

Soheila K. Esfahani

www.soheila.ca

Education:

2010 Master of Fine Arts, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

2003 Honours Bachelor of Arts, Fine Arts, Studio Specialization, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Selected Solo Exhibitions:

2022 *Been T[here]*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

2019 *Pattern (dis)Placement*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario & Redeemer University College Gallery, Ancaster, Ontario

2018 *Cultural Translation*, Grebel Gallery, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario

2018 *Interstice*, Ross Creek Centre for the Arts, Canning, Nova Scotia & The Station Gallery, Whitby, Ontario

2017 *Immigrants*, curated by Ivan Jurakic, University of Waterloo Art Gallery, Waterloo, Ontario

2017 *Interstice*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario & Republic Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia

2017 *Artist's Project*, curated by Matthew Ryan Smith, Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford, Ontario

2016 *In-Between*, Durham Art Gallery, Durham, Ontario

2014 *My Place is Placeless*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

2012 *12/10/12*, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario

2011 *Somewhere in Between: Poems, Pallets, Patterns*, Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, New York

2010 *Trans-(across, over, beyond)*, MFA Thesis Exhibition, Art Lab, Western University, London, Ontario

2008-2009

The Seeker & the Search, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario & Robert Langen Art Gallery, Waterloo, Ontario

2008 *Mapping of a Quest* (site-specific installation), Rotunda Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario

2007 *What is not to be found is my desire*, Cambridge Centre for the Arts, Cambridge, Ontario

2006 *Hear the Secrets Hidden within the Notes*, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario

2005 *Hear the Secrets Hidden within the Notes*, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, Ontario

2004 *Poetic Compositions*, Rotunda Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario & Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, Ontario

Selected Juried & Group Exhibitions:

2022 *The Art of Living: On Community, Immigration, and the Migration of Symbols*, Jude Abu Zeineh, Soheila Esfahani, Xiaojing Yan, curated by Catherine Bedard, Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris, France (upcoming)

2021 *Go; Rise and Strike: International Women's Day Exhibition* (online), Embassy Cultural House, London, Ontario

2021 *Facing Time*, curated by Jordan Strom, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, British Columbia

2021 *Distance Makes the Heart Grow Weak*, organized by Ruth Skinner and Dickson Bou, ArtLab Gallery, Western University, London, Ontario

2020 *Resistance & Resilience*, curated by Rhonda Meier, Warren G. Flowers Gallery, Dawson College, Montreal, Quebec

2020 *Translations*, curated by Jenelle M Pasiechnik, Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River, British Columbia

2019-2020

Open Channels/Passages Communicants, Canada C3 group exhibition curated by Melissa Rombout, Âjagemô Gallery at Canada Council for the Arts, Ottawa, Ontario

2019-2020

Close to Home, group exhibition curated by Shannon Anderson, Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, Oakville, Ontario

