



DARVISH



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*Enrapture*

# DARVISH

"Enrapture" is an unfolding of the soul—a masterly crafted melange of paint and performance that invites the viewer into a state of weightless reverie. It serves as a visual dialogue, suspended between Occidental heritage and Oriental sensibilities. The exhibition is rooted in the belief that love is a direct conduit to the Divine—a state that dissolves societal constructs and expectations, dismantling the walls they build between our true nature and the infinite.

In this space, the gallery is transformed into a scene from a surreal, romantic play. Darvish Fakhr embodies the spirit of Majnun, the 'mad lover' immortalized in Nizami Ganjavi's 1188 CE Persian masterpiece. While this theme has traveled through Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Indic traditions, it is here that the lover's 'madness' is reimagined as a profound clarity.

Fakhr acts as the living thread that ties the paintings together, his presence an unfolding rhythm that draws the room into a single, shared frequency. In these acts of enraptured creation, the viewer is invited to enter into this shared state - effectively bypassing the walls of the mundane to find an unmediated communion with the sublime.

The work represents a quiet refusal to be shaped or subdued by worldly constructs. Turning away from the discordant noise of the mundane, the artist aligns instead with a primordial pulse—a deep, indwelling frequency that guides the spirit into a state of heightened clarity. Through this refined awareness, cultural boundaries blur, and the language of longing becomes a universal bridge, leading us back to a single, shared source.

W. P. Teasley is a contributor to The London Magazine. Raised on a Georgia farm and seasoned by years of travel and diverse labor, he eventually found his way to a life in England. He maintains a daily devotion to the craft of fiction and verse.





