



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DUBAI, UAE



**W**ELCOME TO the new U.S. Consulate General in Dubai. The U.S. Mission to the United Arab Emirates is honored to open this new compound during 2011, the year in which we are marking 40 years of U.S.-UAE diplomatic relations.

The new Consulate General Dubai represents the importance both our countries place on our bilateral relationship. Its completion would not have been possible without the support and generosity of the UAE and Dubai governments, and in particular, that of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and Their Highnesses the Members of the Supreme Council of the UAE.

As we reflect upon our very successful 40-year partnership, the government-to-government relationship between the United States and the UAE has never been stronger. The United States values the UAE as a key partner in the shared aims of achieving peace, prosperity, and stability in the Gulf and beyond. Ever-expanding trade ties have brought our countries together over the years, and today, the UAE is the United States' largest trade partner in the Middle East region.

I am also very encouraged by the robust people-to-people ties between our two nations. Tourism to the United States among Emiratis is expanding, aided by the increasing number of direct air connections between our countries. The number of Emiratis studying at U.S. colleges and universities is witnessing tremendous growth, and U.S. institutions are playing useful roles in developing the Emirates' fast-growing higher education scene.

This new Consulate General will play an important role in deepening and broadening our already vibrant relationship, for the next 40 years and beyond.

Michael H. Corbin  
Ambassador of the United States of America



**I**N MANY ways, the opening of the new Consulate General in Dubai on the banks of the Dubai Creek, the heart and soul of this traditional trading center, is a return to our roots. In 1976, the United States launched its first diplomatic presence in Dubai-- an Embassy Branch Office in the Al Futtaim Building on Creek Road in Deira. In 1981, the Branch Office, soon to become a Consulate General, moved to the Dubai World Trade Centre, our home for the next 30 years.

As Dubai emerged as an international commercial, transportation and tourism hub, the bilateral relationship between the United States and the United Arab Emirates grew in parallel. From a small group of Americans who helped develop Dubai's energy resources in the 1960s, our American community now stands at more than 45,000 across the UAE. Dubai is now the principal business hub for U.S. companies in the region, part of an expanding business presence that has made the UAE our largest trading destination in the Middle East.

The Consulate General also expanded during this time to outgrow our space in the World Trade Center. Thirty-five years after establishing a small office in Dubai, we are proud to open this state-of-the art facility that symbolizes the United States' commitment to its bilateral relationship with the UAE and our desire to provide efficient and friendly services to all who visit us. Dubai features many iconic landmarks that testify to its economic growth and unique spirit—the Palm Islands, Burj Al-Arab and Burj Khalifa, among others. We hope that the new U.S. Consulate General will likewise become a fixture of this brilliant, dynamic city.

Justin Siberell  
United States Consul General

## About the new U.S. Consulate General Dubai



THE NEW U.S. Consulate General is located in Bur Dubai on a six-acre site adjacent to the Dubai Creek and the Consulates of Saudi Arabia and Qatar. The New Consulate Compound (NCC) is the second purpose-built American diplomatic facility in the UAE; the first – the U.S. Embassy in Abu Dhabi – opened in 2004.

On May 27, 2009, the U.S. Consulate General held a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction on the NCC. His Highness Sheikh Ahmad Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority and Chairman and Chief Executive of the Emirates Airline Group was the guest of honor at the groundbreaking.

The construction project was managed by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO). Architects Page Southerland Page, LLP, of Arlington, Virginia and general contractor B.L. Harbert International LLC, of Birmingham, Alabama designed and constructed the NCC, respectively. The NCC was completed in 24 months on April 6, 2011, six months ahead of schedule.

The NCC represents a significant commitment by the United States to a long-term presence in Dubai, and allows the Consulate General to increase the efficiency and accessibility of its services to the public, including visa interviews and services to American citizens. The NCC also represents a commitment to preserving and protecting the environment. The complex was built using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) principles and incorporates environment-friendly features in its water, environmental and lighting systems.

The U.S. Consulate General in Dubai has joined U.S. embassies and consulates in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; Sofia, Bulgaria; Panama City, Panama; Johannesburg, South Africa; and Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, as LEED-certified diplomatic missions.

LEED certification is the recognized standard for measuring building sustainability. LEED-certified buildings are designed to lower operating costs while increasing asset value, reduce waste sent to landfills, conserve energy and water, be healthier and safer for occupants, and reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

## Office of Art in Embassies Collection for U.S. Consulate General Dubai

THE UNITED Arab Emirates has a centuries-long tradition as an intercontinental trading and cultural hub. Traditional and contemporary artistic influences from across the Middle East, South Asia, and the West have facilitated a creative exchange that has nurtured a unique emergent artistic culture in Dubai.

