

LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

December 2012 Newsletter

Events

CURRENT

LEILA HELLER GALLERY + TOWN & COUNTRY MAGAZINE PRESENT
THE YOUNG COLLECTORS EXHIBITION

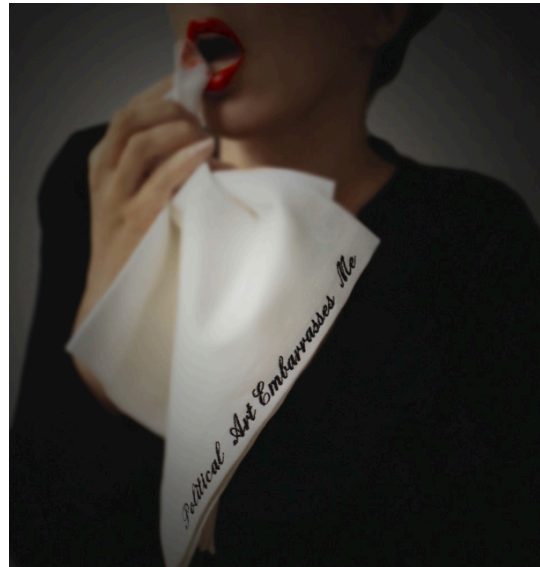
Benefiting the Pollock-Krasner Foundation's
Hurricane Sandy relief fund for visual artists

December 18 – January 12, 2013

Leila Heller Gallery

568 West 25th Street

Leila Heller Gallery is pleased to announce The Young Collectors Exhibition, on view from December 18th to January 12, 2013. The Young Collectors Exhibition is a show of works from a number of the gallery's artists plus a wide selection of works by international emerging artists who are not represented by the gallery. Curated for the emerging collector, this exhibition features artworks priced between \$500 and \$5,000.



[Press Release](#)

Image: Julia Mandle, *Political Art Embarrasses Me*, 2007, C-print, 10 x 10.5 in (25.4 x 26.6 cm)

SOODY SHARIFI

Solo Exhibition: Of Miniature serenades and
Maxiture moments

December 12, 2012 – January 12, 2013

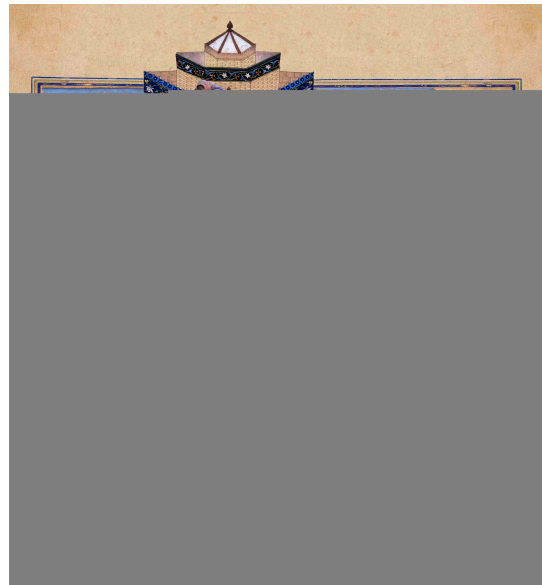
Sharjah Art Museum

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Sharjah Art Museum presents a solo exhibition of
Soody Sharifi, as part of the Islamic Arts Festival.

[Read More](#)

Image: Soody Sharifi, *Everybody plays the pool...
sometimes*, 2009, Archival inkjet print, 36.25 x
39.75in (92 x 99.8 cm)



KEZBAN ARCA BATIBEKI AT ANIMA GALLERY

He Loves Me...She Loves Me Not!

November 5, 2012 – January 2, 2013

30 La Croisette

Porto Arabia

The Pearl – Qatar

Anima Gallery proudly presents a solo exhibition
by Kezban Arca Batibeki, in conjunction with
Leila Heller Gallery, New York.

