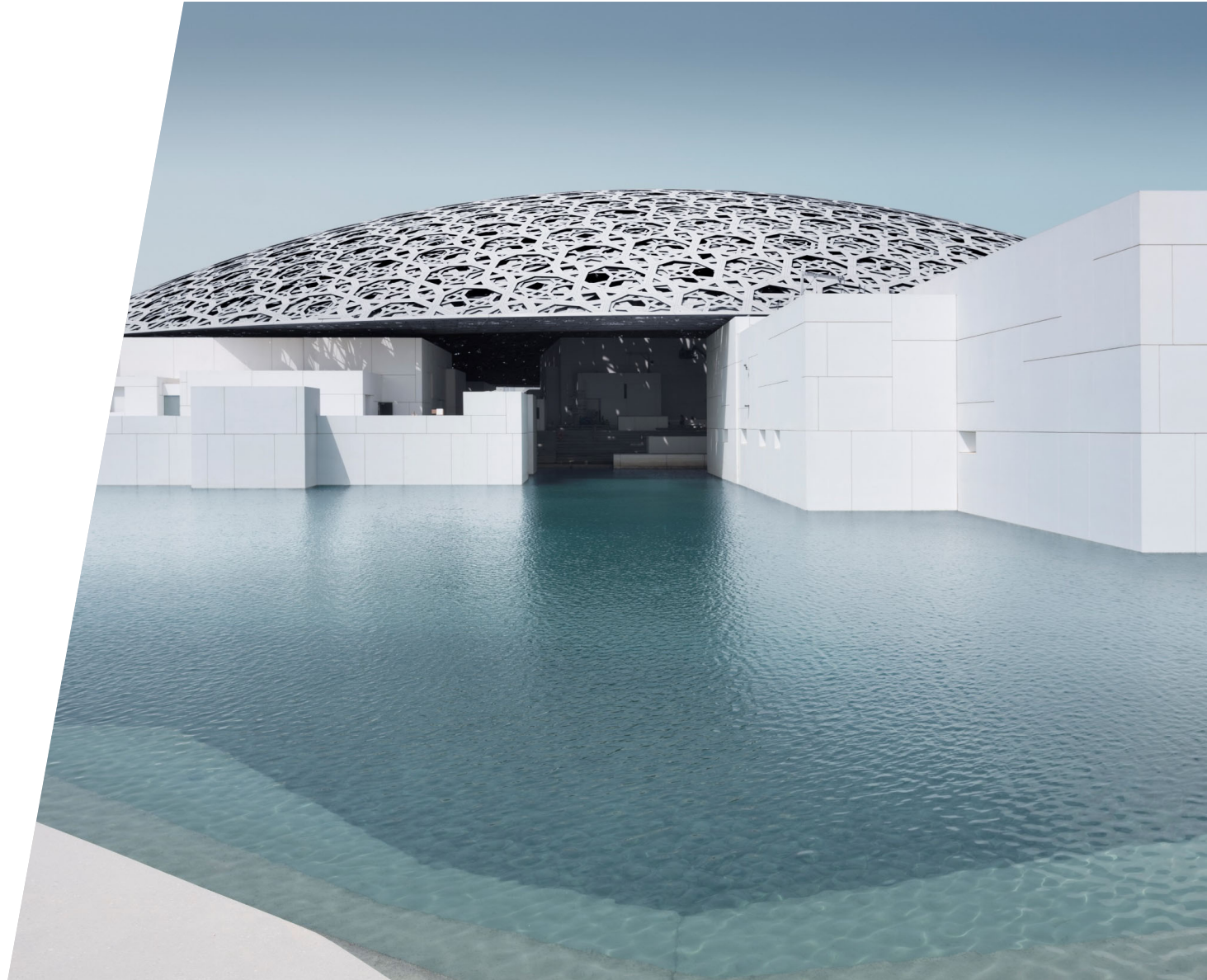
A new field of Research for
the Louvre Abu Dhabi

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Contributors

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The Louvre Abu Dhabi opened more than 2 years ago, in November 2017



