NAZGOL ANSARINIA

Born in 1979, Tehran, Iran

Lives and works in Tehran, Iran

EDUCATION

2003 MFA, California College of the Arts (CCA); San Francisco, CA

2001 BA (Honours) Graphic & Media Design, London College of Communication, University of the Arts London, London, UK

SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

2019 *The Inverted Pool*, Argo Factory, Pejman Foundation, Tehran, Iran

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Dissolving Substances*, MILAAP, Hellerup, Denmark

Instruments of Viewing and Obscurity, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2022 *C⁴*, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Liechtenstein

Lakes Drying, Tides Rising, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2021 *Pools and Voids*, Galleria Raffaella Cortese, Milan, Italy

2020 *The Room Becomes a Street*, curated by Aram Moshayedi, Argo Factory, Tehran, Iran

2018 *Demolishing buildings, buying waste*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2017 *Fragments, Particles and the Mechanisms of Growth*, KIOSK, Ghent, Belgium

2016 *Paper Trail,* Galleria Raffaella Cortese, Milan, Italy

2015 *Surfaces & Solids*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2014 *Change of Skin*, Aun Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2012 *Refractions/Subtractions*, Aun Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Reflections/Refractions, Daniela da Prato Gallery, Paris, France

2011 *Just Words*, The Free Word Center, London, UK

Interior Renovations, Green Cardamom, London, UK

2010 *Patterns*, Aun Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2008 *Patterns*, Skanes Konstforening, Malmo, Sweden

2006 *Untitled (do not give your opinion)*, 13 Vanak St. Gallery, Tehran, Iran

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *For One Solid Time, Wet: The Swimming Pool in the Imagination*, Musée des Beaux-Arts Le Locle, Switzerland

Global Positioning System, Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai, UAE

2024 *After Rain*, Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale 2024, Riyadh, KSA

2023 NGV Triennial, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

Some seasons: Fereydoun Ave and the Laal Collection, 1959–2019, Jameel Arts Centre, Dubai

Utopian Scenario About Nature, Busan Museum of Contemporary Art, South Korea

2022 *Vanishing Point, A selection of works from Pejman collection*, Argo Factory, Tehran, Iran

2021 *The 10th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT10)*, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Hungry for Time, curated by Raqs Media Collective, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, Austria

Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians- The Mohammed Afkhami Collection, Asia Society Museum, New York, NY

Reflections: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa, The British Museum, London, UK

2020 *Demo*, MAK Center for Art and Architecture, Los Angeles, CA

2019 *Fragile Frontiers: Visions on Iran's in/visible borders*, YARAT Centre, Baku, Azerbaijan

Revolution Begins at Home, with Architects Hamed Khosravi and Roozbeh Elias-Azar, Sharjah Architecture Triennial, Sharjah , UAE

The Spark is You: Parasol Unit in Venice, curated by Ziba Ardalan, Parasol Unit, Venice, Italy

Nine Iranian Artists in London: The Spark is You, curated by Ziba Ardalan, Parasol Unit, London, UK

Undoing, curated by Tom Emery, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK

2018 *Punk Orientalism*, curated by Sara Raza, Mackenzie Art Gallery, Saskatchewan, Regina, Canada

Structures of Meaning | Architectures of Perception, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Remnants, curated by Sara Alonso Gómez, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

Place, Emkan Gallery, Tehran

Slice and Dice, curated by Gregory Lang, Iréne Laub Gallery, Brussles, Belgium

Starting from the Desert: Ecologies on the Edge, Yinchuan Biennale, Yinchuan, China

Only the morning bird treasures the flower garden, REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA

Long, Winding Journeys: Contemporary Art and the Islamic Tradition, Katonah Museum of Art, New York, NY

Women House, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

2017 *Women House*, Monnaie de Paris, Paris, France

Geometry, Dastan Gallery, Tehran

Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

What We Know that We Don't Know, KADIST, San Francisco, CA

Planet 9, Kunsthalle Darmstadt, Hessen, Germany

Variable Dimensions, Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology, Lisbon, Portugal

Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, Canada

2016 *The Eighth Climate (What Does Art Do?),* Gwangju Bienniale, Gwangju, Korea

Schnitt Schnitt (Cut Cut), Kunsthalle Darmstadt, Germany

Metatextile: Ruptured Narratives, Exchanged Values, Edel Assanti, London, UK

2015 *Investment Opportunities,* OFFICE Gallery, Nicosia, Cyprus

KURZ/DUST, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland

The Great Game, Iranian Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy

Adventure of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915-2015, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK

Map of the New Art, Imago Mundi, Luciano Benetton Collection

Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice

Allusions, Emkan Gallery, Tehran

2014 *Recalling The Future: post revolutionary Iranian art,* The Brunei Gallery SOAS, University of London, London, UK

2013 *Statue of Limitation*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

The Fascination of Persia: The persian-european seventeenth-century art & contemporary art from Tehran

Museum Rietberg, Zurich, Switzerland

Safar/Voyage, The Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, MI

2012 *A Permanent Record For Future Investigation*, Green Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

