

In a 2011 ode to Zaha Hadid, poet Etel Adnan urged readers "to discover, in this woman who built a solid rock, a permanent nostalgia for departure. Everything [Hadid] made seems to always be the day before a departure, a permanent invitation to the imagination, and to the imaginary." Referencing the 19th-century poet Charles Baudelaire's "L'invitation au voyage," Adnan's words suggest that Hadid's works have "a poetry, a spirituality, such that in sheltering us, it makes us dream, it sets us off on a journey." This exhibition expands Adnan's prompt and proposes we view Hadid's practice not as static and conclusive, but as a point of departure full of potential and reflection. Reconsidering what legacy means, the show invites us to actively engage with the outcome of a creative action and the possibilities that arise when these are mobilized by other artists and architects.

Drawings, paintings, buildings, texts, and ideas—once emancipated from the author—open a range of questions, meanings, and concepts that continue to generate an ecosystem of knowledge. A Permanent Nostalgia for Departure is a take on architectural legacy that uses Hadid's process as a source of knowledge that is activated, transferred, and evolved through the participating artists. Each of the seven newly commissioned works is an exercise that departs from Hadid and moves toward the unknown, reflecting the idea of distance in time, history, cultural background, and landscape, and how a legacy can become a conduit for them. For each artist, Hadid has thrust a different point of departure: using materiality to challenge the limits of a methodology; unconventionally reenacting the spatial logic of a gallery at the CAC; deciphering her identity as a Middle Eastern woman who unfolded an unprecedented life and architectural practice across cities and continents; unearthing provocative understandings of the urban and the ground through layered compositional logic; using representational techniques and gestures that trick preconceived logic and perception; and grappling with being an Iraqi architect and how to position that identity within the legacy of Iraqi architectural thought. Accompanying the site-specific responses are a selection of paintings and ephemera by Hadid that depict the architect's aesthetic, offering insight into how her architectural vocabulary preserves the ability to keep evolving.

Curated by Maite Borjabad López-Pastor, guest curator.

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nd Dave Beckett. Belflex and Jason McCaw. Barbara Weston Sasser and Carol Weston Roberts. Ronnie and

Participating Artists:

Rand Abdul Jabbar Khyam Allami Emii Alrai Hera Büyüktaşcıyan Andrea Canepa Zaha Hadid Dima Srouji **Civil Architecture Studio** Hamed Bukhamseen Ali Ismail Karimi