

Sara Nejad

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Sara Nejad is a multi-disciplinary artist and art teacher working across painting, pyrography, installation and mixed media. She draws from her personal experiences of living in transition and weaves them into issues of place, memory and emotional conflicts. She has completed a Doctor of Visual Arts at Queensland College of Art, Griffith University. Sara's works have been showcased internationally in countries such as Iran, Germany, Indonesia, USA and Australia. Her professional specializations in a range of visual media and design, along with academic disciplines and her enthusiasm for teaching and mentoring, make her a perfect fit for the teaching position and a valued member of the visual art department.

Areas of expertise:

- ▶ Fine Art: Working in the areas of painting, installation, pyrography, mixed media and experimental video.
- ▶ Digital Programs: In-depth knowledge of Adobe Creative Cloud, including Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, Microsoft Office, Acrobat and PowerPoint.
- ▶ Art Theory: Substantial knowledge of contemporary and classic Middle Eastern Art, Diasporic Studies, Indo-Persian Mythology and Mesopotamian art history, Persian Art, Miniature Painting.

QUALIFICATIONS

- ▶ Doctor of Visual Art Queensland College of Art, Griffith University 2019.
- ▶ Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, TAFE, QLD
- ▶ Diploma of Screen and Media in Animation, TAFE QLD 2013
- ▶ Post-Bac in Studio Arts, School of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA 2011.
- ▶ Bachelor of Fine Art in Graphic Design, University of Tehran 2006.

MEMBERSHIP

- ▶ Member of GCCAR (Griffith Centre for Creative Art Research)
- ▶ NAVA Premium Member
- ▶ TAASA (The Asian Arts Society of Australia)
- ▶ IWVAC (Iranian Women Visual Artists Collective)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visual Art Teacher (July 2023- Current)

Tafe Queensland- Southbank campus

- Teaching visual art courses

Curatorial Researcher (2022)

Museum of Brisbane

- Collaborated as primary curatorial researcher with the curatorial team to explore historical data on Newstead House and Brisbane within 1860-1890

Leading Visual Artist and workshop instructor (2018)

Sounds Across Oceans and BrisAsia Festival

- a leading artist in running three workshops in collaboration with musicians, cinematographers and dancers at QUT, QACI and Kedron State High School

Panellist Artist (2018)

- Asia and the Mindful Century Symposium
- BrisAsia Festival, QUT

Visual Artist and Set Designer (2017)

Tales of Scheherazade Opera, Princess Theatre, Woolloongabba

- Created multimedia works as leading set artist for the Australian-Iranian Opera.

Teaching Artist (2017)

- Logan Art Gallery: Conducted a workshop on Geometrical Islamic Art Pattern making for a group of 16 adult participants
- Iranian Society of Queensland, Milton: Conducted a workshop on mixed media painting for a group of 20 adult students
- Iranian Society of Queensland, Milton: Conducted Workshop on Watercolour techniques for a group of 20 students

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- Multicultural Centre of Toronto, Tirgan Festival: Co-Conducted a workshop with Soliman Irani on collage and nature
- Fitzgibbon Community Centre: Conducted a stencil making and mixed media print workshop for a group of 16

Exhibition Co-ordinator & Designer (2016)

- Erehwon Group Exhibition, Pop Gallery, Brisbane, Partially Funded by GCCAR

Teaching Artist (2016)

- Iranian Society of Queensland, Milton: Conducted a workshop on Acrylic painting to a group of 11

Teaching Artist- Self Employed (2013-2016)

- Teaching private sessions to individuals and small groups on various areas in painting, mixed media and design programs

Teaching Artist (2011)

- Gallery 360, Northeastern University, Boston
Conducted workshop on Acrylic Painting to a group of 14 students

Graphic Designer and Freelancer (2010)

Created works for private sectors and various customers

Art Teacher- Part-time (2007-2009)

Honarkade Institution of Art and Design, Tehran, Iran

- Teaching the three courses *Visual Narration and Illustration, Collage and Poster Design*, and *History of Design in Iran* to students of different levels as part of their Diploma of Design Program.