Systems & Patterns, International Centre of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia

When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes, CCA Wattis Institute, San Francisco, CA

Elephant in the Dark, Devi Art Foundation, Delhi, India

2011 *12th Istanbul Biennial*, Istanbul, Turkey

Drawn from Life, Abbot Hall Gallery, Kendal, UK

2010 *Abraaj Capital Art Prize*, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah, UAE

Iran inside-out, The Farjam Collection, Dubai, UAE

Tarjama/Translation, Herbert F Johnson Museum of Art, Ithaca, NY

2009 *Golden Gates*, F&A projects, Paris, France

Abraaj Capital Art Prize, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY

Iran inside-out, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY

Made in Iran, Asia House, London, UK

Tarjama/Translation, Queens Museum of Art, New York, NY

Abraaj Capital Art Prize, Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE

2008 *Breaking News*, F&A projects, Paris, France

Drawn from Life: process, Green Cardamom, London, UK

Drawn from Life: space, Green Cardamom, London, UK

2007 *Nightcomers*, 10th Istanbul Biennial, Turkey

Retracing Territories, fri-art Centre d'Art Contemporain, Fribourg, Switzerland

Books on Buses in collaboration with black dogs, Situation Leeds 07 Festival, Leeds, UK

In der Warteschlaufe, Leonhardi Kulturprojekte, Frankfurt, Germany

2006 *Unidee in progress*, Cittadellarte, Fondazione Pistoletto, Biella, Italy

2005 *Transition*, Azad Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2003 *1111*, degree show, CCA, San Francisco, CA

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

ARTIST'S BOOKS AND WRITINGS

2018 Ansarinia, Nazgol. "Proposal for a Bridge in Tehran: Landscapes." *Siah Armajani: Follow This Line.* Minneapolis: Walker Art Center, 2018: 337-344.

Ansarinia, Nazgol. "Sister Cities." in Ljubljana Personal, Alternative City Guide. Ljubljana: Association of the Slovenian Fine Artists Societies, 2018.

MONOGRAPHS AND SOLO EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

2021 Ed. Phillip Griffith, text(s) by Media Farzin, Hamed Khosravi, Maria Lind and Murtaza Vali. *Nazgol Ansarinia: Inquiries Into the Present*. Berlin: Hatje Cantz, 2021

2020 Moshayedi, Aram and Majid, Akhgar. *The Room Becomes a Street*. Exhibition catalogue. Tehran: Argo Factory, Pejman Foundation, 2020.

2015 Farzin, Media (text by). *Surfaces + Solids*. Exhibition catalogue. Dubai, UAE: Green Art Gallery, 2015.

BOOKS AND GROUP EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

2024 Bauer, Ute Meta (ed). *After Rain: Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale 2024*. Beirut: Kaph Books, February 2024

2022 Edited by Letizia Ragaglia. *C4: Nazgol Ansarinia, Mercedes Azpilicueta, Invernomuto, Diamond Stingily*. Milan: Mousse Publishing, 2022

2020 Porter, Venetia; Morris, Natasha and Tripp, Charles. *Reflections: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa*. London: British Museum Press. December 2020.

2019 Ardalan, Ziba (edited by). *The Spark is You*, London: Parasol Unit, 2019: 43-53; 110-117.

2017 Morineau, Camille and Pesapane, Lucia (edited by). *Women House*. Paris: Manuella Editions, 2017: 32, 144-145.

2016 Gale, Matthew. *Tate Modern: The Handbook*. London: Tate Publishing. 2016.

2013 Langer, Axel. *The Fascination Of Persia*. Zurich: Scheidegger & Spiess and Museum Rietberg. 2013.

2011 *Untitled* (*12th Istanbul Biennial), 2011*. Exhibition catalogue. Turkey: Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, 2011: 100-103.

Haghighian, Natascha Sadr and Sepahvand, Ashkan (edited by). *Seeing Studies*. Berlin: Hatje Cantz, Berlin, 2011.

2010 Mortazavi, Houman (edited by). *Twelve Cubed*. Hirmand, Tehran: Roshanan Publications, 2010.

2009 Apte, Savita and Trelford, Laura (edited by). *Abraaj Capital Art Prize 2009*. Exhibition catalogue. Dubai, UAE: Art Dubai, 2009.

Ahmady, Leeza and Dadi, Iftikhar. *Tarjama/Translation : contemporary art from the Middle East, Central Asia, and their diasporas*. Exhibition catalogue. New York, NY: ArteEast, 2009.

Georgiou, Demetra. *Iran Inside Out - Influences of Homeland and Diaspora on the Artistic Language of Contemporary Iranian Artists*. Exhibition catalogue. New York, NY: Chelsea Art Museum, 2009.

da Prato, Daniela (curator). *Golden Gates*. Exhibition catalogue. Paris: F&A Projects, 2009.

Amirsadeghi, Hossein. *Different Sames: New Perspectives in*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2009.

