Avisheh Mohsenin

Pasfarda: Peace and dialogue through the arts

November 20, 2013 / ٩٢ ٢٩ آبان ١٣٩٢
پس فردا: صلح و گفتگو توسط هنر

هدف پس فردا: اشاعه و ترویج صلح و گفتگو از طریق مبادله هنری و فرهنگی

هیأت مدیره: کاوه عادل، غزال بني صدر، شرمن کروز، آویشه محسنين، پاسمن محسنين، نریمان صفوی، تام نوبره.
پس فردا: صلح و گفتگو توسط هنر

- تاریخچه سازمان
- قصد و هدف
- فرا인دهای به اهداف
- الفبای کار

- چالش‌ها:
  * در راستای هدف ماندن
  * مخاطبین
  * ارزیابی / تاثیر گرفتن و شنویت بر کاستن پیش قضاوت‌ها و برداشت های اشتباه / ایجاد صلح
  * تاثیرگذاری یا تحت تاثیر گرفتن؟
  * هنر ایرانی چیست؟ هنرمند ایرانی کیست؟
  * ترویج هنر محیط یا کمک به جهانی شدن؟ ترویج بیگانگی و افزودن به ابهام یا آشنا و ملموس کردن؟
“FAKE: IDYLLIC LIFE” new works by SHOJA AZARI
On view at Leila Heller Gallery, NYC
November 14, 2013-December 14, 2013

Queen of Houries (The King of Black) (detail), 2013
Lenticular 3D depth on acrylic sheet
30 x 41.5 in / 76.2 x 105.41 cm

The Mourners (The King of Black), 2013
Lenticular 3D depth on Acrylic sheet
30 x 41.5 in / 76.2 x 105.41 cm

Hijjah or Unconsummated Love (The King of Black), 2013
Lenticular 3D depth on Acrylic sheet
30 x 41.5 in / 76.2 x 105.41 cm

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هنر ایرانی چیست؟ هنرمند ایرانی کیست؟

**Rayka Millanian**  
On show at Golestan Gallery Tehran, Iran, 2013  
www.golestangallery.com

**Mostafa Darehbaghi**  
From exhibition at Golestan Gallery, 2011  
Tehran, Iran

**Houry Bidad**  
From exhibition at Golestan Gallery, 2012  
Tehran, Iran

© artists and www.golestangallery.com
هنر ایرانی چیست؟ هنرمند ایرانی کیست؟

PARADOX - by Houman Derakhshandeh
Exhibit at Golestan Gallery, Tehran, Iran 2011
هنر ایرانی چیست؟ هنرمند ایرانی کیست؟

Aydin Rahbar
Photography
From exhibition at Golestan Gallery Tehran, Iran

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هنر ایرانی چیست؟ هنرمند ایرانی کیست؟
(UN)(DIS)COVERED
THE LNC GALLERY | NOVEMBER 1 – 24, 2013
LEROY NEIMAN CENTER GALLERY | 312.899.7440
37 South Wabash Ave., Suite 106, Chicago, IL 60603
An exhibition by Azadeh Gholizadeh, Sanaz Sohrabi, Maryam Zareh.

Centering on shared themes of hiding, covering, and uncovering (UN)(DIS)COVERED proposes a sensitive and complex understanding of Persian identity through the work of three Iranian women artists. Exploring the dialectical relationship between veiling and unveiling, sculptures by Azadeh Gholizadeh (MFA 2012) interrogate the paradox of being both visible and hidden. Paintings by Maryam Zareh (MFA 2013) accentuate the separation of public and private spheres, prompting an acute awareness of the space exhibited and a deeper inquiry into that which is hidden. Juxtaposing traditional and modern sources, Sanaz Sohrabi’s (MFA 2014) photographic prints depict the dichotomy between personal identity and religion through a study of cultural materiality.
پیس فردا: صلح و گفتگو توسط هنر

- تاریخچه سازمان
- قصد و هدف
- فراورند رسیدن به اهداف
- الفبای کار

- چالش ها:
  * دریافت هدف ماندن
  * مخاطبین
  * ارژینی / تأثیر گفت و شنود بر کاوشن پیش قضاوت ها و برداشت های یافت
  * تأثیر گذاری یا تحت تأثیر قرار گرفتن؟
  * هنر ایرانی چیست؟ هنرمند ایرانی کیست؟
  * ترویج هنر محلی یا کمک به جهانی شدن؟ ترویج بی‌گانگی و افزودن به ابهمای یا آشنا و ملموس کردن؟

- چالش ها:
  * تعادل بین خبررسانی و کشف استعداد و تشویق و حمایت نوپایان و مبتکرین
  * تداوم و ثبات قدم / همگونی در برنامه ریزی
  * جمع آوری کمک‌های مالی/پودجه
  * توسعه هیأت مدیره

- برنامه های ۱۲ ماه گذشته و نمونه هایی از برنامه های آینده

Pasfarda ©2013
Dialogue: Presented by IRUS art (an intercultural collaborative art show between artists in Iran and the U.S.)

