

QNHG Speaker Programme

4 April 2012 at 7:00 pm at [DESS](#)



“Pearls II : The Return : from an Exhibition to a Museum”

Speaker: Dr Hubert Bari, Director, Qatar Pearl and Jewellery Museum, Qatar Museums Authority

Summary of Presentation: In 2010, Hubert Bari organised a pearl exhibition at The Museum of Islamic Art. At that time, nobody had imagined just how successful the exhibition would be and how much interest it would attract. As a result of this the Qatar Museums Authority has invited him to lead a new project : the adaptation of the temporary pearl exhibition into a permanent presentation : the Pearl and Jewellery Museum.

The speaker will present the project, its unique location, and the content of each of the thematic buildings. He will also discuss the strange formation of pearls and their variety, and reveal some new aspects of pearl research.

Speaker bio: Dr Hubert Bari is a graduate of the University of Strasbourg, where he presented his thesis in mineralogy. As a lecturer at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, for 25 years he dedicated himself to designing and organising exhibitions. His goal was to find ways to explain, through exhibitions, complex subjects to a large public. He was the first to introduce audio-guide systems in exhibitions more than 20 years ago.

His exhibition ***Diamonds*** in Paris in 2001 was visited by a Qatari sheikh, who invited Dr Bari to come to Qatar. He arrived here in 2003, directed several exhibitions in Doha and prepared the first plans for a natural history museum. In 2009 he joined the staff of Museum of Islamic Art where he was responsible for the opening exhibition, ***Beyond Boundaries***, followed in 2010 by the exhibition ***Pearls***. His presentation to the QNHG on Pearls just before the exhibition opened was one of the most popular of the season, attended by over 200 members.

After an 18 month break, Hubert Bari has been asked to return to Qatar to direct the project of the Pearl and Jewellery Museum for the Qatar Museums Authority.

Dr Bari has published a book on diamonds and has also written a book on pearls, revealing the fascinating world of pearls, including the mechanism of the natural birth of a pearl and process of creating cultured pearls. He has a book in preparation on the jewellery of the Moghuls.

His hobby is ethnology and he spends what free time he has on the island of Bali, which became his new home in 2004.