



U

# nstable Conditions

Curated by:  
Roya Khadjavi  
and  
Massoud  
Nader

A solo exhibition by:

**ZEYNAB MOVAHED**



**Date:** April 5 Th- April 18Th, 2022

**Opening Reception:** April 5st 4to8 pm

**Opening Hours:** 12 to 6 pm or by appointment

Closed on Sunday and Monday

**Place:** Highline Nine Gallery 9.1

507 West 27th St, New York, NY 10001

**For Sales Contact:** roya.khadjavi@gmail.com

massoudnader@gmail.com

**For Press Contact:** roya.khadjavi@gmail.com

www.royakhadjaviprojects.com



## Women on the Threshold

Reflections, fragments of faces and bodies and objects and plants, lights and shadows: Zeynab Movahed's recent paintings show the world in the form of a daily experience. The reflection of glass, which creates both a mirror position and its back, is thus used as an instrument for the artist to depict the unstable and changing world of the Corona epidemic.

In these images, everyday life goes beyond its visual aspects and emphasizes the life of this era, which is profoundly changing, unpredictable, and at the same time based on the value of life and its moments.

In her previous collections, Movahed focused on feminine themes: the figures of women are the main subject of her previous works, while they are cut off with a picture frame or lost or visible behind curtains and lace.

This platform provided the artist with various capabilities so that she could focus on the personal and social aspects and express them in the language of images.

In recent paintings, women and girls are seen in different situations. Some are drowning in cafes and houses and kitchens and streets, some are gesturing and looking at their reflection. They take selfies and sometimes get lost among plants and objects. Movahed has given layered aspects to the photographs, although she has remained faithful to the realism of her paintings.

This painting seems to be a continuation of the works of naturalist artists such as Richard Estes, who worked in urban landscapes. . In the works of Estes, we also encounter reflective surfaces that are not only related to the contents of the glass, but also exist around us. However, the subject of Estes works is cities and the subject of Movahed works is women.

In Movahed's works, we are confronted with a lyrical look at the elements. It has left her alone or it can be interpreted as the loss and loneliness of the new generation or even a memory.

These levels of form and meaning have enriched the paintings more than a photorealistic painting. These paintings are about women everywhere in big cities and women in Iran.

The mask on the face of some tells of the artist's lived experience during the pandemic era. These paintings are paradises or utopias lost in nowhere, they are a dream or a life in turmoil when we do not know if we will see tomorrow or not.

They are manifestations of a dream, or a memory that we try to recall, or an image that we also see in reflection.

Movahed presents all of this to us with his creative and calculated painting. Nature, the city, man, and the moments spent in her paintings are immortalized to become a mirror in front of us, to look and think.

## Unstable Conditions

My new body of painting titled “Unstable Conditions” is made of a parallel world to the one me and the women of my country experience daily.

Our lives are made of many captivating and clever combinations of light spots and dark screens and a series of intertwined and sometimes broken shapes. It is an unstable visual world in which everything is restless and continuously changing.

It is perhaps, our continuous uncertainties that are the essence of our major instability and the core of our existence.

Live, exist or be absent.




🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 100x120cm, 2020



 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 100x130cm, 2019



 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 100x120cm, 2020




🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 130x150cm, 2021





🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 130x150cm, 2020




 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 100x120cm, 2019



🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 140x170cm, 2019



 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 125x160cm, 2022



 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 130x130cm, 2021





🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 80x80cm, 2020




🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 130x150cm, 2018





🏠 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 135x170cm, 2021



 Unstable Conditions Series, Oil on canvas, 135 x 170 cm, 2021

Born in Tehran/Iran in 1981, **Zeynab Movahed** holds a BA and and MFA in painting from Tehran's Art and Architectural Azad University.

She has been painting professionally since 1999 and has held 10 solo exhibitions and has participated in more than fifty group exhibitions, biennials and art fairs in Iran and internationally in England, USA, France, Pakistan, Kuwait and Greece.

Her paintings focus on the challenges contemporary Iranian women face in their daily lives which are sometimes problematic due to gender imbalance between men and women in the Muslim world and at other times euphoric because of the strength and resistance of these same women.

Through her many artistic periods, Movahed has purposefully, continuously and without judgement portrayed snapshots and details of the often neglected feminine life.

In her new body of work "unstable conditions", she has chosen as subject matter a more visible woman going about her social life and away from the privacy of her home.

Movahed lives and works in Tehran



## Zeynab Movahed

Born 1981

Tehran - Iran

Live and work in Tehran - Iran

Member of The Iranian Artists Association , Tehran - Iran

### EDUCATION:

BA in painting - Art and Architectural Azad University - Tehran - Iran- 2007

MA in painting - Art and Architectural Azad University - Tehran - Iran - 2011

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2022- High Line Nine gallery - ( Unstable Conditions Series ) - New York- USA

2021- Shirin Gallery - (Unstable Conditions Series ) -Tehran  
- Iran

2019- Ejaaz Gallery - (Enclosed Garden Series )- Lahore - Pakistan

2018- Sallest Gallery - ( Enclosed Garden Series )Tehran - Iran

2016- Dacia Gallery - ( You Are Awake While We Slumber Series )- New York - USA

2015- AM Gallery - ( I Was There Series )- Kuwait - Kuwait

2014- 26 Gallery - ( I Was There Series ) - Tehran - Iran

2013- Fa Gallery - ( As It Is Series) - Kuwait - Kuwait

2012- Mohsen Gallery - ( As it is Series)- Tehran - Iran

2008- Atashzad Gallery - Tehran - Iran

2002- Afarineshnaghsh Gallery - Tehran - Iran

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

2021 ( August ) - Didi Museum - Noor ,Mazandaran - Iran

2020 ( September)- Museum of contemporary art - Isfahan - Iran

2019 ( April ) - Gallerie Zone d'Art - Strasbourg - France

2018 ( July ) - Contemporary Art Museum of Chania -( The Amazing Light ) - Olive-  
press - Greec

