



MILAN IMAGE ART FAIR
2024



ROYA KHADJAVI PROJECTS

Dates: April 10th -14th

Location: Allianz MiCo in the
CityLife district in Milan.

Booth: F011- F012

Roya Khadjavi Project's Curatorial Statement

Roya Khadjavi brings together the photographic works of 6 Iranian artists, Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Tahmineh Monzavi, Negin Mahzoun, Dariush Nehdaran, Sepideh Salehi and Ali Tahayori. The works exhibited, here, address in their own way the theme of changing. These changes affect our lives in various ways. Some changes are healthy and transformative and have positive results on people and societies and other changes deal with the effect of social and cultural trauma, during strange and unparallel times giving us a novel perspective that visualizes narratives of oppression and invites viewers to engage with the healing power of storytelling.

Tooraj Khamenehzadeh's "Disruption Project" images seem to capture moments from a vague dream, a distant future, or an uncertain past. They play out like scenes from post-apocalyptic films, digital photos he took of an empty New York City, capturing the early lockdown period.

In her "Gen Z" series of street photography, Tahmineh Monzavi captures the Iranian youth's (ages 15 to 25) mental state, mood, and lifestyle through a female photographer's lens. Her work mainly focuses on the life of a generation of young, educated, street smart talented and globally aware girls who have courageously established new boundaries and created a new existence separate from the heavily controlled and abusive environment they live in.

In her series titled "Destruction" Negin Mahzoun uses textiles as a clandestine medium for capturing and conveying trauma caused by emotional and psychological wounds. In her work the acts of stitching and sewing are vital as conduits, connecting her emotions with the chosen materials and allowing her to express memories through the tactile artistry of textiles. These intricate works, deeply intertwined wither journey of healing and growth, were created during her transformative treatment process. Stitch by stitch, each piece encapsulates her journey of turning pain into knowledge—a philosophy inherent to art, which her creations seek to embody and amplify.

Dariush Nehdaran's motive for taking photographs in his series titled "Clandestinity" is to exhibit concealment. A portion of each photo holds broken mirrors, reflecting only parts of reality that are disclosed to the people. This portion of the images conveys the

fact that so much is kept clandestine. Nevertheless, the truth is ultimately revealed and consequently change will follow. Sepideh Salehi's desire to explore the unknown fuels her interest in transformation. reward. In her photographic collages presented, she celebrates womanhood and girlhood to honor the girls fighting for their Freedom and the many issues the young generation faces, especially in Iran and Afghanistan. Inspired by young girls worldwide fighting for their rights, she created the "For Freedom" project, using her daughter's portrait as the starting point. Layering, cut-outs, and collages were used to portray the story of these brave girls, with each piece inspired by a person and historical event.

Ali Tahayori's "Archive of Longing" searches for moments of vulnerability, love and belonging within an inherited family archive, glimpses that often escape the photographer's gaze and the subject's agenda. The family photographs are cropped, enlarged, digitally altered, and printed on glass sheets. The printed glass is broken and reassembled to create 3-D sculptural reliefs from 2-D vintage photographs. The personal becomes the universal, as information is removed from photos through abstraction, fragmentation and distortion provided by raised broken printed glass. Using glass instead of paper as a foundation to hold and reveal the image references wet plate negatives in the history of photography, wherein the 19th century, they were used for "sharper", more stable and more detailed images. Here the broken glass is used to complicate viewers' gaze while looking at history and memory from a queer diasporic lens, searching for glints of intimacy, desire, and queerness in an inherited family album.



ROYA KHADJAVI

Roya Khadjavi is an independent curator and cultural producer based in New York. By founding Roya Khadjavi Projects in 2014, she has largely focused on exhibiting internationally the work of young and mid-career 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 Academiques) by the French Minister of Education.



TOORAJ KHAMENEHZADEH

Tooraj Khamenehzadeh is an artist based in New York. He began his artistic practice in theater before shifting to photography and video art. Today, photography, image-based projects, and sometimes the utilization of his theater background inform the basis of his works. Born and raised in a region where Eastern philosophy prevails drew him toward an interest in mysticism and poetry. Like Tarighat for a mystic — a mystic's spiritual pilgrimage — he uses art to explore, use intuition as a guide, and achieve a subjective experience. His works are the results of his insights along this path, through which he tries to share layers of various realities with his audience, building on the historical sensibilities of the past and the lived experiences of the present.

His work mixes the personal with the sociopolitical — raising questions about death, solitude, fear, distress, time, the reason for existence, metamorphosis, crisis, and oblivion — and experiments with various image-based techniques and displays, staging scenarios and using dramatic elements to create an imaginative blend in a combination that is part theatrical, part experimental and part documentary.

Statement

“Disruption”

During this strange and unparalleled time, images seem to form as moments from a vague dream, a distant future, or an uncertain past and fill our minds. They play out like scenes from post-apocalyptic films. I worked with digital photos I took of an empty New York City, capturing the moments during the lockdown, and rephotographed them with a medium format film camera. Burn each frame with an uneven splash of light just before they settle into existence. This work is about disrupting the process toward becoming to metaphorically recreate the experience of the interrupted potential to form new memories at this time. Each image represents not only the interruption but also the destruction of memory before it fully forms.



Untitled, from Disruption Series
Light box film slide, bronze
finished frame. 12 x 12 cm, 2023
€1450



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Light box film slide, bronze
finished frame. 12 x 12 cm, 2023
€1450



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finished frame. 12 x 12 cm, 2023
€1450



Untitled, from Disruption Series
Light box film slide, bronze
finished frame. 12 x 12 cm, 2023
€1450



Untitled, from Disruption Series

Film Photography, Archival Pigment Print, 50 x 50 cm, 2023, 7 Edition + 1AP
€6000

This series is also available in a 102 x 102 cm, 3 Edition + 1AP
€8350



Untitled, from Disruption Series

Film Photography, Archival Pigment Print, 50 x 50 cm, 2023, 7 Edition + 1AP
€6000

This series is also available in a 102 x 102 cm, 3 Edition + 1AP
€8350



Untitled, from Disruption Series

Film Photography, Archival Pigment Print, 50 x 50 cm, 2023, 7 Edition + 1AP
€6000

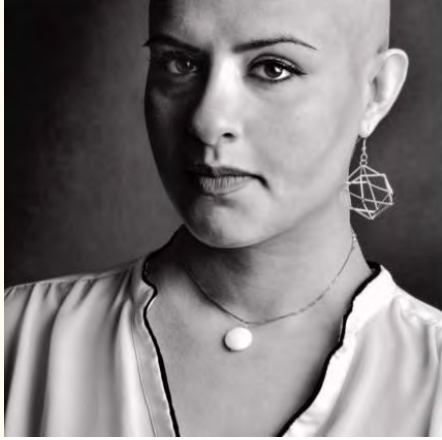
This series is also available in a 102 x 102 cm, 3 Edition + 1AP
€8350



Installation Mockup, 2023



Installation Mockup, 2023



TAHMINEH MONZAVI

Tahmineh Monzavi, born in 1988 in Tehran, is a socially conscious photographer. She began her professional career as a documentary photographer in 2005. In her professional life, with collection of photographs and her harmonious approach to her environment and her time, Tahmineh created her own style to capture and explore in the fields of Artistic and Documentary photography, with honesty and fearlessness.

In 2007-2008 with the series *Guilty or innocent* Tahmineh started to explore the ghettos of Tehran and the hidden from the public eye life of the transsexuals and homeless women. A taboo that challenges the established cultural norms. The harsh living conditions, drug abuse and prostitution are the basic facts that shape the daily reality of the small community. The combination of the grotesque and the normal shifts the preconceptions and prejudices and allows a chance for a social reconciliation.

The series of photographs *Brides of Mokhber al-Dowleh* of the same period explore a different subject, that of the ordinary life of the working-class community. Tahmineh portrays the bridal gown tailors in south Tehran; workers from deprived social classes whose poor work conditions testify to their meager livelihood. The juxtaposition between the beautiful white of the wedding dresses, the apotheosis of the traditional female dreams, and the rough hands of the working-class men doing the sewing and stitching provokes feelings of wonder and contemplation.

Another tragic social reality, that is usually either ignored or denied by the authorities, captured Monzavi's attention in 2008. *Grape garden alley* is an extensive series, shot over a period of 4 years, that is dedicated to women addicts, who stay in a rehabilitation facility in south Tehran.

In 2012 Monzavi's outlook on her work was changed after a month of imprisonment in Tehran. In the absence of human contact, she started to doubt her existence. In that

dark hour of forced isolation Tahmineh was desperate for a company and started to fantasize being pregnant, which resulted in the video art piece OXYS in black and white. A year after the event, she produced the series All About Me: Nicknamed Crown Giver. It shows a strange fantasy realm where every woman is crowned Miss Iran. Her inspiration comes from an old beauty pageant, Spring Girl, held in Iran from 1965 to 1978, just before the revolution and its restrictions took hold. Almost forty years later and Iran is in the top ten countries for cosmetic surgery. To be Miss Iran or 'the most beautiful girl' of any country is an absurd notion for a young girl, it creates a world where appearance is everything. As an artist Tahmineh is looking for a way to objectify this desire and renegotiate its context through the artistic practice.

In the recent years Tahmineh Monzavi has been captivated by the ruins of the historical architecture of Iran and Afghanistan. In the series Past Continuous the artist is documenting the post-war shift in the perception of home and heritage.