The U.S. Consulate General's Art in Embassies collection focuses on bringing the two nations together through an ongoing artistic dialogue. Works by contemporary Emirati; American; and regional artists from Iran, Bangladesh, and other countries represented in the UAE are juxtaposed throughout the Consulate General.

The American works were selected to resonate with both cultures through identifiable references to Islamic calligraphy, architecture, and themes symbolizing Dubai's 21st century modernity and innovation. For example, Dubai's iconic cityscape is evoked throughout in Peter Wegner's *Buildings Made of Sky*.

Ebtisam Abdul-Aziz, Maryam Al Qassimi, and Sheikha Bin Dhaheer are three contemporary Emirati artists in the collection who use experimental mediums, material, and techniques to demonstrate a depth of creativity amidst tradition.

Suzanne Kanatsiz's *Writing the Written* and Roberto Lopardo's *Mapping Dubai*, which was created with the artist immersing himself in Dubai's everyday cityscape, help to connect the U.S. and UAE through art. Both American artists, who currently reside in Dubai, created their works under the influence of the varied traditions, cultures, and people in the UAE.



Living with Moths  
Jeana Sohn  
2009  
Gouche, acrylic on  
wood  
29.2 x 40.6 cms

Imtiaz Hafiz  
Curator  
Office of Art in Embassies  
U.S. Department of State



For the Birds  
Ruben Ubiera  
2010  
Acrylic on used  
skateboards decks  
81.3 x 81.3 cms



Unfinished Design  
Chris Barnard  
2007  
Oil on canvas  
137.2 x 104.1 cm



Parade on the Snowy Day  
Misato Suzuki  
2010  
Acrylic on canvas  
121.9 x 91.4 cms



Untitled  
Hadieh Shafie  
2010  
Ink and Paper with  
printed & hand  
written Farsi text  
76.2 x 76.2



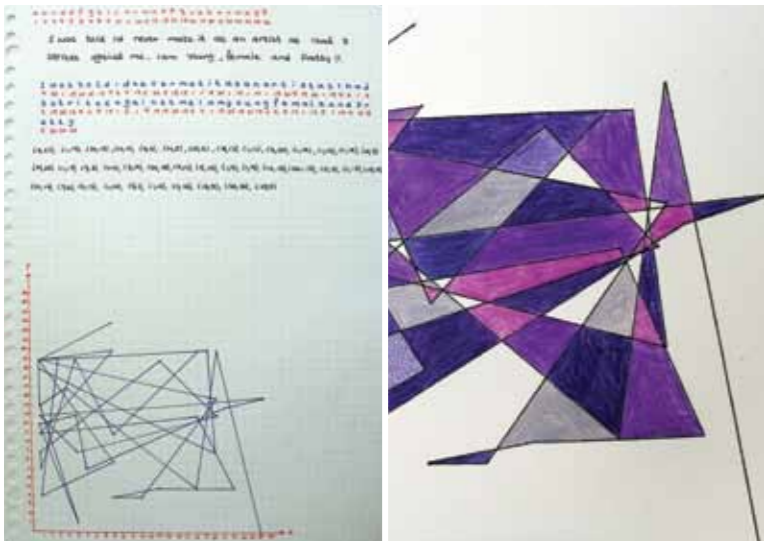
Buildings Made of  
Sky VI  
Peter Wegner  
2009  
Pigment prints  
161.9 x 111.1 cms



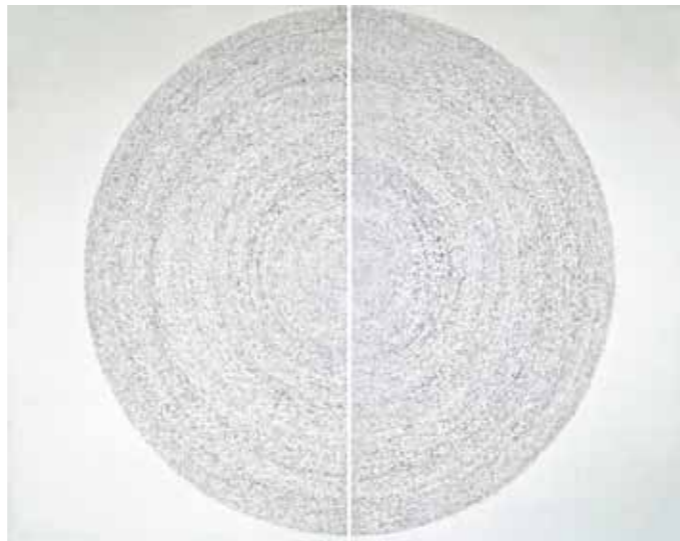
Call and Response  
Chris Fennell  
2007  
Powder pigment in acrylic dispersion  
and paper collage on paper  
81.3 x 63.5 cms



