

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

## SHOJA AZARI

**B. Shiraz, Iran**

**Lives and works in New York**

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2013 *Fake: Idyllic Life*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

2011 *There are No Non-Believers in Hell*, Galerie Jérôme de Noirmont, Paris, France

VIP Art Fair, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

2010 *There Are No Non-Believers in Hell*, Leila Heller Gallery, ZOOM Contemporary Art Fair, Miami Beach, FL

*Icons*, Figge Von Rosen Galerie, Cologne, Germany

*Icons*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

*Blazing Grace*, East Central Gallery, London, UK

2009 *Shoja Azari*, Marco Noire Contemporary Arts, Turin, Italy

Shoja Azari, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, Art Dubai

*Oil Paintings*, Art Dubai, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

2008 *Odyssey*, Figge Von Rosen Galerie, Cologne, Germany

2007 *Special Project*, Marco Noire Contemporary Arts, Basel Art Fair, Switzerland

2006 *Convergencias*, Helga de Alvear Galerie, Madrid, Spain

*Windows*, Figge Von Rosen Galerie, Cologne, Germany

*Windows*, Domus Artium Museum Salamanca, Spain

*Project Rooms*, ARCO, Madrid, Spain

*Special Project*, Marco Noire Contemporary Arts, Exitbart, Torino, Italy

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## COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

- 2016      *The Cold Earth Sleeps Below* (in collaboration with Shahram Karimi), Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY
- 2014      *The Tempest* (in collaboration with Shirin Neshat), Dutch National Ballet, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2013      Come Together : Surviving Sandy (curated by Phong Bui), Industry City, Brooklyn, NY
- Magic of Light* (in collaboration with Shahram Karimi), Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ
- 2010      “Blazing Grace,” East Central Gallery, London, UK (in collaboration with Shahram Karimi)
- 2008      “Silence,” Galleria Il Gabbiano, Rome, Italy (in collaboration with Shahram Karimi)
- 2006      Galleria Il Gabbiano, Rome, Italy (in collaboration with Shahram Karimi)
- 2003      *Change*, Palermo, Italy, Belgium
- 2002      The Lincoln Summer Festival, in New York, NY
- Art Angel*, London, UK
- 2001      *Logic of the Birds*, in collaboration with Shirin Neshat, Sussan Deyhim, and Ghasem Ebrahimian, in New York, Minneapolis, London, Siracusa, and Brugg

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016      Islamic Art Now, Part 2: Contemporary Art of the Middle East, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA
- 2015      *Look at Me*, curated by Beth Rudin DeWoody and Paul Morris, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY
- Love Me, Love Me Not: Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan and its Neighbours*  
Heydar Aliyev Center, Baku, Azerbaijan
- 2013      *Come Together: Surviving Sandy, Year 1*, Industry City, Brooklyn, NY (curated by the Dedalus Foundation in collaboration with Phong Bui)

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

*Summer Selects*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

*The King of Black*, Sconfinamenti, Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds, 56<sup>th</sup> Edition, Spoleto, Italy (curated by Achille Bonito Oliva)

*Love Me, Love Me Not : Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan and its Neighbors*, Arsenale Nord, Tessa 100, Venice, Italy (curated by Dina Nasser-Khadivi)

*The Space Between: Contemporary Perspectives on Tradition and Society*, Middle East Center for the Arts (MECA), Jersey City, NJ

2012 *Festival Iranian Arts Now—Les Arts Iraniens Maintenant*, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France

2011 Art Beat Fair, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

*[Dis]Locating Culture: Contemporary Islamic Art in America*, Michael Berger Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA

Art Dubai, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY (curated by Reem Alalusi)