Founder and Leading Artist (2007-2009)

Alav Art and Design Initiative, Tehran

- The initiative was founded in 2007 and started to work in 2008.
- Created commissioned works for private sector and galleries.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- ▶ A Thousand and one Interconnections, Multi Venue Exhibition (Webb Gallery, Project Gallery and Whitebox), Brisbane, QLD, Australia University Qualification (2019)
- ▶ Ambiguous Patterns, Logan Art Gallery, QLD, Australia (2017)
- ▶ A Thousand Interconnections, Pop Gallery, Brisbane, QLD, Australia (2015)
- ▶ Re-imagined, Logan West Library Gallery Walk, Logan, QLD, Australia (2013)
- ▶ Folks, South Bank Institute of Technology Gallery Space, Brisbane, QLD, Australia (2012)
- ▶ Myths and fantasies, Gallery 360, Boston, MA, USA (2011)

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- ▶ Tales of surrounding, Seyhoun Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran (2009)
- ▶ Imaginary Beings, Laleh Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran (2006)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- ▶ *Halfway House*, Curated by Pat HOFFIE and Lily EATHER, Fireworks Art Gallery (2023)
- ▶ *Through the Mirror*, Live Performance and workshops of visual art, dance and music, QUT, Kedron High School. QACI and South Bank Flowstate, QLD (2018)
- ▶ *Erehwon*, Curated by *Donal Fitzpatrick*, Pop Gallery, Brisbane, Australia (2017)
- ▶ *Swell Sculpture Festival*, Currumbin Beach, Gold Coast, Australia (2016)
- ▶ The 41st Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Memorial award, Gladstone Regional Art Gallery, QLD, Australia (2016)
- ▶ *Souvenirs From Elsewhere* curated by Pat HOFFIE, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia (2016)
- ▶ *Women's art prize*, City of Ryde, Sydney, NSW, Australia (2016)
- ▶ *Stanthorpe Art festival*, Stanthorpe, QLD, Australia (2016)
- ▶ *Finding Home*, Logan Art Gallery, QLD, Australia (2016)
- ▶ *Resonance*, Curated by Natasha Lewis Honeyman, Newstead House, QLD, Australia (2016)
- ▶ *Texture*, curated by Sue Swinburne, The Edge, QLD State Library, Australia (2015)
- ▶ *Feast, Pray, Love, CSBC*, Melbourne, Australia (2015)
- ▶ *40x40*, Brunswick Street Gallery_ Melbourne, VIC, Australia (2014)
- ▶ *Brunswick South Arts Festival_ Brunswick South primary school*, Melbourne, VIC, Australia (2014)
- ▶ *Free Title* Exhibition, Robina Art Gallery, Gold Coast, QLD, Australia (2014)
- ▶ Trinity College Art and Craft Festival, Gold Coast, QLD, Australia (2014)
- ▶ *Gather Festival* Exhibition, St. Ita's School, Dutton Park, QLD, Australia (2014)
- ▶ *Café Art*, Mont Gallery, NYC, USA (2011)
- ▶ *Kulture*, Bruecke Gallery, Frankfurt, Germany (2010)
- ▶ *Illustrated Dictionaries*, Arya Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran (2008)
- ▶ *100 years of Solitude*, Mirmiran Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran (2007)
- ▶ 9th International Biennale of Graphic Design, Tehran, Iran (2007)
- ▶ *One Globe, One Flag*, International Poster Exhibition, Jakarta, Indonesia (2007)

