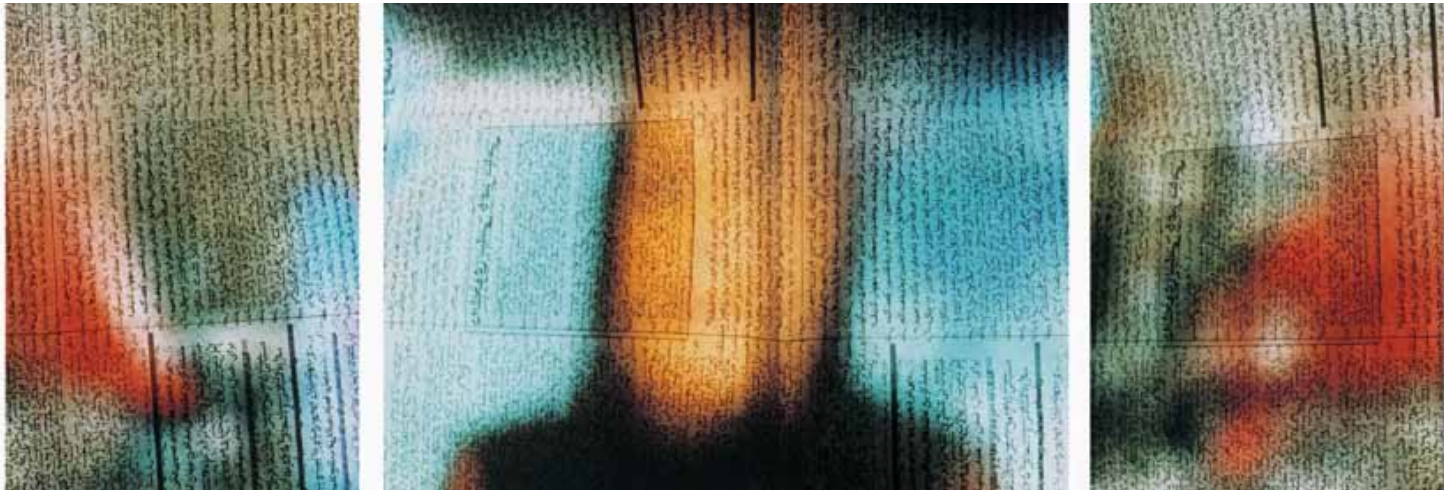


Persian Visions

Contemporary Photography from Iran



Mehran Mohajer, TV Series 1 (The light is out the room is dark)



Bahman Jalali, Image of Imaginations 5

Of all the art forms, the medium of photography delivers detailed specifics that make cultural differences all the more interesting. The artistry presented in this exhibition is crafted by some of the most renowned and articulate photographers of Iran. Its fortunate arrival (in the U.S.) is most timely because of our distance from the breathtaking beauty of the Islamic arts, and our growing interest in it.

— Gary Hallman, Curatorial Consultant and Associate Professor, Department of Art, University of Minnesota

Persian Visions: Contemporary Photography from Iran is the first survey of contemporary Iranian photography to be presented in the United States. The exhibition provides a rare, revealing view of Iranian life and experiences with more than 58 works by renowned Iranian photographers.

Persian Visions

Contemporary Photography from Iran



Sadegh Tirafkan, *Perespoils*, installation of two videos and two photographs

The twenty artists in the exhibition are among Iran's most celebrated photographers, all of whom use the medium for cultural expression and self-exploration. Many of the artists are well known throughout Europe where they have extensively exhibited their works. Several artists have lived abroad and experienced western culture before returning to Iran to re-experience and document their own culture. This perspective of life in Iran contradicts the way many foreign photographers use the medium—which is to represent Iran and its people as purely exotic.

Iran has distinguished itself with the spectacular quality and international presence of its film and visual art. Now we can extend our appreciation of Iranian artists with the photographic work of Shokoufeh Alidousti, whose self-portraits and family photographs explore both cultural and female identity. There is also Esmail Abbasi, who draws on Persian literature for his subject matter and adds contemporary side notes on present circumstances in Iran. And there is Shahriar Tavakoli, who focuses on his family history through a series of portraits capturing the mood of an Iranian family with all its subtleties.