In 2018 Tahmineh started a new photography series Red Soil, Cold Soil, which offers a fascinating contrast of colors and textures of two completely different regions of the world, an Iranian island in the Persian Gulf and a Norwegian archipelago in the Arctic Ocean. Hormuz island in the south of Iran and the world's northernmost settlement Longyearbyen in Svalbard are both located in areas of high political tension, but for the artist it was an encounter with the mysterious nature that initiated a deep desire for the exploration of the dramatic landscapes and the everyday life of the Islands inhabitants. Tahmineh Monzavi received the Sheed Award for excellence in social documentary photography (independent non- government award with internationally renowned photographers as the panel of judges). Her works have been exhibited nationally and internationally: Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), MAXXI museum of Roma, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris and many others.

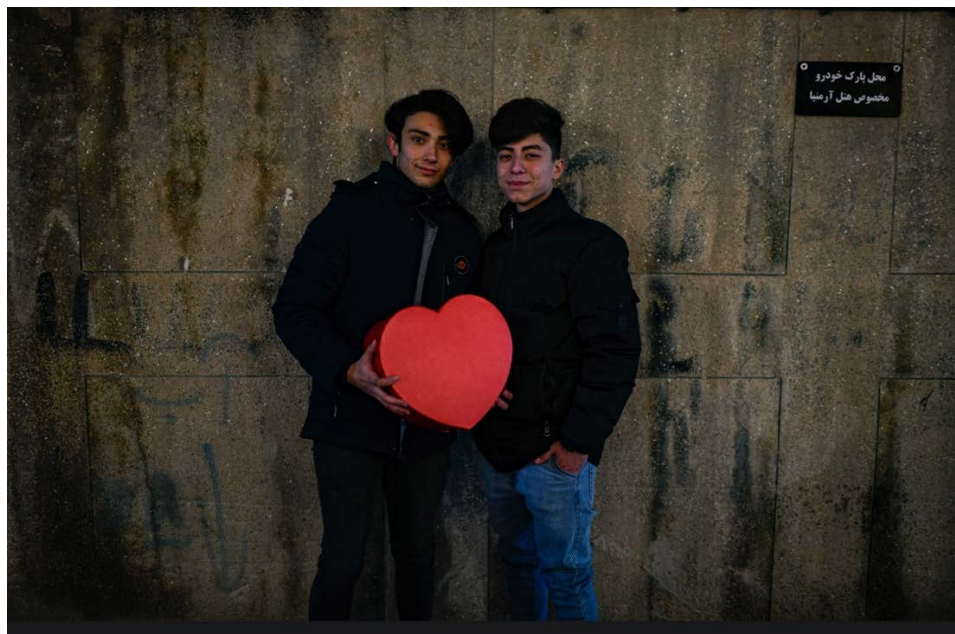
Her works have also been published by number of reputable magazines such as "Newyork times", "Internazionale", "Parismatch", "British Journal of photography", "Le Figaro", "L'oeil de la photographie", "Elle"; they have also been featured in a few photography books like, "La Photographie Iranienne- published by LOCO", "Iran unedited history 1960-2014" published by Muse D'Art Moderne de la ville de Paris , "Iran 38" by Texuel edition.

Tahmineh Monzavi is also known as a film director and producer. Sometimes her photography and film work merge into continuous subject of artistic exploration. For example, the Grape Garden alley series in 2010-2012 developed into a feature length documentary film about a shelter for addicted women in Tehran. As a co-director. She had an important interview in this film with Jean Cloud Carrier.

Tahmineh received international recognition with the film *About the Salesman* (2018), A film about a film which won two trophies for the Best Actor and Best Screenplay at the Cannes Film Festival in 2016 and the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2017.

Statement

In this series of street photography, Tahmineh Monzavi captures the Iranian generation Z's mental state, mood, and lifestyle through a female photographer's lens. Her work mainly focuses on the life of a generation of young, educated, street smart talented and globally aware girls who have courageously established new boundaries and created a new existence separate from the heavily controlled and abusive environment they live in.



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr 30 x 45 cm, 2023 Edition 2/7

€1300



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr 40 x 60 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€1450



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr, 30 x 45 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€1300



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr 30 x 45 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€1300



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr 30 x 45 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€1300



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr 30 x 45 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€1300



Iran Series

Traditional paper 330 gr, 40 x 60 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€1450



Afghanistan Series

Traditional paper 330 gr 40 x 60 cm, 2023, Edition 2/7

€2250



NEGIN MAHZOUN

Negin Mahzoun is an artist based in New York. Her practice focuses on observation, memory, and gender. She explores these issues through her personal experiences and cultural identity. Negin looks at the woman's body as an object and subject with the perspective of self-portrait and layers of history and literature. She uses images in miniature paintings as a reference for self-portraits. In addition, she expresses her work through sculptures, installations, paintings, prints, photography, and textile. In her current practice, she uses sewing, which connects her to her family's professional heritage. Textile has been historically used as a surreptitious tool to depict trauma and transmit intimate emotional and psychological visual narratives. Investigating the consequences of social-cultural trauma and its injurious impact on the body and psyche has been a central core of Negin's practice. Stitching and sewing for Negin are the essential elements to bond her sentiments and materials to convey remembrance through the hands, craft, and textiles. She starts with a self-portrait on the fabric and proceeds to stitch repeatedly until the image fades. The repetitive act of damaging the self-portrait with a needle and simultaneously covering it is a metaphor for self-destruction often associated with those suffering from trauma.

Negin uses textile as a medium of communicating trauma, with a fresh approach, to visualize the story of oppression and share the trauma as a novel treatment.

Statement

“Destruction”

Throughout history, textiles have been a clandestine medium for capturing and conveying trauma, intricately weaving narratives of emotional and psychological wounds. Central to my artistic practice is exploring the reverberations of social and cultural trauma and its profound impact on the body and psyche. In my work, the acts of stitching and sewing are vital as conduits, connecting my emotions with the chosen materials and allowing me to express memories through the tactile artistry of textiles. These intricate works, deeply intertwined with my journey of healing and growth, were created during my transformative treatment process. Stitch by stitch, each piece encapsulates my journey of turning pain into knowledge—a philosophy inherent to art, which my creations seek to embody and amplify. Each piece begins with the creation of a self-portrait on fabric, a process in which I meticulously stitch and re-stitch until the image gradually fades. Using a needle to damage and conceal the self-portrait simultaneously, this repetitive manipulation serves as a poignant metaphor for the self-destructive tendencies often experienced by individuals grappling with trauma. Through textiles, I aim to communicate the gravity of trauma, offering a novel perspective that visualizes narratives of oppression and invites viewers to engage with the healing power of storytelling. This ongoing project delves deep into the aftermath of social and cultural trauma, shedding light on its enduring effects on the mind and body, ultimately striving to foster understanding and empathy.

“Needle's Song”

On my journey as a woman, I've found solace and empowerment in the art of sewing—a traditional form of conversation for the female part of society. Like the delicate threads woven through the fabric, I have navigated the complexities of societal expectations, stitching together my narrative of freedom and resilience.

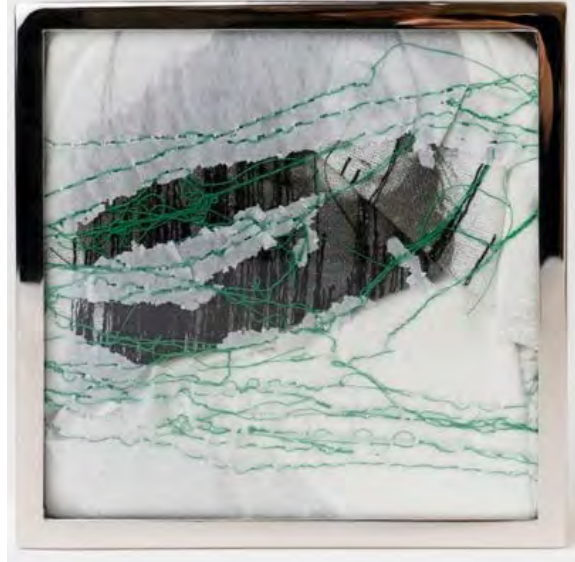
From the earliest whispers of childhood, I felt the weight of social boundaries pressing in on me, ceaselessly trying to bind the contours of my existence. Through the rhythmic motion of the needle advancing through a maze of thread, a flicker of defiance emerged—a silent rebellion against the constraints imposed upon me.

The shackles of traditional gender roles bore down heavily upon me, each stitch a reflection of the expectations of what a woman should be. But with the progress of each completed seam, I found a sense of agency and autonomy, a reminder that I held the power to shape my destiny and pass it on.

The pressure to conform to predetermined boxes of womanhood was relentless, yet the act of sewing became my sanctuary—a space where I could express myself freely without fear of judgment or censure. The warp and weft, and I became free...refusing to be silenced, defying convention to carve my path.

Breaking free from the confines of societal expectations is not easy—it requires determination, resilience, and a willingness to challenge the status quo. But through the artistry of sewing, I found the strength to persevere and weave a tapestry of liberation and empowerment.

Today, I am filled with profound gratitude for the transformative power of sewing in my life. Through the time-honored tradition of threading a needle and guiding the fabric, I have found my voice and woven a new narrative. A song of resilience, strength, and freedom—a story that continues to unfold with each stitch, each conversation, and each moment of self-expression.



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Black and Green Thread, Rice Paper
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Black and White, Black Tule
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and textile, Canvas, Black thread, Matte film
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and textile, Canvas, Transparent paper
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Red Thread
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Canvas, Rice Paper, Black Tulle
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Gold Thread
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Green Thread
Unique, 13 x13 cm, 2023
€2300



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Green Thread
Unique, 13 x 18 cm, 2024
€2800



Untitled from Destruction Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Black Thread
25 x 20 cm, 2023
€3200



The last hug from Needle's Song Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Black Thread, wood whitewash frame
76 x 76 cm, 2024
€5500



Anger had straightened the lines of his mouth from Needle's Song Project
Photography and Textile, Linen Fabric, Black Thread, wood whitewash frame
76 x 76 cm, 2024
€5500



DARIUSH NEHDARAN

Dariush Nehdaran born in Isfahan /Iran in 1984 is a contemporary visual artist who fearlessly defies the rules in order to bring multiple and complex meanings to his work. Through rhythmic juxtaposed images containing a variety of perspectives, he constructs a world between dream and reality and plays with clarity and depth to suggest an alternative way of seeing things.