[View More](#)

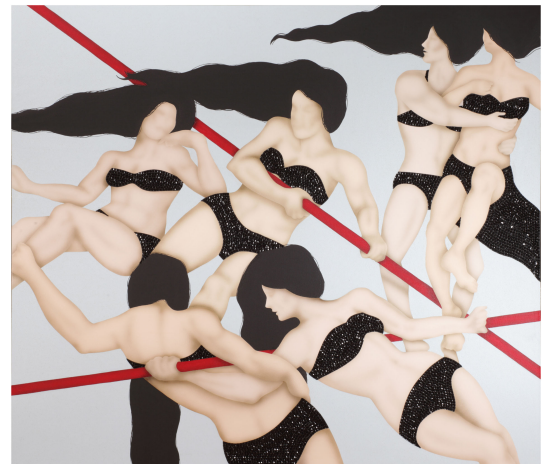


Image: Kezban Arca Batibeki, *Red Line*, 2012, Acrylic based mixed media and embroidery with sequins
on canvas 63 x 55 in (160 x 140 cm)

MITRA TABRIZIAN

Light From The Middle East – New Photography

November 13, 2012 – April 7, 2013

V&A Musuem

Cromwell Road

London – United Kingdom



Photography is a powerful and persuasive means of expression. Its immediacy and accessibility
make it an ideal choice for artists confronting the social challenges and political upheavals of
the Middle East today.

Light from the Middle East: New Photography presents work by artists from across the
Middle East (spanning North Africa to Central Asia), living in the region and in diaspora.

The exhibition explores the ways in which these artists investigate the language and techniques of photography. Some use the camera to record or bear witness, while others subvert that process to reveal how surprisingly unreliable a photograph can be. The works range from documentary photographs and highly staged tableaux to images manipulated beyond recognition. The variety of approaches is appropriate to the complexities of a vast and diverse region.

[Read More](#)

Image: Mitra Tabrizian, *Teheran 2006*, C-type light jet print, 40 x 119 in (101 x 302 cm) Edition of 5

UPCOMING

GAYLE WELLS MANDLE & JULIA MANDLE

Game II

January 17 – February 16, 2013

Leila Heller Gallery

568 West 25th Street

Opening reception: Thursday, January 17, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

In their exhibition *Game II*, Julia Mandle and Gayle Wells Mandle use images – not of ladders but of chairs and a teeter-totter – to depict humanity's eternal struggle against imbalanced societies that deny their citizens equal opportunity. Inspired by current events in the Middle East and the United States – where the Occupy movement and subsequent 2012 presidential election brought issues of economic inequity to the forefront – they express their ideas through a combination of media, styles and objects that infuse their art with topical meaning and depth. Their collaborative exhibition stems from a warm partnership dedicated to making art that speaks for the “other” 99 percent – for people who aspire to greater security, opportunity and justice in the world.



Image: Gayle Wells Mandle and Julia Mandle, *Throne Burning*, 2012, Photo printed on silk paper, 84 x 44 in (213.3 x 111.7 cm)