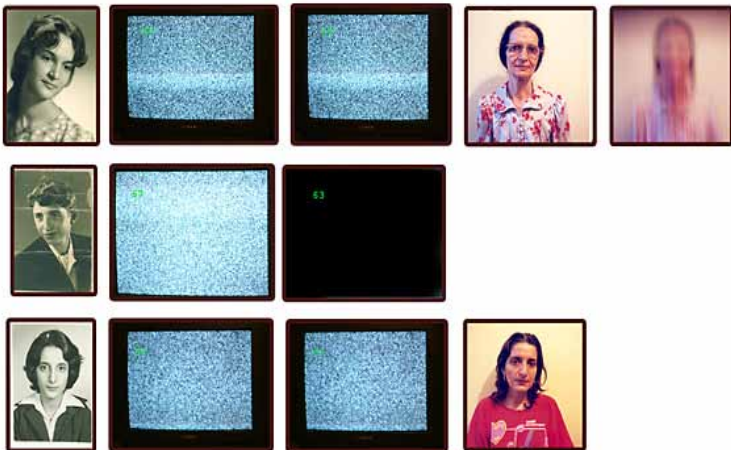


Esmail Abbasi, *Generous Butcher*



Persian Visions

Contemporary Photography from Iran



Farshid Azarang, *Scattered reminiscent*

Persian Visions is organized by the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran, in conjunction with the University of Minnesota. This exhibition debuted at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery of the University of Minnesota under the title, *Persian Silver*.

This exhibition was made possible in part by the ILEX Foundation, University of Minnesota McKnight Arts and Humanities Endowment, and the Department of Art, Regis Center for Art, University of Minnesota.

Exhibition Specifications

Number of Works:

58 works comprising over 80 photographs and video

Organized by:

The University of Minnesota, in conjunction with the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art

Curators:

Hamid Severi, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art and Gary Hallman, the Regis Center for Art, University of Minnesota

Booking Period:

8 weeks

Requirements:

Limited security
Requires approx 275 linear feet

Shipping:

IA&A makes all arrangements, exhibitors pay outgoing costs within the contiguous US

Publication:

Exhibition catalogue (out of print)
Brochure for purchase

Availability:

June 2012 - July 2012 and
November 2012 - December 2013

Participation Fee:

\$6,500

Reduced Fee:

For 6 weeks, June 2012 to July 2012, \$1,500

For 8 weeks, November 2012 to December 2013, \$3,000

Contact:

Jacqueline Whelchel,
Exhibitions Manager
jackyw@artsandartists.org

Esmail Abbasi

(b. 1948)

Selected Artists



“ I am looking through old windows for new concepts, drawing my inspiration from Greek mythological figures like Tantalus, Procrustes, and Icarus; the German legends of Siegfried; and Persian literature such as Rumi's philosophy and poems. ”

– Esmail Abbasi, writer & photographer

Education

Graduated from Faculty of Letters and Humanities and Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Tehran University, Iran

Professional History

1988-present Chief Editor of Persian magazines including *Kavosh* (scientific magazine for teens), *Aks* (Iranian monthly photographic magazine), *Aksnaameh* (quarterly photographic magazine), *Doorbin-e-Akkasi* (monthly photographic magazine)

Director of Annual Child Photography Contest, Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults

Publications

A Dictionary of Photography: Encyclopedia of Photography

Translations

A Precocious Autobiography, Yevgeny Yevtushenko

How the Verses Art Made, Vladimir Mayalovsky

Photography, Barbara London and John Upton

Criticizing Photographs, Terry Barrett

Applied Photography, A.D. Coleman

1000 Photo Tips, A.D. Coleman

Looking at Photographs: Animals, A.D. Coleman

Looking at Photographs: People, Jacques Lowe

Bahman Jalali

(b. 1944)

Selected Artists



“ While studying old photographs and glass plate negatives, I suddenly realized that the gates to another world had opened upon me. All those faces that were registered on the glass plates or celluloid film around their way into my private world... I combined different images: kings, eunuchs, women, people, places, houses and odd things... I wanted their simple world to become the essence of my pictures.”