2010 Abu Dhabi, Leila Heller Gallery, Abu Dhabi, UAE

*On Rage*, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany

*In Defense*, Progetto 107, Turin, Italy

*Live Art/Expanded*, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK

Art Dubai, Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, UAE

*Tehran-New York*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY

*C.O.N.T.R.A.V.I.O.L.E.N.C.I.A.S*, Koldo Mitxelena Kulturunea – Donostia, Spain (*Against Violence*, Koldo Mitxelena Kulturunea, San Sebastian, Spain)

*New Directors/New Films*, Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), New York, NY

2009 *VIVA Show*, LOOP Alternative Space, Seoul, Korea

*Iran Inside Out*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY (curated by Sam Bardaouil and Fil Felrath)

*A Room with A View*, Kunstfilmbiennale, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

*Punto de Encuentro*, Havana Biennial, Plaza de San Francisco, Havana, Cuba

Urbanea, Fundacio Cultrural Es Convent, Inca, Mallorca

*L'Iran sans Frontiere*, Galerie Almine Rech, Paris, France (curated by Negui and Kamran Diba)

*Selseleh/Zelzeleh: Movers & Shakers in Contemporary Iranian Art*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY (curated by Layla S. Diba)

Kunst Biennale, Cologne Germany

2008 St. Moritz Art Masters, St Moritz, Switzerland

*Proyecto Civico/Civil Project*, Centro Cultural Tijuana, Tijuana, Mexico

*Splash*, LEILA HELLER Gallery, New York, NY

*Park and Castle of Acciaiuolo-Scandicci*, Florence, Italy

*Summer Group Show*, Leo Castelli Gallery, New York, NY

*Ma liberaci dal male*, Galleria San Fedele, Milan, Italy

*Existencias*, MUSAC, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Castilla y Leon, Spain

2007 *Camm*, Centro Atlantico de Arte Contemporaneo, Las Palmas, Spain.

Video Dia Loghi Festival, Torino, Italy

*The Space Between*, Petach Tivka Museum of Art, Petach Tivka, Israel (curated by Drorit Gur Arie)

*Pre-opening exhibitions*, Contemporary Art Museum, Santra Istanbul, Turkey

*2 Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art*, Moscow, Russia

Kunstfilm Videonale, Cologne, Germany

2006 *Emergencies: the inaugural show of MUSAC*, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Castilla y León, Spain

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

Amerika, Figge Von Rosen Galerie, Cologne, Germany

2005 *After the Revolution: Contemporary Artists from Iran*, Koldo Mitxelena, San Sebastián, Spain (curated by Octavio Zaya)

## SELECTED FILM SCREENINGS

2016 Windows, This is What Life is About Festival, Domus Artium, Salamanca, Spain

2015 The ADK, New York, NY

2014 Windows, 50<sup>th</sup> Pesaro Film Festival, Roma, Italy

2010 Women without Men, Shirin Neshat and Shoja Azari. Rotterdam Film Festival, Rotterdam, Pays-Bas

Women without Men, Shirin Neshat and Shoja Azari, Istanbul Film Festival, Istanbul, Turkey

Women without Men, Shirin Neshat and Shoja Azari, Sydney Film Festival, Sydney, Australia

Women without Men, Shirin Neshat and Shoja Azari, Sundance Film Festival, Park City, Utah

2008 Locarno Film Festival, Locarno, Switzerland

2007 Video Dialoghi Festival, Torino Italy

Kunstfilm Videonale, Cologne Germany

Las Palmas International Film Festival

2006 Tribeca Film Festival, New York, NY

Locarno International Film Festival, Locarno, Italy

San Diego International Film Festival, San Diego,

Hamburger Bahnhof Museum, Berlin, Germany

(Screening)

2005 Hiroshima Contemporary Art Museum, Hiroshima, Japan (Screening)

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

Harvard Film Archive, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

ArteEast Cinema, New York, NY

2004 Anthology Film Archive, New York, NY

2003 K. Shoja Azari. Cantor Film Center: New York

University, New York, NY (Screening)