RAN HWANG

Transparencies: Contemporary Art and A History of Glass

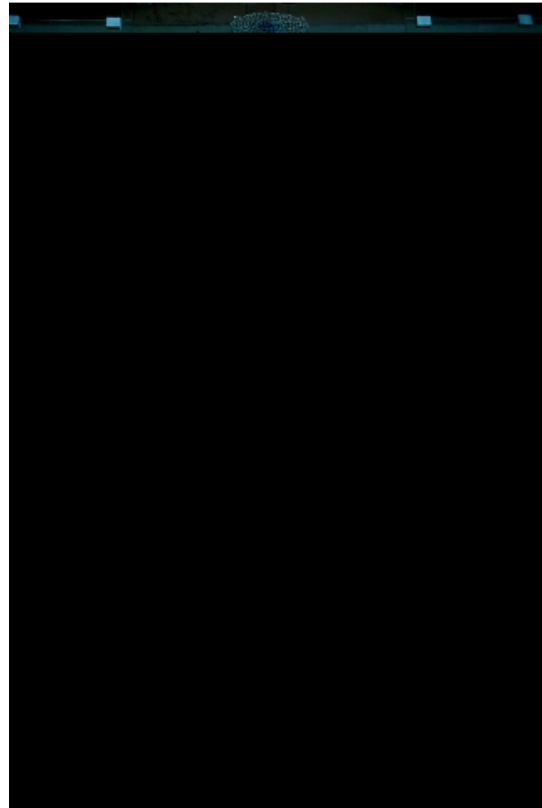
February 21 – May 26, 2013

Des Moines Art Center, Anna K. Meredith Gallery

Transparencies brings together a group of international contemporary artists whose work explores glass as both medium and as subject matter. Each creates contemporary art that connects with the history of glasswork, from luxury objects such as chandeliers and mirrors to household items like drinking vessels and light bulbs. Many forms of glass are represented, from delicate, hand-worked mirrors to industrial sheets of Plexiglas, as well as works that despite appearances, are not made of glass at all. The artists selected for *Transparencies* come from around the world, and vary widely in their art-making practices.

[Read More](#)

Image: Ran Hwang, *Garden of Water*, 2010, Beads, crystal pins, video on plexiglass, 90 x 9/16 x 118 1/8 in 6 panels total (each 90 9/16 x 19 11/16 inches)



News

NEW YORK OBSERVER
To Do Tuesday: Miami North
by Daniel D'Addario
December 18, 2012

Not all art-collecting this month is going on in Miami: tonight brings the opening reception for the Young Collectors Exhibition, a diverse set of works intended for young (read: a level below Sotheby's on desired price point) patrons. The whole show, put on by Leila Heller Gallery and WASP bible **Town & Country**, raises money for the Pollock-Krasner Foundation's Hurricane Sandy relief fund, to aid those artists whose livelihoods were affected by the lower-Manhattan floodwaters ... Meanwhile, **Uma Thurman**, **Eric Ripert** and the perpetually headband-wearing **Arden Wohl** stop by the Tibet House benefit auction at Christie's, for which **Martin Scorsese** (on a break from shooting that new Leo flick) serves as one of the honorary chairs.

[Read More](#)

Image: Zac Buehner, *Time Pieces*, 2012, Pencil on paper, 17.5 x 17.5 in (44.4 x 44.4 cm)

NEW YORK POST
Page Six
"Art rocks for Paul McCartney's wife Nancy Shevell"
December 20, 2012

Nancy Shevell, the wife of former Beatle **Paul McCartney**, could be making a move into the art market. Shevell was spotted checking out the Young Collectors Exhibition at Leila Heller Gallery on Tuesday in Chelsea with art collector **Beth Rudin DeWoody** and her fiancé, photographer **Firooz Zahedi**, as well as Andy Warhol biographer **Bob Colacello** and former Armory Show director **Paul Morris**.

[Read More](#)

Image: Paul McCartney and Nancy Shevell

ARTINFO

"The Young Collectors Exhibition"

December 18, 2012

The Young Collectors Exhibition is a show of works from a number of the gallery's artists plus a wide selection of works by emerging artists who are not represented by the gallery. All works in the exhibition are priced below \$5,000. A presale of the works in The Young Collectors Exhibition will take place from November 23 until December 15 on Paddle8. Ten percent of the sales from this show will be donated to the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, which has recently set up a Hurricane Sandy relief fund for visual artists. This is the first time that the Pollock-Krasner Foundation has accepted donations from an outside source.

[Read More](#)

Image: Karl Mann, *Untitled (Tongue)*, 2012, Digital print in custom artist designed frame, 46 x 35 in (116.8 x 89 cm)

Al Mahha

"Leila Heller Gallery Hosts Young Collectors Exhibition"

December 6, 2012

New York based prominent gallery, [Leila Heller Gallery](#) is hosting 'The Young Collectors Exhibition' a collective exhibition by gallery's artists plus a wide selection of works by international emerging artists who have been invited to show at the gallery.

Taking place from December 18, 2012 to January 12, 2013, the exhibition is curated for emerging collector which will feature 100 works priced between \$500 and \$5,000.

[Read More](#)

Image: Kezban Arca Batibeki, *Girl with Peacock*, 2012, Digital collage, 39.5 x 26 in (100.3 x 66 cm)

GalleristNY

"7 Things to Do in New York's Art World Before December 22"

by Andrew Russeth, Michael H. Miller and Dan Duray

December 17, 2012

An exhibition of work that is all priced between \$500 and \$5,000 and presented for the emerging collector.

