

# HAINES

## GALLERY

### SHIVA AHMADI

b. 1975, Tehran, Iran

Lives and works in the Bay Area, CA

### EDUCATION

- 2005 MFA, Painting, Cranbrook Academy of Arts, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 2003 MFA, Drawing, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 2000 MA, Drawing, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 1998 BFA, Painting, Azad University, Tehran, Iran

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Shiva Ahmadi: Strands of Resilience*, Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, University of California, Davis, CA
- 2023 *Shiva Ahmadi: The Courage of Eve*, Gallery Rosenfeld, London, UK  
*Shiva Ahmadi: Unbound*, Saint Joseph's Arts Foundation, San Francisco, CA
- 2020 *The Body Politic*, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA (online)  
*Labyrinths*, Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 2018 *Burning Song*, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 *Ascend*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY  
*Ascend*, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Shiva Ahmadi: Spheres of Suspension*, Charles B. Wang Center, Stony Brook University, NY
- 2014 *Lotus*, Charles B. Wang Center, Stony Brook University, NY  
*Shiva Ahmadi: In Focus*, Asia Society Museum, New York, NY
- 2013 *Apocalyptic Playland*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 *Throne*, College of Wooster Art Museum, OH  
*Throne*, Leila Heller Gallery at Art Dubai, UAE
- 2010 *Reinventing the Poetics of Myth*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY
- 2005 *Oil Crisis*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *...I Kept The Night Vigil...*, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
*M is for Water*, Di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art, Napa, CA  
*Auditions*, Verge Center for the Arts, Sacramento, CA
- 2023 *Being and Belonging*, Royal Ontario Museum of Art, Toronto, Canada  
*Rising Sun: Artists in an Uncertain America*, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 2022 *The Temple of Artemis*, Analix Forever, Chêne-Bourg, Switzerland  
*From Moment to Movement: Picturing Protest in the Kramlich Collection*, Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, University of California, Davis, CA
- 2021 *Inspirations From the Ancients*, Rosenfeld Gallery, London, UK  
*Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians*, Asia Society Museum, New York, NY  
*Recent Acquisitions: Modern and Contemporary Prints and Drawings*, The Morgan Library & Museum, New York, NY  
*With Eyes Opened: Cranbrook Academy of Art Since 1932*, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI  
*Epic Iran*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK  
*A Boundless Drop to a Boundless Ocean*, Orlando Museum of Art, FL
- 2020 *UnRealism*, Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (online)  
*Dreaming Together*, collateral exhibition of the Asia Society Triennial, New York Historical Society, New York, NY  
*Painting the Figure*, Rosenfeld, London, UK  
*Sanctuary*, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, Canada
- 2019-21 *Shrine Room Projects: Shiva Ahmadi / Genesis Breyer P-Orrdige / Tsherin Sherpa*, Rubin Museum of Art, New York, NY
- 2019 *A Bridge Between You and Everything: an Exhibition of Iranian Women Artists*, curated by Shirin Neshat in collaboration with Center for Human Rights in Iran, The Highline, New York, NY  
*Encounters: Honoring the Animals in Ourselves*, Palo Alto Art Center, CA  
*how the light gets in*, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
*Parallel Visions: Curated Group Exhibition of Kresge Arts in Detroit Fellows from 2009-2019*, Wasserman Projects, Detroit, MI

