

FARHAD MOSHIRI



If I See You One Day 176 x 127 cm, oil on canvas, 2003

The Iranian artist Farhad Moshiri captivates with his large-scale works in which monumental jars are depicted. These archaic-seeming, plastically painted, greatly varying jars remind one of antique clay pots and the old Persian tradition of ceramics manufacture. Lettering shines forth from a monochromatic base in Persian *Nasta'liq* style: single words, single sentences, coming from Moshiri's childhood or encountered in daily life. What is special here is the combination. He is inspired by episodes from the old Persian and Oriental tradition in which he was raised but is simultaneously alert for input from his current surroundings. In this way Moshiri combines the visual past and present, transforming the traditional and banal into a contemporary message and aesthetic that allows new relationships and perspectives. Despite a high degree of pictorial elegance, at times the compositions become irritating, which can perhaps be read as an expression of the tension between tradition and modernity in the Iranian way of life today. The art of calligraphy interests Moshiri primarily for its beauty. In addition to the jars, in another series he shows works in which single letters and numbers appear as a repetitive, endless pattern on the canvas. In their ornamentation, they conjure up traditional Islamic art, but through transformation they achieve a new contemporary message and aesthetic.

GALERIE KASHYA HILDEBRAND

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FARHAD MOSHIRI

Born in Shiraz, Iran in 1963
Lives and works in Tehran, Iran

EDUCATION

1984 Graduate of California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, California, USA

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *Shukran*, The Third Line, Dubai, UAE
2010 *Nothing Serious*, Galerie Thaddeus Ropac, Salzburg, Austria
2009 *Fluffy Friends*, Frieze, The Third Line Booth, London, UK
Silly You, Silly Me, Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, France
2008 Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami
Galerie Rodolphe Janssen, Brussels
2007 *Candy Store*, The Third Line, Dubai, UAE
Sweet Dreams, Daneyal Mahmood Gallery, New York, USA
2006 *Threshold of Hap*, Extraspaio Gallery, Rome
Albareh Gallery, Bahrain
Farhad Moshiri, The Third Line, Dubai, U.A.E.
Operation Supermarket, a part of "Images of the Middle East", collaboration with Shirin Aliabadi, Kolding Design School, Denmark
Operation Supermarket, collaboration with Shirin Aliabadi, The Counter Gallery, London, UK
2004 Art Space Gallery, curated by Isabelle van den Eynde de Rivieren, Dubai, UAE
Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, New York, USA
2003 Galerie Kashya Hildebrand, Geneva, Switzerland
Leighton House Museum, curated by Rose Issa, London, UK
2002 *New Paintings*, 13 Vanak ST., Tehran, Iran
2001 *Heaven*, installation, 13 Vanak ST., Tehran, Iran
2000 *New Works*, 13 Vanak ST., Tehran, Iran

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 *Hope! Palais des Arts et du Festival*, Paris, France
2009 *Iran Inside Out*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, USA
Translation/Tarjama, Queens Museum of Art, New York, USA
2008 *East West Dialogues, Mysticism, Satire and the Legendary Past*, LTMH – Leila Taghinia-Milani Heller Gallery, New York, NY, USA
Word into Art, British Museum at DIFC, Dubai, UAE
2006 *Ethnic Marketing*, curated by Tirdad Zolghadr, 13 Vanak, Tehran, Iran
V-Day, Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, Chelsea NY, USA
Word into Art, curated by Venetia Porter, British Museum, May, London, UK
2005 *After the Revolution*, KM Kulturunea Erakustaretoa, San Sebastian, Spain
Welcome, curated by Farhad Moshiri, Kashya Hildebrand Gallery, New York, USA
2004 *Far Near Distance*, curated by Rose Issa, House of World Cultures, Berlin, Germany
Iran Under the Skin, curated by Firouz Firouz, CCCB, Barcelona, Spain
2003 Sharjah Biennale, Sharjah, UAE
2001 *Heaven*, an installation, 13 Vanak Street Gallery, Curator: Fereydoun Ave, Tehran, Iran
1993 Biennale of Tehran, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran

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