Persia in New York

Beyond the tragedy of Brooklyn-based band the Yellow Dogs, a vibrant scene of Iranian artists, musicians, filmmakers, designers, and actors is flourishing in America, centered in New York. If there’s a silver lining to the story, it’s the chance to recognize and celebrate the vital work of Iranians in the arts living here.

By Nancy Jo Sales

AMIR H. AKHAVAN

Amir H. Akhavan’s 2008 gallery show depicting the “Persian Boy,” a lover of Alexander the Great, caused a splash in the art world of Tehran. Now he has an upcoming series about soldiers, and works with the Leila Heller gallery. “A soldier is a product of circumstances and not to be hated,” he says. “It’s about having compassion for all sides.”


Photograph by Justin Bishop.