Two teams of artists, one in Tehran and another in Denver have assembled under one name: IRUS (Iran - United States). Starting with our mutual respect for art, we have established collaborative projects between our groups. During a one-year period, each group initiated a creative piece and mailed incomplete works back and forth through completion between our two cities: either directly or through friends, relatives or acquaintances who were traveling between the U.S. and Iran.

This show demonstrates the fruit of that one-year period: a vibrant collection of intercultural pieces designed to celebrate cultural differences and find harmony through art. Using “Dialogue” as our theme, it is our goal to present the perspectives of each group in a respectful, trusting and encouraging manner. In this process, we not only develop art but also participate in a functional dialogue with each other as artists and individuals. One component of the show is the Persian story of Scheherazade (of One Thousand and One Nights) alongside the stories of Mark Twain as a conceptual framework for the art thereby promoting the exploration of and interaction between the two cultures.

January 29 to February 4, 2010
Co-Prosperity Sphere Gallery
Panel discussion with five of the IRUS art artists and WBEZ’s Alison Cuddy

PRESS:
IRUS Art featured in Chicago Art Magazine: http://www.chicagoartmagazine.com
Chosen #1 of Top 5 picks for weekend art shows: http://www.badatsports.com

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After Party & Reception for the Chicago International Film Festival

SPOTLIGHT MIDDLE EAST

October 18, 2012

SPOTLIGHT MIDDLE EAST

{Presented by the ACADEMY of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences}

The Chicago International Film Festival's commitment to presenting the films of cinematically significant regions of the world continues with this showcase of innovative works and exciting new voices from the Middle East.

VIP reception to mingle and exchange ideas with the brilliant and internationally acclaimed Mani Haghighi ("Modest Reception"), Adel Yaraghi ("Meeting Leila"), and Bahman Gobadi ("Rhino Season"-- to be confirmed); three Iranian directors who work tirelessly and struggle with constant oversight and censorship, to create beautiful, meaningful art through their films.

Purpose: To encourage dialogue and understanding; bring International filmmakers and Chicago audiences together.
Coalitions: Paula’s Vinum
Attendance: 80 people
Admission: $35 // Students & Industry People: FREE
Funding: Pasfarda funds
Performance link: http://www.chicagofilmfestival.com/festival_guide/Middle_East

Pasfarda ©2013
Q&A and Reception After Film Screening
THE IRAN JOB  (Till Schauder & Sara Nodjumi, 2012, 90 min, USA)
January 12, 2013

“Exceptional in its storytelling...so intimate it could be a home movie.”  (LA Time)
“Inspiring...a complicated, accessible and heartfelt human drama.”  (Salon.com)
'The Iran Job' Mixes Basketball & Politics Into The Foundation For A Bridge To Iran
(Huffington Post)

THE IRAN JOB follows American basketball player Kevin Sheppard as he accepts a job to play in one of the world’s most feared countries: Iran. With tensions running high between Iran and the West, Kevin tries to separate sports from politics, only to find that politics is impossible to escape in Iran. Along the way he forms an unlikely alliance with three outspoken Iranian women. Thanks to these women, his apartment turns into an oasis of free speech, where they discuss everything from politics to religion to gender roles. Kevin’s season in Iran culminates in something much bigger than basketball: the uprising and subsequent suppression of Iran’s reformist Green Movement – a powerful prelude to the currently unfolding Arab Spring. (www.TheIranJob.com)

Purpose:  To encourage dialogue & understanding; support emerging & independent filmmakers
Coalitions: The Gene Siskel Film Center
Attendance: SOLD OUT (over 100 people)
Admission: Theater Admission
Funding: Pasfarda funds & Collaboration with The Gene Siskel Film Center
Performance link: http://vimeo.com/32120011
“Move over, Banksy. Street art has a new bad boy.” – THINK CONTRA

It seems that the Yellow Dogs “crackle with more life, wit, tension and imagination than most of their peers….maybe there’s something to be said for having to work for it.”

ICY (born 1985) and SOT (born 1991) are stencil artists from Tabriz – IRAN. They started their professional career in 2008 they had uploaded previous works as early as 2006 and they influenced and dragged their friends to street art. Their works are about peace, war, Love, hate, hope, despair, children, human rights and the Iranian culture. The brothers have held exhibitions and un-official street works in Iran and foreign countries. The Yellow Dogs a postpunk band integral to the creation of the underground music scene in Tehran moved to Brooklyn in 2010 and earned recognition from Rolling Stone, and Spin to Oyster Magazine and The Huffington Post. They played regularly at prestigious musical venues in NYC and toured the country. Ali Eskandarian with high-energy performances and adept vocals caught the likes of Peter Murphy, whom Eskandarian toured with in 2008.