- 2019** *Pentimento*, group exhibition by members of the Red Head Gallery, Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 2018-2019**
Connections & Contexts: 4 Artists Explore Islamic Influences and Traditions, THEMUSEUM, Kitchener, Ontario
- 2018** *The Living River Project: Art, Water and Possible Worlds*, Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario
- 2018** *Forward Motion*, Small Arms Inspection Building, Mississauga, Ontario
- 2018** *Flow: From the Movement of People to the Circulation of Information*, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, British Columbia
- 2017** *Downtown/s: Urban Renewal Today for Tomorrow, The 2017 Art Gallery of Windsor Triennial of Contemporary Art*, Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario
- 2017** *Canada: Day 1*, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- 2017** *Passage + Obstacle*, in conjunction with Bridges Math Art conference, University of Waterloo Art Gallery, Waterloo, Ontario
- 2017** *Dar'a: Full Circle*, curated by Jamelie Hassan, Artcite Inc., Windsor, Ontario
- 2015-2017**
Material Girls, curated by Blair Fornwald, Jennifer Matotek & Wendy Peart, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan; Doris McCarthy Art Gallery, Scarborough, Ontario; Contemporary Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; College Art Galleries, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Rodman Hall Arts Centre, Brock University, St. Catherines, Ontario (catalogue)
- 2016-2017**
where/between, curated by Pantea Haghighi, Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, British Columbia; Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta
- 2016** *Pattern Migration*, curated by Kendra Ainsworth, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, Ontario
- 2015** *Traversive Territories*, three-person exhibition, curated by Corinna Ghaznavi, Varley Art Gallery, Markham, Ontario
- 2015** *Human Nature*, curated by Corinna Ghaznavi, Kenderdine Art Gallery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2014** *The Source: Reconsidering Water Through Contemporary Art*, Rodman Hall Arts Centre, Brock University, St. Catherine's, Ontario
- 2013** *The Third Space*, curated by Sanaz Mazinani, The York Quay Gallery, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Ontario
- 2013** *Equal Interference*, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Waterloo, Ontario
- 2013** *Ornamental Boundaries*, two-person exhibition, curated by Crystal Mowry, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario
- 2012** *Past Forward | Present Tense*, curated by Michelle Salter, Hamilton Artist Inc., Hamilton, Ontario
- 2011** *Finding Correspondences*, curated by Jordan Strom, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, British Columbia
- 2011** *Convergence*, curated by Suzanne Luke, The Communitech Hub, Kitchener, Ontario
- 2011** *Evolution|Revolution*, Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, New York
- 2011** *Cafka. 11. Survive. Resist*, Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener & Area, Kitchener, Ontario
- 2011** *50 Years of Art: Looking Back at the Future*, curated by Jennifer Rudder, First Canadian Place Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 2010** *Art at Work: Corporate Collecting Practices Today, Part 2*, curated by Geraldine Davis, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, Ontario
- 2009** *DIASPORArt: strategy and seduction by Canadian artists from culturally diverse communities in works from the collection of the Canada Council Art Bank*, Rideau Hall, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2007** *Metaphor, Meditation and the Age of Anger*, Gallery 96, Stratford, Ontario
- 2006** *Studio Alert: Illuminating the Source*, curated by Allan MacKay, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario
- 2005** *Poem as Image*, The Studio, Armonk, New York
- 2005** *Showcase 05*, Cambridge Galleries, Cambridge, Ontario
- 2004** *RBC Investments' Cross-country Canadian Painting Competition Tour*. Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta; Brunswick Museum, Saint John, New Brunswick; McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, Ontario; Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, Ontario

Awards & Grants:

2020, 2017, 2015, 2013

Ontario Arts Council Production Grant: Mid-career Artist

2018 Women Who Inspire Awards recipient, Coalition of Muslim Women, Kitchener, Ontario

2017 Canada Council for the Arts: Production Grant

2016 Region of Waterloo Arts Award (Visual Arts Category), Waterloo, Ontario

2016, 2012, 2008, 2006, 2004

Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Grant

2015 Jameel Prize nominee, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom

2011-2014

Research/Creation Grant in Fine Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, co-applicant in multi-disciplinary project

2012 Region of Waterloo Arts Fund Production Grant, Waterloo, Ontario

2011, 2008, 2005

Ontario Arts Council Production Grant: Emerging Artist

2006 Honourable Mention in painting, Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Toronto, Ontario

2004 Central Canada Semi-finalist: RBC Investments' Canadian Painting Competition

Selected Professional Activities:

2021 "Soheila Esfahani: Third Space," *Profiles on Practice Podcast by Nadia Kurd, Femme Art Review.*

2020 Panel discussion in conjunction with *Resistance & Resilience*, Warren G. Flowers Gallery, Dawson College, Montreal, Quebec.

2020 Artist Talk in conjunction with *Translations*, Jamelie Hassan & Soheila Esfahani, Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River, British Columbia.

2019 Artist talk, Redeemer University college Gallery, Ancaster, Ontario.

2018 Panel member, "Rethinking Water Through Contemporary Art", Museum London, London, Ontario.

2018 Artist talk, Ross Creek Centre for the Arts, Canning, Nova Scotia.

2017 Artist talk, "Art in the Public Sphere, The Returners: Seven Conversations," Western University, London, Ontario.

2017 Artist talk, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

2017 Artist talk, University of Lethbridge ART NOW Visiting Artist Lecture series, Lethbridge, Alberta.

2017 Artist talk, "Canada: Day 1," Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

2016 Co-lecturer with Matthew Scott (Associate Professor of Applied Mathematics), "Pattern Finding: Popular Expression of Transcendent Ideas," Bridges Lecture series, St. Jerome's University, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

2015 Presenter & panel member, The Varley Art Gallery, Markham, Ontario.

2015 Presenter & panel member, "Multiple Li(v)es of Art/ists & ..." Conference, OCAD University, Toronto, Ontario.

2015 Artist talk, Knowledge Integration Seminar Series, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

2014 Artist talk, Third Age Learning lecture series, Guelph, Ontario.

2014 Artist talk, Rodman Hall Arts Centre, Brock University, St. Catherines, Ontario.

2014 Juror, Artist in Education Grant, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto, Ontario.

2014 Panel member, "The Source: Reconsidering Water Through Contemporary Art," Rodman Hall Arts Centre, Brock University, St. Catherines, Ontario.