2018 ( May ) - Affordable Art Fair - London - UK

2017 - Celsea Art College Gallery - London - UK

2017 - Affordable Art Fair - Bristol - UK

2017 ( May ) - Asia Hous - ( With My Root ) - London - UK

2017 ( June )- Mim Gallery - Los Angeles - USA

2017- Athens Festival - Athene - Greec

2017 ( August ) - Shirin art gallery - ( Identity)-Tehran - Iran

2016 ( March ) - Dacia Gallery - New York - USA

2013 - Abra Gallery - Los Angeles - USA

2012 - NYC art advisory - Collection2012 - New York - USA

2012 - Participate in the Tehran Expo - Iran

2012 ( September ) - Participate in the Eighth Biennial Painting of Tehran - Iran

2012 - Selected Iranian Art Expo - Los Angeles - USA

### TV:

Production of a documentary film directed by Frivar Hamzeie about the life and works of Zeynab Movahed for Iran International Channel, Boom and Gel program- 2020

### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY & PRESS:

1.. Interview with Art illustrated magazine.. Pennsylvania 2021

2.. Shargh newspaper .. 2 October 2014 .. Tehran .. Iran

3.. Alqabas newspaper .. Kuwait .. September. 2013

4.. Al.Seyasah newspaper .. Kuwait .. October 2015

5.. Nigah are magazine .. Karachi Pakistan .. February 2016 .. article by Fariha Rashid

6.. Herfeh honarmand .. no 45 .. 2013 .. article by Mahsa Farhadikia.. Tehran.. Iran

7.. Tandis Magazine .. September 2014

8.. Cinema without borders .. November 2016 .. Los Angeles .. USA

9.. Kayhan London .. July 2016 .. UK

10.. Fresh Paint Magazine .. September 2016 .. New York .. USA

11.. An article by Sima Shabani published in Prinston University .. May 2017 .. USA

12.. Down paper .. December 2018 .. Lahore .. Pakistan

13.. Kissamos News .. November 14.. 2018 .. Greece

15.. Moridi, Mohammadreza, Cultural Dialogues Iran's Artistic Movements, Tehran University of Art publication, 2019



**Behnam Kamrani**

Multimedia Artist

BA in Painting / Faculty Art Tehran University

Professor of Tehran Art University

MA in Painting / Tehran Art University

PhD in Art Research / Art university

14 solo and more than 300 exhibition in Iran and many countries around the world

**Massoud Nader**, founder, Nader&Nader : Co-curator  
Massoud Nader is an art dealer residing in New York.

He began his career in the mid 80's selling the Art of the Islamic World and by the late 90's with the emergence and public interest in Middle Eastern Contemporary Art -he started representing a few young Iranian artists. His first foray was in 2002, when he exhibited Sadegh Tirafkan's photographs in New York. With the success of the show, he explored working with other artists , and today Nader&Nader represents a group of 30 artists, whose works include photography, sculptures, paintings and mixed media. He has exhibited works by Mojtaba Tajik in New York and Doha in 2005, and photographs by Sadegh Tirafkan at Lehman Maupin Gallery. He also several group shows in Los Angeles and Dubai with Courtyard Gallery, and in November of 2013, in collaboration with art patrons Maryam Panahy Ansary and Nader Ansary, he unveiled Morteza Pourhosseini's first international solo exhibit at the Bohemian National Hall , entitled the CIRCUS.

Pourhosseini's works were recently acquired by the Metropolitan museum of Art, and successfully auctioned at Sotheby's Middle Eastern Contemporary Art sale in London in 2011.

Nader works closely with museums in the US, Europe and the Middle East and has placed many of the artist's; works -including Siamack filizadeh, Amir Moussavi, Naghmeh Ghassemlo, , Ahmad Morshedloo, Arash Hanie, Mohsen Zareh, and Sadegh Tirafkan in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, LACMA, and Brooklyn Museum of Art.

Many works by these artists have been successfully auctioned at Christie's Dubai, Sotheby's London and Bonham's New York.

Massoud Nader holds a BSC degree from Leeds University UK and an MBA from Columbia University



**Roya Khadjavi** is an independent curator and cultural producer based in New York. She has largely focused on the work of young Iranian artists working both in Iran and beyond its borders, seeking not only to support their artistic endeavors but to also facilitate awareness and cultural dialogue between artistic communities.

Since 2008, she has actively led exhibition committee efforts around the art of the Middle East for institutions including the Guggenheim Museum and the Asia Society, where she sat on the steering committee of the critically acclaimed exhibit *Iran Modern* (2013).

Khadjavi co-founded the Institute of International Education's Iran Opportunities Fund and served as president of the board of New York based non-profit Art in General.

For her pioneering efforts to advance, support, and promote international education, she has been honored with the Women's Global Leadership Award by the Institute of International Education and an Order of Academic Palms (Chevalier dans L'Ordre des Palmes Académiques) by the French Minister of Education.





Roya Khadjavi-Heidari  
RK Art & Design , LLC  
roya.khadjavi@gmail.com  
www.royakhadjaviprojects.com



Iranian Contemporary Art  
Islamic Works of Art



Design by  
www.NehdaraN.com