

AVISH KHEBREHZADEH

CV



BIOGRAPHY

Avish Khebrehzadeh was born in Tehran, Iran, in 1969.

She studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome and has lived and worked in Tehran and Rome, before moving to Washington DC where she is currently based. Her work explores the power of figures and their multi-faceted narrative aspect in multitude of mediums including painting, drawing, sculpture, animation, film, as well as video projections onto drawings and paintings.

Avish Khebrehzadeh's art stands out for its inexorable recourse to drawing. And even when her works are not actual drawings, the freehand technique constitutes the basis for every work, as in the case of her videos which are really animated drawings. In her works this artist brings two apparently distant dimensions of human sensibility into communication: on the one hand everyday life made up of intimacy, simple and recurrent things, animals, friendships and couple relationships, and on the other hand the idealistic and transcendental dimension. The subjects Avish Khebrehzadeh depicts transmit a sense of fragile precariousness and gentle naturalness which are also reprised on the formal plane in which the artist unites a delicate and minimal stroke with great attention to the material of the support utilized, making her drawings flat but powerfully material works. Real and transcendent, fragility and chthonic power, transparent and tactile: it is in the composition of these dualisms that she reveals the spiritual nature that animates the world at its simplest degree.

Solo exhibitions of her work have appeared around the globe in Institutions such as MACRO (Museum of Contemporary Art, Rome), the Rhode Island School of Design Museum in Providence, Rhode Island, MAXXI (National Museum of the 21st Century Arts, Rome Italy), and MONA (Museum of Old and New Art, Tasmania, Australia). Avish Khebrehzadeh is a Civitella Ranieri fellow and a Smithsonian Artist Research fellow.

The elective language of Avish Khebrehzadeh is that of drawing, animation and painting. All three means compose, through a strong stylistic unity, a universe made of fantastic images, memories, dreams and fragments of fairy tales.

Khebrehzadeh's characters, human and animal, emerge from the darkness of the black sheet, from the nostalgia of the buried sheets or from the milky fog of the white sheets. They appear, just like the figures of dreams, whole, isolated like images set in their solitude, or in the form of fragments, like sketched details, but incorporeal, made of the same fog from which they emerge, if not for some sudden chromatic accents that seem to be poured on them, superficial patinas of which they themselves seem to be astonished. [...]

In her production made of drawings on fabric or tissue paper, video animations, and small oils, Avish Khebrehzadeh combines the suggestion of fairy tales and ancient stories of her tradition. The drawing, made with a very light pencil stroke and soft colors, and the video - accompanied by music reminiscent of ancient litanies - are part of a single process. The static nature of the drawing creates an immediate impact on the viewer, while the video requires more time for narration, allowing the artist to construct the fairy tales to which all her work is linked.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021

Seven Silent Songs, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

2018

M77 Gallery, Milan, Italy

The Nobodies, Ab/Anbar Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2017

Albion Barn, (Oxfordshire, UK)

2016

Reminiscences, Ab/Anbar Gallery, (Tehran, Iran)

2015

Fondazione Volume! (Rome, Italy)

Studio S.A.L.E.S. di Norberto Ruggeri (Rome, Italy)

2014

Sprovieri Gallery, London, UK

2013

GAM Collection, Turin, Italy

2011

Galleria S.A.L.E.S., Rome Italy

Sprovieri Gallery, London, UK

Collins C. Diboll Gallery, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA

2009

Backyard and Other Stories, RISD Museum, Providence, RI

Solace, So Old, So New, Fort Worth Contemporary Arts, Fort Worth, TX

2008

Within and Without, Albion Gallery, New York, New York

Know me as I am Known, Albion Gallery, London UK

2007

MACRO, Museum of the Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy

2006

Videos in Progress, RISD Museum, Providence, RI

Blue Paintings, Galleria S.A.L.E.S., Rome, Italy
2005
Sweet Child in Time, Galleria S.A.L.E.S., Rome, Italy
2003
Young Italian Art Award, 50th Biennale di Venezia-DARC, Venice Pavilion, Venice, Italy