2013 Panel member, Muslim Women: Now & Then, Kitchener City Hall, Kitchener, Ontario.

2013 Artist talk, Curator's Circle, Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario.

2013 Artist talk, "Off Topic," Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario.

2012 Panel member, "Past Forward | Present Tense" Exhibition Panel Discussion, Hamilton Artist Inc., Hamilton, Ontario.

2011 Artist talk/panelist, "Shift Symposium: Dialogues of Migration in Contemporary Art," MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, Saskatchewan.

2011 Artist talk, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

2009 Artist talk, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario.

2007 Panel member, "Images of Faith," Kitchener Public Library, Kitchener, Ontario.

- 2006** Panel member, "Sources & Inspirations," Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario.
2005 Artist talk, Canadian Heritage Head Office, Toronto, Ontario.

Selected Residencies:

- 2018** Ross Creek Centre for the Arts, Canning, Nova Scotia
2017 Canada C3 Expedition (Coast to Coast to Coast), Canada 150 signature project & Canada Council for the Arts
2015 Frans Masereel Centrum, Belgium
2013 Immersion Emergencies and Possible Worlds: Engaging Water as Culture and Resource through Contemporary Art, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, The Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta
2012 Immersion Emergencies and Possible Worlds: Engaging Water as Culture and Resource through Contemporary Art, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, Niagara Falls, Ontario
2003-2005 Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, Ontario

Selected Reviews:

- 2022** Pasitechnik, Jenelle M. "An Account of Practice for the exhibition *Translations*, featuring the artwork of Jamelie Hassan and Soheila Esfahani (Campbell River Art Gallery, July 9 to September 2, 2020)." *ARTiculate: Journal of Contemporary Art History*, v.4, 2022.
2020 Pasitechnik, Jenelle M. "Embodied Engagements: The Artwork of Jamelie Hassan & Soheila Esfahani in *Translations*." *Rungh Magazine*, v.7, no.4, 2020.
2019 Aritcheta, Allyson. "[Review] Pattern (dis)Placement by Soheila Esfahani." *Looseleaf*, July 16, 2019.
2019 Kurd, Nadia. "Profiles on Practice: Soheila K. Esfahani." *Femme Art Review*, June 2019.
2018 Bronstein, Noa. "Cultured Pallets: Translating the Global." *Rungh Magazine*, v.6, no.1, 2018.
2018 Beheiry, Valerie. "Portable Culture: Soheila Esfahani." *Visual Arts News*, September 6, 2018.
2018 Desveaux, Heather. "Considering 'In-between' Culture at Ross Creek Centre for the Arts." *The Chronicle Herald*, April 23, 2018.
2017 Cappuccitti, Jessica. "The Art of Urban Renewal in Windsor-Detroit." *Canadian Art*, November 28, 2017.
2017 Gazzola, Bart. "Owning Space: Material Girls." *The Sound STC*, November 4, 2017.
2017 Kim, Ju Hyun. "Power and Globalization." *Imprint*, November 15, 2017.
2017 "Interstice by Soheila Esfahani." *The Islamic Arts Magazine*, October 15, 2017.
2017 McKay, Staphanie. "Material Girls: All-Female Art Show Avoids Austere Gallery Tradition." *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*, February 2, 2017.
2017 "Women Get Spotlight in Art Exhibit at U of S." *CBC news*, February 5, 2017.
2016 "In-Between by Soheila Esfahani." *The Islamic Arts Magazine*, October 1, 2016.
2016 Mason, Hailey. "Inspiration from Antiquity." *The Medium*, September 12, 2016.
2016 Griffin, Kevin. "Art Seen: Works by Artists of Iranian Heritage Explore What It Means to be Caught Between." *Vancouver Sun*, July 8, 2016.
2016 Dick, Terence. "Material Girls and Feminism." *Akimbo TV*, season 1, episode 10.
2016 Samuel, Daniel. "Living in a Material World" *The Varsity*, February 7, 2016.
2015 Griffin, Kevin. "Atoms and Artists: The Spookiness of Being in Two Places at Once." *Vancouver Sun*, December 31, 2015.
2014 Xayasane, Nokyoung and Soheila Esfahani. *Encountering Difference*. Kitchener, Ontario: Stonegarden Studios, 2014. Exhibition catalogue.
2014 Esfahani, Soheila. "Photo Essay." *Lalit Kala Contemporary*. New Delhi, India: Lalit Kala Akademi, 2014.
2012 Linsley, Robert. "Iran in the Mirror." *Past Forward \ Present TENSE*. Hamilton, Ontario: Hamilton Artist Inc., 2012. Exhibition catalogue.
2011 *Evolution|Revolution*. Buffalo, New York: Buffalo Arts Studio, 2011. Exhibition catalogue.
2011 Davis, Geraldine. *Art at Work: Corporate Collecting Practices Today*. Mississauga, Ontario: Art Gallery of Mississauga, 2011. Exhibition catalogue.

