

LEILA HELLER GALLERY.

' Timeless Blossoms '

By

Morteza Darehbaghi



The Beauty of Summer, 2024 , Mixed Media on Canvas, 320 x 280 cm

Dubai, UAE – Leila Heller Gallery is delighted to announce the upcoming solo exhibition by Morteza Darehbaghi, titled *'Timeless Blossoms'* opening on 30th January, 2025.

'Timeless Blossoms' explores the intersection of tradition and modernity through intricate works inspired by the enduring beauty and cultural symbolism of blossoms in art and nature. Throughout history, nature has been a profound source of inspiration, shaping artistic expression across cultures. Persian carpets exemplify this influence, transforming the beauty of gardens and delicate blossoms into intricate designs. These motifs are deeply woven into Iranian craftsmanship, creating timeless works that connect the human spirit with the natural world.

Drawing inspiration from centuries-old artistic traditions, Morteza Darehbaghi masterfully reinterprets classical Persian motifs such as Persian lacquer painting and the iconic *Gol-o-Morgh* (flower and bird) designs through contemporary techniques. His work echoes the timeless elegance of Persian art while infusing it with dynamic, modern energy.

Much like the ever-changing seasons in which flowers bloom, *Timeless Blossoms* reflects on how our understanding of the past continuously evolves, blossoming into new and innovative forms. Darehbaghi's pieces delicately balance the enduring spirit of classical art with the vibrant expression of contemporary creativity, fostering a dialogue between heritage and modernity.

Timeless Blossoms reimagines Persian artistry while offering a modern reflection on the timeless bond between nature, culture, and the human experience.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Morteza Darehbaghi is an Iranian artist known for his exploration of free, geometric, and pattern-based forms. In 2009, his *"Birth"* series marked a shift from nature-inspired works to independent forms shaped by visible and invisible forces. His art blends the structured geometry of cityscapes with traditional Persian motifs like rug patterns and tile designs, creating a balance between order and organic forms. This combination reflects his interest in the dynamic relationship between structure and spontaneity.

Darehbaghi has exhibited internationally, with solo shows at Foundry in Dubai, Iranshahr Art Gallery in Tehran, and Meem Gallery in Dubai. He has participated in major events like the 54th Venice Biennale and Abu Dhabi Art. His work has earned several awards, including first place at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art and the Islamic World Biennial. His pieces have also appeared in major auctions at Christie's Dubai and Bonhams.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Since its establishment over four decades ago in New York, Leila Heller Gallery has gained worldwide recognition as a pioneer in promoting a creative dialogue and exchange between Western artists and Middle Eastern, Central and Southeast Asian artists. It has garnered a reputation for identifying and cultivating the careers of artists leaving a lasting impact on contemporary art and culture. Currently representing a diverse roster of Western, Central Asian, Southeast Asian and Middle Eastern artists, the gallery is also active in the American, European, and Middle Eastern secondary art markets. In November 2015, Leila Heller Gallery opened its first international location in Dubai's Alserkal Avenue. At 16,000 square feet, the state of the art gallery features three exhibition spaces, making it the largest gallery in the UAE. Showcasing leading regional and international artists, many of whom will be presenting their work in the Middle East. In addition to presenting a dynamic exhibition schedule, Leila Heller Gallery actively organizes shows with world renowned curators, hosts educational panels and film screenings, and produces catalogs and books with scholarly essays. Each year the gallery participates in major international art fairs and stages off-site projects as a platform for exploring new conversations within a wider context of galleries, artists and institutions. Gallery artists have consistently participated in international museum exhibitions and biennials, and are included in leading institutional collections worldwide.