

## BITA FAYYAZI

Bitay Fayyazi (born 1962, Tehran) lives and works in Tehran. Rather than a sculptor, installation artist or ceramicist, engaged in some mystic relationship with her materials, Fayyazi is an artist who works within a more performative and markedly social practice. Beginning in mid 1990s, her artistic interventions challenged the official definitions of art that were often circulated in Tehran at that time. Fayyazi struggled to show her work amidst an atmosphere of stuffy traditionalism, academicism, and the influx of 1990s conceptual art from abroad. She successfully entered 2000 pieces of ceramic cockroaches into Tehran's 6th Biennial of Contemporary Ceramic Art, despite an attempt by several members of the committee to oust her work from the show. She cast and fired terracotta dogs (*Road Kill*, 1998), modelled on dead dogs found on the highways in Tehran, and then placed her works on the streets around the city, much to the consternation of onlookers. Each of Fayyazi's work has its roots in a form of participative social sculpture of gathering whatever materials are readily available. She also brings together artists and non-artistically inclined collaborators who can wrap and entwine, paint and cast. She reconstitutes the energies of a multitude of people toward an uncertain result. The final object becomes less important than the process – the collective doing, and the love of doing – that preceded its creation.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Rearranged: Selected Works from 1998 to 2014*, Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Dubai
- 2013 *trunKated, 2<sup>nd</sup> episode*, Khak Gallery, Tehran
- 2012 *The Made, The Undone and The Make-Do (Savaareh, Oftaadeh, Piyaadeh)*, Khak Gallery, Tehran
- 2011 *Obscure Stream of Life, But I'm Still Having My Afternoon Cuppa*, Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Dubai
- 2010 *Performance 1388/2010*, Espace Louis Vuitton, Paris  
*Performance 1388/2010*, Aun Gallery, Tehran
- 2009 *There Goes the Neighbourhood* (with Rokni Haerizadeh), Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde, Dubai
- 1997 *Road Kill*, performance on the highways in Tehran

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *The Dinosaur Lost Her Bearings*, Dastan Gallery, Tehran
- 2019 *Annual Review*, Khak Gallery, Tehran
- 2018 *Cultural Narratives*, CAP Kuwait, Kuwait
- 2017 *I Love You Because You Are Sweet and Tender*, Khak Gallery, Tehran  
9<sup>th</sup> Gyeonggi Ceramic Biennale, Korea Ceramic Foundation, Gyeonggi
- 2016 *Ceramix*, La Maison Rouge, Paris
- 2015 *Ceramix*, Bonnefantenmuseum, Maastricht  
*Annual Review*, Khak Gallery, Tehran
- 2010 Khak Gallery, Tehran  
*Be Crowned with Laurel in Oblivion* (with Ramin and Rokni Haerizadeh), Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris
- 2009 *City Scope (My Glittery World)*, Khak Gallery, Tehran  
*Raad O Bargh, 17 Artists from Iran*, Thaddaeus Ropac Gallery, Paris
- 2008 *The Messenger*, Cultural Centre, Brugge  
*Naqsh – An Insight into Gender and Role Models in Iran*, Pergamon Museum, Berlin  
*LolliPatt, Tehran, Iran 2008 'Orients Sans Frontieres*, Espace Louis Vuitton, Paris
- 2007 *Betes et Hommes*, International Artists Exhibition, Parc de la Villette, Paris  
*Within and Without*, NoMoreGrey Gallery, London
- 2006/07 *Iran.com*, Museum of Modern Art, Freiburg
- 2006 *New Territories*, De Hallen, Bruges

- 2005 *When Still a Child*, XVA Gallery, Dubai  
*Amazon Series*, with *Road Kill* by Bita Fayyazi, Rebell Minds Gallery, Berlin  
*Kismet*, 51st International Venice Biennale
- 2004 *Gardens of Iran, Ancient Wisdom/New Visions*, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art Tehran  
*For Bam*, Warehouse in the center of Tehran  
*On the Road*, Streets of Tehran  
*Ceramic*, Isfahan Museum of Contemporary Art  
*Iranian Contemporary Art (3 generations)*, National Gallery of Armenia, Yerevan
- 2003 *Iranian Contemporary Artists*, Pietro Della Valle, the Italian School of Tehran  
*Lucky Charms*, Golestan Gallery, Tehran  
*On/Off, New Art*, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts, Tehran  
The Speed Bag Factory, Johannesburg
- 2001 *Iranian Contemporary Art*, Barbican Center, London  
*7 Ceramists*, Iranian National Commission for UNESCO, Tehran  
*Falling Figures*, Seyhoon gallery, Tehran  
*Children of the Dark City*, Tehran
- 2000 *Ekbatan?*, Nikolaj Contemporary Art Centre, Copenhagen  
*Experiment 98: The Art of Demolition*, Tehran
- 1998 Iranian Contemporary Ceramic Artists, Embassy of the Netherlands, Tehran  
6th Biennial of Contemporary Ceramic Art, Museum of Contemporary Arts, Tehran

## AWARD

- 2014 Prince Claus Award, Amsterdam

## COLLECTIONS

Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris  
La Fabrica (Benetton Group Communication Centre), Treviso  
Simon de Pury Collection, Geneva  
Salsali Private Museum, Dubai

## PUBLICATION

- 2017 *Four Years Four Project*, A book on collaborative/collective art projects.  
2014 *Iran: Iranomutormorphosis.net Contemporary Artists from Iran*, in partnership with Luciano Benetton Collection