– Bahman Jalali, photographer

Education

Studied Economics

Professional History

More than 20 years of teaching photography at Iranian universities

Jury member for photography contests in Iran and abroad

1999 Member of editorial board of *Aksnameh* (bimonthly journal of photography)

1997 Member of founding group, consultant to the board of trustees and curator of old photo exhibitions of Akshaneh Shahr, the first museum of photography in Iran

1976–1991 Director of photo department, Soroush Press

1974 Royal Society of Photographers

Publications

1998 *Visible Treasures: Photographs from the Golestan Palace Museum*, Cultural Research Bureau

1998 *Photographers and Photography*, Soroush Press, second print

1994 *Black and White Photography*, A Handbook for the Darkroom, second print

1991 *Iran the Land of Light and Color*, Cultural Research Bureau

Group Exhibitions

2004 *Conceptual Art 2004*, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran

2003 *12 Photographic Journeys- Iran in the 21 Century*, Brunei Gallery, London, UK

2003 Silk Road Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2002 43rd Thessaloniki Film Festival, Thessaloniki, Greece

2001 *Regards Persians*, Espace Electra, Paris, France

Solo Exhibitions

2001 Azar Gallery 2001, Tehran, Iran

1982-1984 Various exhibitions of Iran-Iraq war in Iran

1978 Fazelly University, Tehran, Iran

1972 Zarvan Gallery, Tehran, Iran

1970 Shahr Gallery, Tehran, Iran

1970 Ghadiry Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Mehran Mohajer

(b. 1964)

Selected Artists



“ My work is photographic confrontation with TV images. The photographer, sitting alone in his darkened room--as if in a huge camera obscura--tries to capture and record moving images. It seems he is doing a documentary project, albeit the TV picture replaces re-

ality. The TV set is malfunctioning and the images are overtly distorted. And this distortion in the context of the interface between two apparatuses questions the idea of visual verisimilitude. When the third medium--the newspaper--intervenes, the problem is stated more clearly, but to the viewer the meaning seems more distant. ”

— Mehran Mohajer, photographer, translator, and lecturer

Education

BA, Photography at the Department of Graphic Art, Tehran University, Iran

MA, Linguistics, Tehran University, Iran

Professional History

Teaching photography at Tehran University and the Azad University, Iran

20 years of photography focusing on cityscape, landscape, still life, and recent interest in the medium combined with other media

Award

1992 The first prize in the 1992 annual photography exhibition, Tehran's Contemporary Art Museum, Iran

Four solo exhibitions and 15 group exhibitions

Exhibitions

2003 *Lumière éteinte, chambre noir*, Gallery Silk Road, Tehran, Iran

2002 *A Glimpse of Iran*, Museum of Photography, Thessaloniki, Greece

2001 *Objets d'arts, regards partiels*, Gallery Golestan, Tehran, Iran

Regards Persians, Espace Electra, Paris, France

2000 *Des photos-journaux*, Gallery Golestan, Tehran, Iran

1998 Third prize with *le livre selon les photographes*, 11th Salon du Livre, Tehran, Iran

Ahmad Nateghi

(b. 1958)



Selected Artists

“ I believe that social interpretative photography is one of the most important branches of photography and that it has a great role in social transformations. ”

— Ahmad Nateghi, photographer

Education

Faculty of Fine Arts, Tehran University, Iran

Professional History

Documented demonstrations during Islamic Revolution and Imposed War achieving reputation as war photographer

One of founders of Iranian Photographers Center and Future Photographers Union

Manager of Iranian Photographers Center

1994 Chief of Picture office of I.R. News Agency

Exhibitions

1990 Solo Exhibition, *Born in Prison*, Iran Photographers House

1990 Hoseh-e-Honari, Organized the International Festival of Child and Teenager Photography

Shahriyar Tavakoli

(b. 1969)

Selected Artists



“ This portfolio is a collection of my family mood. I see how much humans are attached to these habits and moods, and how these humans are attached to these habits and moods, and how these inconspicuous, petty and passing moods are passed on in the family from one person to another and become the main ring of their attachment. I wish I could record these informal and mortal moods forever all by myself. ”

— Shahriyar Tavakoli, photographer

Education

BA, Photography, Art University, Tehran, Iran

MA, Photography, Art University, Tehran, Iran

Professional History

2002 Publication of *Herfeh: Honarmand*

1999 Lecturer, Azad University

Six Solo exhibitions in Tehran

Shokoufeh Alidousti

(b. 1976)



Selected Artists

“ I use childhood and family photos as a media, which reflects social and cultural affairs, to present a cultural identity of myself in the present time. Through this process, a private matter changes into a social one, and with these photos the incomplete feminine presence of a woman becomes complete. ”

– Shokoufeh Alidousti, photographer

Education

BA, Photography, Art University, Tehran

Professional History

2002 Young photographers group exhibition, Rah-e-Abrisham Gallery, Tehran

2001 Photo group exhibition, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tehran University

2000 Photo group exhibition, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tehran University

Ebrahim Khadem-Bayat

(b. 1965)



Selected Artists

Khadem-Bayat's goals are manifestation of surrounding environment and illustrating it by camera.

