



Mohammed Kazem



Cristiana de Marchi

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2018

**WHO:** University of Cincinnati, College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP).  
Dorothy W. and C. Lawson Reed, Jr. Gallery

**WHAT:** *The Illusion of Summer*  
Art Exhibition by Mohammed Kazem and Cristiana de Marchi

**WHEN:** Thursday January 17th – Sunday, March 10th, 2019

**WHERE:** Dorothy W. and C. Lawson Reed, Jr. Gallery, DAAP Building 5th Floor,  
2624 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45221

**RECEPTION:** Thursday, January 17th, 5-7 PM

The University of Cincinnati, DAAP Galleries are pleased to announce the two person exhibition of works by internationally acclaimed artists Cristiana de Marchi and Mohammed Kazem in *The Illusion of Summer* opening January 17th in the Dorothy W. and C. Lawson Reed, Jr. Gallery, DAAP. The exhibition will feature works produced during the course of an artist residency currently under way (November 2018-January 2019) at DAAP. Kazem and de Marchi have come to the University of Cincinnati by invitation of Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research, Joseph Girandola in order to interact with University students and the city to produce work informed by their practice and in response to their experiences and exposures while visiting the US and Cincinnati. The exhibition will take place from January 17th through March 10th and be open to the public.

**Mohammed Kazem** (b. Dubai) lives and works in Dubai. He has developed an artistic practice that encompasses video, photography and performance to find new ways of apprehending his environment and experiences. The foundations of his work are informed by his training as a musician, and Kazem is deeply engaged with developing processes that can render transient phenomena, such as sound and light, in tangible terms. Often positioning himself within his work, Kazem responds to geographical location, materiality and the elements as a means to assert his subjectivity, particularly in relation to the rapid pace of modernization in the Emirates since the country's founding.

**Cristiana de Marchi** (b. Italy) lives and works in Beirut and Dubai. Her practice explores social and political terrains, from memory, places of the past and present, identity and contested borders to the paraphernalia of contemporary nationhood. Using textiles, embroidery, film and performance, she instigates processes that draw attention to currencies of power by exploring their structures. These systems are interrogated by extracting the signs and symbols that constitute them. She lays bare the power latent in flags and their colors, passports, places, statistics, sociological models, words and letters. Focusing on often-overlooked details, attention is called to how the apparently innocuous every-day are the essence of larger structuring schemes.

This exhibition is presented in collaboration with the office of the Interim Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at DAAP with generous sponsorship from ShurTechBrands, LLC and Wave Pool Gallery. Thank you to Gallery Isabelle Van Den Eynde (IVDE), Dubai (Kazem) and 1x1 Gallery, Dubai (de Marchi). Also a special thank you to Biagio's Bistro, Clifton. Please contact Director of DAAP Galleries, Aaron Cowan, for more information at 513-556-2878 [www.daap.uc.edu/galleries](http://www.daap.uc.edu/galleries).