

ADVOCARTSY

Mohammad Barrangi: Dreamscape

September 22nd –
November 5th, 2022



Opening Reception: September 22nd, 7-10 pm
434 N. La Cienega Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90048
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Artist Biography

Mohammad Barrangi was born in Rasht, Iran, in 1988. Now based in the UK, he is both a globally recognized artist and a medal-winning athlete who has represented Iran internationally in the 100m sprint. Born without full mobility in his left arm, Barrangi has developed a unique artistic practice that utilizes his right hand and both feet to create his distinctive works. Blending traditional calligraphy with experimental mark-making techniques, Barrangi combines elements of Persian calligraphy, storytelling, text, and touches of humor to create intimate works on handmade paper that are selectively expanded into large-scale murals.

Barrangi holds a degree in graphic design from the Islamic Azad University of Tonekabon and recently graduated from the Royal Drawing School in London. Barrangi has extensively exhibited his work around the world, winning numerous awards and recognition that has led to the prolific publication of his illustrations in a variety of books. His works have been acquired by the permanent collections of the British Museum, the Royal Family Collection, the National Government Collection in the UK, the San Diego Museum of Art in the USA, as well as the Cluj Napoka Art Museum in Romania. In addition, LACMA has selected two of Barrangi's works on paper for their permanent collection.

Exhibition Statement

Written by Omid Arabian, YOUniversal Center

In *Dreamscape*, Mohammad Barrangi conjures up a world that exists in the realm of fantasy, yet seems to have a reality of its own. Trumpeters ride flying elephants, a lady carries an upside down zebra, cats hula-hoop and play the fiddle while processions of revelers parade forth in antique bathtubs. Yet somehow it all makes sense, and invites the viewer to put logic aside and play along.

Indeed, play is the energy that most palpably runs through the pieces in this show. Characters – human or animal - are often masked and costumed (like personages in a Venetian carnival), striking theatrical poses and postures, frolicking about with apparent abandon. As such, they (and Barrangi) seem to be implying that life is an opportunity to take on not just one but many identities, each of which can inspire and allow a different facet of our cosmic consciousness to shine through; yet there is no need to feel bound to, or by, any one of those identities – we can move through them fluidly the way an actor in the theater moves through costumes, passionately playing each part but not letting the part play us.

To complement and further express this fervent energy, Barrangi’s signature sepia-tone palette has exploded with colors that are both vivid and soft, evoking a faraway dreamland of azure skies and sun-kissed surfaces where all kinds of stories can – and do – unfold. The stories are not always entirely jovial; some of the pieces even hint at a looming violence, or a tenacious sense of alienation – but just like life, and just like dreams, these layers adds further depth and interest to the show as a whole.

Mr. Barrangi’s previous solo show at ADVOCARTSY was based on Attar’s mystical masterpiece *Conference of the Birds*; and that mystical, mysterious air carries forward here – albeit in a more light-hearted, rambunctious way. Collectively, the pieces create an opening unto another world – a world that is not bound by the conventions and solemnity of our own; a world where, to paraphrase Rumi, an owl can become a peacock, a wolf can become a shepherd, and the doors and walls speak of myths and legends.

Fantasyland #8, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
19 x 14 in





Fantasyland #6, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
12.75 x 17.75 in



Fantasyland #7, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
12.75 x 18 in



Fantasyland #12, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
13.5 x 18.25 in



Fantasyland #5, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
13 x 17.75 in



Fantasyland #21, 2022, Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper, 11.75 x 8.5 in



Fantasyland #23, 2022, Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper, 11.75 x 8.5 in



Fantasyland #9, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
13 x 18 in



Fantasyland #10, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
13.25 x 18 in



Fantasyland #35, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
12.25 x 16.5 in



Fantasyland #20, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
11.75 x 8.5 in



Fantasyland #4, 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper
13 x 17.75 in



Fantasyland #34, 2022, Reverse transfer printmaking on handmade paper, 17.5 x 13.5 in

Mask of the Rabbit & the Galloping Horse (Dreamscape #1), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
79.25 x 46.5 in