K. Shoja Azari. Gutek Poland International Film Festival, Gutek, Poland

K. Shoja Azari. Moscow Film Festival, Moscow, Russia

K. Shoja Azari. Yale University, New Haven, CT

K. Shoja Azari. Asia Art Society, New York, NY

K. Shoja Azari. IFP Los Angeles International Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA

2002 K. Shoja Azari. 43<sup>rd</sup> International Thessaloniki Film Festival, Thessaloniki, Greece

K. Shoja Azari. Tribeca Film Festival, New York, NY

K. Shoja Azari. Belgrade Film Festival, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

K. Shoja Azari. 59<sup>th</sup> Venice Film Festival, Venice, Italy

K. Shoja Azari. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (Screening)

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

*"Icons," Figge von Rosen Galeri Exhibition Catalogue, Figge von Rosen Galeri, Cologne, Germany, 2010.*

Hamid Dabashi, "Shoja Azari: Making the Homely Unhomely," *Leila Heller Gallery Exhibition Catalogue*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY, May 2010, 1-5.

Benjamin Genocchio, "Shoja Azari: Keep the Faith," *Leila Heller Exhibition Catalogue*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY, May 2010, 13.

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Sam Bardaouil, "The Blurring of Boundaries: Two Decades of Deconstruction and Reinvention in the Life and Work of Shoja Azari," *Leila Heller Exhibition Catalogue*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY, May 2012, 14-17.

"Silence", *Leo Castelli Gallery Exhibition Catalogue*, Leo Castelli Gallery, New York, NY, February/April 2008.

*Gallerie Gabbiano Exhibition Catalogue*, Galleria Gabbiano, Rome, Italy, 2007.

*Camm Exhibition Catalogue*, Cetero Atlantico de Arte Contemporano, Las Palmas, Spain, 2007.

"Emergencias Exhibition Catalogue," *Museo de Arte Contemporano de Castilla y León*, Las Palmas, Spain, 2006.

"After the Revolution: Contemporary Artists from Iran," *Koldo Mitxelana in San Sebastian*, San Sebastian, Spain, 2006.

"WINDOWS, Exhibition Book," *Dumas Artium*, Salamanca, Spain, 2006.

"Convergences, Exhibition Catalogue," Madrid, Spain, 2006.

Exhibition Catalogue Galleria de Gabbiano, Galleria Gabbiano, Rome, Italy, 2006.

## SELECTED ARTICLES/REVIEWS

2015 Giannandrea, Marinilde. "Passage Through The World, Shoja Azari and Shirin Neshat, Teatro Margherita." *Exibart.com*, Italy (September 29, 2015).

Nastro, Santa. "A conversation with Shirin Neshat and Shoja Azari." *Artibune.com* Italy (September 26, 2015).

2013 "Venice Biennale 2013 Photo Diary: Wrap Up (Photos)," *The Huffington Post* (June 4, 2013).

"The Princesses of Azari: Between Videoart and Miniatures," *Espresso.repubblica.it*, Italy (June 20, 2013).

Benedetti, Beatrice. "The Paradise Lost (On Purpose). An Interview with Shoja Azari," *Artribune.com*, Italy (July 9, 2013).

Pandolfi, Elizabeth. "Rising in the East," *Art Antiques* (September 2013).

"Fake: Idyllic Life," *Wall Street International* (October 28, 2013).

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Vogel, Wendy. "The Long View: Shoja Azari animates Persian paintings and the present," *Modern Painters* (November 2013): 88- 92.

"Shoja Azari: FAKE Idyllic Life," *ARTFIXdaily* (November 14, 2013).

"Fake: Idyllic Life – New Works by Shoja Azari on view at Leila Heller Gallery," *All Art News* (November 18, 2013).

"Fake: Idyllic Life – New Works by Shoja Azari on view at Leila Heller Gallery," *Artdaily.org* (November 18, 2013).

Frank, Priscilla. " Artist uses YouTube and 19<sup>th</sup> century Orientalist painting to explore views of the Middle East, *Huffington Post* (November 21, 2013).