The Louvre Abu Dhabi, see humanity in a new light

- An Emirati Museum on the Saadiyat Cultural District, Abu Dhabi
- An outstanding architecture by architect Jean Nouvel
- The dome is inspired by Arab architectural features. As the sun passes above the museum, its light filters through the perforations in the dome to create the effect that we call the ***rain of light***.
- The museum's exhibition spaces include
 - Permanent galleries with a strong curatorial narrative
 - Temporary exhibition spaces (featuring four exhibitions a year)
 - Children museum
 - Auditorium
 - Coffee shop and restaurants
- **2 million visitors** since its opening in 2017



A Universal museum born out of unique agreement between UAE and France

6 march 2007: signature of an intergovernmental agreement between UAE and France

Ambition: creating a **universal museum** in Abu Dhabi (art. 1)

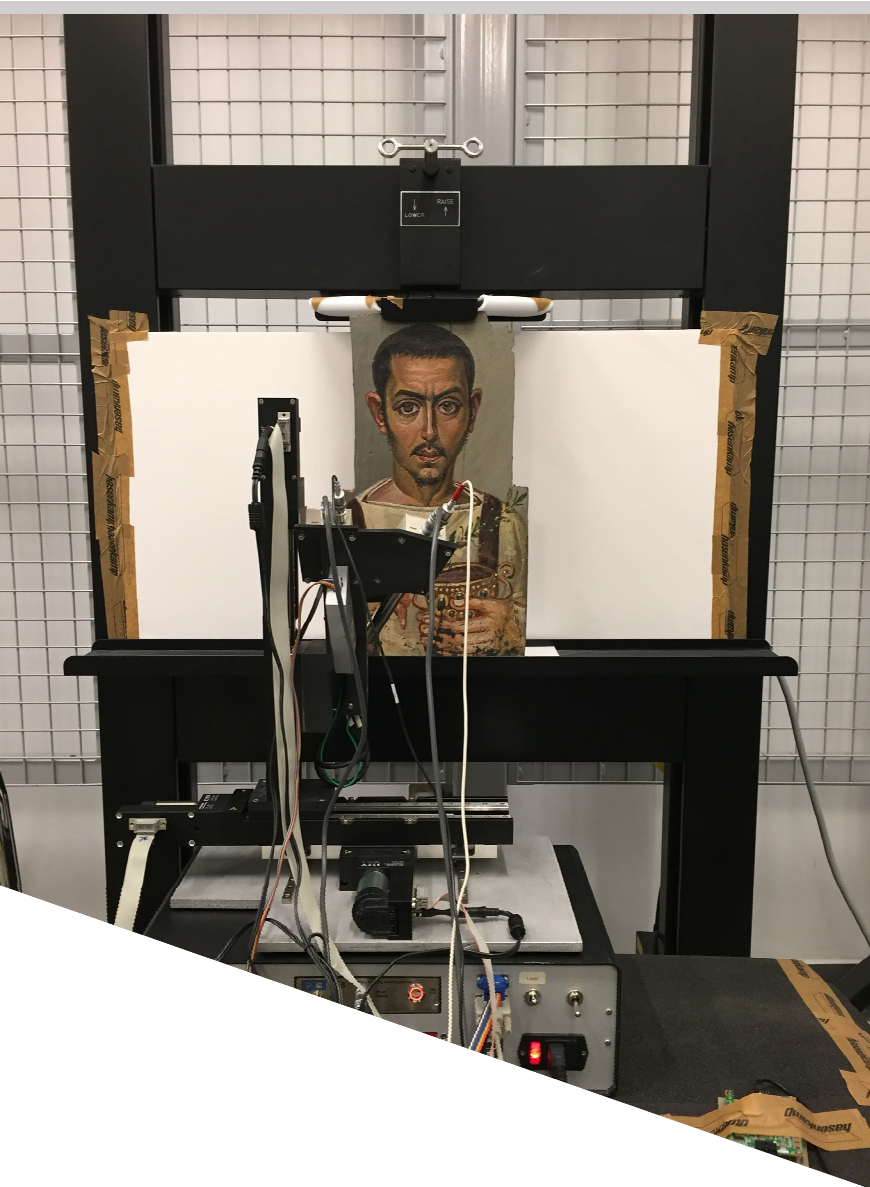
Terms:

- Name of the Louvre for 30 years and 6 months after signature
- 4 Temporary exhibitions a year during 15 years after opening
- Loans from 13 French institutions for 10 years
- **3 official languages: Arabic, English, French**