- 2018 *Once at Present: Contemporary Art of Bay Area Iranian Diaspora*, Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA  
*Revolution Generations*, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Doha, Qatar  
*Catastrophe and the Power of Art*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
*Long, Winding Journeys: Contemporary Art and the Islamic Tradition*, Katonah Museum of Art, NY  
*The Channel of Democracy: Womanhood, Power & Freedom in Video Art*, PHOTOFAIRS San Francisco, CA  
*This Land is Whose Land?*, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Ketchum, ID
- 2017 *Exquisite Corpse: Moving Image in Latin American and Asian Art*, Manna Contemporary, Miami, FL  
*Sanctuary*, FOR-SITE Foundation, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians*, Agha Khan Museum, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
*Homeland Security*, FOR-SITE Foundation, San Francisco, CA  
*Fireflies in the Night Take Wing*, The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens, Greece  
*Global/Local 1960 – 2015: Six Artists from Iran*, Grey Art Gallery, New York University, NY  
*A Heritage Transposed*, The Box Freiraum Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 *Artist in Exile: Creativity, Activism, and the Diasporic Experience*, Dr. M. T. Geoffrey Yeh Art Gallery, St. John's University, Queens, NY  
 10<sup>th</sup> Cologne International Videoart Festival, Berlin, Germany
- 2013 Venice Biennale, Small Works Project, Collaboration of Library Street Collective, Detroit MI and Benetton, Venice, Italy
- 2012 *The Fertile Crescent: Gender, Art and Society in the Middle East Diaspora*, Rutgers University Museum, Newark, NJ  
*The Rule and Its Exceptions*, Deborah Colton Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2011 *Jasmin: Oriental Summer*, Sabine Knust Gallery, Munich, Germany  
 Art X Detroit, Museum of Contemporary Art, MI  
*[Dis]Locating Culture: Contemporary Islamic Art in America*, Michael Berger Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2010 *Tehran – New York*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY
- 2009 *Iran Inside Out*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY  
*Selseleh/Zelzeleh: Movers & Shakers in Contemporary Iranian Art*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY
- 2008 *Just Paper*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY  
*Ahmadi & Zhang: Looking Back*, Feldman Gallery, Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, OR  
*Distant Shores: Cultural Exchange in Contemporary Art*, McIninch Art Gallery, Manchester, NH  
*Splash*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY  
*Conference of the Birds*, Leila Heller Gallery, in cooperation with B & S Projects, London, UK
- 2007 *Merging influences, Eastern Elements in New American Art*, Montserrat Art Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2006 *Figuratively Speaking*, Elga Wimmer Gallery, New York, NY
- 2005 *Three Positions*, Lombard/Freid Projects, New York, NY  
*Atomica*, Lombard/Freid Projects and Esso Gallery, New York, NY  
 Portland Museum of Art Biennial, ME  
*Cross Current*, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, MI
- 2003 *Detroit Now*, Meadow Brook Art Gallery, Rochester, MI  
 Biennial Art Competition, South Bend Regional Museum of Art, IN  
*Exchange*, Forum Gallery, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 2002 *New Shoes*, Tangent Gallery, Detroit, MI  
*Academics 2002*, Paint Creek Center for Arts, Detroit, MI

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2024 David M. Roth, "Bloody Testaments to Female Resilience," *SquareCylinder.com*, February 25, 2024  
 Jeffery Day, "Essay: Working out the personal and political in paint with Shiva Ahmadi," *Sacramento News & Review*, January 30, 2024  
 Laura Compton, "'Shiva Ahmadi: Strands of Resilience' Opens Jan. 28 at Manetti Shrem Museum," *UC Davis*, January 9, 2024
- 2023 Hilarie Sheets, "What Would Ben Franklin Say? Artists Weigh the Dream of Democracy," *The New York Times*, March 23, 2023  
 Riccardo Freddo, "Shiva Ahmadi is the Iranian artist who gives body to protesting women," *Vogue Italia Magazine*, January 31, 2023  
 Tony Bravo, "San Francisco's 'unofficial art week' returns. Here are 12 highlights not to miss," *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 18, 2023
- 2022 Sierra Jimenez, "'From Moment to Movement': art and protest," *The California Aggie*, April 7, 2022  
 Jaimie Baron, "The Art of Resistance @ Manetti Shrem," *SquareCylinder.com*, March 3, 2022
- 2021 Matthew J. Palm, "Unique partnership unites Orlando. Middle East through art," *Orlando Sentinel*, January 28, 2021  
 Eleanor Heartney, "Diversity East," *Art in America*, January 25, 2021
- 2020 Naomi Falk, "Contradictions and Tensions: Shiva Ahmadi Interviewed by Naomi Falk," *BOMB Magazine*, May 22, 2020  
 Jonathan Curiel, "Fall in Love With These Nine Works of Art During the Coronavirus Shutdown," *SFWeekly*, April 14,