Throughout his childhood, Dariush suffered from poor eyesight, but chose not to wear glasses to avoid the stigma of getting bullied. During that time, he experienced and viewed the world in a blurry and ambiguous way. When he became a teenager, the use of his grandfather's camera enabled him to see the world clearly for the first time in his life. The fact that he saw the world blurry through his own eyes and clear through the lens of the camera and the printed images has driven him to explore the subject of amphibology as the main topic in his work. By doing so, he has created a unique style that demands his viewers' attention and focus as part of the resolution in his work.

Nehdaran currently lives in San Francisco but has expanded his art internationally. His photographs and video works are available both in public and private collections worldwide including the Detroit Institute of Arts Museum (DIA) in the US 2023, the Armando Reverón Contemporary Art Museum in Caracas-Venezuela 2018, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) in the US 2016, and the Salsali Private Museum in Dubai-UAE 2012.

Dariush is the recipient of multiple awards including the Nikon International Photo Contest in Japan 2015, the Hamghadam Photo Festival in France 2010, and the 7th Image of the Year Festival in Tehran 2010.

Statement

“Clandestinely”

The extraordinarily historic city of Isfahan is known for its art and architecture. Over the years the city has grown and modernized yet retained much of its aged brilliance. Although, with such a vast history comes a great deal of unspoken truths, hidden from society, to shield all of their own capabilities. This is true not only for the ancient city of Isfahan, but all places where control is withheld.

“A mirror reflects everything it sees, unless there are cracks, then the truth is only certain to the begetter” (Anonymous). My motive for taking these photographs is to exhibit concealment. A portion of each photo holds broken mirrors, reflecting only parts of reality that are disclosed to the people. This portion of the images conveys the fact that so much is kept clandestine. Nevertheless, the truth is ultimately revealed. This is displayed in the bottom portion of the photos, where reality is captured with more transparency. However, it is a world that has been turned upside down because the truth is not easily unveiled when it is intentionally censored.

My inspiration to capture the fine line between a clear depiction of reality and the abbreviated truth in one frame came from visiting my hometown of Isfahan after years of being away. I was not aware of the shadows I was living in until I moved afar from the shattered mirror called reality.

“The Life of Shadows”

“When we stand, they fall.

When we sit, they crumble.

When we walk, they shiver.

And when we sleep, they whirl...

Face the wall, your back to the window, look through the window while waiting for the sun to shine again, waiting for us to appear again... then we can mingle with the Zebra stripes on the pedestrian crossing, and melt in the gray asphalt of the road, lest a car drives over them. But we never wait. We crawl in between the cars, and dance on the zebra crossing. By the time we make it to the other side of the road, they are finished. They change names and colors and melt in the dark night. But we are still alive. Far from the gray human world, we turn the wheel of life; we live and grow in our pitch-black world.”

In this body of work, unlike the multi-dimensional humans, my shadows are single-dimensional. The shadows simply show what they are. By flipping and rotating the images, our real lives are replaced with those of the shadows; but despite the distorted reality, the shadows are distinguishable. They are now the real images.



Freedom - Clandestinely Series
Digital Photography - Gelatin Silver Print - Edition 1-5 2AP
30 x 50 cm, 2021
€1800



Reformation-The Life of Shadows Series
Digital Photography-Gelatin silver print-Edition 1-5+2AP
30 x 50 cm 2011
€1800



Ready to Ascend- Clandestinely Series
Digital Photography - Gelatin Silver Print - Edition 1-5 2AP
40 x 60 cm and 30 x 50 cm, 2021
€1800



Limbo - Clandestinely
Digital Photography Gelatin Silver Print -Edition 2-5 2AP
40 x 60 cm and 30 x 50 cm, 2021
€1800



Psychedelic Mosque -The Stopper Series
Digital photography - Gelatin Silver Print - Edition 2-5 + 2AP
30 x 50 cm, 2017
€1800



Pray - The Stopper Series
Digital photography - Gelatin Silver Print - Edition 2-5 + 2AP
30 x 50 cm, 2017
€1800



SEPIDEH SALEHI

Sepideh Salehi is a multidisciplinary artist born in Tehran. She left Iran to attend Accademia di Belle Arti in Florence, Italy, where she received her MFA in Visual Art and Multimedia. Salehi works in various media and utilizes different processes, including painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, and other media. Her recent photographic collages celebrate womanhood and girlhood to honor the girls fighting for their freedom and the many issues the young generation faces, especially in Iran and Afghanistan. She uses layering and collage to combine her photography with images from social media and symbolic elements from her country rooted in memories to address the demand for social and political changes.

Some of the venues for her shows include, MIA photo Fair Milan, an exhibition of Iranian women artists titled *A Bridge Between You and Everything* curated by Shirin Neshat at High Line Nine, NYC, Photo London, Somerset House London, *Mirrored Re-Collection* at the University of Maryland Stamp Gallery, *REVEAL* at The Space by Advocartsy LA, *Patterning* curated by Samantha Friedman at Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY, *STRAPPA* Rogue Space Chelsea NY, Craft, and Folk Art Museum LA, Tribeca Video Art NY, Centre for Contemporary Art Luigi Pecci, Virgiliano Museum and International Bologna Art Fair Italy. Salehi has been on a panel discussion with Shirin Neshat, Middle East Institute, and had talks at the University of Maryland, Loyola University, Pyramid Atlantic Center, and others. She currently lives and works between Washington DC and New York.

Statement

Through my art, I reimagine realities to connect with the past. I mix intuitive painting and collage processes with a conceptual practice rooted in emotions and memories related to separation from home and family. My desire to explore the unknown fuels my interest in transformation. Embedded in my experience as an Iranian woman, concepts of covering up, hiding, and privacy manifest as layered collages, and frame-by-frame animations. To visualize ideas and cultural history I experiment with new and old mediums. My process is iterative—each body of work builds on the other. In my recent series of photographic collages, I celebrate womanhood and girlhood, honoring their fight for freedom while exploring the demand for social and political change. My drawings emerge from a union between the immediacy of line and the literal properties of writing. I also use traditional Iranian motifs to create patterns through rubbings and printmaking. Pictures and videos I either take myself or source online, document events I process by the reworking source material. Ongoing investigations of longing, memory, and misuse of power lead to new ideas. The resulting body of knowledge grows with my practice—a benefit that is its own reward.

My recent photographic collages celebrate womanhood and girlhood to honor the girls fighting for their Freedom and the many issues the young generation faces, especially in Iran and Afghanistan. I use layering and collage to combine photography with images from social media and symbolic elements from my country rooted in memories to address the demand for social and political changes.

Inspired by young girls worldwide fighting for their rights, I created the "For Freedom" project, using my daughter's portrait as the starting point. Layering, cut-outs, and collages were used to portray the story of these brave girls, with each piece inspired by a person and historical event.



For Freedom

Photography and collage on mulberry paper installed on wood panel.

Edition 1/5 + 1AP

40 x 50 cm, 2023

€3800



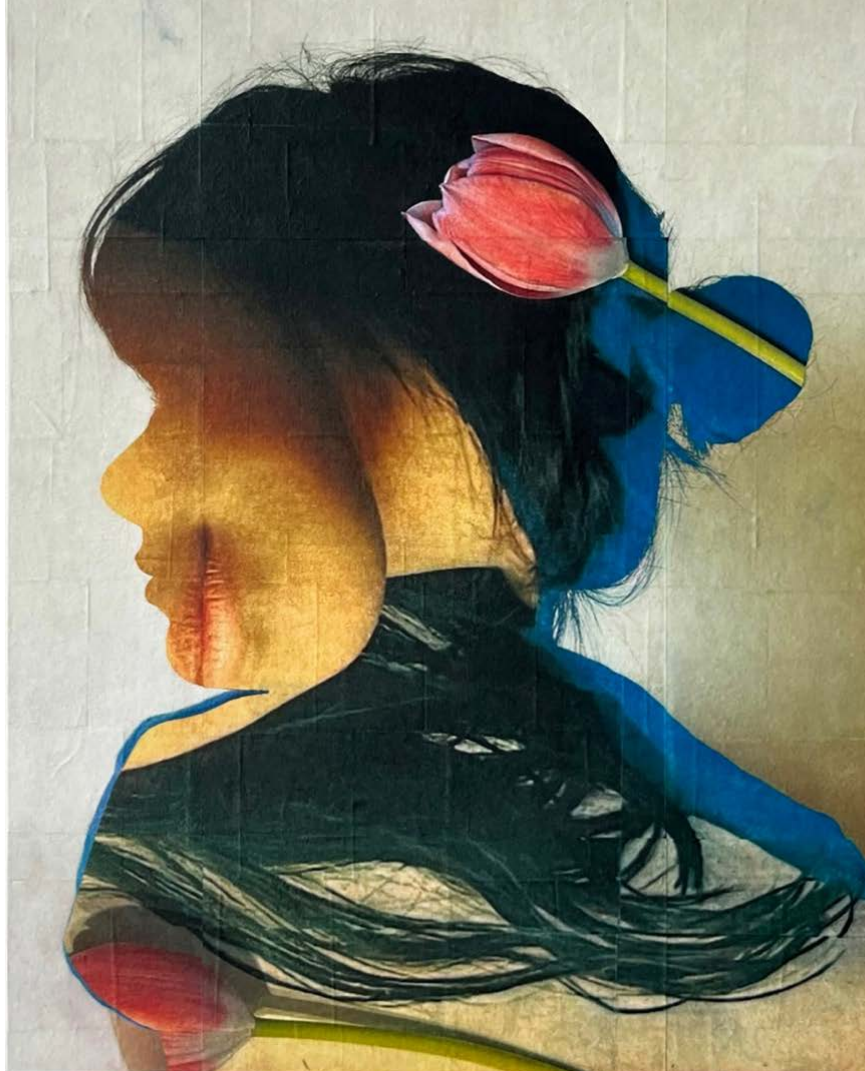
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€3800



