

sUgAR Gallery presents:

Illogical Animus: A Survey of Artwork from Banned Countries

11.16.17

5:30 – to 8:00 pm

1 East Center Street,
Basement Level



sUgAR, the student-run gallery space at the University of Arkansas and through the School of Art, has developed an exhibition focusing on the work of Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) students, alumni, and visiting scholars hailing from countries affected by recent executive orders. International exchange plays a significant role in education, as well as the development of the humanities with voices from different backgrounds and global understandings. Through displaying the work of six artists, sUgAR Gallery aims to engage in this dialogue.

Katayoun Amjadi is an MFA Candidate at the University of Minnesota. While reconstructing a new hyphenated identity as an Iranian-American, her art is an attempt to understand the relationship between tradition and modernity and individual versus collective identity.

Kaveh Baghdadchi is an MFA Candidate at the University of Cincinnati. Baghdadchi seeks to express the multiculturalism he experiences by investigating similarities between his past and present of residing in different cultures, by including current images of American life with memories of his Iranian background.

Hosseinali Saheb Ekhtiari received his MFA at Rhode Island School of Design. Ekhtiari's ceramic interest begins with clay and the Khayyam belief that humans come from the earth and go back to the earth. With tiles, he transforms a functional, industrial item into a two-dimensional, individual, art material.

Tirazheh Eslami immigrated from Iran to the United States in 2006 and is an MFA candidate at Idaho State University. Eslami explores Western Art and memories of home, using color schemes of traditional Islamic art and authentic Persian paints fabricated in Iran.

Farima Fooladi, born in Tehran, received her MFA at Pennsylvania State University and is currently a Visiting Scholar for the university. Her recent paintings address displacement by delving into emotional and historical layers of public space and memory and through creating her own maps.

Sara Rastegarpouyani is an MFA Candidate at the University of Texas at Arlington. She focuses on the gradual destruction of cultural identity and heritage that happens with time as a result of human and natural factors through creating temporary, vulnerable, large-scale floor reliefs.

Illogical Animus: A Survey of Artwork from Banned Countries was curated by MFA Candidate, Cassandra Sanderson and supported by the Office of International Students and Scholars and the Artists & Concerts Committee. The sUgAR Gallery is an interdepartmental exhibition space featuring the visual research of students, faculty, and visiting lecturers from the School of Art and Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design. sUgAR is made possible by the J. Williams Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Art, the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design, and the University of Arkansas' Facilities Management. ■

Tirazheh Eslami, *Introducing Persian Culture to the West*, 2017. Mixed Media. 11 x 11 in.
Courtesy of the artist.