



Media Information, May 2026

A Muslim, a Christian, and a Jew

Eran Shakine

Location	Jewish Museum Vienna Dorotheergasse 11, 1010 Vienna
Date	May 20 to November 8, 2026
Opening	May 19, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
Press conference	May 19, 2026, 10:30 a.m.
Opening hours	Jewish Museum Vienna Dorotheergasse 11, 1010 Vienna Sunday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Press photos	https://www.jmw.at/presse

The Jewish Museum Vienna is a member of Wien Holding.

A Joke That's No Joke

A Muslim, a Christian, and a Jew at the Jewish Museum Vienna is the first solo exhibition in Vienna of the Israeli artist Eran Shakine. His works are an example of modern artistic practices that explore fundamental questions about religion, identity, and cohabitation with surprising lightness.

Each of the pictures in his series begins with the same words: "A Muslim, a Christian, and a Jew ...," like the start of a joke. But instead of emphasizing differences, Shakine does the opposite. His figures are identical, often with a black suit and top hat, as they encounter all kinds of scenarios. They roam the world searching for common origins, answers to life's major questions, or God's love, experiencing commonplace but also sometimes absurd situations on the way. In every scene there is a shared insight.

Similar Points of View

Although looking at first sight like lightweight, humorous cartoons, on closer inspection the pictures reveal a deeper meaning. Shakine's pictures are like anti-caricatures. They break with stereotypes and shift attention away from differences towards shared traits. The deliberate reduction to a few sketchy lines highlights the fact that identity is not a given but is also shaped by the viewer's perception.

The figures are placed in open and not clearly defined spaces, without obvious religious or geographical markers. Their encounters tell of a shared history and of experiences that connect people regardless of their religious affiliation. They are about curiosity, doubts, hopes, and the desire to understand the world and find a place in it.

An Exhibition to Linger In

The exhibition design by the Vienna design agency Vandasye reflects this artistic approach, creating a greened place of encounter right in the Jewish Museum Vienna.

The interactive nature of the exhibition also carries over into a separately curated creative zone. Visitors are invited to add their creative ideas and perspectives to a Wall of Tolerance, bringing people together in a collaborative artwork within the exhibition itself.

Art in a Political Context

The works were created in a context in which ideologies and religious affiliation are increasingly politicized and framed in opposition to one another. Shakine's series responds to this development with a precise and at the same time poetic pictorial vocabulary that emphasizes human characteristics. His figures do not represent opposites but people living together and linked by their shared vulnerability. The Muslim, the Christian, and the Jew are not stereotypes in a joke in which one of them comes out as smarter than the others; they are three individual but very similar figures who find themselves together in the same situation.

Vienna as a Sounding Board

The three Abrahamic religions have lived side by side in Vienna for centuries in a tense but mutually formative relationship. A Muslim, a Christian, and a Jew places this history in a contemporary context.

For the exhibition in Vienna, Shakine places the three protagonists on the Giant Ferris Wheel. From the roof of a cabin, they look at the city from different perspectives, yet remain part of a shared experience.

About the Artist

Eran Shakine was born in Israel in 1962 to a French father and a Hungarian mother, both Holocaust survivors, and lives and works today in Tel Aviv. His works have been exhibited throughout the world—in New York, Paris, London, and Berlin, among other places—and are also to be found in major collections. The presentation at the Jewish Museum Vienna marks the first occasion on which his works have been seen in Austria.

A Muslim, a Christian, and a Jew is an initiative by the Jewish Museum Vienna to promote dialogue and openness. The exhibition invites visitors to recognize in others not only what is different but also what is shared.

Curators	Barbara Staudinger, Hannes Sulzenbacher
Exhibition design and graphics	Vandasye
Exhibition production	Claudia Oriold, Christiane Rainer
Publication	<i>A Muslim, a Christian and a Jew, Knocking on Heaven's Door</i> , Eran Shakine, Hirmer Verlag, with additional brochure
Admission	The ticket is valid for both of the Jewish Museum Vienna locations, Dorotheergasse and Museum Judenplatz.
Public relations	info@jmw.at, www.jmw.at

Media contact

Natascha Golan | natascha.golan@jmw.at

+43 1 535 0431 – 1519

Photos and press material on current exhibitions can be found on the Jewish Museum Vienna website under www.jmw.at/presse

In cooperation with:



We thank the following for their support of the museum:

Media information: *A Muslim, a Christian and a Jew*, Jewish Museum Vienna, 2026