Education

Studied photography, Art University, Tehran, Iran

Professional History

Teaching at Art University and Azad Islamic University,
Iran

Museum photographer affiliated with the Cultural Heritage Organization

1989-1991 News photographer

Exhibitions

1991 Photography exhibition, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran

1989 Photography exhibition, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran

1989 Photography exhibition, First Prize, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran

Published Works

1989 *Paris March, Envoy* was nominated one of the best new photographs by Life magazine in the decade of 1980-1990

Imposed War, Fifth volume

Kourosh Adim

(b. 1971)



Selected Artists

“ With endless energy in my works and the magic of my imagination, I am eager to attain a poetic atmosphere where the very existence of creativity impresses viewers. I thrive to use the least involvement of technology to achieve a final effective photo by revealing the sense of reality and designing environments. ”

— Kourosh Adim, photographer

Education

BS, Biology

Professional History

1994 – 1996 Secretary of the *Village in Village* photo exhibitions

1988 Editor of the photography page of ROUDAKI magazine

1966 Editor of the *3rd view* section of the photography magazine (AKS)

Director of the Societies and Assemblies Department of Iranian Photographers Center (IPC) since 1996

Director of Photo Department, TANDIS, weekly visual arts since 1994

1994 A founding member of the Babol Photography Association

Selected exhibitions among more than 55:

2003 *Contemporary Iranian Photography and Sculpture*, Lounge, London, UK

2003 *VEIL*, The New Art gallery Walsall, Liverpool; The Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool; Modern Art Oxford; Bluecoat Arts Centre, Liverpool, England

2002 *Iranian Photographers*, Melina Mercouri gallery, Cyprus, Greece

2002 *A Glimpse of Iran: Contemporary Iranian Photography*, Thessaloniki Museum of Photography, Thessaloniki, Greece

2002 The Second Iranian Conceptual Art Exhibition, Tehran, Iran

2002 The 140th Edinburgh International Exhibition of Photography, Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique (FIAP), Scotland

2001 *Regards Persians*, Espace Electra, Paris, France

1997 The 5th Poland Triennial Art Exhibition, Poland

1996 The Second International Biennale Photography of Iran, FIAP, Tehran Contemporary Art Museum, Iran

Publications

2003 *An Ocean in the Sitting Room*, a book of prose, Ghoo publications.

2003 *Beyond the Face*, a book of portraits, Blue Room publications

2002 *The Shadow of Beautiful Hair on a Stone*, a book of verse, Ghoo publications

2001 *The Ambiguous Presence of Meaning*, a book of his photos, Mahriz publications

2001 Collaborating in the CHESHM (EYE) series, Mahriz publications

2000 Illustrations for the Persian of *La Presence Pure* by Christian Bobin, Mahriz publications

Majid Koorang Beheshti

(b. 1967)



Selected Artists

“ I tried to show in my photos my suspicions regarding the real truth of humans through my photographs of them like phantoms in the depth of the night. The shadows of the faces that I still can't recognize. When I look at them from the viewer of my camera, like a person who doesn't understand what it said, but tries to pretend that he has understood, then I take their photos. Maybe this is the reason that they cannot be recognized by my photos. The thing I feel like when photographing a human is like a house with closed windows. ”

- Majid Koorang Beheshti, photographer and painter

Solo Exhibitions

- 2003 Iranian Photographers Center, Iran
- 2003 Iran Artists house, Iran
- 2002 Esfahan Classic Gallery, Iran
- 2001 painting, Barg Gallery, Iran
- 2000 painting, Source Gallery
- 2000 Iranian Photographers Center, Iran
- 1999 Afrand Gallery, Iran
- 1998 Iranian Photographers Center, IRan

Publications

- Indefinable Extent*, black and white photographs collection
- Staire*, color photographs collection
- Parseh*, figurative photographs collection
- We Were Lost in the Photo Under Raining*, Faryad Shiri

Farshid Mesghali

(b. 1943)