2007 *Not Only Possible, But Also Necessary: Optimisim in the Age of Global War*. Exhibition catalogue. Turkey: Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, 2007.

2005 Venesky, Martin. *Its beautiful---then gone*. New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press, 2005.

2003 *bi-product*. Exhibition catalogue. California, USA: California College of the Arts, 2003.

ARTICLES

2026 Stoppard, Lou. “How the swimming pool became an artistic obsession”. *Financial Times*, November 2026

2022 Khalil, Nadine. “The Vacant Swimming Pools of Tehran”. *Frieze*, April 2022

Wilcox, Matthew. "Profile: Nazgol Ansarinia." *Canvas*, Issue 102, Mar-Apr 2022

Bhullar, Dilpreet. "Nazgol Ansarinia's sculptures are sprinkled with the flecks of memory and desire." *Stir World*, January 2022.

2020 Rahmanzadeh, Yasmin. "Gone with the city: When memories are bound to vanish". *This Orient*. May 2020.

Jacobi, Hannah. "Factory Rules". *Canvas*, March/April 2020.

2019 Sajjadi, Leila. "10 Iranian Artists Who Are Shaping Contemporary Art." *Artsy.net*. September 2019.

Jacobi, Hannah. "Lighting Sparks from Iran." *Canvas*. July 2019.

2018 Crabbé, Sofie. "Fragments, Particles and the Mechanisms of Growth." *Onrust Magazine*. January-March 2018.

Amaya-Akkermans, Arie. "From the Ground Up." *Canvas*, May-June 2018.

2017 Sariban,Tahereh. "The Construction of Deconstruction." *Harper's Bazaar Art*. March 2017.

Daftari, Fereshteh. *Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians.* London: Black Dog Publishing Limited, 2017.

2016 Lind, Maria. "Riffing off a vernacular mural tradition, one artist captures the contrasts and contradictions of life in contemporary Tehran." *ArtReview Asia*. June 2016.

2015 Ayad, Myrna. "Nazgol Ansarinia: Critics Picks." *ArtForum*. December 2015.

Shehadi, Lemma. "Slice and Dice." *Canvas*, May-June 2015.

2014 Morris, Natasha. "The Strange Fruits of a Fascination." *Reorient*. February 3, 2014.

Harris, Gareth. "Post-revolutionary Iranian art at the SOAS." *Financial Times*. January 17, 2014.

2013 De Guise, Lucien. "Safar: Voyage Of Discovery." *Asian Art Newspaper.* February 26, 2013.

2012 Kalsi, Jyoti. "Images don't always show the true picture." *Gulf News.* November 8, 2012.

Da Prato, Daniela. "Into the world of Nazgol Ansarinia". *Contemporary Practices*. Volume X, 2012.

2011 Bailey, Stephanie. "Istanbul Biennial." *Aesthetica Magazine.* October 2011.

Vourazeri, Stefania. "Interior Renovations, Tehran, 2010." *FAD*. January 31, 2011.

2010 Shabandeh, Ima. "Description of Patterns and Everyday Reality." *Art Tomorrow. Issue 2,* 2010.

Dalvand, Ahmedreza. "The Matrix of Beauty." *Golestaneh Monthly.* July 2010.

2009 Fekri, Reem. "The Abraaj Capital Art Prize (ACAP) 2008." *Contemporary Practices. Volume IV*, 2009.

Attalah, Lina. "Breaking News." *Contemporary Practices. Volume IV*, 2009.

Jarvie, Catherine. "A Capital Idea." *Time Out Dubai.* January 29, 2009.

Money-Coutts, Sophia. "Rewarding Works". *The National*. February 9, 2009.

Fekri, Reem. "An interview with Nazgol Ansarinia, winner of the Abraaj Capital Art Prize 2008." *Art Dubai Journal.* February 3, 2009.

2007 Mohebbi, Sohrab. “Nazgol Ansarinia: Untitled (Do Not Give Your Opinion).” *Bidoun*, issue 10. Spring 2007.

Wintsch, Susann. "Analysing While Waiting (For Time To Pass): Contemporary Art In Tehran". *TRIEBSAND [volume 1]: DVD Magazine on Contemporary Art*. April 2007

RESIDENCIES AND AWARDS

2017 Artist-in-residence, International Centre of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2014 Artist-in-residence, MOP/Parasol Unit Research Residency, London, UK

2008 Recipient, Abraaj Capital Art Prize, Dubai, UAE

Finalist, Rolex Mentor and Protege Arts Initiative, Switzerland

2007 Recipient, “One artist in residence outside the Nordic region” Grant, NKD, Dale, Norway

2006 Artist-in-residence, UNIDEE, Cittadellarte Fondazione Pistoletto, Biella, Italy

2001-02 Merit scholarship, California College of the Arts, San Francisco

NOTABLE COLLECTIONS

British Museum, London, UK

Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

Devi Art Foundation, Delhi, India

Kadist Art Foundation, Paris, France; San Francisco, CA

Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Liechtenstein

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), Queensland, Australia

Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE

Tate Collection, London, UK