ALI TAHAYORI

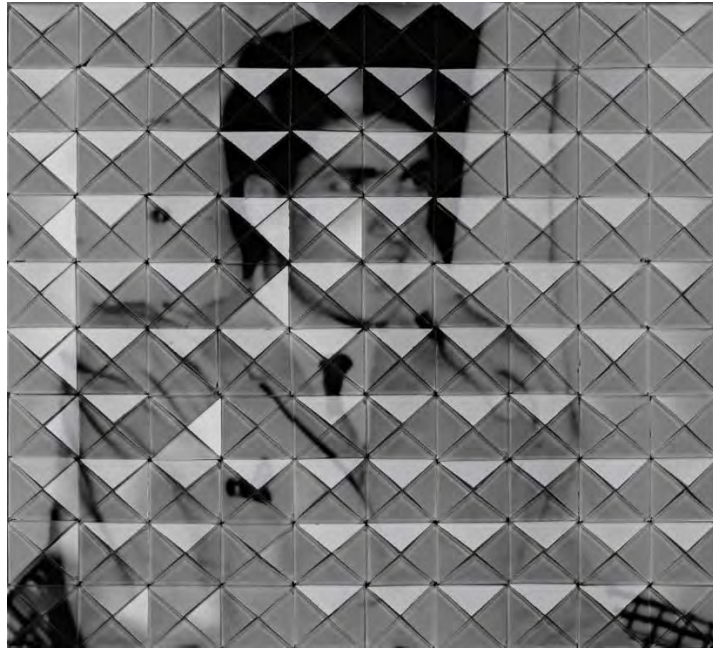
Born in Shiraz, Iran, **Ali Tahayori** currently lives and works in Sydney, Australia. Raised in the oppressively homophobic climate of 1980s Iran, Tahayori assumed the identity of an outsider, further compounded by his migration to Australia in 2007. He holds a Doctorate in Medicine and MFA in Photo media from Sydney's National Art School. Tahayori's interdisciplinary practice ranges from conceptual photography to the moving image and installation. Tahayori uses archival materials, narrative fragments and performative modalities to explore themes of identity, home, and belonging. He has participated in multiple solo and group exhibitions in Australia, the Middle East and Europe. His work has been exhibited at Sharjah Art Foundation (November 2022), Photo London (May 2023), SPRING1883 Melbourne (August 2023), and Unseen Amsterdam Photography Fair (September 2023). He has been a finalist and winner of several local and international art prizes, including the Prix Yves Hernot Award, Smith and Singer People's Choice Award for Bowness Photography Prize, highly commended award for Gosford Art Prize and finalist in Vantage Point Sharjah, Waverley, Hornsby, Blacktown and Hazelhurst Art on Paper awards. His work has been featured and written about in Guardian Australia (Sept 2021), Art Review (April 2023), the 100th edition of Photo London Magazine (May 2023), Art Collector Magazine (July 2023), and Sydney Morning Herald (November 2022).

Statement

Archive of Longing searches for moments of vulnerability, love and belonging within an inherited family archive, glimpses that often escape the photographer's gaze and the subject's agenda. The family photographs are cropped, enlarged, digitally altered, and printed on glass sheets. The printed glass is broken and reassembled to create 3-D sculptural reliefs from 2-D vintage photographs. The personal becomes the universal, as information is removed from photos through abstraction, fragmentation and distortion provided by raised broken printed glass. Using glass instead of paper as a foundation to hold and reveal the image references wet plate negatives in the history of photography, wherein the 19th century, they were used for "sharper", more stable and more detailed images. Here the broken glass is used to complicate viewers' gaze while looking at history and memory from a queer diasporic lens, searching for glints of intimacy, desire, and queerness in an inherited family album.



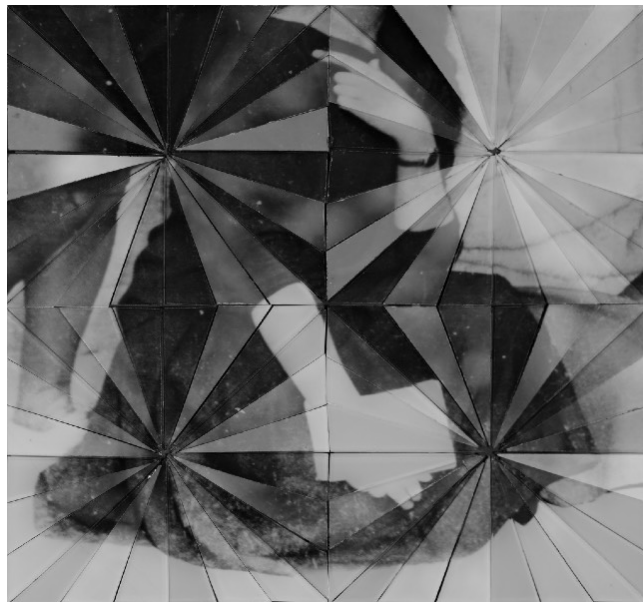
Untitled #1 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
53 x 35 cm, 2024
€5000



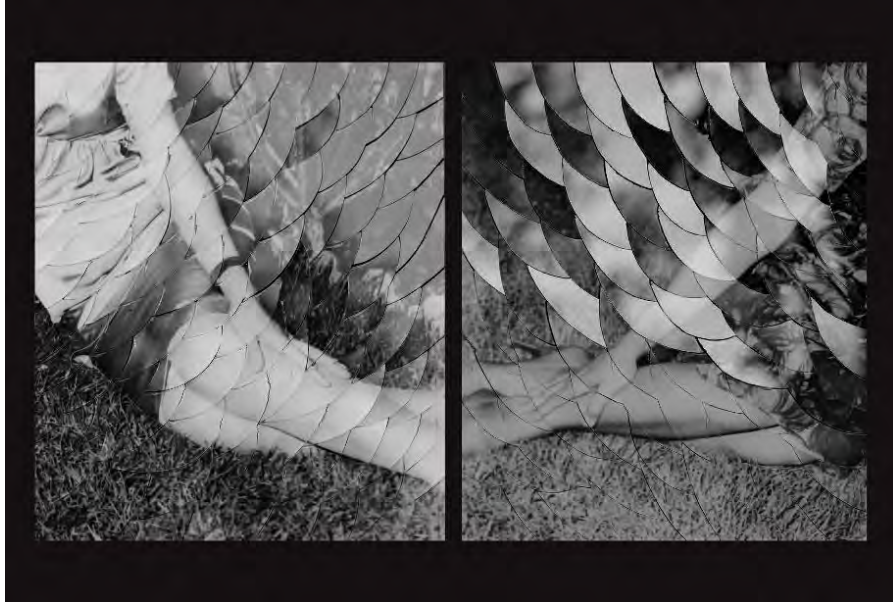
Untitled #13 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
28 x 25 cm, 2024
€4000



Untitled #21 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
22 x 14 cm, 2024
€3000



Untitled #25 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
30 x 32 cm, 2024
€4000



Untitled #22 and #26 diptych from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.

37 x 31 cm (each), 2024

€10000 for both



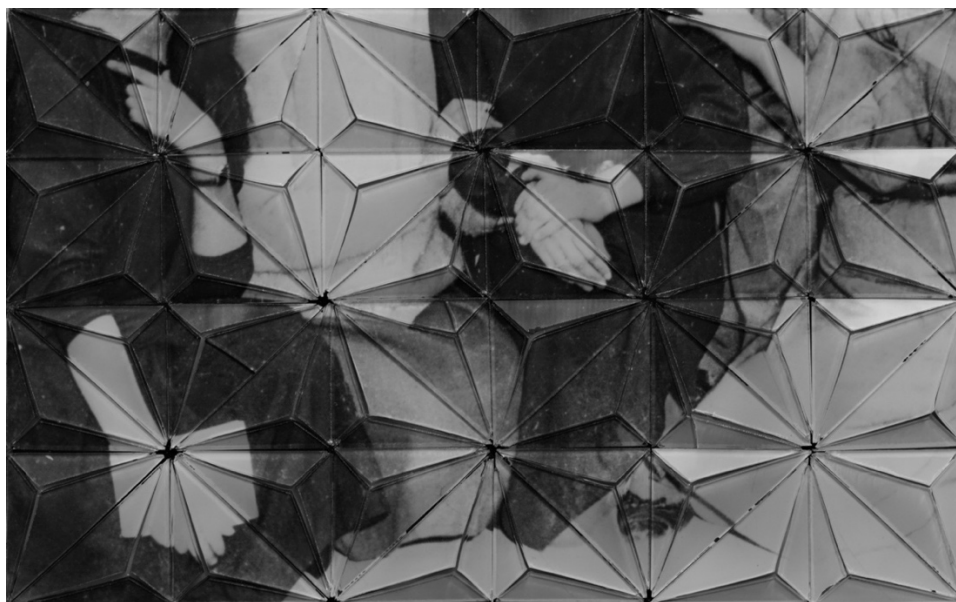
Untitled #23 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.