- 2020  
Glen Mannisto, "Labyrinths: Shiva Ahmadi @ Elaine L. Jacob Gallery," *Detroit Art Review*, January 30, 2020
- 2019  
Gabriella Angeleti, "Shirin Neshat curates exhibition of all-women Iranian artists in New York," *The Art Newspaper*, July 29, 2019
- 2018  
Jonathan Curiel, "The Pressure Cooker: Shiva Ahmadi's Animation of the Syrian War," *SFWeekly*, September 20, 2018  
Maria Porges, "Shiva Ahmadi @ Haines Gallery," *SquareCylinder.com*, September 19, 2018  
Cy Musiker, "Tales of Seeking Sanctuary Woven into 36 Rugs at Fort Mason," *KQED*, February 14, 2018  
Andy Kerstetter, "Whose land is it, anyway? The Center's new exhibit explores topics of refugees, immigration," *Idaho Mountain Express*, January 24, 2018
- 2017  
Jean Nayar, "Mana Contemporary Takes Over Wynwood and Miami Art Week," *Ocean Drive*, December 1, 2017  
Ahalya Srikant, "Cheryl Haines' Magic Carpet Ride," *San Francisco Magazine*, October 2017  
Brandon Yu, "Asian Art Museum program draws on real-world issues," *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 22, 2017  
Anna Brady, "Shiva Ahmadi Combines The Beautiful And The Violent," *Harper's Bazaar Arabia*, April 12, 2017
- 2016  
Werner Bloch, "Die Kaiserin als Elefant (The Empress as an Elephant)," *Der Tagesspiegel*, December 2016  
Jonathan Curiel, "FOR-SITE Is 20/20," *SF Weekly*, September 21, 2016  
Jean Schiffman, "New Presidio Exhibit Explores & Illuminates Complex Social Issues," *SF Arts*, September 2016  
Michael Krasny, "Presidio Hosts Artwork Examining Human Cost of National Security," *KQED Radio*, September 13, 2016  
Livia Alexander, "Tracing Tradition in a Survey of Six Iranian Artists," *Hyperallergic*, March 18, 2016  
Bansie Vasvani, "Global/Local 1960-2015: Six Artists From Iran," *ArtAsiaPacific*, March 2016  
Ozana Plemenitash, "The Best of Iran at NYU's Grey Art Gallery," *Art Versed*, February 22, 2016  
Hilarie M. Sheets, "Shiva Ahmadi's Subversive Beauty," *Introspective Magazine*, February 8, 2016  
Michael FitzGerald, "From Shah to Supreme Leader," *The Wall Street Journal*, February 3, 2016  
Holland Cotter, "Six Artists From Iran at Grey Art Gallery," *New York Times*, January 14, 2016  
Julia Rooney, "A Closer Look: Shiva Ahmadi's Pipes," *The Metropolitan Museum of Art*, January 5, 2016
- 2015  
Katherine Brooks, "13 Artists You Should Fall In Love With This Spring," *Huffpost Arts*, March 12, 2015
- 2014  
Laura C. Mallonee, "Using Beauty to Examine Ugly Political Truths," *Hyperallergic*, July 14, 2014  
Sehba Mohammed, "Graceful Grenades," *Modern Painters*, June 2014  
Mark Guiducci, "An exclusive Preview of Lotus, Shiva Ahmadi's New Video Installation," *Vogue*, June 2014  
"Shiva Ahmadi: In Focus," *NY Magazine*, June 2014  
"Lindsey and Michael Fournier," *Canvas Magazine*, May 2014
- 2013  
Heather Ecker, "The Flowers of Evil," *Manor House Quarterly*, October 2013  
Elizabeth Pandolfi, "Rising in the East," *Art & Antiques Magazine*, September 15, 2013  
"Chelsea Art," *Bloomberg*, March 21, 2013  
Heather Ecker, "Flowers of Evil," *Apocalyptic Playland* Exhibition Catalogue, Leila Heller Gallery, February 2013
- 2012  
"50 Next Most Collectible Artists," *Art and Auction*, June 2012  
Laura Stewart, "Passion for Art: Leila Heller," *Art Bahrain*, May 2012  
"Leila Heller," *Harper's Bazaar Art*, Spring 2012
- 2011  
Fereshteh Daftari, "Altered Miniatures: Shiva Ahmadi," *Canvas Magazine*, March/April 2011
- 2010  
Benjamin Genocchio, "Shiva Ahmadi," *Reinventing the Poetics of Myth* Catalogue, Leila Heller Gallery, February 2010
- 2009  
Benjamin Genocchio, "Import/Export in the Heat of the Moment," *Art in America*, November 2009  
Nazi Nazhand, "Abu Dhabi Report," *Artnet Magazine*, November 2009  
Lori Waxman, "Art Galleries: Iran as You've Never Seen It Before," *Chicago Tribune*, October 2009  
Lilly Wei, "Selseleh/Zelzeleh at Leila Taghinia-Milani Heller Gallery," *ArtNews*, October 2009  
Carol Kino, "Iranian Shine, Assisted by Expatriate," *The New York Times*, August 2009  
Melik Kaylan, "The View From Here," *The Wall Street Journal*, August 2009  
Holland Cotter, "Iran Inside Out," *The New York Times*, July 2009
- 2008  
Benjamin Genocchio, "A Dialogue Between Tradition and Innovation," *The New York Times*, November 7, 2008
- 2007  
Joel Brown, "New American Art, informed by the East," *The Boston Globe*, September 2007
- 2006  
Mathew Biro, "Contemporary developments in Drawing," *Contemporary 21*, August 2006  
Lynn Crawford, "The Mind's Eye," *markszine.com*, March 2006
- 2005  
Ben Rutter, "It's pronounced nu-cle-ar," *NY Arts Magazine*, September 2005  
Bryony Roberts, "Art in the City 'Why Don't We Do It In the Road'," *L Magazine New York*, August 2005
- 2004  
Natalie Haddad, "Displaced," *Real Detroit Weekly*, April 2004  
Ellen Pilgian, "Expats on show," *Metro Times*, April 2004
- 2003  
Luise Bolleber, "Gallery Welcomes Detroit Now," *The Oakland Post*, June 2003  
"Review of On the Wall at Tangent Gallery," *Real Detroit Weekly*, June 2003  
George Tysh, "Wild at Heart," *Metro Times*, June 2003
- 2002  
"Room for Interpretation," *Real Detroit Weekly*, December 2002  
"Review of Exchange at Forum Gallery," *TheDetroitier.com*  
"Review of New Shoes at Tangent Gallery" *TheDetroitier.com*