BOAT DATE  
2026 (unfinished)  
Oil on linen  
40 x 50 cm



CAMEL FLOAT  
2026  
Oil on linen  
50 x 50 cm

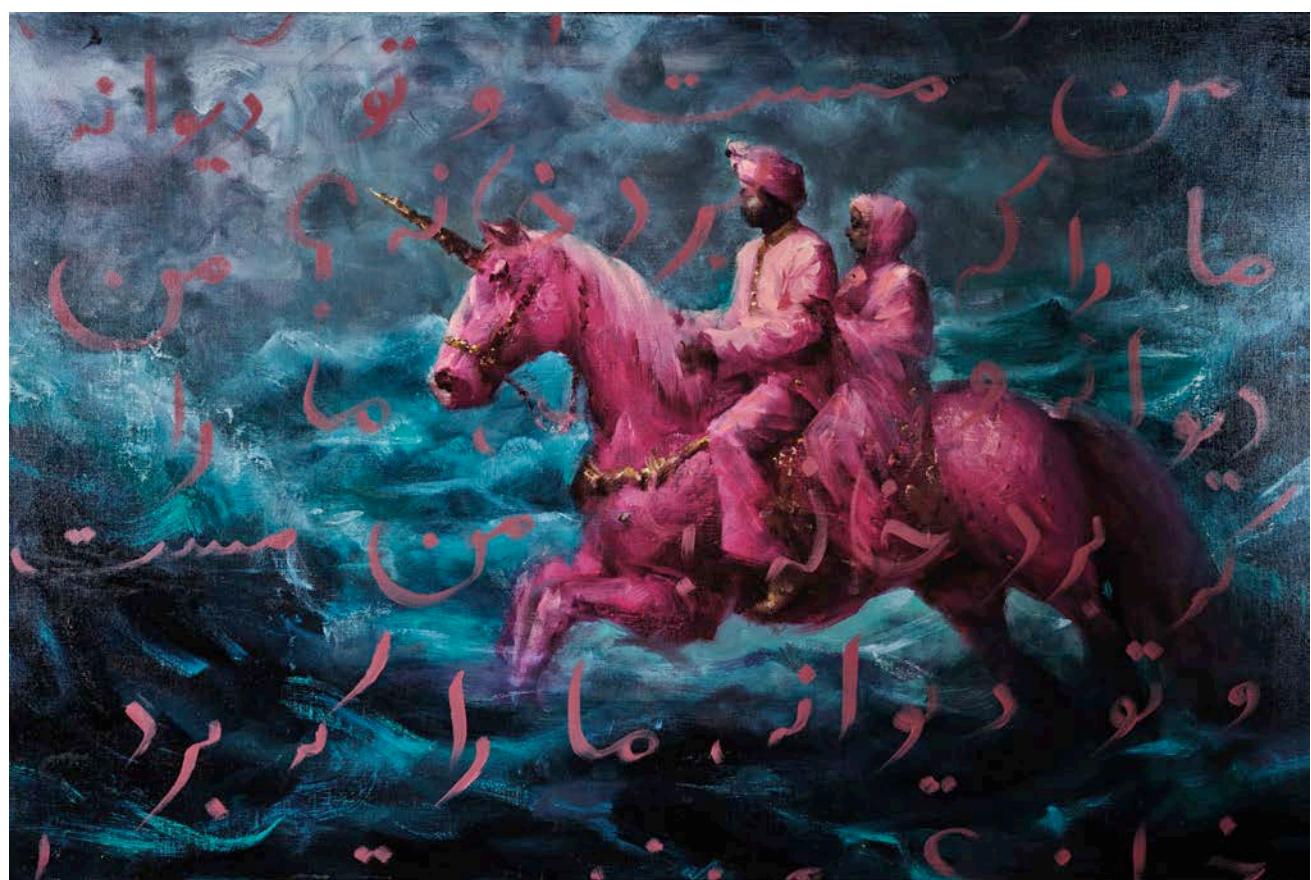




CLOSING TIME  
2025  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



DESSERT  
2025  
Oil on linen  
20 x 20 cm



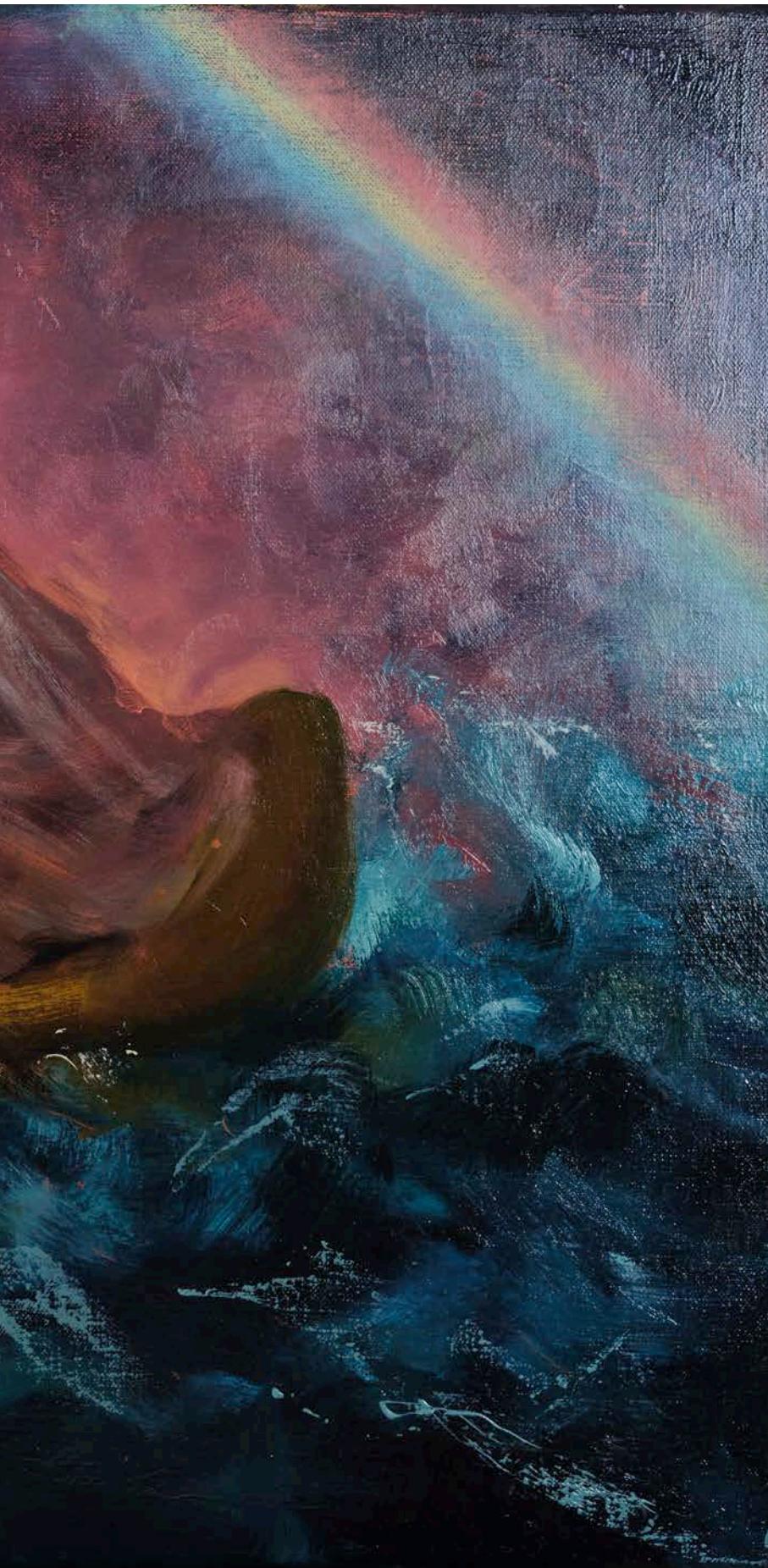
DJANGO OVERSEAS  
2025  
Oil on linen  
120 x 80 cm