27 x 21 cm, 2024

€4000



Untitled #27 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
27 x23 cm, 2024
€4000



Untitled #28 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
42 x 27 cm, 2024
€5000



Untitled #30 from the series Archive of Longing
Archival photograph printed on glass, hand-cut glass, aluminum di bond.
36 x 24 cm, 2024
€5000

Artist's CVs

Education

- 2019 MFA, Photography, Video and Related Media, School of Visual Arts, New York, USA
- 2002 B.S, Computer Engineering, Software, Azad University, Qazvin, Iran
- 2000 16- and 35-mm Film Shooting Diploma, Hilaj Film School, Tehran, Iran

Solo Exhibitions

- 2019 I'm Not a Song to Be Sung, Pasio, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Apprehension Jungle, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2010 Peripheral Reality, Azad Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2006 I have been here..., Mahe-Mehr Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2004 Captain Mehdi, Aref Gallery, Qazvin, Iran
- 2004 Captain Mehdi, Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Selected Group Exhibitions / Screening

- 2023 The Energies of Persia, The Rroom, Bologna, Italy
- 2022 I Shouted My Laughter to The Stars, Aicon Gallery, New York, USA
- 2022 Playground Project, New York, USA
- 2021 My Very Favorite Things, The Lodge Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2021 It's NEGATIVE, MiM Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2020 Not Just an Image, Visualcontainer TV, December 17-30
- 2020 Now & After International Video Art Festival, Moscow, Russia
- 2020 A Walk in Time, Moinuddin Ahmad Art Gallery and AMU, Aligarh, India
- 2020 FRAMES-2020, Gayoor Art Foundation, Kashmir, India

- 2020 99, Tehran Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2019 Dr. Javad Mojabi from Artists' View, Sales Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2019 Thesis Exhibition, Curated by Nat Trotman, SVA Chelsea Gallery, New York, USA
- 2019 Ellipsis: Between Word & Image, Museum Galleries Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, India
- 2018 Having Been There, Azad Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2017 2nd Edition of Chongqing International Photography & Video Biennale, Curated by Bisi Silva, Chongqing Museum of Contemporary Art, Chongqing, China
- 2016 Landscape, Hepta Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 Portfolio, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 Mardaa Mard, Lajevardi Foundation, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 The World Viewed, Chapter 3, IGREG Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Daily Farm on the New Silk Road, Xinjiang Museum of Contemporary Art, Xinjiang, China
- 2014 The World Viewed, Chapter 1, IGREG Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 By Iranian Contemporary Photographers, Mellat Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 A Review of a Decade of Video Art in Iran, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 Little Frames, Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 Wavy Banners Project, Jutland, Denmark
- 2012 Cycle, Ershad Gallery, Sanandaj, Iran
- 2012 Photo Expo, Saba Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran
- 2011 Presence, Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2009 Voice of Vision, Spéos Gallery, Paris, France

2009 Between Hope and Chaos, 30 Years of Iranian Documentary
Photography, Monnaie de Paris, France

2009 Separating Myth from Reality - Status of Women, International Art Festival,
Siddhartha Gallery, Kathmandu, Nepal

2009 Grand Hotel, Mehr Gallery, Qazvin, Iran

2009 POLYFORME Video Performance Festival, Marseille, France

2009 Grand Hotel, Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2008 11th Iran Photo Biennial, Saba Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran

2007 5th Annual Image Celebration, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran

2007 Human, Like This, Zangar Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2006 2nd Iran Sea Photos Festival, Tehran, Iran

2006 2nd Annual Prize of Kaveh Golestan Photo Festival, Tehran, Iran

2005 Subject, Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2005 Sufi's Dance, Aref Gallery, Qazvin, Iran

2005 11th Annual Exhibition of Iran Photographers' House, Tehran, Iran

2005 3rd Annual Image Celebration, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran

2005 9th Iran Photo Biennial, Saba Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran

2004 Barg Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2004 Regional Festival of Film and Photography, Qazvin, Iran

2003 Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2003 Barg Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2003 Qazvin Photographers' Annual Exhibition, Aref Gallery, Qazvin, Iran

2001 Village in Village Photo Festival, Babol, Iran

2000 Women in the Mirror of Picture, Photo Festival, Tehran, Iran

2000 Qazvin Photographers' Assembly, Qazvin, Iran

2000 The Lost Piece, Shahr Gallery, Qazvin, Iran

1999 Children Festival, Isfahan, Iran

1999 2n Student Festival of Film, Scenario and Photography, Tehran, Iran

Honors and Awards

2021 City Artist Corps Grants, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs,
New York, USA

2020 The Honorable Mention Award of Now & After International Video Art
Festival, Moscow, Russia

2018 Alice Beck-Odette Scholarship, SVA, New York, USA

2017 Alice Beck-Odette Scholarship, SVA, New York, USA

2015 ATSA Fellowship Program in Arts Management, Delhi, India and Berlin,
Germany

2011 Knowledge and Sharing Fellowship Program, Triangle Network: VASL
Artists' Collective, Karachi, Pakistan

2006 The Honorable Mention Award of 2nd Annual Prize of Kaveh Golestan
Photo Festival, Tehran, Iran

2004 The First Prize of Regional Festival of Film and Photography, Qazvin, Iran

2000 The First Prize of Qazvin Photographers' Assembly, Qazvin, Iran

Artist Residencies

2013 Organhaus, Chongqing, China

2011 VASL Artists' Collective, Karachi, Pakistan

2009 SaNsA, Kumasi, Ghana

2008 Theertha, Kandy, Sri Lanka

2007 Khoj, Kashmir, India

Collections

Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art

Art Jury Members

- 2018 5th Kooshk Artist Residency Award (KARA 2019), Tehran, Iran
- 2017 Spring and Fall Bemis Residency Program, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, USA
- 2016 TADAEX06/NODE Exchange Program, Frankfurt, Germany, and Tehran, Iran
- 2015 2nd Kooshk Artist Residency Award (KARA 2016), Tehran, Iran
- 2016 1st National Qazvin Photo Festival, Qazvin, Iran
- 2014 1st Kooshk Artist Residency Award (KARA 2015), Tehran, Iran
- 2014 4th Annual Exhibition of Isfahan Photo Club, Isfahan, Iran

Curatorial and Management Projects

- 2019 Haft Paykar (Seven Beauties) Group Exhibition, Co-Curated with Natasha Chuk, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 1st Res Artis Meeting in the Middle East, Management Team, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 2nd Rybon International Artists' Workshop, Artistic Director, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 6th Annual Art Contemporary Persbook, Review Committee, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 Art Management Program, Management Team, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 Screening of Art21's Documentary Film Series by Rybon Art Center, Management Team, Cinematheque of the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Evident and Latent, Photography Book, Curatorial Team, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 Visual Dialogue between Switzerland + Iran, Curatorial Team, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran
- 2012 1st Rybon International Artists' Workshop, Curatorial Team, Tehran, Iran

Professional Activities

- 2017-19 Program Advisor, Kooshk Artist Residency, Tehran, Iran
- 2016-20 Board Member, Res Artis, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2016-17 Advisory board Member, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014-17 Curator and Program Manager, Kooshk Artist Residency, Tehran, Iran
- 2008-17 Founding Member, Rybon Art Center, Tehran, Iran
- 2013-14 Iseema, Content Director, Tehran, Iran

Presentations and Talks

- 2022 Talk, The Immigrant Artist Biennial's Patron Circle Event, Aicon Gallery, New York, USA, July 7
- 2022 Talk, Bard College, New York, USA, March 29
- 2022 Talk, Transitional Art Irland, Dublin, Irland, January 20
- 2021 Panel Discussion, Artistic Experience; Artist's Way, Urmia, Iran, Nov 16
- 2021 Panel Discussion, The Artist as a Producer of Places and Networks, HANGAR, Lisbon, Portugal, May 5
- 2021 Live Panel Discussion, It's NEGATIVE, MiM Galery, Los Angeles, USA, April 25
- 2020 Live Panel Discussion, School of Visual Arts Graduate Alumni Panel, SVA, New York, USA, Dec 9
- 2019 Panel Discussion, Haft Paykar Exhibition, Darbast Platform, Tehran, Iran, May 21
- 2018 Panel Discussion, War of Positions: Beauty and the Sublime - The Aesthetics of Culture, Alwan for the Arts, New York, USA, May 24
- 2018 Open Chat, International Artist Opportunities, NYFA, New York, USA, May 16

- 2018 Lecture, Artist Mobility, and Exchange Programs in the Middle East, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA, April 10
- 2017 Talk, Flashback on Res Artis Meeting in Tehran, Res Artis Meeting, Danish Art Workshops, Copenhagen, Denmark, October 25
- 2016 Panel Discussion, The Importance of Residencies in an Artist's Professional Career, Res Artis Meeting, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran, November 23
- 2016 Artist Talk, University of Maryland, Maryland, USA, October 10
- 2015 Talk, Screening of Art21's Documentary Film Series, Cinematheque of the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts, Tehran, Iran, July 13
- 2014 Panel Discussion, The Rule of Technique and Methods in Fine Art Photography, 13th Iran Photo Biennial, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran, February 15
- 2014 Lecture, About Staged Photography, 3rd Month of Photography of Qazvin, Iranian Youth Cinema Society, Qazvin, Iran, September 11
- 2013 Lecture, Center for Contemporary Art, Kabul, Afghanistan, October 23
- 2013 Artist Talk, Organhaus Art Space, Chongqing, China, May 16
- 2013 Panel Discussion, The China that We Have Known, Organhaus-Rybon Exchange Program, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran, September 16
- 2011 Artist Talk, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan, February 23
- 2011 Artist Talk, Karachi School of Art, Karachi, Pakistan, February 22
- 2011 Artist Talk, Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan, February 21
- 2009 Artist Talk, Ghana Cultural Center, Kumasi, Ghana, June 8
- 2009 Lecture, About David Levinthal's Works, Annual Week of Film and Photography of Qazvin, Iranian Youth Cinema Society, Qazvin, Iran, February 25