2008 *RBC Canadian Painting Competition 10 years*. 2008. Exhibition catalogue.

2004 *RBC Canadian Painting Competition*. 2004. Exhibition catalogue.

COLLECTIONS

Art Bank, Canada Council for the Arts, Ottawa, Ontario

Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, British Columbia

Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford, Ontario

The Accelerator Centre, Waterloo, Ontario

Brock Solutions, Kitchener, Ontario

Private Collections: Canada, USA, Germany, Iran, Egypt

Exhibition Catalogues

2020 Pasiechnik, Jenelle M. *Embodied Engagements: The Artwork of Jamelie Hassan & Soheila Esfahani in Translations*. Campbell River, British Columbia: Campbell River Art Gallery, 2020. Exhibition catalogue.

2019 Mahon, Patrick and Stuart Reid. *The Living River Project: Art, Water and Possible Worlds*. Windsor, Ontario: Art Gallery of Windsor, 2019. Exhibition catalogue.

2017 Bariteau, Nadine, et al. *The Source: Rethinking Water Through Contemporary Art*. St. Catherines, Ontario: Rodman Hall Art Centre, Brock University, 2017. Exhibition catalogue.

2017 *Embracing Place*. Kitchener, Ontario: Homer Watson House & Gallery, 2017. Exhibition catalogue.

2015 *The Red Head Gallery at 25*. Toronto, Ontario: The Red Head Gallery, 2015. Exhibition catalogue.

2015 Matotek, Jennifer, ed. *Material Girls*. London, United Kingdom: Black Dog Publishing Ltd., 2015. Exhibition catalogue.

2014 Xayasane, Nokyoung and Soheila Esfahani. *Encountering Difference*. Kitchener, Ontario: Stonegarden Studios, 2014. Exhibition catalogue.

2014 Esfahani, Soheila. "Photo Essay." *Lalit Kala Contemporary*. New Delhi, India: Lalit Kala Akademi, 2014.

2012 Linsley, Robert. "Iran in the Mirror." *Past Forward \ Present TENSE*. Hamilton, Ontario: Hamilton Artist Inc., 2012. Exhibition catalogue.

2011 Luke, Suzanne. *Convergence*. Kitchener, Ontario: The Communitex Hub, 2011. Exhibition catalogue.

2011 *Evolution|Revolution*. Buffalo, New York: Buffalo Arts Studio, 2011. Exhibition catalogue.

2011 Davis, Geraldine. *Art at Work: Corporate Collecting Practices Today*. Mississauga, Ontario: Art Gallery of Mississauga, 2011. Exhibition catalogue.

2010 Orpana, Jennifer. "Somewhere In Between: Trans – (across, over, beyond) by Soheila Esfahani." In *Intersections*, edited by Jamie Quail. London, Ontario: Western University, 2010. MFA catalogue.

2008 *RBC Canadian Painting Competition 10 years*. 2008. Exhibition catalogue.

2004 *RBC Canadian Painting Competition*. 2004. Exhibition catalogue.

2003 Reid, Robert. *From Rathke's Pouch*. University of Waterloo Graduating Class Exhibition catalogue.