Two members (Arash and Soroush Farazmand) and their friend/roommate (Ali Eskandarian) were fatally shot on November 11, 2013 in Brooklyn.

Purpose: To encourage dialogue and understanding / to support emerging artists
Coalitions: Co-Prosperity Sphere / Neverheard Inc.
Attendance: 250 people over 2 nights.
Admission: Free
Funding: Pasfarda funds & Collaboration with Neverheard Inc.
Performance link: http://www.vimeo.com/icyandsot

Pasfarda ©2013
Stencil Street Artists
ICY & SOT

Chicago show, March 2013 at Co-Prosperity Sphere
Chicago show, March 2013 at Co-Prosperty Sphere
SHAHNAMEH: The Epic of the Persian Kings
Grand Opening
April 20, 2013

"Shahnameh for the digital age." — Sheila Canby, Metropolitan Museum of Art
“A magnificent book both conceptually and technically... Extraordinary combinations of diverse styles from across the centuries.” — Charles Melville, University of Cambridge

A new illustrated edition of the classic work written over one thousand years ago by Ferdowsi, is the longest poem ever written by a single human being. This new prose translation of the national epic is illuminated with over 500 pages of illustrations. Translation and adaptation is by Dr. Ahmad Sadri, professor of Sociology and Anthropology and James P. Gorter Chair of Islamic World Studies at Lake Forest College. Illustrations are by Hamid Rahmanian, NYC-based artist award-winning filmmaker and graphic artist whose work has been exhibited in international competitions and publications.

“The aim of this project is to infuse the popular imagination of the English-speaking world with the legends of Shahnameh, its epic battles, three sweeping love stories and four, increasingly human centered tragedies,” said Professor Sadri.

Purpose: To encourage dialogue & understanding & introduce an epic work of literature to non-Persian speakers.
Coalitions: DePaul University Art Museum (DPAM)
Attendance: 120 people
Admission: Free
Funding: Pasfarda funds & Collaboration with DPAM
PRIVATE Screening & Reception:
The NEEDLE (2013)
July 10, 2013

Sharp, nearly perfect... The filmmaker, it appears, is a born master of metaphor and displays a natural, inquisitive instinct for close-ups and what a face can reveal in terms of a character's interior life." -Chicago Tribune

ANAHITA GHAZVINIZADEH (b1989, Tehran, Iran) is a filmmaker and writer. She got her BFA in cinema from Tehran University of Art and her MFA in studio arts from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Anahita has studied with Abbas Kiarostami and is influenced by his cinematic style. Being inspired by the rich culture of children’s cinema in Iran, she started to work on a trilogy of short films with children as the main characters. When the Kid was a Kid (2011, Iran) and Needle (2013, US) are the first two finished pieces of series.
The Needle was in the Cannes Film Festival, Cinefondation selection in 2013 and won the first prize there, which guarantees the screening of her first feature film in the Cannes Film Festival’s selection in the future. Anahita is also the co-writer of the acclaimed feature film, Mourning (2011). Childhood and parenthood, family theater, and exploring notions of growth and gender identity are the main themes of her work.

Purpose: To support emerging artists; to connect artists and audiences for dialogue
Coalitions: Facets Cinematheque
Attendance: 100 people
Admission: Free | $5 Suggested donation
Funding: Pasfarda funds & Collaboration with Facets Cinematheque
Performance link: http://vimeo.com/59330430

Pasfarda ©2013
Annual ART FOR PEACE Fundraising  September 19, 2013

2013 Pasfarda Art for Peace
A special evening in support of Pasfarda’s efforts to serve Chicago community.

Over 30 artists donated artworks and crafts to the silent auction. Silent Auction, food, drink specials, and Raffle Thursday 19 September 2013 6-9 PM
694 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60642

Purpose:
To raise funds for the organizations, to establish ties with artists and create exposure for them, to create the opportunity for patrons, volunteers, and collaborators to meet.