DUCK DATE  
2026.unfinished  
Oil on linen  
50 x 70 cm







DUCK DATE II  
2026  
Oil on linen  
50 x 70 cm



EXHILED  
2025  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



FLY-BY  
2026  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm







FREERIDER  
2025  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



FRESH AIR  
2026  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



LUV\_S TRUCK  
2025  
Oil on linen  
100 x 100 cm



MAGIC CARPET  
2026  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm







Dream Big  
2025  
Oil on linen  
160 x 180 cm (Large)





QUAD LOVE  
2026  
Oil on linen  
50 x 50 cm



SOLO CLOUD  
2025  
Oil on linen  
20 x 20 cm





THE GOOD RIDE  
2025  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



THE MAVERICK  
2025  
Oil on linen  
100 x 100 cm



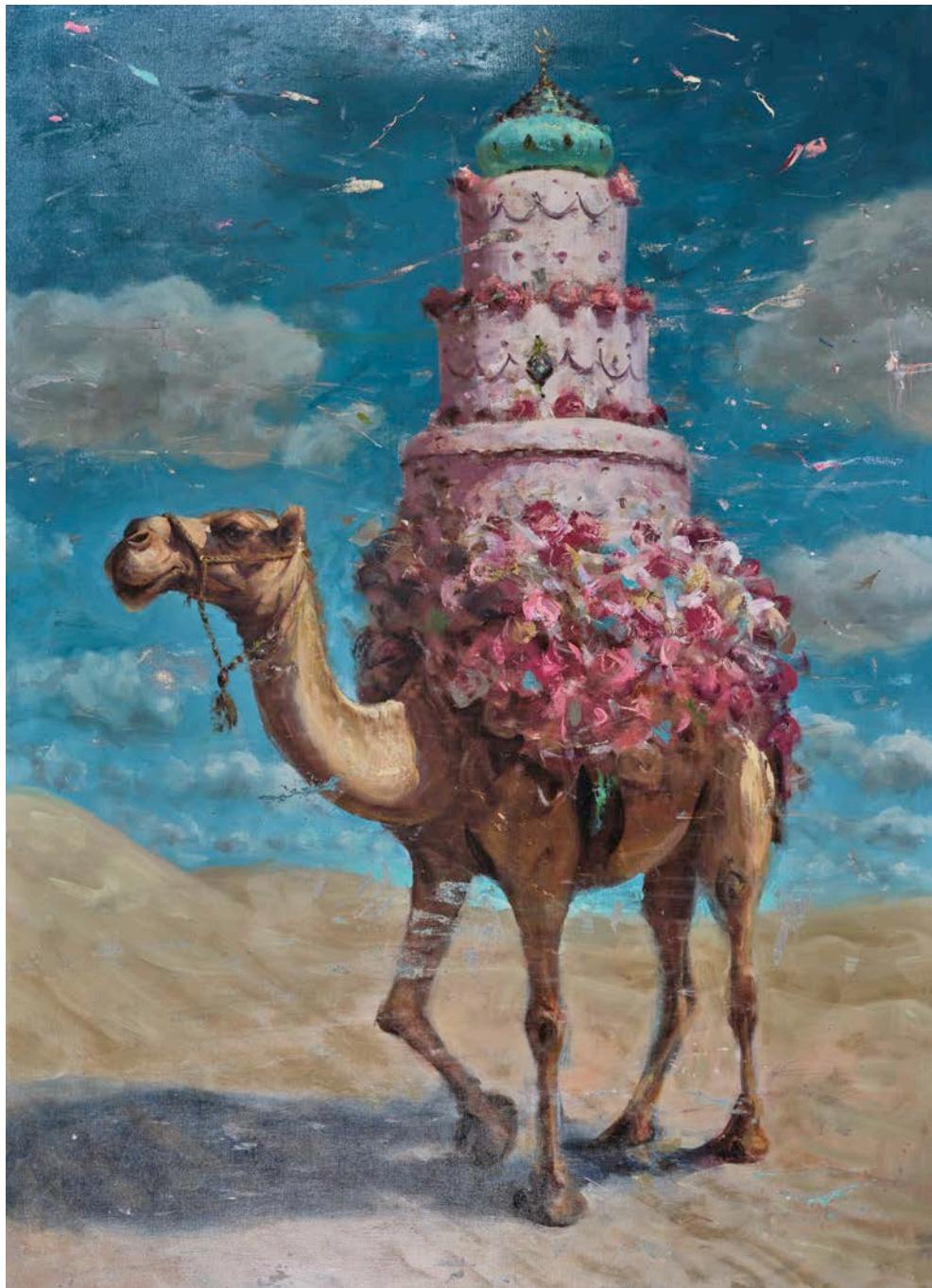
TIME- LAPSE  
2026  
Oil on linen  
70 x 70 cm