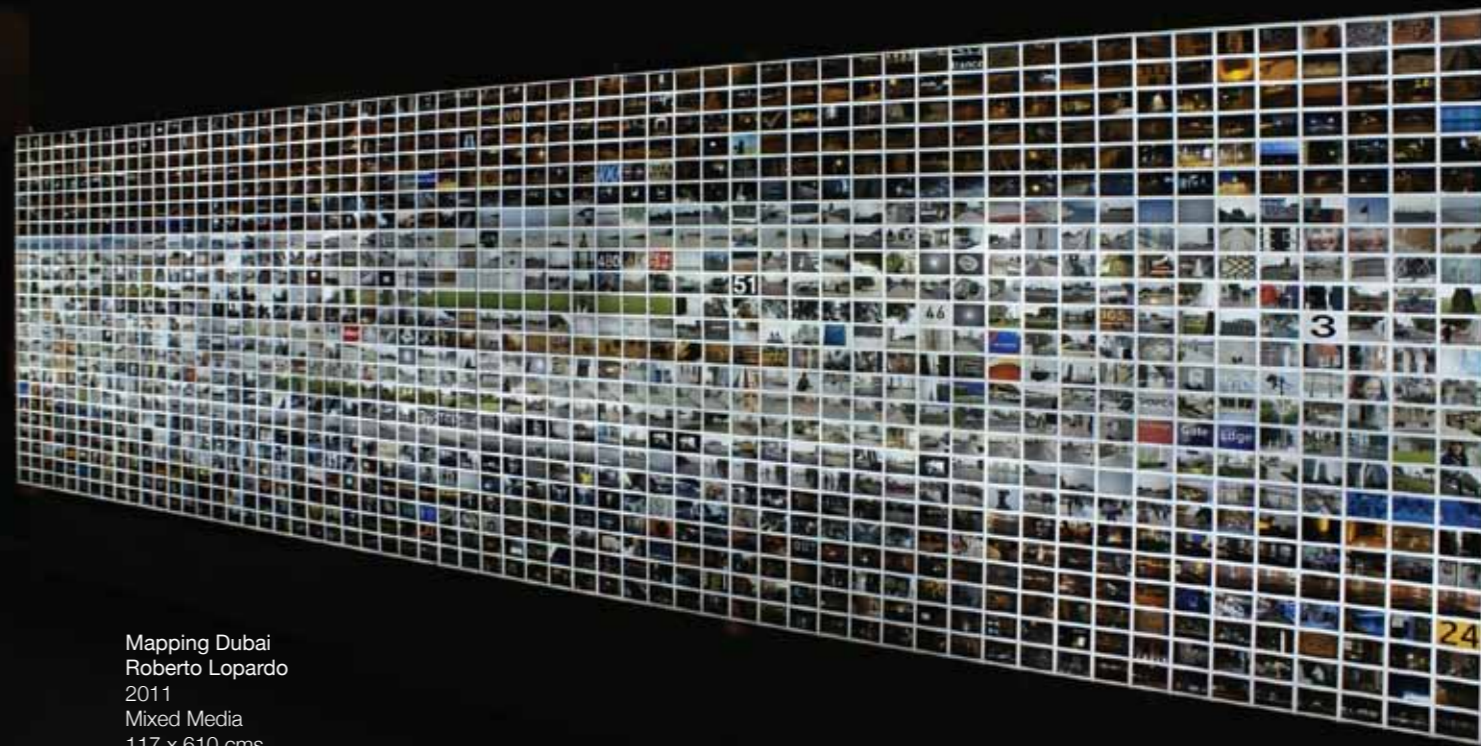
From a Distance  
Amy Pleasant  
2007  
Oil on canvas  
182.9 x 152.4 cms



Words Into Art (4): I was told I'd never make it as an artist as I had 3 strikes against me - I am young, female and pretty!... Time will out...  
Ebtisam Abdul-Aziz  
Work on Paper



Writing the Written  
Suzanne Kanatsiz  
2010  
Graphite on Duralar  
114.3 x 182.9 cms



Mapping Dubai  
Roberto Lopardo  
2011  
Mixed Media  
117 x 610 cms

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