

Karnameh

Visual Culture of Iranian Children
1950-1980



Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art
North Karegar Street

May 26 - August 15
Opening Reception: May 25, 6:00 pm

Grand Moscow Circus – Designed by Nikzad Nojumi – Institute for
Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults – 1969

مجلس قانون پرورش فکری کودکان و نوجوانان برگزار می کند:

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جایزه هر بلیط ۲ آدم برفی - همه چیز مجانی با سیرک

Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, The ABprojects and StudioKargah are pleased to announce Karnameh, Visua Culture of Iranian Children – 1950:1980, curated by Ali Bakhtiari, Peyman Pourhosein and Yashar Samimi Mofakham.

Karnameh, the first curated archival exhibition at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, surveying though more than three decades of visual creation for children in a cultural and socio-political context.

The exhibition is a journey through the early illustrations for educational books, photo documentaries of early century schools, Pioneers of image making and entertainment productions, effect of cold war, American hegemony and Iran between east and west, Oil-based economy and nationalization, religious alternative illustration and literature, revolution and imposed war.

Historical archives and collections, unique in its quality and quantity will showcase diverse media such as books, magazines, films and animations, artworks, ephemera... Most of them less or unseen.

The collected archive is the result of collaboration of THEABcollection, StudioKargah Archive, Bread & Salt Collection, National Film Archive, Iran Cinema Museum, Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, Iran Graphic Museum, Children's Books Association and many other private archives and institutions.

As a special additional section to the exhibition, "Karnameh Theatre", is a five-night film festival, screening films from 1950's melodramatic Filmfarsis to the 1960's early Iranian animations and the award winning shorts and animations of the 1970's; as well as movies of the 1970's which were banned or lost at the time of production, will be premiered during this event such as Amir Naderi's lost movie, "The Winner". Most of the screenings are 35 mm films from the archives of National Film Archive and Kanoon.

The importance of 79's revolution days and beginning of the Iran-Iraq imposed war will be pictured through the lens of photo journalists such as Bahman Jalali, Raana Javadi, Maryam zandi and Jassem Ghazbanpour.

The "Mouse and Cat", is a special section and an in-vivo part of the conceptual background of the "Karnameh" exhibition, covering Obeid Zakani's masterpiece in different visual media such as illustrations and artworks of Ardeshir Mohassess, Mahmoud Javadipour, Jafar Tedjaratchi and anonymous artists.



Haj Mirza Aghassi no.1 – Ardeshir Mohassess – Pen and Watercolor – 28x22 cm – 1978 – Collection of TMOCA

About Curators:

Ali Bakhtiari:

Born in 1985, Ali is a Tehran-based curator, publisher and collector.

He has curated several shows in spaces such as Saatchi gallery, London- Lawriehabibi gallery, Dubai and Azad Art Gallery, Tehran.

He founded ABBookness in 2012 which is an independent project producing limited-edition artist books and worked with artists such as Farideh Lashai, Parviz Tanavoli, Parvaneh Etemadi and Ali Akbar Sadeghi. Different editions of AB's productions are acquired by the British museum, Centre Georges Pompidou and Museo MAXXI.

His ongoing series of publication " IRAN:RPM" which is a survey through the history of Persian discography and records sleeve design in Iran has already been published in two volumes.

Peyman Pourhosein:

Born in 1980 in Tehran, Peyman is a Tehran-based designer.

He got his MA in graphic design from Azad University in 2007.

He co-founded Studiokargah in 2001 with Aria Kasaei.

He has participated, awarded and celebrated by many international Biennials and exhibitions and lectured in several universities and institutions in Iran. In 2014 he was shortlisted by Fete Du Graphism "100 graphic designers of the world" in Paris. His works can be found in several public and private archives like musée d'art décoratif paris.

He has worked as an independent graphic designer with Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults on various projects and also with independent children theatre groups and awarded prizes in Annual Children Books Award.

Yashar Samimi Mofakham:

Born in 1979, Yashar professionally has started his career as a painter and printmaker back to 2001 when he had his first group show in Tehran. Since then he has held four solo exhibitions and participated in more than 40 group shows nationally and internationally. Besides working as a visual artist, working as an independent curator is part of his artistic study and experience. He has curated several shows like "Selfdome; A personal Project" 2011, "Calling Project" (co-curated by Tarlan Rafiee and John Phillips) in Tehran and London 2012-2013 which a selection of works had been shown at Christie's Multiplied Fair 2013, and recently "RTL-LTR" in Iran and Austria (co-curated by Tarlan Rafiee and Peter Assmann) and Parviz Tanavoli's two sequel shows "Celebrities of the Universe" and "Write it Down" (co-curated by Tarlan Rafiee).

He is also the co-founder and co-director of KA:V Editions, a limited-edition publication devoted to contemporary and modern art, and Bread and Salt Projects, a curatorial platform based in Tehran.