Selected Artists

Education

Studied Art at Tehran University, Iran

Professional History

1994 Worlds, Inc., a multi-media company, San Francisco, CA, Produced and designed virtual reality Internet environment, included IBM and AOL as clients

1986 Opened graphic design studio, Desktop Studio, Los Angeles, CA

1979 Painting and sculpture exhibition, Sammy King Gallery, Paris, France

1970-1978 Made many award-winning animated films; poster(s) for films; illustrations for children books

1968 Illustrator and film maker for children, the Institute for the Intellectual Development for Children and Young Adults, Tehran, Iran

1964 Graphic Designer, *Negin* magazine

Exhibitions

A number of exhibitions in Tehran, Paris, and Los Angeles
Solo Exhibition, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Group Exhibition, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

Awards

1985 *My Hedge Hog, My Doll and I*, Noma Awards

1977 Biennial of Warsaw, Poland, Special Prize

1975 *Look Again*, Special Prize, Moscow Film Festival, Short Films for Children and Grand Prize, Giffonni Film Festival, Italy

1974 Cannes Film Poster Exhibition, Special Prize

1974 Hans Christian Anderson Award, children's books illustration

1973 *The Boy, The Bird, and Musical Instrument*, Special Prize, Venice Film Festival

1971 *Hero*, Honorary Diploma, Bologna Book Fair

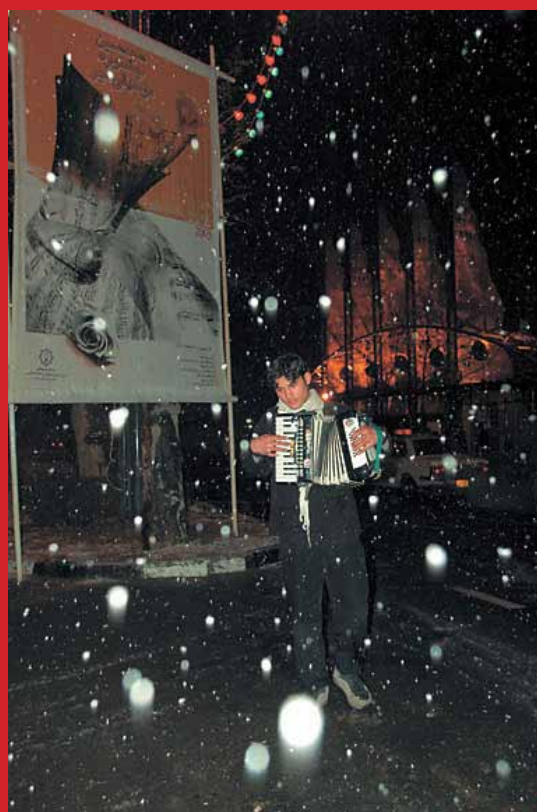
1968 *Little Black Fish*, First Graphic Prize, Sixth International Children Book Fair, Bologna, and Honorary Diploma, Bratislava Biannual, Czechoslovakia

Persian Visions

Contemporary Photography from Iran



Leila Pazooki, *Untitled*



Mohamad Farnood, *Daily Life*



Shahrir Tavakoli, *My Family (Haleluja 1)*



Kaveh Golestan, *The Girl*

Contemporary Photography from Iran

Persian Visions

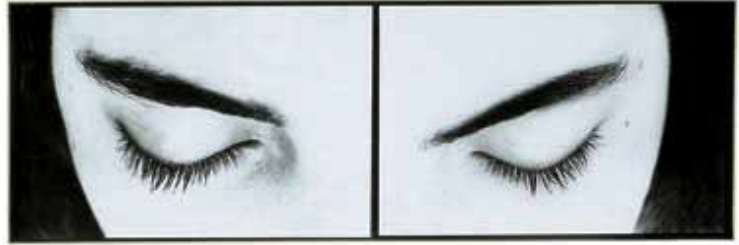


Ahmad Nateghi, *Untitled*



Shokoufeh Alidousti, *Self-portrait*

Yahya Delghanpoor, *Untitled*



Majid Koorang Beheshti, *Untitled*



Ebrahim Khadem Bayat, *Untitled*

Persian Visions

Contemporary Photography from Iran



Koroush Adim, *Revelations*



Shahrokh Jafaark, *Child's View 2*



Arman Stepanian, *Untitled*