Bregman, Alexandra. "Shoja Azari: Examining the inauthentic in both past and present," *ArteNews* (November 22, 2013).

Dale, Eisinger. "Shoja Azari Explores Perceptions of the Middle East in New Show at Leila Heller Gallery," *Complex Art + Design* (November 22, 2013).

Vogel, Wendy, & Aaron Sherman. "Video: Shoja Azari Takes the Long View," *BlouinArtInfo* (November 22, 2013).

Beglari, Nazzy. "Art to Art," *Harper's Bazaar Art Arabia*, no. 10 (November-December, 2013): cover, 90-103.

Geist, Dan. "FAKE: Idyllic Life by Shoja Azari-review," *The Guardian, Iran Blog* (December 9, 2013).

Lala, Kisa. "Shoja Azari: Illusion and Dillusion," *Huffington Post* (December 10, 2013).

Willis, David. "Paradise Lost and Found," *The Brooklyn Rail* (December 18, 2013).

Bansie, Vasvani. "Fake- Idyllic Life: Shoja Azari," *ArtAsiaPacific* (December 2013).

2010 Gopnik, Blake. "Artists of All Faiths Walk Sacrilege Line," *The Washington Post* (December 3, 2010).



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Farber, Stephan. "Women without Men," *Hollywood Reporter* (October 14, 2010).

Heartney, Eleano. "Shoja Azari," *Art in America* (October 7, 2010).

Kino, Carol. "Putting New Faces on Islamic History," *The New York Times* (May 23, 2010).

Geist, Dan. "Icons, Shoja Azari," *Tehran Bureau* (May 13, 2010).

Nazhand, Nazy. "Shoja Azari," *Artinfo.com* (May 13, 2010).

Ashook, Bernice. "New Works by Shoja Azari at Leila Taghinia-Milani Heller Gallery," *Art Knowledge* (May 6, 2010).

Dabashi, Hamid. "Shoja Azari: Making the Homely Unhomely," *Icons Catalogue*, Leila Heller Gallery (May 2010).

Bui, Phong. "Shoja Azari with Phong Bui," *The Brooklyn Rail* (May 2010).

Hardly, Earnest. "Women without Men," *LA Weekly* (April 8, 2010).

Newman, Martin. "Art: Shahram Karimi and Shoja Azari's Blazing Grace at East Central Gallery," *"Mirror.co.uk Opinion" "blog."* (January 13, 2010).

Grossbongardt, Annette. "9 mal 13 Zentimeter Heimat," *Der Spiege* (March 30, 2010): 137-139.

2009 Weissberg, Jay. "Women without Men," *Variety* (September 12, 2009).

"Iran Inside Out," Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY.

2008 "Meditation fur Einen Blick, eine Stimme Unde ein Cello," *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 31.

"Apokalypse Jetzt," *Kolner Stadt-Anzeiger* (February 20, 2008): 21.

2007 "Through the Window," *Exit Magazine # 26*.

Golfin, Gil. "Spaces in Between," *The Jerusalem Post*.

2006 Gambardi, Olga. "Pablicato Marted," *Flash art*.

Hernando, Javier. "Shoja Azari, tras el crystal," *El Mundo* (April 20, 2006).

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Revuelta, Laura. "La Ventana indiscreta," *ABC*.

Diaz-Guardiola, Javier. "Shoja Azari, Soy un hombre sin identidad, sin fronteras," *ABC*.

Albarran, Juan. "Before the pain of the others," *Art.es*, International Contemporary Art, no.12/13.

"Opening the lid bordering Windows: A conversation with Octavio Zaya," *Atlantica*.

Hills, Aaron. "Windows," *Premiere Magazine*.

Anderson, John. "Windows," *Variety Magazine*.