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021
Epic Iran, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
2018
By The People Art Festival, Washington DC (curated by Virginia Shore)
2016
Mass Individualism: a Forum of multitude, Ab-Anbar Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2015
Works from MACRO Collection, MACRO Museum, Rome, Italy
2014
The Drawingroom, Curator: Peter Weiermair, Galerie In Taxipalais, Innsbruck, Austria
2013
The Drawingroom, Curator: Peter Weiermair, Ursula Blickle Foundation, Kraichtal-Unteröwisheim, Germany
2011
New Frontiers, Sundance Film Festival 2011, Park City, UT
HOME/LESS, Galleria Vistamare, Pescara, Italy
2010
Space, The Inauguration Exhibition for MAXXI Museum (exhibition catalog), Rome, Italy
The Dissolve, SITE Santa Fe Biennial 2010 (exhibition catalog), Santa Fe, New Mexico
SHUDDER, The Drawing Room, London, UK
2009
Painting Group Exhibition, Galleria S.A.L.E.S, Rome, Italy
Emotional Drawing - SOMA Museum of Art, Seoul
Raad O Baargh, works of 16 Iranian Artists, Galerie Thaddeus Ropac, Paris, France
2008
Liverpool Biennial 2008, 'Made Up', Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
Emotional Drawing, MOMAK The National Museum of Modern Art Kyoto, Kyoto Japan
A Perspective on Contemporary Art 6: Emotional Drawing – MOMAT, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan
Momentary Momentum - Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
2007
The Geopolitics of the Animation, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo (CAAC), Sevilla
Three Part Harmony: Definition, Delicacy, and Detail in Drawing - Curator's Office, Washington, DC
Momentary Momentum,; Animated Drawings., Parasol Unit, London, UK (exhibition catalog)
2006
Version Animée, Centre pour l'image Contemporaine Saint-Gervais Genève, Switzerland
Capolavoro, Terni, Italy
2005
...O luna tu... , ARCOS Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Sannio, Benevento, Italy (exhibition catalog)
Sketch in Motion, Sketch Gallery, London, UK
Trasparenze, Frauenmuseum, Bonn, Germany
Telltale, Ewha Art Center, Seoul, Korea (exhibition catalog)
2004
Cave Birds, Raffaella Cortese Gallery, Milan
Persian Gardens, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran (exhibition catalog)
Mediterraneans, MACRO Museum of the Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy
2003
The Cologne KunstFilmBiennale, Ludwig Museum, Cologne, Germany
Movements of stories, curator: Marek Pokorny, The Brno House of Arts, Czech Republic
From Dusk to Dust, curator: Pontus Kyander, Charlottenborg Exhibition Hall, Copenhagen, Denmark
Animations, Kunstwerke, curator: Larissa Harris and Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev, Berlin, Germany
Charles Avery, Avish Khebrehzadeh, Richard woods, Galleria S.A.L.E.S., Rome, Italy
The hidden Half: Iranian Woman Directors, Smithsonian Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
2002
Desire, Curator: Peter Weiermair, Galleria D'arte Moderna (exhibition catalog), Bologna, Italy
2001
Desire, Curator: Peter Weiermair, Ursula Blickle Stiftung (exhibition catalog) Munich, Germany
Opere Su Carta, Galleria S.A.L.E.S., Roma, Italy
Chairs in Contemporary Art, Curator: Agnes Kohlmeyer (exhibition catalog) Civici Musei Del Castello, Udine, Italy
Animations, P.S.1, curator: Larissa Harris, Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev (exhibition catalog), New York
God is in the Details, Contemporary Museum in Geneva, Switzerland

2000

Tirannicidi, Istituto Nazionale per la Grafica (exhibition catalog), Roma, Italy

ANeMOTION, Castello Colonna, Genazzano, Italy

Waterfront, Vikingsberg Art Museum (exhibition catalog), curator Pontus Kyander, Helsingborg, Denmark

Conversione di Saulo, Palazzo Odescalchi (exhibition catalog), Rome, Italy

1999

6th International Istanbul Biennial, Curator Paolo Colombo, Istanbul, Turkey

1997

Profondita`superficie, S. Maria dello Spasimo (exhibition catalog), Palermo, Italy

6 Personali, Castelluccio di Pienza (exhibition catalog), Italy

1992

Seihoun Gallery, Tehran, Iran

First Iranian Art Biennale, Museum of Contemporary Art

1991

Seihoun Gallery, Tehran, Iran

1990

Seihoun Gallery, Tehran, Iran

WORKS IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

The Albertina Museum, Vienna, Austria

Diane Venet Collection, NY, USA

Galleria Civica D'Arte Moderna E Contemporanea (GAM), Torino, Italy

RISD Museum, Providence, RI, USA

MACRO Museum, Rome, Italy

MAXXI Museum, Rome, Italy

MONA, Museum of Old and New Art, Tasmania, Australia

Art in Embassies Program, US Consulate, Mumbai, India

Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington DC, USA

AWARDS

2014

Civitella Ranieri Fellowship, Umbria, Italy

2011

Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship (SARF), Washington DC

2010