

Arash Nassiri

26.05 – 11.06.2016



The works selected for Arash Nassiri's solo show look at the recent past of Iran employing techniques commonly used for advertising and entertainment industry.

The main video, *Tehran-geles*, is a fictional vision of Tehran, set within the urban landscape of Los Angeles. Through an aerial journey, we discover an architectural transposition of the two cities. While flying over the boulevards of L.A., personal migrant testimonies echo the collective story of the Iranian capital. Downtown, the buildings are saturated with neon signs pulsating with voices that take us on a hallucinatory trip. Parallel to the science fiction genre, where the present is projected into the future, this short film projects the past of Tehran onto the Western present. The production of this short film generates an audiovisual migration, where aerial shots of Los Angeles merge with videos filmed in Tehran and later transported by plane, as well as interviews recorded via Skype from different cities around the world.

Next to it, four cardboard boxes with some screens inside show the reflections of neon on buildings using the old theater technique of holography. Here the effects are created live, on site. Two screens and a glass panel are used to project the image of neon signs onto Los Angeles buildings. This installation reproduces the superposition of signs from Teheran on top of the Los Angeles cityscape.

Outside, two led panels display animations of fireworks and light shows. The animation used was sourced from shops that use obsolete video animation for the backgrounds of store advertising. Designed to catch peoples' eye while walking or driving, these animations are shown without any accompanying messages.

© Arash Nassiri, *New days*, 2016 (set photography). Photo: Anne Line Desrousseaux.

NEVELLZERO

Rosselló 240
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Opening times: Monday to Friday, 11 am to 2 pm and 4 pm to 8pm. Closed Sundays and Holidays.
To visit outside these times, please telephone or email for an appointment.
Free entrance.
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Organized by:



Fundació Suñol

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Han Nefkens

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A sign and a Signage.

In a film.

Out of the film into the exhibition space.

Out of the exhibition space onto the building hosting it.

The same sign three times, assigned to different roles.

Like three different states.

First, as an image, using CGI's to turn a cityscape into an imaginary scape. Then, as an object, transforming the architecture of the Fundació Suñol, where the film is being projected. Finally, inside the exhibition space, using obsolete techniques invented for faking ghosts in the theatre of the 19th century. Here the sign is found midway between the object and the image.

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ARASH NASSIRI AND THE HAN NEFKENS FOUNDATION

Ever since the Han Nefkens Foundation acquired its first Arash Nassiri video, *Tehran-Geles*, it has supported the artist in various projects. It is currently coproducing the video *New Days* with the CNAP and the French FNAGP, with images on view in the multi-screen installation inside the Nivell Zero.

Further to this, last April Nassiri participated in the third session of the *FLOW SERIES: Encounters, conversations and meals* program, organized in collaboration with the Fundació Antoni Tàpies. The program involves bringing together artists from around the world currently being supported by the Han Nefkens Foundation with people from the local art scene, with the session followed by a meal created for each occasion with the guest artist in mind. Arash Nassiri conversed with independent curator Anna Manubens.

Finally, Arash Nassiri has been chosen to direct a week-long seminar-workshop with twelve chosen artists, which will take place at *Escola Massana* during the first week of June. The workshop is meant for students and former students of *Escola Massana*, with four places reserved for students of the *Escola Llotja* and the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Barcelona. Participating students are to be chosen by a designated selection commission. The results of the seminar-workshop will be brought together in a small publication, while the work created during the workshop will be seen in October 2016, at the *Espai 2* of *Galeria Angels Barcelona*.

Born in 1986 in Tehran, Arash Nassiri works and lives in Paris. He graduated from the National School of Arts (*Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts-Décoratifs de Paris*) in 2012, he also graduated from *Le Fresnoy*, National Studio of Contemporary Arts in 2014. During his curriculum he also followed the National School of Fine Arts (*Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris*) in 2007 and the University of the Arts of Berlin where he lived in 2010.

He showcased his work in France and abroad during various exhibitions, at the *Biennale de Lyon* in 2015, the *Panorama* exhibitions in 2013 and 2014, the biennale of architecture of Venice, in the exhibition "From the object to the city" organized by the National School of Arts in 2010. In July 2014 his work has been featured in the cultural magazine *Les Inrockuptibles*.

Arash Nassiri also benefitted from prizes like the *Grand Prize of video art of Cote Court Pantin* 2014 and the *Prize Studio Collector*.