

LEILA HELLER GALLERY. THE ARMORY SHOW 2013



CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS EXPLORE RENAISSANCE IMAGERY AND MORE AT LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

Leila Heller Gallery ≡ For The Armory Show 2013, our selection of galleries is an exuberant mix of specialists. This well-known Chelsea gallery specializes in presenting artists from the Middle East and America, whose works are continuously acquired by major national and international museums.

We asked Leila what she is bringing to the Armory this year and her response brought to mind the words "exotic" and "thoughtful". The gallery's highlight this year is a video installation by the late **Farideh Lashai**. The video is a lush combination of "[Dejeuner sur l'herbe](#)" by Édouard Manet and its contemporary interpretation by Lashai.

Heller's artists consider contemporary events like the "Arab Spring" and incorporate these themes into familiar art-historical imagery like Michelangelo's "Pietà". The gallery will present **Ayad Alkadhi's** paintings which tackle the subject of Arab Spring, and symbolize the human struggle in times that caused angst and despair, and led to questions on humanity. **Reza Aramesh** will present his rendition of the "Pietà". Aramesh presents the emotions associated with the Biblical theme (the

Virgin Mary cradling the dead body of Jesus) through two soldiers. In this case, an Iraqi soldier will be shown cradling the body of the dying Iranian soldier. We are looking forward to seeing this intense and profound artwork.

The serious "Arab Spring" topic picked by the artist is offset by **Hadieh Shafie's** colorful frames embodying vivaciousness and *joie de vivre* of Turkmen-inspired jewelry. Thousands and thousands (in some cases 25,000 pieces of paper) of hand-written notes from Farsi poetry are painted and then rolled into miniature scrolls and then assembled like a kaleidoscope. The artist, who began to work with squares and circles is now drawing inspiration from other mediums. We had first recommended the artist's works at Art Basel Miami Beach 2012, and at this fair as well, we recommend you to view the works by the artist.

Also on view are works by **Leila Pazooki** and **Rachel Lee Hovnanian** who is preparing a brand new installation featuring her "motherboards" and "Reflections".

The interview with Leila Heller was like a window into the world of color and thought-provoking art.

[Watch more interviews](#) from The Armory Show. Watch more interviews from [ADAA: The Art Show](#).



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<http://www.galleryintell.com/leila-heller-gallery-the-armory-show-2013/>