[Read More](#)

Image: Richard Fleischner, *Untitled (LeWitt House)*, 1894–1, 2011–2012, Archival pigment print, 17 x 22 in (43.1 x 55.8 cm)

Art Basel / Miami Beach

"No Longer a Man's World. Women are bringing about the biggest changes in the growing Middle Eastern art market"

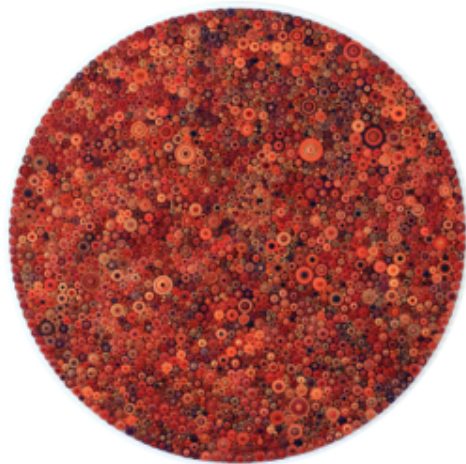
by Robin Pogrebin

December 2012

When Leila Heller started her New York gallery 30 years ago, it wasn't easy to get collectors to consider buying Middle Eastern contemporary art. "Most of the audience had zero interest," Heller recalls. "I was lucky if I sold to some oil company in Houston. The artists of the Middle East have always been great artists. Attention given to them has changed."

[Read More](#)

Image: Hadieh Shafie, *21600 Pages*, 2012, Acrylic on paper, 48 in diameter (122 cm diameter)



COMPLEX ART+DESIGN

Art Basel Miami 2012 Highlights: 12/8

by Cedar Pasori

December 11, 2012

Leila Pazooki's neon light installation plays with the idea of what and who's next in the art world, when in fact things are more global and less predictable and comparable that they've ever been. It's the third piece in an edition of four and from New York's Leila Heller Gallery at both A33.

Image: Leila Pazooki, *Moment of Glory*, 2010, Neon light installation, Dimension variable

ART FAG CITY

"Art Miami Opens with Over 125 Galleries"

by Paddy Johnson

December 5, 2012

More than 125 international contemporary and modern art galleries will participate in the fair. In particular, we're interested in exhibitors Claire Oliver, Haunch of Venison, and Leila Heller Gallery. We're also interested in sculptor Peter Anton, who is famed for his oversized confectionary sculptures. This year, he's upped the sugar load at Art Miami with "Sugar & Gomorrah", the world's first sugar installation that includes a motor car as a viewing device. That's right, this year, viewers can tour through the installation in a car while looking at a Sodom and Gomorah like world.

[Read More](#)

Image: Farideh Lashai, *Catching the Moon*, 2012, Sound and projected animation in a water well of stainless steel 4 min. 30 sec, 25.1 in in diameter x 27.5 in (64 cm in diameter x 70 cm), Edition of 7

WHAT 2 WEAR WHERE

"What to Wear: Art Basel Miami Beach"

by Karen Klopp

November 28, 2012

While in Miami, don't miss the [Rachel Lee Hovnanian's](#) works from the Reflections of Narcissus at the Leila Heller Gallery at [Art Miami](#). The series consist of multi-layered and textured metal paintings which gleam with lavish metallic leaf on linen.

[Read more](#)

Image: Rachel Lee Hovnanian, *Motherboard I*, 2012, Steel, cast metal, leather, in artist's frame, 71 x 71 in (180 x 180 cm)

1STDIBS

"ON LOCATION: ART BASEL MIAMI BEACH WEEK"

by Meredith Medelsohn

December 2012

Expectations remain high year after year, which is no surprise considering that many dealers anticipate seeing flocks of collectors in Miami who might not come to New York or London (or Basel Switzerland), and duly rise to the occasion. "Everyone comes to Miami fairs. Miami is king," says Todd Hosfelt, the San Francisco and New York dealer who has a booth at Pulse, a smaller contemporary art fair that has thrived alongside Art Basel Miami Beach, known familiarly as ABMB, the epicenter of the action.