The constitution of the collection, documentation and management

- A collection of **698 artworks** to date. The works range from Prehistory to Contemporary Art.
- The French entity *Agence France-Muséums* was created in 2007 to manage these responsibilities until 2017:
 - Guide the acquisition of a permanent collection following highest international standards, now managed by the Louvre Abu Dhabi
 - Define the scientific programme, now managed by the Louvre Abu Dhabi
 - Coordinate the loans
 - Production of 4 temporary exhibitions a year
 - Professional training



Developing Research at the Louvre Abu Dhabi

6 months after the opening of the museum, the **Research and Development department** was founded as part of the Scientific, Curatorial and Collection Management Directorate to foster academic research in four main fields which are crucial to the museum:

1. Collections
2. Preventive conservation
3. Museum studies (including audience studies)
4. **Translation studies**

Two main pillars will help developing the research programmes:

- Laboratory for the analysis of artworks (scientific imagery, X-ray, spectrographic etc.)
- Resource Center



Focus on Translation Studies

Translation is one of the main focuses of the museum since its inception. We are addressing translation from various angles:

- Reframing translation in the 21st century for a unique universal museum located on the shores of the Arabian Gulf.
- Formal, aesthetical and technological translations together with a narrative dedicated to encounters and dialogues between cultures that flourished in different times and areas.
- The main challenge is to process coherently the **three official languages** (English, French, Arabic) from signage to publications.
- Indexing museological terminologies and concepts in Arabic will be among the greatest goals.



A precious Resource

The Louvre Abu Dhabi **Resource Centre** aims to create an effective resource for the Louvre Abu Dhabi team, partners and external researchers.

It includes:

- Library
- Digital resources
- Archives
- **Database**, one of the main focus for the translation studies

Following the Louvre Abu Dhabi language policy, the Centre will foster use of the **three official languages**, Arabic, French and English.



Louvre Abu Dhabi Collection's Database

MuseumPlus is the Louvre Abu Dhabi collection management system that will be used for the collection's outreach, since selected fields will be published on our website.

- The majority of the content was in French. We translated from French to English 169 fields, including more than **2,000 vocabulary terms**.
- Following data content's standards outlined in *Cataloguing Cultural Objects* (CCO); and *Categories for the Description of Works of Art* (CDWA), by the Getty Research Institute
- Using controlled terminology lists published by ICOM
- Next steps:
 - Link selected fields of the database to the **Getty Vocabularies**.
 - Translate into Arabic selected fields to be published online.

What's Up Doc, a team effort

What's Up Doc aims to organise and digitise the artworks files.

Goals of the documentation project:

- Consistency of the documentation
- Preserving documentation for the future
- Professional training for our young Emirati talents
- Provide reliable information to researchers
- Publishing the collection online and making it available to the wider audience and researchers
- Translation of selected data in the 3 official languages of the Museum: English, Arabic, French



Translation is at the core of the museum's mandate. Louvre Abu Dhabi intends to participate in enriching the Getty vocabularies with Arabic terminology related to Archaeology, History, and Art History.

