

It is with great sadness I learned we have lost Sheikh Nasser – He has, so to say, been with me in all my professional life since I started at the David Collection in 1984.

Only one year older than me, he had then already opened his own magnificent museum in 1983 – a collection he and his wife Sheikha Husa had created from scratch. A truly impressive effort anywhere and a pioneering model in the region; a model which obviously has been and still is a great inspiration throughout the Arab Peninsula and the Islamic World.

The collection in Kuwait brilliantly reveals the eye of a true connoisseur, and during a visit to Kuwait this was paired with an overwhelming openness and generosity.

The dedication with which the rich, still growing holdings of the collection are being published is exemplary and inspiring, and it is only to be hoped that the museum soon will reopen after the sad and destructive set back caused by the Gulf War. The world deserves to see and experience the legacy of a great collector and a great culture.

I only wish I had been among the many people who knew Sheik Nasser better.

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