[Read more](#)

Image: Gulay Semercioglu, *Separate Pieces*, 2012, Wire screws wood, 71 x 59 in (180 x 150 cm)

ART TOMORROW

"Farideh Lashai | Edenic Nature and the Metaphysical Rack of Beings"

by Abbas Daneshvari

December 2012

When I first saw Farideh Lashai's paintings, my immediate reaction was visceral and not intellectual. The furthest thing from my mind was to offer an intellectual analysis. I remember that I felt at a loss for words because, for once, it was easier for me to submit myself emotionally to the paintings than to explain them. I puzzled, "Where do I find the words to express the lyrical complexity of her art?" I found myself fearful of retreating into art historical analysis and thus, at list to my own mind, contaminating, and limiting the infinity of my feeling about her works.

[Read More](#)

Image: Farideh Lashai, *Le Temps Perdu 4 minutes 30 seconds to recover*, Oil on canvas with video installation, 53 x 59 in (134.6 x 149.8 cm) size of canvas

The Berlin Journal

"The Paradox of Principle. Religious liberty, minority rights, and geopolitics"

by Saba Mahmood

Fall 2012

The right to religious liberty is widely regarded as a crowning achievement of secular-liberal democracies that guarantees the peaceful coexistence of religiously diverse populations. While all members of a polity are supposed to be protected by the right to religious liberty, religious minority are understood to be its greatest beneficiaries in the protection it accords them to practice their beliefs free of state intervention and fear of social discrimination.

[Read More](#)

Image: Shiva Ahmadi, *Safe Heaven*, 2012, Mixed media on aqua board, 60x120 in (152x 304 cm)

CANVAS

"Great Illuminations"

by Anna Wallace-Thompson

November/December 2012



So what is it that sets Middle Eastern photography apart? "One factor, I believe, is the changing atmosphere, culturally and politically, in the East," cities Mitra Tabrizian, whose *Tehran 2006* is on show. "Although the future is uncertain, for some, any attempt at a 'change' is a step forward – as opposed to the West which seems to be 'stuck,' due to the financial crisis."

Tabrizian also cites the political climate of the Middle East as a defining factor, with artists needing to find alternative ways of working.

[Read More](#)

Image: Mitra Tabrizian, *Teheran 2006*, C-type light jet print, 40 x 119 in (101 x 302 cm) Edition of 5

CANVAS

"Highlights From Canvas Guide"

November/December 2012

In this exhibition Turkish artist Kezban Arca Batibeki ventures into the world of femininity. She paints the story of Eve from the Book of Genesis from a woman's perspective in order to examine a female's role since the beginning of time. The works capture how the artist has also travelled to her childhood, depicting simple and precious memories that only she can relate to.

[Read More](#)

Image: Kezban Arca Batibeki, *Little Beige*, 2012, Acrylic based mixed media and embroidery with sequins on canvas, 39.3 in diameter (100 cm diameter)

CANVAS

"Highlights From Canvas Guide"

November/December 2012

Istanbul-based Gulay Semercioglu exhibits her startling geometric and three-dimensional compositions in the USA for the first time through Leila Heller Gallery. Made by weaving thick metal wires onto a wooden plank, the artist's works take on an abstract and meditative feel and are inspired by the shape of micro-organism, simple leaf forms, mountains and water.

[Read More](#)

Image: Gulay Semercioglu, *Green Apple*, 2012, Wire screws wood, 71 x 118 in (180 x 300 cm)

Departure

Culture Index "Artful Advice"

by Julian Allason

December, 2012

In New York the hotels' go-to advisor is Leila Heller on West 25th Street. For Asian art one can do no better than book into the Peninsula Tokyo where the Art Front consultancy curate a sublime 1,000-piece collection now on permanent display. It is a trend that is reaching into the most improbable outreaches of the hotel world, as the appointment of Jennifer Phelps as Art Director of Le Méridien Chambers in Minneapolis suggests.

