

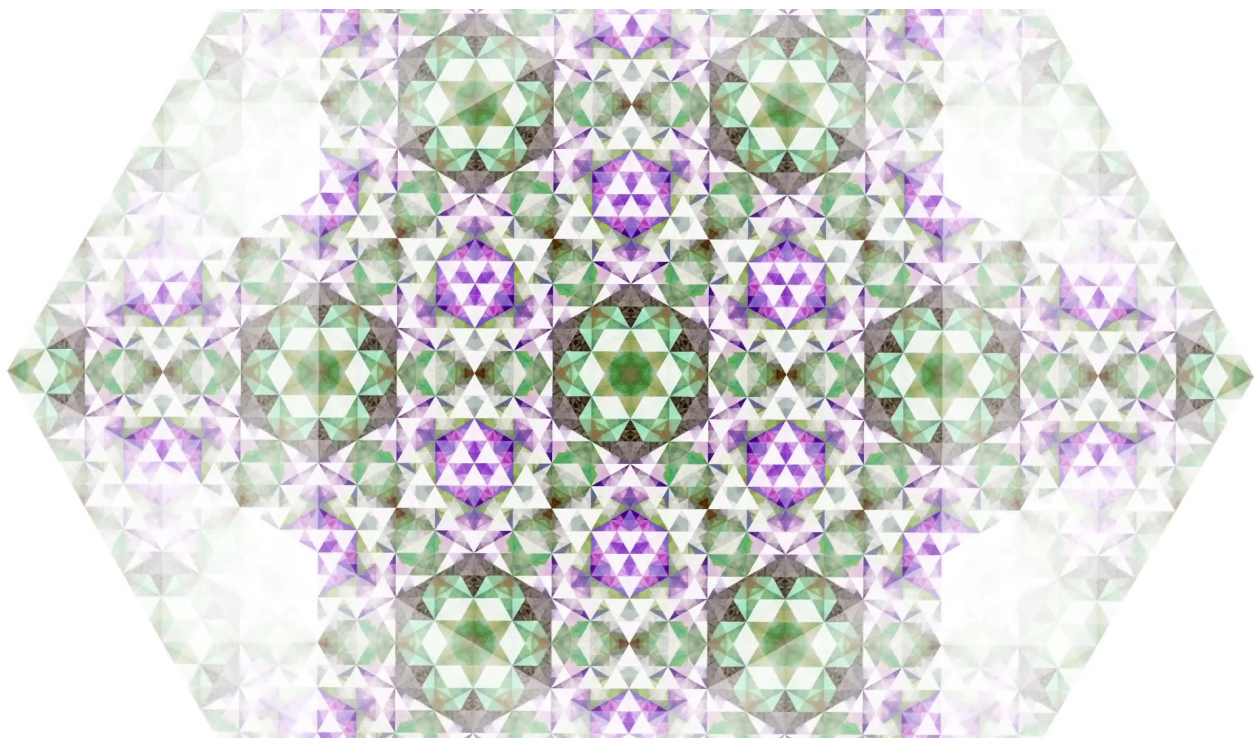
## Aga Khan Museum Launches Cutting Edge Multi-Sensory Experience *Listening to Art, Seeing Music*

Interactive Museum-wide soundscapes and audio-visual installations showcase the relationship between music, poetry, and the visual arts

**Toronto, December 13, 2017** — Can you listen to art? Can you see music? Beginning January 20, 2018, the Aga Khan Museum invites visitors to find out for themselves, as *Listening to Art, Seeing Music* takes over the Museum with 10 immersive interventions that together will take visitors on a journey of discovery to explore the essential interconnectedness of the performing arts, the spoken word, and the visual arts.

Highlights include:

- UK-based geometer Sama Mara and composer Lee Westwood's interactive multi-media installation, which allows visitors to translate the rhythms and patterns of music into visual art compositions
- An immersive multi-sensory piece by New York-based Pakistani-American artist Shahzia Sikander and Pulitzer Prize-winning Chinese composer Du Yun, which animates motifs from an illustrated manuscript of the *Gulshan-i 'Ishq* (Rose Garden of Love) against Du Yun's soundscape
- Miniature paintings from the Persian Book of Kings (*Shahnameh*) in dialogue with the rhythmic musicality of its poetry
- A collection of *ouds* (Arab lutes) belonging to Syrian *oud* player Radwan Al Taleb, a recent newcomer to Canada
- A Mongolian yurt, handmade from felt and wood and painted with traditional motifs, which provides a warm communal gathering space for experiencing pop-up performances, hearing stories of music-making, and sharing a cup of tea



Taken from the album and exhibition 'A Hidden Order' by Sama Mara & Lee Westwood.

A project exploring the hidden connections between sound and form, applying a new theory by Sama Mara revealing an intrinsic link between pattern and rhythm. [Click here to view the full video.](#)

“We were inspired by the success of our 2017 exhibition *Syrian Symphony: New Compositions in Sight and Sound*, which demonstrated the power of unifying art and music,” says Henry Kim, the Aga Khan Museum’s Director and CEO. “By scaling up that multi-sensory experience so the building itself is transformed, we aim to give visitors a new appreciation of how we truly are a museum like no other.”

“The Aga Khan Museum recognises the importance of highlighting both the material and intangible achievements of world artists,” Amiralibhai, Head of Performing Arts at the Aga Khan Museum, explains. “We hope that with *Listening to Art, Seeing Music*, visitors will come to better appreciate the connection between all the arts — food, music, paintings, digital art, experiences, spoken word, and dance.”

**The Aga Khan Museum** in Toronto, Canada, has been established and developed by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), which is an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The Museum’s mission is to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the contribution that Muslim civilizations have made to world heritage while often reflecting, through both its permanent and temporary exhibitions, how cultures connect with one another. Designed by architect Fumihiko Maki, the Museum shares a 6.8-hectare site with Toronto’s Ismaili Centre, which was designed by architect Charles Correa. The surrounding landscaped park was designed by landscape architect Vladimir Djurovic.

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**FOR PRESS INQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Tran Nguyen**, Holmes PR  
[tnguyen@holmespr.com](mailto:tnguyen@holmespr.com)  
416.628.5607

**Arlene Madell**, Aga Khan Museum  
[press@agakhanmuseum.org](mailto:press@agakhanmuseum.org)  
416.858.8735