UNIFIED  
2025  
Oil on linen  
50 x 70 cm





WEDDING CAKE  
2025  
Oil on linen  
150.6 x 210 cm





WHITE WEDDING  
2026  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



LAKE HOUSE  
2025  
Oil on linen  
40 x 40 cm



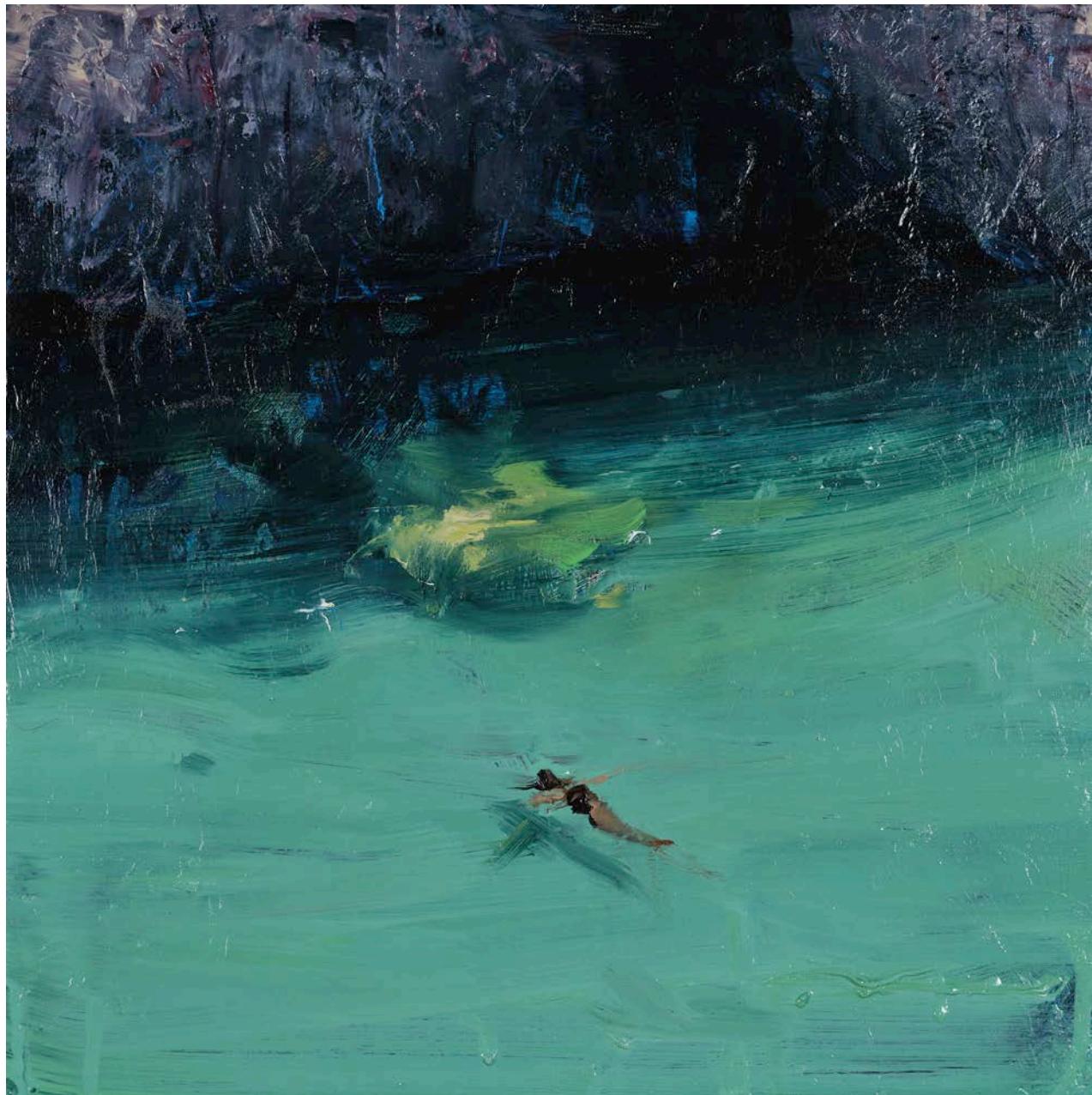
UNBOUND  
2025  
Oil on linen  
40 x 40 cm



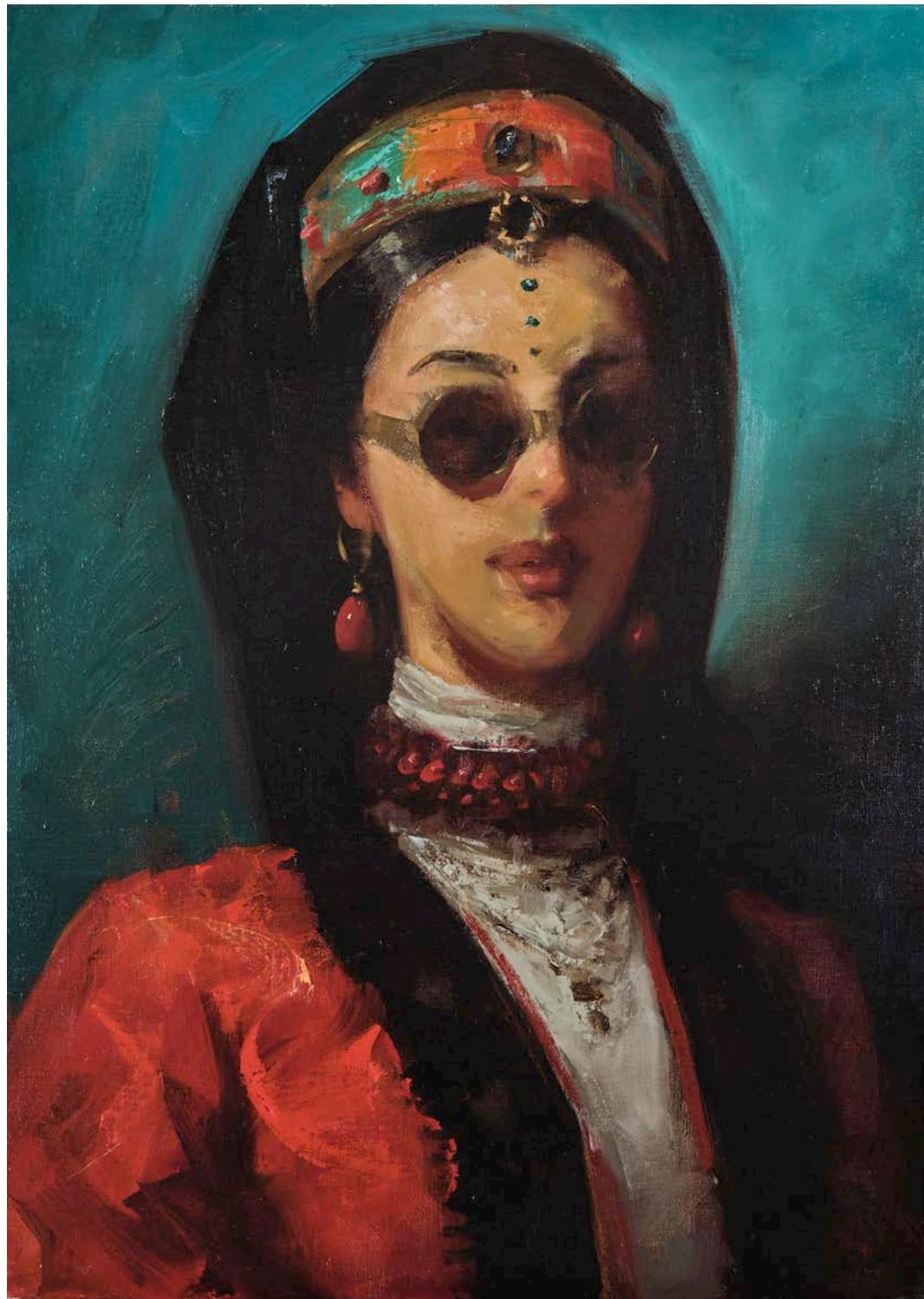
JOYRIDE  
2025  
Oil on linen  
50 x 70 cm



