MORTEZA KHOSRAVI THEFLOATING TABLE

LEILA HELLER GALLERY



# MORTEZA KHOSRAVI

# THE FLOATING TABLE

In these works, the human being and human concerns from absence and loss to objects, spaces, and architecture occupy a central place. A deep affinity for the Western painting tradition and a rooted belief that "an image is born of another image" have shaped the path of study and influence drawn from the history of figurative painting, reflected throughout the works.

What matters above all is the medium of painting itself and its expressive possibilities: the moment when the artist's encounter with the blank canvas, texture, line, and color opens up a boundless world. This process moves between painterly action and revelation, and at any moment it may stop, transform, or return to previous layers.

In this experience, personal style or outward distinction gives way to process and encounter. The artist, the work, and the viewer each share in completing meaning, just as an open ending in cinema or an instrumental piece of music allows for an individual reception.

Mere representation is set aside: the image may at times fade or blur; the painting may halt in its early stages, or layers may be stripped away to reveal the ground of the canvas. In this way, the passage of time and the lived experience of painting become visible to the viewer. In this approach, painterly details take precedence over representational details, generating an emotional and instinctive impact that transcends time and place.

This collection emerges from the remnants of old keepsake photographs, images once capturing joyful and intimate moments of gatherings, feasts, and birthdays. Through the act of painting, these memories relinquish their vitality to a fragile stillness. Detailed portraits, faces, and objects dissolve into the background, yielding to a space suspended between presence and absence.

"The Floating Table" stands as a metaphor for togetherness, yet within this series we encounter the absence of certain figures. The images move away from their documentary function, transforming instead into a collective space. Here, the viewer is invited to reconstruct personal experiences and memories within a shared framework.

The muted, uniform light and subdued contrast of the paintings seem to illuminate fleeting instants and moments already dissolving into oblivion. The restrained palette, with its quiet simplicity, does not strive to reproduce reality but rather underscores the weight of memory and the sense of loss.

Everyday moments, however ordinary, evolve through the passage of time into a contemplative shared memory.

"The Floating Table" is an invitation to reflect upon memory, absence, and the enduring continuity of human experience.

















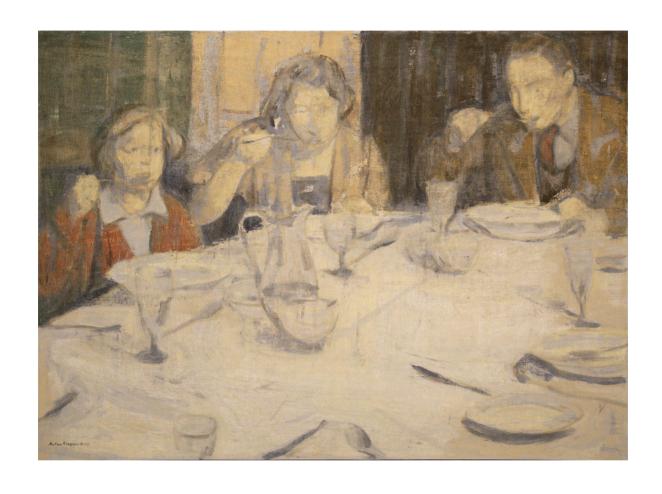
























### MORTEZA KHOSRAVI

Born 1988 Bojnurd, Iran Based in Tehran, Iran & Paris, France B.A. in Painting, 2012

Morteza Khosravi is a painter and draftsman whose work focuses on figurative drawing and the experience of engaging with art. He began studying graphics at the School of Art of Aref Bojnordi at the age of sixteen, gaining early recognition in local and national festivals. Khosravi trained under Masters Gholamhossein Sohrabi and Ali Beigiparast, developing a strong foundation in professional drawing. He cites artists such as Lucian Freud, Mark Rothko, Whistler, and Richter among his influences.

His practice emphasizes the act of looking over adherence to a single concept, exploring subtle formalism and a continuous search for artistic expression. Khosravi has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions in Iran and internationally. Notable solo shows include Artlab Gallery in Beirut, Iranshahr and Golestan Galleries in Tehran, and .4rtgallery in France. His work has also been featured in prominent group exhibitions such as Festival Partage des Arts in France, Galleri Ramfjord in Oslo, Simine Paris in Paris, Contemporary Istanbul in Turkey, and Building Bridges Art Exchange in Los Angeles, USA.



## **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 .4rtgallery, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, France
- 2023 Danjeh Gallery, Semnan
- 2022 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2022 Memorial Photos, Maze Art Group, Tehran, Iran
- 2018 Artlab Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2018 Iranshahr Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 Artlab Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2016 Iranshahr Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 Golestan Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Artlab Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2012 Golestan Gallery, Tehran, Iran

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2024 Festival Partage des Arts (sculpture: River Woman), L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, France
- 2024 Simine Paris, Paris, France
- 2023 Maze Art Group, Contemporary Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2023 Simine Paris, Menart Fair, Paris, France
- 2021 Galleri Ramfjord, Oslo, Norway
- 2019 What if Not Exotic? Critical Perspectives in Contemporary Iranian Art, Building Bridges Art Exchange, Los Angeles, USA
- 2018 Iran Less Forty, Palazzo Bastogi Museum, Florence, Italy
- 2018 Immortality, Abahan Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2017 Gallery Mim, Los Angeles, USA
- 2015 Action Art Escape, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2015 Auction No. 23: The Young Collectors Auction, Ayyam Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 World Hero, Shirin Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2014 Beirut Art Fair, Beirut, Lebanon

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Front cover image: Series of The Floating Table Oil on Canvas 90 x 120 cm 2023

Back cover image: Series of Memorial Photos Ink on Cardboard 100 x 170 cm 2023

Conceptual Statement by Morteza Khosravi

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