[Read More](#)

T Qatar

New York Times Style Magazine

"Women on Canvas: Kezban Arca has an uncanny way of looking at things. Women and their idiosyncrasies are her current craze"

by Sindhu Nair

December 2012

The paintings are stark yet poignant; frivolous, yet with a hidden agenda – almost like the artists herself, Kezban Arca Batibeki. On the outside she appears to be just an ordinary woman, but scratch the surface, and there is more to her than her obvious talent. She currently has a solo exhibition at Anima Gallery in The Pearl in conjunction with Leila Heller Gallery, New York. *T Qatar* caught up with the artist and the gallery owner.



[Read More](#)

Image: Kezban Arca Batibeki

The Independent

"IoS photography review: Light from the Middle East, Victoria & Albert Museum, London"

by Peter Popham

December 2, 2012



Most of these countries have experienced the modern era as a long series of disasters and humiliations, and the idea of progress in our sense is a sick joke at best. In a large and masterly Iranian photograph – Iranian genius dominates this show – entitled *Teheran 2006*, Mitra Tabrizian poses ordinary Iranians plodding bleakly about their business in a wasteland in the suburbs of Tehran; the Ayatollah Khomeini gazes down pitilessly from a hoarding. The technological perfection of this huge print is painfully at odds with the stagnant, trackless state of contemporary Iran.

[Read more](#)

Image: Mitra Tabrizian, *Teheran 2006*, C-type light jet print, 40 x 119 in (101 x 302 cm) Edition of 5

"An Artist Paints His Country's Toil"

by Kristin Deasy

December 14, 2012

A leading artist among the Iraqi diaspora, Alkadhi's success reflects his unique artistic voice as much as it does a growing wellspring of interest in contemporary art from the region. His career sets an example for young Iraqi artists coming of age today, not least because Alkhadi's generation and the rising generation of "war children" have both sustained battered upbringings under different regimes.

Alkadhi describes himself as a "visual storyteller," and for him, the historical narrative is personal as much as it is political. "I will always analyze things in comparison" with the war, he said. "It's interesting because, you know, those important early years are the standard by which you compare all your adult experiences. And a child of war, and a society of war like Iraq, whatever we do, our war generation, we will always compare—that will be our backdrop."

[Read More](#)

Image: Ayad Alkadhi, *Sleeping Beauties*, 2011–2012, Charcoal, acrylic, pen and pencil on Arabic newspaper on canvas, 72 x 72 in (183 x 183 cm)

ARTslant

"Kate Eric: Ripped Seams and Other Delights"

November 2012

Kate Eric have collaborated since 2000, using their collective imaginations to produce magnificent and stimulating paintings. Over the years the subjects of their pieces have gradually shifted from dreamlike human and animal figures to ethereal molecular shapes. In this interconnected artistic relationship, the duo paint separately on large-scale canvases and work off of each others' progress in layers of trailing color and movement.

[Read More](#)

Image: Kate Eric, *Ripped Seam on Bumblemarsh*, 2012, Acrylic on canvas, 47 x 70.5 in (119.3 x 179 cm)

Art Experience: New York City

"The Edge of Eros"

by Claire Lieberman

December 2012

Kezban Arca Batibeki explores the relationship of viewer and viewed: "Women all around the world are subject to male oppression, brutality and violence. As if this weren't severe enough, these women divert their own anger to other women, sometimes violently. I find this utterly strange. My recent collection of paintings underlines this. I think your questions (and my answers to them) deal only with my latest series from the last few years. In almost all of my pieces, the dominant image is a woman whom we feel belongs to a fantasy world. Devoid of identity, a woman becomes objectified. She turns into an image not only in the eyes of men, but also women. I try to point to what lies behind that perception, and also to neutralize such objectification. The familiar feeling of a woman inflicting violence on another woman may create an erotic perception in male-dominant ideology. As an artist, I would like to avoid the trap of a superficial reading and point to depth behind the apparent, and to do this using an ironic point of view."

[Read More](#)

Image: Kezban Arca Batibeki, *Dark Red*, 2010, Mixed media, acrylic, embroidery with sequins and beads on canvas, 59 x 59 in (149.8 x 149.8 cm)

568 West 25th Street New York, NY 10001

(Tel) 212 249 7695

(Fax) 212 249 7693

www.leilahellergallery.com

info@leilahellergallery.com

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ART AND CULTURE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND ARAB WORLD