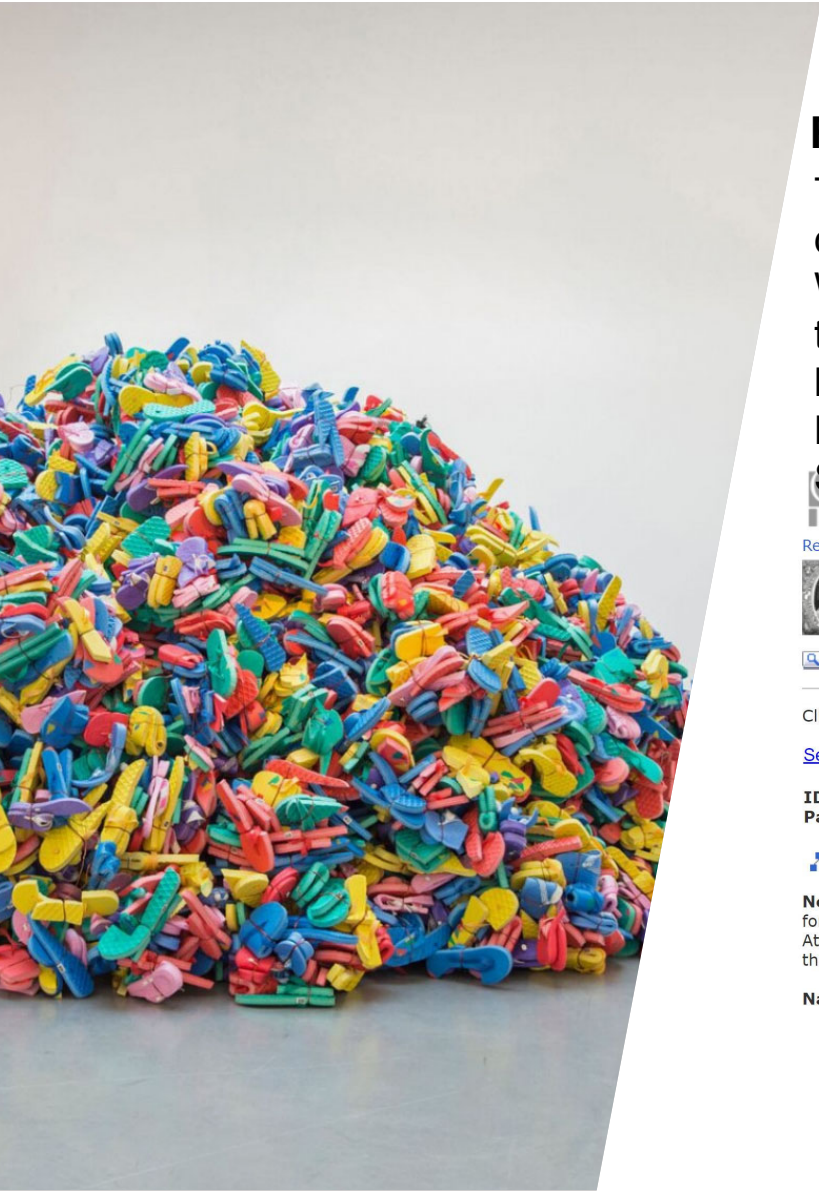
Louvre Abu Dhabi – status update:

- Indexing museology terminologies and concepts in Arabic
- Developing thesauri in Arabic for the following fields: global art history, preventive conservation, museum studies and practices

Louvre Abu Dhabi – next steps:

- Collaboration with the Getty vocabularies, starting from The Union List of Artist Names (ULAN)
- Creation of a UAE-based translation committee
- Acquisition of a Thesaurus Management System






Remarkable examples

The UAE has a rich art scene that includes museums, gallery districts, auction houses and keen private collectors.


We are excited to contribute to the Getty vocabularies, translating them in Arabic and introducing new terms linked to the UAE's art history.

Below we included an example of Arabic translation of Hassan Sharif's name, one of the pioneers of conceptual art in the UAE.

Research Home ▶ Tools ▶ Union List of Artist Names ▶ Full Record Display

 Union List of Artist Names® Online
Full Record Display

[New Search](#) [Previous Page](#)

Click the  icon to view the hierarchy.

[Semantic View \(JSON, JSONLD, RDF, N3/Turtle, N-Triples\)](#)

ID: 500372907
Page Link: <http://vocab.getty.edu/page/ulan/500372907>

 **Sharif, Hassan** (Emirati conceptual artist, 1951-2016)

Note: Emirati artist was considered a pioneer of contemporary art in the UAE. He began his career for newspapers. He studied art in London, and founded the Emirates Fine Art Society in 1980, an Atelier in 1984. In 2005, he cofounded The Flying House in Dubai. Sharif was among artists representing the Venice Biennale in 2009. He exhibited there again in 2015.

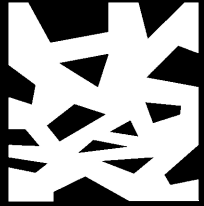
Names:
Sharif, Hassan ([preferred,V,index,LC](#))
Hassan Sharif ([V,display](#))
حسن شريف



This object, part of the MET collection, will be included in the Louvre Abu Dhabi temporary exhibition *Furusiyya: The Art of Chivalry between East and West* (Feb-May 2020)

There is no term to translate falchion in Arabic; we opted for the descriptive translation *sayf 'aeqaf*, curved sword.

Falchion	ENG
Fauchon	FRE
سيف أعقف	ARA



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Thank you