**RESIDENCIES**

- 2018 Civitella Ranieri Foundation, Umbertide, Italy  
 2003 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, ME

**AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2019 Chancellor's Fellow, University of California, Davis, CA  
 2016 The Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant  
 Anonymous Was a Woman Award  
 2009 Kresge Artist Fellowship, Kresge Foundation  
 2008 Nominated for Altoid Award by The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY  
 2004 First Prize, NYC 6th National Juried Exhibition, New York, NY  
 First Prize, Biennial Art Competition, South Bend Regional Museum of Art, South Bend, IN  
 2003 First Prize, Michigan Fine Arts Competition, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, MI  
 2002/03 John & Irene Sowinski Scholarship, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI  
 Graduate Professional Scholarship, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI  
 2002 Second Prize, 2002 Michigan Drawing Biennial Exhibition, Ford Gallery, Ypsilanti, MI  
 2001 Thomas C. Rumble University Graduate Fellowship, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

**PUBLICATIONS**

- 2017 *Shiva Ahmadi*. Skira, Milan, Italy.

**SELECTED COLLECTIONS**

- Asia Society Museum, New York, NY  
 Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA  
 Black Gold Museum, Riaz, Saudi Arabia  
 Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA  
 Collection of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi  
 Dallas Museum of Art, TX  
 DePaul University Art Museum, Chicago, IL  
 Detroit Institute of Arts, MI  
 The Farjam Collection, Dubai, UAE  
 Grey Art Gallery, New York, NY  
 Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
 Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, University of California, Davis, CA  
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY  
 Morgan Library, New York, NY  
 Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Los Angeles, CA  
 Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA  
 San Jose Museum of Art, CA  
 TDIC Collection, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
 Wayne State University Art Collection, Detroit, MI