JUST MARRIED  
2026  
Oil on linen  
80 x 100 cm



FLOAT  
2025  
Oil on mounted board  
30 x 30 cm



LEYLI  
2024  
Oil on linen  
50 x 70 cm

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## EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 "Enrapture" Solo show at Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai
- 2025 "Between States" Solo show at Leila Heller Gallery, New York City
- 2022 "Traveling Light" Solo show at Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai
- 2020 "From Tehran with Love" group show with Magic of Persia, Los Angeles
- 2018 "No Man's Land" solo show at Asia House in collaboration with Akram Khan, London
- 2015 The Armory Show, selected as "most photographed and hardest to miss" by Voice of America, New York
- 2014 "Palimpsest" Edge of Arabia, New York
- 2013 "Farce" Aun Gallery, London
- 2011 "Safar" Aun Gallery, Tehran
- 2007 "Embodiment" group show at Signal Gallery, Hoxton
- 2005 BP Travel Award Show, London and Aberdeen
- 2004 National Portrait Gallery, London and Edinburgh
- 2003 Mall Galleries, Quoad Art Gallery, Brighton
- 2003 Royal Society of Portrait Painters, London
- 2002 Chelsea Art Fair
- 2001 Medici Gallery, Piccadilly, London
- 2001 "Discerning Eye" at Mall Galleries, London
- 1998 Exhibition of portraits at Blue Gallery, Chelsea
- 1997 Degree Show, Slade School of Fine Art
- 1993 Annual Boit Competition, Museum School, Boston

## AWARDS

- 2007 BP Award, National Portrait Gallery, London
- 2006 BP Award, National Portrait Gallery, London and Edinburgh
- 2001 Royal West of England Academy, 3rd Place, Bristol
- 2000 BP Award, National Portrait Gallery, London and Aberdeen
- 1999 BP Award, National Portrait Gallery, London and Aberdeen
- 1998 BP Award, National Portrait Gallery, London and Aberdeen
- 1993 Annual Boit Competition, Museum School, Boston

## EDUCATION

- 1997 M.F.A. Slade School of Fine Art, London
- 1994 B.F.A. Museum School of Fine Arts, Boston



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Front Cover image  
LUVS TRUCK  
2025  
Oil on Linen  
100x100cm

Back cover image  
Wedding Cake  
2025  
Oil on Linen  
150.6x210x4cm

Conceptual statement by  
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LEILA HELLER GALLERY.