2005 Lopez Borrego, Rafael. "Emergencias," *Homines.com* (March 22, 2005).  
<http://www.homines.com/palabras/musac/>

Dabashi, Hamid. "It was in China Late One Moonless Night," *Social Research Magazine*, 2005.

2003 Neghai, Morteza. "K," *Kayhan Newspaper* (September 26, 2003).

2002 Aidin, Rose. "The Flock of the New," *The Observer* (November 10, 2002).

O'Connell, Alex. "Logic of the Birds," *The Times* (November 8, 2002): 27.

Williams, Richard. "The Exotic and the Everyday," *The Guardian*, (October 31, 2002): A14-15.

Stratton, David. "K," *Variety Magazine* (September 9, 2002).

McNulty, Charles. "Iran to You: Ritual and the Avant-Garde at the Lincoln Center Film Festival," *The Village Voice* (July 23, 2002).

Midgette, Anne. "Festival Review; An Epic Journey in Images and Sounds," *The New York Times* (July 15, 2002).

2001 Wallach, Amei. "Theater; An Islamic Culture in all its Beauty," *The New York Times* (September 30, 2001).

## SELECTED ESSAYS WRITTEN BY SHOJA AZARI

2006 "Shirin Neshat: The 6<sup>th</sup> Hiroshima Art Prize Catalogue," *The Hiroshima City*

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*Museum of Contemporary Art*, Tadatoshi Akiba, Shuji Takashina, Shirin Neshat, Shoja Azari, Kentaro Ichihara, Mari Oka, eds. (Hiroshima, Japan: Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, 2006).

“In Conversation: Shirin Neshat’s Exhibition Catalogue,” Gladstone Exhibition Gallery, Shoja Azari eds. (New York, NY: Charta, 2006).

2001 “Shirin Neshat: Exhibition Catalogue Essay,” The Museum of Contemporary Art, Montreal, Shoja Azari eds. (Montreal, Canada: The Museum of Contemporary Art, Montreal, 2001).

## FILMOGRAPHY

2009 *Paradise*. Feature length film script.

*Women without Men*, feature film based on Shahmush Parsipur’s novel *Women Without Men*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. Indiepix, 2009. 35 mm color.

2008 *Faezeh*, based on Shahmush Parsipur’s novel *Women Without Men*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 2008. Black and white video/audio installation.

*Munis*, based on Shahmush Parsipur’s novel *Women Without Men*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 2008. Black and white video/audio installation.

*Odyssey*. Shoja Azari. 2008. Color short film high definition video.

2007 *Converted*. Shoja Azari. 2007. Feature length script.

2006 *Windows*. Shoja Azari. Mad Apple Films, 2006. Black and white and color.

2005 *Zarin*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. Essential Film production GmbH, 2005. 35 mm color.

2004 *Mahdokht*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. Coproduction Office, 2004. 35 mm black and white and color.

2003 *Maria de Los Angeles*. Shoja Azari. Mad Apple Films, 2003. DV color.

*The Last Word*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. Mad Apple Films, 2003. 35 mm color.

# LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

- 2002 *K*, a feature length film based on 3 short stories by Franz Kafka. Shoja Azari. The 7<sup>th</sup> Floor and Parrot Production Inc., 2002. Black and white.
- Tooba*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 2002. 35 mm color 2-channel video projection.
- Logic of the Birds*. Shoja Azari. Artangel Media, 2002. 16 mm Technicolor.
- 2000 *Pulse*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 16mm black and white.
- Possessed*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 16mm and 35mm black and white and color.
- Passage*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 35 mm color single channel video/audio installation.
- 1999 *Fervoi*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 1999. 16mm black and white.
- Rapture*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 1999. 16mm color 2 channel video installation.
- Soliloquy*. Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 1999. 16mm color.
- 1998 *The Story of the Merchant and the Indian Parrot*. Shoja Azari. 1998. 35 mm color.
- Turbulent*, Shoja Azari in collaboration with Shirin Neshat. 1998. 16mm black and white 2-channel video installation.