- 2008 Artist Talk, Hanthana International Art Center, Hanthana, Sri Lanka, February 18
- 2007 Artist Talk, Gulshan (Aga Manzil), Kashmir, India, November 5
- 2006 Artist Talk, University of Art, Tehran, Iran, November 15
- 2005 Panel Discussion, Sufi's Dance Exhibition, Aref Gallery, Qazvin, Iran
- 2004 Panel Discussion, Photography Websites, Iranian Photojournalists' Association, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran, April 11

Television

- 2015 Interview, Art Residencies, Karane Tele Magazine, Channel 4, August 15
- 2006 Interview, Fanoos Televisual Magazine, Channel 4, Iran, March 5

Selected Publications

- 2022 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Contemporary Iranian Photography by Aram Mohamadi, Published by Aban Book
- 2018 Art and Cultural Exchange Amidst Political Treaty-Making and Breaking, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Kooshk Annual Catalog
- 2018 Regional Origins and Approaches, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, ZARD Magazine, Issue 006
- 2017 Awareness and Understating in the Context of Art and Culture, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Kooshk Annual Catalog
- 2016 Artist Residency, the Art of Residing, and the Encounter of Iran's Contemporary Art with International Art, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Kooshk Annual Catalog
- 2016 A Platform for Creativity, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Second Rybon International Artists' Workshop

- 2015 A New Chapter in Iran's Cultural Policy, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Kooshk Annual Catalog
- 2015 Art in New York, Another Version, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, New York Close Up Screening Catalog
- 2015 Sticker, Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, PIX Magazine, Issue 11 – SURGE
- 2014 Review About Gregory Crewdson's Works by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Istgaah Magazine, Issue 1
- 2014 Review About Mehrdad Asgari Tari's Works by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, PIX Magazine, Issue 8
- 2013 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Hamshahri Dastan Magazine, Issue 21
- 2012 A Season for Dialogue, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, First Rybon International Artists' Workshop
- 2012 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, The British Museum Press, Autumn
- 2012 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, African Textiles Today by Chris Spring, Published by British Museum
- 2011 I Have Been Here, Works by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Talk Magazine, Issue 14
- 2010 Peripheral Reality, Works by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, AKS magazine, Issue 279
- 2009 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Connaissance des Arts Magazine, Issue 80
- 2007 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Creative Photography Magazine, Issue 13,14
- 2007 Video Art, an Independent Media, Article by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Khabar Anjoman Magazine, Issue 6
- 2007 Cover Photo, Moj Magazine, Issues 3 and 4

- 2005 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Canvas Magazine, Issue 1
- 2004 Work by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Tassvir Magazine, Issue 45-49
- 2003 Mannequin, Works by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, AKS Magazine, Issue 194
- 2003 Introduction to Digital Photography, Essay by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Doorbin-e Akkasi Magazine, Issue 17
- 2003 An Overview on Photography Websites, Essay by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Doorbin-e Akkasi Magazine, Issues 16,18,19,20,22,24
- 2003 Searching in Internet, Essay by Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, Doorbin e Akkasi magazine, Issue 15

Selected Bibliography

- 2020 Within the Spectrum of a Gaze: Tooraj Khamenehzadeh's Inspired Tableaux Vivants, Review by Natasha Chuk, Photography Magazine, Issue 06
- 2019 Underneath, it's All Poetry, Review by Natasha Chuk, ZARD Magazine, Issue 009
- 2019 Art and Cultural People's Attempts to Distinguish between Culture and Politics, Interview with Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, by Farzaneh Shahriari, Eghtesad Honar Online Website, May 31
- 2017 Artist Residency; Artists' Experience in different Cultures and different Environments, Interview with Tooraj Khamenehzadeh, by Majid Foroughi, 10 Days with Iranian Photographers Magazine, Issue 6
- 2014 Into the Apprehension Trap, Review by Saleh Tasbihi, Tajrobeh Magazine, Issue 256
- 2014 Apprehension Jungle, Review by Najaf Shokri, Herfe Honarmand, Issue 51

- 2013 Passing through Close Doors, Review by Saleh Tasbihi, Tajrobeh Magazine, Issue 208
- 2007 Suspicious Existence, Review by Hasan Rajabinezhad, Kargah Website, August 15
- 2007 Narrator of Captain's Loneliness Room, Interview with Tooraj Khamenezhadeh, by Arvin Ilbeigi, Moj Magazine, Issue 2
- 2004 Critic Review for Three Photo Series of Tooraj Khamenezhadeh, by Mehrnegar Fariborz, Kargah Website, January 13
- 2003 For the Audiences, Interview with Tooraj Khamenezhadeh, Daricheh Honar Magazine, Issue 9
- 2001 Lost Piece of Two Young Photographers, Interview, Daricheh Honar Magazine, Issue 2

Education

She received her BA in photography from Azad art and architecture University.

Museum Exhibitions

Monzavi's work has been featured in the following cultural institutions:

- 2023-2024 Women Defining Women in Contemporary Art of the Middle East, opening at Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) in Apr. 2023, and traveling to the Phoenix Art Museum (Nov. 2023 – Mar. 2024)
- 2018 In the Fields of Empty Days: Intersection of Past and Present in Iranian Art, LACMA
- 2018 OXYS in Black and White, Screening international video-art of the 21st century, MAXXI Museum, Rome (2018) and MACRO, Rome's Museum of Contemporary Art
- 2018 Iranian Artists, Zurab Tsereteli Museum of Modern Art, Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2014 Unedited History, Iran 1960-2014, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, France
- 2012 Grape Garden, Nights of Photography, Giorgi Leonidze Museum, Tbilisi, Georgia

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 A Self Torn Apart, Galerie Eric Dupont, Paris.
- 2021 Bodies of Nature, Galerie Felix Frachon, Brussels.
- 2019 Red Soil, Cold soil, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran.
- 2017 Past continuous, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran, Iran.
- 2016 All about me, Nicknamed Crown Giver, The Public House of Art, Amsterdam.

- 2016 Past continuous, Hinterland Gallery, Vienna.
- 2015 All about me, Nicknamed Crown Giver, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran.
- 2015 Review of Tahmineh Monzavi's Artworks, Robert Klein Gallery, Boston.
- 2014 Brides of Mokhber-al-Dowleh, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran.

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 "Women Defining Women" in Contemporary art of the Middle East at LACMA museum in Los Angeles in April 2023 and traveling to the Phoenix art museum (Nov.2023- March 2024)
- 2023 Group show at Robert Klein Gallery Jan- March
- 2022 Venti, Aurea, Anima, Sprit of Fluidity, Foundry Downtown gallery, Dubai
- 2022 Group show at the Felix Frachon gallery, Brussels
- 2020 Dans la tête c'est Mexico, Galerie Eric Dupont, Paris.
- 2018 In the Fields of Empty Days: The Intersection of Past and Present in Iranian Art, LACMA, Los Angeles.
- 2018 OXYS in black and white, Screening international videoart of the 21st century, MACRO, Rome's Museum of Contemporary Art.
- 2018 International Women Photography Award exhibition, Alliance Française, Paris.
- 2018 Guardi Iraniani, Bellinzona, Switzerland.
- 2017 Collection of Sammlung Verbund, Vienna.
- 2015 Re-Action, Gijon Museum, Spain.
- 2014 Unedited History. Iran 1960-2014, MAXXI Museum, Rome.
- 2014 Unedited History. Iran 1960-2014, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.
- 2014 Dance of the Seven Veils, Side by Side Gallery, Berlin
- 2014 A Requiem for a Desolation, Hinterland Gallery, Vienna.Iranian Photography, Milles Gallery, Sydney.
- 2014 Burning Down the House, 10th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea.
- 2013 Dance of the Veil, Side by Side Gallery, Berlin.

- 2013 A view of documentary photography in Iran 1987-2013, Silk Road, Tehran.
- 2013 OXYS in black and white, nomad exhibition, Milan, and Syros (Greece).
- 2012 Grape Garden, Nights of Photography, Giorgi Leonidze Museum, Tbilisi, Georgia.
- 2011 Alternative Histories, National Portrait Gallery, London.
- 2010 A Selection of Young, Talented Iranian Photographers, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran; Tehran: Documentary Photographs from the Last 40 Years, Arran Gallery, Tehran.

Awards And Notable Mentions

Monzavi received the Sheed Award for excellence in social documentary photography in 2011.

Her work has received mentions in a number of prestigious publications like the New York Times, Internazionale, Paris Match, the British Journal of Photography, Le Figaro, L'Oeil de la Photographie, and Elle Magazine. She is featured in "La Photographie Iranienne" published by LOCO, in the catalog of the exhibition titled "Iran, Unedited History 1960 -2014" published by the Musée d'Art Moderne (Paris), and in "Iran 38" published by Editions Textuel and a book titled " A self-torn apart" published by centre national des arts plastiques (CNAP) and gallery Eric dupon 2022 and prix pictet award book 2022 "fire".

Education

- 2020 MFA in Studio Art, The City College of New York, CUNY, New York, USA
- 2011 BA in Visual Communication, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran.