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CONFERENCES & GRANTS

- ▶ Griffith University *Completion Scholarship*, QLD, Australia (2017)
- ▶ Asia and the Mindful Century Symposium, (Paper Presentation and Panel artist), BrisAsia Festival, Brisbane, Australia (2018)
- ▶ BrisAsia Symposium, (Paper Presentation and Panel artist), QPAC, Brisbane, QLD (2018)
- ▶ GUPSA artist's sponsorship grant, Griffith University, QLD, Australia (2016)
- ▶ Conversations on Art in Asia and Pacific, Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia (2017)
- ▶ Asian Diasporas/Transpacific Contexts and Global Art (Paper Presentation), Graduate Workshop and Symposium, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (2017)
- ▶ Mirrors of Iran Conference (Paper Presentation), Iranica Association, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia (2016)
- ▶ Moving Image Cultures in Asian Art Conference (Paper Presentation), Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (2016)
- ▶ Perspectives of Identity Conference (Paper Presentation), University of Queensland, Australia (2015)
- ▶ Create World conference, (Paper Presentation), QLD College of Art, Griffith University (2015)
- ▶ Second winner at *Feast, Pray, Love* exhibition, Melbourne, Australia (2015)
- ▶ *Start Your Studio Scholarship*, Jasco Pty Ltd and Winsor & Newton, Liquitex and Conté à Paris, Australia (2014)
- ▶ *Grant for Exceptional Artist*, School of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA, USA (2011)
- ▶ *Scholarship Award*, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, GA, USA (2011)
- ▶ Studio Residency, Batlagh Art Club_ Anzali, Gilan, Iran (2008)
- ▶ Residency at Mesr Desert Karvansara, Yazd, Iran (2007)
- ▶ First winner, Felestin Art Gallery (Stone, paper and poster Exhibition), Tehran, Iran (2007)

TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- ▶ Doctor of Visual Arts, Queensland College of Art, Griffith University 2019

Thesis Title: A Thousand and One Interconnection: Exploring Experiences of Persian Diasporic Identity Through Contemporary Visual Art Practice

Supervisors: Prof. Pat Hoffie, Dr. Bill Platz, Dr. Susan Ostling

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- ▶ Diploma of Screen and Media in Animation, Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE 2013.
- ▶ Post-Bac in Studio Arts, School of Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 2011.
- ▶ Bachelor of Fine Art in Graphic Design, University of Tehran, 2006.

PUBLICATIONS

- ▶ Irannejad, Sara (A Thousand and One Interconnection), PhD Thesis, Queensland College of Art (2018)
- ▶ Martin-Shew, Louise. Resonance (Exhibition review), Eyeline Magazine, No. 86, Pages 94-95, 2017.
- ▶ Rennie, Elizabeth. Stumped for Ideas (Artwork Review), Northside Chronicle, 14 Sep. Page35, 2016.
- ▶ Using Digital Technology in a Fine Art Practice, Irannejad, Sara, (published peer-reviewed paper), CreateWorld Conference, 2015.
- ▶ Irannejad, Sara, Creating our Stories in the New Land (Magazine article), Peril Magazine: Asia-Australia Art, 2015.
- ▶ Archer, Melissa, Folk Tales on Canvas: Artworks Tapestry of Life, works of Sara Irannejad, Southern Star 12 Feb, P 17, Brisbane, Australia 2014.
- ▶ Lemonade, Eve (Editor), International Contemporary Artists Volume V, ICA Publishing, NYC, USA 2012.
- ▶ Afravi, Bahram (Compiler), Iranian's Logo Collection, Tandis Publishing Co. Tehran, Iran, 2010.
- ▶ Afravi, Bahram (Compiler), Annual Book of Student Poster Designs, Tandis Publishing Co. Tehran, Iran, 2010.
- ▶ Zamani, Mehran (Editor), Book of Dictionary Illustrations Volume II, Nazar Publishing Co., Tehran, Iran 2009.
- ▶ Bahmanpour, Reza (Editor), Annual Book of Graphic Design, Nazar Publishing Co. Tehran, Iran, 2008.
- ▶ Exhibition Catalogue, 40 years of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Racism Publishing Co., Tehran, Iran 2008.
- ▶ Shahbazi, Farideh (Director), The Annual book of Iranian Illustrators, Austin Press Co., Tehran, Iran 2007.
- ▶ Exhibition Catalogue, International Biannual of Graphic design, Nazar Publishing Co., Tehran, Iran 2007.

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- ▶ Exhibition Catalogue, One Globe, One Flag, International Poster Exhibition, Jakarta, Indonesia 2007.

COLLECTIONS

- ▶ Logan Art Gallery (2017)
- ▶ Gold Coast Botanic Garden (2016)
- ▶ Private collections in QLD, VIC and NSW (2014-2015)
- ▶ Private collections in Iran, Germany & USA (2011-2012)
- ▶ Afagh Iranian Art Collective (2010)
- ▶ Seyhoun Art Gallery
- ▶ Tehran University

REFERENCES

- ▶ Available upon request.