

01/13/09



Exhibition in London by two of the foremost contemporary Iranian artists: Hossein Khosrojerdi and Mehdi Saeedi
Hossein Khosrojerdi - Cogito Ergo Sum and Mehdi Saeedi - Black & Red & White

Exhibition: 21 January - 21 February 2009

Xerxes Fine Arts

1 St. James's Market, London SW1Y 4SB
& 52 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RP

www.xerxesfinearts.com

(Exhibition spaces are adjacent to each other)

Private View: 20 January 2009, 18:00 - 20:00

Organised by: Xerxes Fine Arts with the promotional support of Iran Heritage Foundation

Gallery of Works:

Hossein Khosrojerdi - [click here](#)

Mehdi Saeedi - [click here](#)

Hossein Khosrojerdi is a leading Iranian artist and designer and a noted historical figure. He was born in Tehran, Iran, in 1957 and was educated at the Beaux Arts School of Tehran, receiving a diploma in 1975, and at the Fine Arts Faculty of Tehran University, from which he received a degree in 1985.



Sleep of Five by Hossein Khosrojerdi - © Xerxes Fine Arts

Khosrojerdi has been exhibited in numerous museums and has received numerous prizes and accolades, including the Grand Prize of the Sharjah Biennial in 2001.

Hossein Khosrojerdi was at the forefront of Iranian political activism in the 1970s and 1980s, and following the Iranian Revolution in 1979, he was designated the official artist of the newly established Islamic Republic.



Demise of Abadan Hossein Khosrojerdi - © Xerxes Fine Arts

Khosrojerdi's canvases vacillate between the surreal and the expressive. He is amongst those of his generation in Iran who moved away from the Eastern focus on aesthetics in the arts. It is the concept behind his works which is Khosrojerdi's mode of, and reason for, artistic expression. On many levels his art is philosophical, exploring the notions of thought, remorse, regret and introspection, and above all, the importance of humility and self awareness.

The historical relevance of Khosrojerdi's art, and its seminal importance, cannot be understated, drawing inevitable parallels to the socio-cultural and political influences of Jacques Louis David and Kazimir Malevich.

Mehdi Saeedi is an internationally renowned artist and designer. His aesthetics have become a mainstay of design in many regions, especially in those using the Arabic and Iranian scripts as their alphabet.



Starboard by Mehdi Saeedi © Xerxes Fine Arts

Born in Tehran, Iran in 1979, Saeedi was educated and trained at Tehran's Malekeh Ashtar school of graphic design, at Tehran University's Faculty of Fine Arts and at the University of Cambridge.

Mehdi Saeedi is emblematic of Iran's prominence and regional dominance in photography, graphic design and poster art. Iran's political dynamism and wholesale social changes throughout the late 1970s and the 1980s, her role as an ideological source since 1979 and her national psyche and propaganda art during the Iran - Iraq war have all helped Iran and her artists to acquire a focus, and then a forte, in those media. The new Iran's maturity and post war peace and prosperity have only highlighted these strengths.



Starboard by Mehdi Saeedi © Xerxes Fine Arts

Saeedi's art draws inspiration from the traditional Eastern focus on the aesthetic and from his own expertise with the Perso-Arabic script. He uses optical opportunities presented by the dancing and sensual nature of the Perso-Arabic script to provide a wholly conceptual approach to contemporary art.

While earlier futurists such as Giacomo Balla, Victor Vasarley and Bridget Riley manipulated the geometry of form and space, Saeedi uses the amenable Perso-Arabic script, and the distinctly Iranian Nastaliq and Siah-Mashq, to induce the notions of movement, speed, velocity, space and colour, and to create optical illusion of all sorts.

Dates and Times:

21 January - 21 February 2009

Tuesday-Friday 10:00 - 18:00

Saturdays 11:00 - 16:00

Admission free

Enquiries

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