Solo Exhibition

- 2022 Here and Now, Bladr Art Platform, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2020 A Thousand Canaries, Fall Silent in My Throat, Goethals Gallery, New York, USA
- 2015 Little Romance, Meem Cafe Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2006 Silence Song, Mehrin Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 INTRECCI [INTERTWINING], Galleria Anna Marra, Rome, Italy
- 2024 Zona Maco Art Fair, Galleria Anna Marra, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2024 Seeing Is Realizing There Is Always More to See, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, USA
- 2024 Blank Tape, Brew House Gallery, Pittsburgh, USA
- 2023 MIA (Milan Image Art Fair) Roya Khadjavi Projects, Milan, Italy.
- 2023 Asia now, Roya Khadjavi Projects, Paris, France
- 2022 I Shouted My Laughter to The Stars, Aicon Gallery, New York, NY
- 2022 Cycle, X Room Gallery, Maltfabriken, Ebeltøft, Denmark
- 2020 My Very Favorite Things, The Lodge Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2019 Presence, Absence, Compton Goethals Gallery, New York, USA
- 2019 Haft Paykar, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 Episode 01, Mohsen Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 6th Tehran International Biennale of Illustration, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 Art for Peace, Vista Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 Aria Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

- 2011 Collective Memories, Noghte Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2010 Freedom, Noghte Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2008 9th Biennial of Tehran, Tehran, Iran
- 2006 Ashura Festival, Tehran, Iran
- 2006 The prayer, Islam World Festival, Tehran, Iran
- 2004 Ununited, Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2004 Last view, now, Arasbaran Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2001 In the Name of GOD, Saba Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Honors and Awards

- 2023 FST StudioProjects Fund, New York, USA
- 2021 City Artist Corps Grant, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York, USA
- 2020 Connor Award Scholarship, The City College of New York, New York, USA
- 2019 Connor Award Scholarship Second Place, The City College of New York, New York, USA
- 2019 Therese McCabe Ralston Connor Merit Award, The City College of New York, New York, USA
- 2019 Connor Award Scholarship, The City College of New York, New York, USA
- 2018 Connor Award Scholarship, The City College of New York, New York, USA
- 2011 Selected in 46th GOLDEN PEN festival, Belgrade, Serbia

Artist Residencies

- 2022 Maltair Residency in Ebeltoft in collaboration with Danish Art Workshop in Copenhagen and Kunsthal Aarhus in Aarhus, Denmark.
- 2021 Beach 64 Retreat Residency, New York, USA
- 2017 Beach 64 Retreat Residency, New York, USA

2013 Organhus, Chongqing, China

Professional Experience

2020 Teaching Assistant, 3D wood design, The City College of New York, CUNY, New York, USA

2016-2020 Design Consultant, Kooshk Artist Residency, Tehran, Iran

2016 Program Coordinator, 2nd Rybon International Workshop, Tehran, Iran

2016 Project Manager, Deegar Platform, Tehran, Iran

2015 Program Coordinator, Screening of Art21's Documentary Film Series by Rybon Art Center, Tehran, Iran

2014-2016 Program Coordinator, Kooshk Artist Residency, Tehran, Iran

2012 Program Coordinator, 1st Rybon International Workshop, Tehran, Iran

2011-2017 Program Coordinator, Rybon Art Center, Tehran, Iran

Presentation and Talks

2022 Talk, The Immigrant Artist Biennial's Patron Circle Event, Aicon Gallery, New York, NY, July 9

2022 Talk, Maltfabriken, Ebeltoft, Denmark, April 29

2019 Talk MFA Program the City College of New York, CUNY, New York, USA

2015 Talk, Rybon Art Center, Tehran, Iran, January 20

2013 Talk, Organhaus Art Space, Chongqing, China, May 16

Selected Publications

2023 I am not a Tale to be Told, Der Greif Magazine, Edited by Shirin Neshat, Issue 16

Education

2007 BFA, Painting, Elm & Farhang University, Tehran, Iran

Professional Affiliation

2010 - National Iranian Photographers Society
Present

Solo Exhibitions

2018 “AMPHIBOLOGY” An anthology of photographs, Elga Wimmer Gallery,
New York, USA
2016 Shadows of the Tenderloin, Smash Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2012 Ettelaat, Shokouh Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2008 Urban Rivers, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
2007 Contemporary Portrait, Khark Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Group Exhibitions

2023 Brazil x Iran, Color & Forms, High Line Nine Gallery 4, New York, USA
2022 Magic of Persia Charity Art Exhibition & Auction Gala, London, UK
2021 Once Upon a Time, Advocartsy Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
2020 Photogenic, Soo Contemporary Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2020 Self-reflection, High Line Nine, Gallery 9.1, New York, USA

- 2018 Art Brief IV: Iranian Contemporary North America, Somarts Cultural Center, San Francisco, USA
- 2018 Magic of Persia, Art Exhibition & Auction Gala, Bonhams, Los Angeles, USA
- 2018 Magic of Persia, Art Exhibition & Auction Gala, Monaco, EU
- 2018 Behnam Foundation, Auction & Art Exhibition, Behnam Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2018 If So What Art Fair, Palace of Fine Arts, San Francisco, USA
- 2016 Artnet auctions, Advocartsy space, Los Angeles, USA
- 2016 Art Brief II: Iranian Contemporary North America, Arena 1 Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2016 Untitled, Ordibehesht Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 Untitled, Art Ark Gallery, San Jose, California
- 2013 By Iranian Contemporary Photographers, Mellat Gallery & Cineplex, Tehran, Iran 2013
- 2013 Untitled, Shokouh Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2012 Text me, lawrieshabibi Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2012 Saba Photo, Farhangsaraye Saba gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2012 Magic of Persia, Art Exhibition & Auction Gala, Salsali Private Museum, Dubai, UAE 2011
- 2011 Iranian Pulse, Cultural Center "Hello Future", Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2011 1st Modern & Contemporary Visual Art Auction, Shirin Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2011 The first Tehran Painting Market, Barg Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2010 Magic of Persia Charity Art Exhibition & Auction Gala, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2010 Encyclopaedia Iranica Charity Art Exhibition, New York, USA
- 2010 Seven...?!, Day Gallery, Tehran, Iran

- 2010 Untitled, Neel Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2007 Eternal Papers, Contemporary Arts Museum, Isfahan, Iran
- 2007 Photography Expo, Esteqlal hotel, Tehran, Iran
- 2005 Untitled, Bahman Cultural Centre, Tehran, Iran

Awards

- 2022 Psychology of Travel's contest, USA
- 2015 International Nikon Photo Contest, Category D Open theme, photo story:
3rd place, Japan
- 2010 Hamghadam Photo Festival, Environment Category: 1st place, Sorbonne
University, Paris, France
- 2010 7th Image of the Year Festival, Video Category: 1st place, Iran Art
Organization, Tehran, Iran

Museum Collections

- 2023 Detroit Institute of Arts Museum (DIA), Detroit, USA
- 2018 Armando Reverón Contemporary Art Museum, Caracas, Venezuela
- 2016 Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, USA
- 2015 Didi Museum, Mazandaran, Iran
- 2012 Salsali Private Museum, Dubai, UAE

Recognitions

- 2023 Photo London Art Fair, Somerset House, London, UK
- 2022 19th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art
Organization, Tehran, Iran

2021 18th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2020 Photo London Art Fair, Somerset House, London, UK

2020 View from the Window, Poznań Art Week, Wolnica, Poland

2020 Photo LA Art Fair, Barker Hangar, Santa Monica, USA

2020 17th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2019 Photo London Art Fair, Somerset House, London, UK

2018 II Bienal del Sur, Pueblos en Resistencia, Caracas, Venezuela

2018 15th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2017 14th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division/Social documentary, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2016 13th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2015 Auction 2.0, Emergeast, VIDA Downtown, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2014 11th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2013 10th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2013 10th Image of the year Festival, Video Category, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

2012 Centrefold 8, London, UK

2012 12th Iranian National Biennial of Photography, Tehran and Yazd, Iran

2012 9th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran

- 2012 9th Image of the year Festival, Video Category, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2012 3rd Photos of Women and Urban Life Festival, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2011 Slamdance Film Festival genius, Utah, California, USA
- 2011 1st Katara Art Center International Video Art and Digital Art Festival, Doha, Qatar
- 2011 Contemporary Art Prize, Finalist, Royal college of Art, London, UK
- 2011 8th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2011 8th Image of the year Festival, Video Category, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2011 Contemporary Art Prize, Shortlist, Traffic Gallery, Dubai
- 2011 Contemporary Art Prize, Shortlist, Traffic Gallery, Dubai
- 2010 1st Hamghadam Festival, Video Category, Sorbonne University, France
- 2010 7th Image of the Year Festival: Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2009 International Photo Exhibition and Competition: Iran the land of Monotheism Religion, Imam Ali Museum Of Arts, Tehran, Iran
- 2008 6th Image of the Year Festival, Innovation Division, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2008 Human & Traffic Festival, Iran Art Organization, Tehran, Iran
- 2008 Selected for Art's Month Photography Festival, Mah-e-Mehr Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2008 Selected for 2nd Damoon Far Visual Art Festival, Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran

- 2007 Iranian Students International Photography and Film Festival, Tehran, Iran
- 2006 10th Iranian Photo Biennial, Innovative Photographer Category, Saba Cultural Centre, Tehran, Iran
- 2004 1st Digital Photography Competition, Niavaran Palace, Tehran, Iran

Education

- 2007 Accademia di belle Arti of Florence, Italy, M.F.A in visual art and multimedia
- 2005 Accademia di belle Arti of Florence, Italy, B.F.A. in studio art
- 1998 University of Azad – Tehran, B.A., in English Language and Translation

Solo and Two Person Exhibitions

- 2018 Mirrored Re-Collection, Stamp Gallery at the University of Maryland College Park, MD
- 2018 REVEAL at The Space by Advocartsy, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 STRAPPA, Dialogue & Performance curated by Roya Khadjavi at Rogue Space, New York, NY
- 2013 TRACES: Drawings in Motion curated by Florence Neal at Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY (essay by Shoja Azari)