Coalitions:
Local businesses, SAIC, independent artist community, international independent artists, art galleries (Canada, USA), Chicago cultural institutions.
ART for PEACE 2013
Pasfarda Fundraiser and Silent Auction

Attendance: 80-90 people
Admission: $40
Funding: Pasfarda funds and ticket sales
Link to Silent Auction:
http://pasfardaexchange.wix.com/artforpeace
“Eros and the Boundaries of Love in Persian Literature, from Rumi to Pirzad” by Pro. Frank Lewis, UofC
Music (Brett Callaway (Guitar) , Mehrkia Music on Santur), Reception // Chopin Theater, May 2012

“Love Emergencies”
Poetry by Bill Wolak & Mahmood Karimi-Hakkak

Arusi Persian Wedding (Marjan Tehrani, 90 min)
Movie Screening and Panel Discussion (Mehrnaz Saeed-Vafa, Norma Moruzzi, Aria Mozzen), Chicago Cultural Center

Culture of Politics & Politics of Art (Cervantes Institute, 2008)
(Jerome McDonnel-WBEZ, Prof. Ahmad Sadri (Lake Forest College), Norma Moruzzi (UIC)
SHAHIN NAJAFI
Concert & Exclusive Meet the Artist Reception
Old Town School of Folk Music
November 24, 2013

SHAHIN NAJAFI (born in 1980 in Bandar-e Anzali, Gilan, Iran) is an Iranian musician, singer, rapper, songwriter, and social activist currently residing in Germany. He began his music career in Iran before immigrating to Germany in 2005. He has been referred to as being one of the forefronters in the Iran's modern hip hop scene by several experts and critics. His songs mostly deal with issues such as theocracy, poverty, sexism, censorship, child labor, execution, drug addiction, and homophobia. He strives to use poetic, literary, philosophical, and political elements in his music.

Opening Band: Mehran Jalili Quartet
Iranian born Flamenco guitarist Mehran's "skillful guitar work and imaginative compositional approach shine through...resulting in an intriguing mélange of romantic, Middle Eastern, Spanish, Latin, Brazilian, smooth jazz, and experimental themes and tonalities with a political edge." - Guitar Player Magazine  http://www.mehranguitar.com

Future Event

Purpose: To introduce a groundbreaking contemporary artist to Chicago and to provide for the Chicago community demands
Coalitions: Old Town School of Folk Music / RadioGramaphone
Attendance: Estimating 160 people
Admission: $40 ($38 for members)
Funding: Pasfarda funds and ticket sales
Performance link: http://shahinmusic.net
Hailed as “the Bob Dylan of Iran” by the New York Times, Mohsen Namjoo is a visionary artist who speaks for and touches the souls of today’s youth. Seamlessly blending the Classical with the Modern, the ancient with the current, Mohsen Namjoo is a true musical maverick.

MOHSEN NAMJOO is an Iranian artist, songwriter, singer, music scholar and setar (traditional Persian lute) player based in California. Born in 1976 in Torbat-e Jam, Iran, Namjoo began his musical training at the age of twelve, studying under Nasrollah Nasehpoor until the age of eighteen. In 1994 Namjoo began to study Theater and Music at the University of Tehran, where he was trained under Alireza Mashayekhi, Azin Movahed and other masters. Namjoo also studied Iranian folk music under Haj Ghorbane Soleimani. His unique music style resembles a patchwork of Persian classical poetry of Hafez, Rumi or Saadi with western music, namely rock, blues, and jazz.

**Future Event**

**Status:** Fundraising

**Purpose:** To introduce a groundbreaking contemporary artist to Chicago

**Coalitions:** TBA

**Attendance:** Estimating 250 people

**Admission:** Estimating $30-$50

**Funding:** Fundraising & ticket sales

**Performance link:** [http://www.mohsennamjoo.com/?page_id=24](http://www.mohsennamjoo.com/?page_id=24)
Leilah Broukheim
Iranian-Israeli Flamenco Dancer
TBA 2014

“For those of us who have seen her work and grow over the years, what Leilah Broukhim best symbolizes today is the effort which people from other whereabouts make to soak up flamenco and become a part of it. She, in particular, came from New York, where she was born in the bosom of a family of Iranian [Sephardic] immigrants and where she discovered that art form which contained a part of her own roots. Now she is a part of it.” (Silvia Calado -- Flamenco-world.com)

DEJANDO HUELLAS (Traces) follows the personal and historic voyage of a Sephardic woman through flamenco dance. Inspired by the story of her Jewish and Persian ancestors and by her experience with the flamenco art form, acclaimed flamenco dancer Leilah Broukhim has created DEJANDO HUELLAS: an intimate and original expression of Ms. Broukhim's roots, her personal journey and the history of her people. The result is a moving and unforgettable work of music, dance and art, which reminds us that the traces of our past define our present and our future.

Future Event
Status: Fundraising
Purpose: To introduce a groundbreaking contemporary artist to Chicago
Coalitions: TBA
Attendance: Estimating 150 ppl
Admission: Estimating $35-$50
Funding: Fundraising & Ticket sales
Performance link: http://www.leilahbroukhim.com/videosen.html
For more info: www.pasfarda.org
For photos of Events: http://www.flickr.com/photos/pasfardaexchange

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