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 MIA photo Fair, curated by Roya Khadjavi Projects, Milan, Italy
- 2023 Le Energie della Persia, curated by Eleonora Frattarolo, Roya Khadjavi Projects and the Room collaboration, Bologna, Italy
- 2022 Mashup, annual member exhibition at the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, MD

- 2021 Once Upon a Time at THE SPACE by ADVOCARTSY, LA
- 2021 March Group Exhibition at THE SPACE by ADVOCARTSY, LA
- 2021 Art in Isolation curated by Laila Jadallah at the Middle East Institute
Washington DC
- 2020 Art in Isolation curated by Laila Jadallah at the Middle East Institute
Washington DC
- 2020 Self-reflection curated by Roya Khadjavi at High Line Nine Gallery, NYC
- 2020 Summer Group Exhibition at THE SPACE by ADVOCARTSY, LA
- 2020 Focus on Flatfiles at Kentler Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2020 Art Mutters (Alone and United) curated by Sandaleum at Triangle, NY
- 2019 A BRIDGE BETWEEN YOU AND EVERYTHING curated by Shirin Neshat
at High Line Nine, New York
- 2019 Art & Social Activism Festival curated by Roya Khadjavi Projects, NYC
- 2019 Photo London curated by Roya Khadjavi Projects, Somerset House,
London
- 2019 Focus Iran 3: Contemporary Photography and Video at Craft
Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA
- 2018 ART BRIEF IV: Iranian Contemporary at SOMArts Cultural Center, San
Francisco, CA
- 2018 VAEFF, Video Art & Experimental Film Festival at Tribeca Film Center &
DCTV, New York, NY
- 2018 If So, What? by Roya Khadjavi Projects, San Francisco, LA
- 2017 The Poetics of Diaspora by Advocartsy, Artnet at The Space, Los
Angeles
- 2017 Official selection of video "Strappa" at the Farhang short film festival,
Los Angeles, CA

- 2017 Patterning curated by Samantha Friedman at Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 ART BRIEF III: THE (UN)DRAPED WOMAN at Arena 1 Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2016 Peace on Paper, Iran Contemporary Art Biennale at Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 Archimedes Bathtub at Lorimoto Gallery, Ridgewood-NY
- 2015 Focus Iran: Contemporary Photography and Video at Craft & Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 The Photography Show by The Committee and AKArt advisory at Site/109, New York, NY
- 2014 ARE WE ALREADY GONE? Artists on the Art of Leaving at Flicker Lab, New York, NY
- 2014 Video screening as a VAEFF Special Selections at the Cutlog New York, NY Art Fair
- 2014 Circumstances at Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 Video screening at Video Art and Experimental Film Festival at Tribeca Cinemas, New York
- 2011 Bilateral Trace: Four Emerging Artists From Iran at Strohl Art Center, Chautauqua, NY
- 2011 MARKED DIFFERENCES at Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 WAR & PEACE at Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 PROXIMITY video screening at PAH! Space, Fribourg, Switzerland
- 2009 The map is not the territory at the Dumbo Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
- 2009 Video screening at Centre for Contemporary Art Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy

- 2008 Aftermath, video screening at Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, VA
- 2008 One Planet, One Experiment, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago
- 2008 Food, Arte di Cibarsi - Cibarsi d' Arte, video screening Palazzo Roffia, San Miniato, Italy
- 2008 Ondavideo, Donne, Image of the women between photography, film and video art, Pisa, Italy
- 2007 International Contemporary Art Fair, Europeans young Artists, Mulhouse, France
- 2007 Echi da Tehran, Iranian Contemporary Artists at Palazzo Comunale, Pistoia, Italy
- 2006 Opus Liber Project, Book of Art at Academy of Arts and Design, Florence, Italy
- 2006 Bologna International Contemporary Art Fair, video screening at the Biagiotti Gallery, Italy
- 2005 Opus Liber Project, Book of Art, at Museum of Virginian Mantova, Italy
- 2005 Opus Liber Project, Book of Art at Raffaello's House, Urbino, Italy

Lectures & Talks

- 2020 Art in Isolation panel discussion at the Middle East Institute in Washington DC (zoom)
- 2019 Shirin Neshat in Conversation with Iranian women artists at Hemmerdinger Hall, NYU, NY
- 2019 Artist Talk at Pyramid Atlantic Center, MD
- 2019 The Only Divisions that Matter Now: A roundtable discussion at Loyola University Baltimore, MD

2018 Artist Lecture in conjunction with exhibition Mirrored Re-Collection,
University of Maryland, MD

Selected Awards & Professional Experiences

2020 Pardis for Children, New York, workshop "Introduction to Modern and Contemporary Iranian Artist"

2019 Denbo Fellowship at Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, Hyattsville, Maryland

2014-17 NYFA, Mentoring Program for immigrant Artists, New York, Mentor

2013-16 Pardis for Children, New York, language and Art teacher

2013-16 Asia Society, New York, workshop "Persian New Year Family Day"co-presented by Pardis for Children

Asia Society, New York, workshop "Passport to Asia"co-presented by Pardis for Children

Asia Society, New York, workshop "Iran Modern", co-presented by Pardis for Children

2006 Accademia di Belle Arti of Florence, Italy, a teaching fellowship at Laboratorio di pittura

Education

- 2022 Master of Fine Art (Photo media), National Art School, Sydney
- 2006 Doctor of Medicine, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences
- 2003 Graduate Diploma (Photography), Sepid-o-Siyah Art School, Shiraz, Iran

Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 Unseen Amsterdam Photography Fair, Amsterdam NL
- 2023 Looking at Me Looking at You, THIS IS NO FANTASY Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 Impossible Desire, KNULP Gallery, Gosford NSW
- 2023 The Sky Is the Same, Gosford Regional Gallery, Gosford NSW

Group Exhibitions

- 2024 Melbourne Art Fair, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 Queer Contemporary, Sydney World Pride, NAS, Sydney, Australia
- 2023 FROM FIRE: NC QIN & ALI TAHAYORI, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, NSW
- 2023 Photo London, Curated by Roya Khadjavi Projects, London UK
- 2023 Braving Time: Queer Contemporary, Sydney World Pride, National Art School, Sydney NSW
- 2023 ORBIT, THIS IS NO FANTASY Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2023 Emanate, New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale NSW

- 2023 Tracing the Rupture, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, Katoomba NSW
- 2023 SPRING 1988, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne, VIC
- 2022 Post Grad Show, National Art School, Sydney, Australia
- 2022 Vantage Point Sharjah 10, Al Hamriyah studios, Sharjah, UAE
- 2022 Gosford Art Prize, Gosford Regional Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2022 'Retrograde//Anterograde', Airspace Projects, Sydney, Australia
- 2022 'Plexus', group show, Comber Street Studios, Sydney, Australia
- 2022 'What Comes Afterwards', solo show, Gaffa Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2021 William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art, Melbourne, Australia
- 2021 Blacktown City Art Prize, The Leo Kelly Blacktown Art Centre, Sydney, Australia
- 2020 'March Arts', RPAH , Sydney, Australia
- 2004 'Plastic', Vessal Gallery, Shiraz, Iran
- 2003 Graduate Exhibition, Sepid-o-Siyah Gallery, Shiraz, Iran

Awards

- 2022 Prix Yves Hernot Photography Award, Winner
- 2022 Blacktown Art Prize, Finalist
- 2022 Hornsby Art Prize, Finalist
- 2022 Gosford Art Prize, Highly Commended Honorable Mention
- 2022 Vantage point Sharjah 10, Finalist
- 2021 William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize, Smith and Singer People's Choice Award, Winner
- 2021 Color Factory MGA, highly commended Honorable mention
- 2021 Blacktown City Art Prize, Finalist
- 2020 March Arts Photography Prize, Sydney, Australia, Winner

Curatorial Projects

2018 March Arts, Sydney Local Health District, Sydney, Australia

Collections

Private collections in Australia and Iran

Presentations & Artist Talk

2021 Ali Tahayori and Justine Varga in conversation with MGA director, Anouska Phizacklea on Alternative Photographic Processes

Reviews & Features

2022 Interviewed and featured in Sydney Morning Herald in November

2022 <https://www.smh.com.au/by/angus-thomson-p53654>

2022 Featured in Art/Edit Magazine, in the "Ones to Watch" Section in November

2022 <https://artedit.com.au/ones-to-watch-ali-tahayori/>

2021 Sisterhood reviewed in December 2021 by Capture Magazine; https://www.capturemag.com.au/news/bowness-prize-people-s-choice-winner-revealed?fbclid=IwAR0nFHxCA4DVKLYV5Q9MAst0QDxxh1vXpD5WE-i8F3J_ufGplj3ibhhUer0

2021 Sisterhood reviewed on 7th December 2021 by Australian Photography Magazine; https://www.australianphotography.com/news/striking-portrait-wins-2021-bowness-photography-prize-people-s-choice-award?fbclid=IwAR2U0J4XEqaj0uUA7OtYw1Z0_Q7J1PUtW-9_WfP8IX0UEjgtpPJJmJzDhO4

- 2021 Sisterhood reviewed in December 2021 by the Australian ArtsReview; https://artsreview.com.au/ali-tahayori-wins-smith-singer-peoples-choice-award-for-sisterhood/?fbclid=IwAR2GLnRbqcYXat30DE_gc_thfR4lfSNzxCzw0qn3GDdb98fUdLj7LpuxhFA
- 2021 Featured in The Guardian Australia, The 2021 Bowness Photography Prize, Finalists in pictures
- 2021 Featured in The Age, All the emotions are documented in the best photos of 2021



www.royakhadjaviprojects.com

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