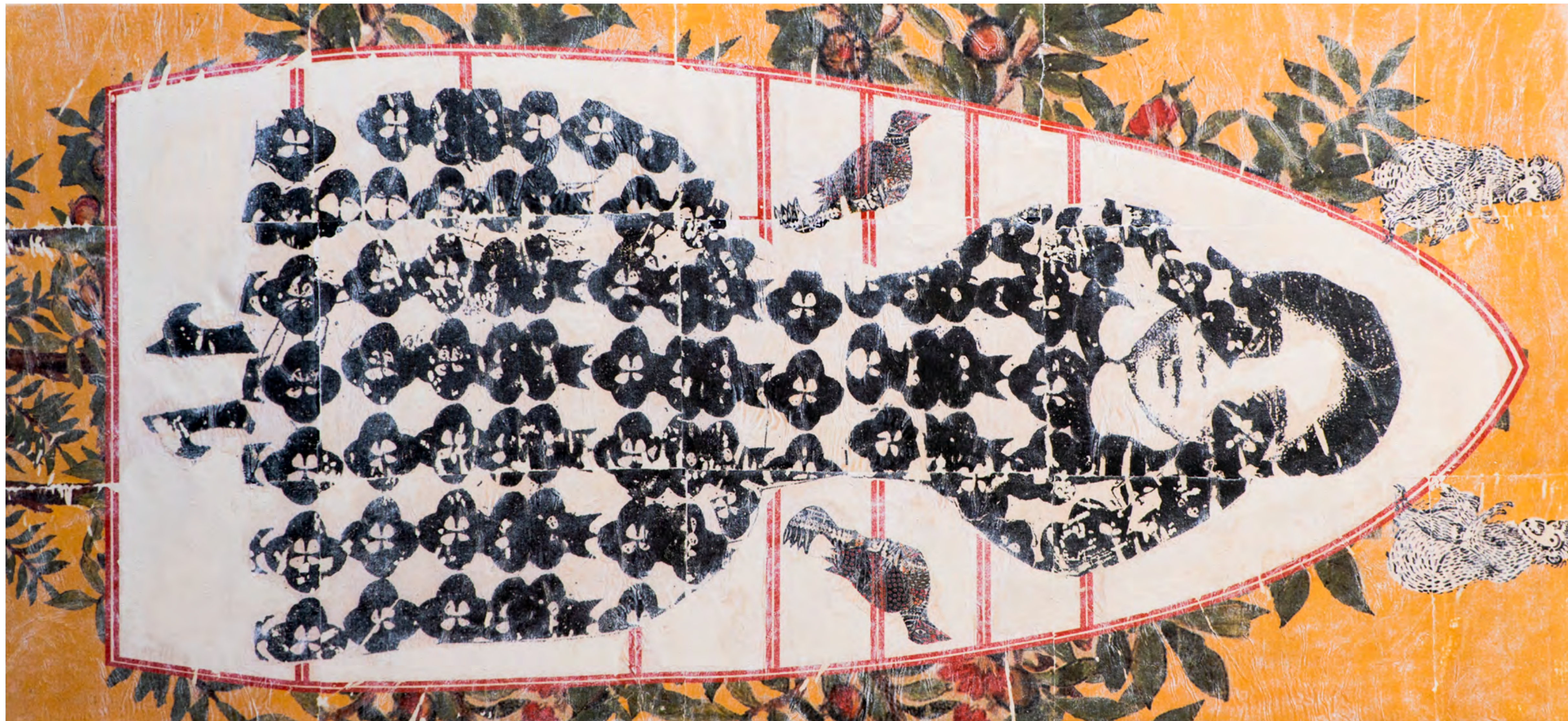




Shahrazad in the Garden (Dreamscape #2), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
58.25 x 36.5 in



While Everyone Slept (Dreamscape #3), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
55.25 x 69.25 in



Sleeping in the Boat (Dreamscape #4), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
31.75 x 69.25 in



Quest of the Sun's Children (Dreamscape #5), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
72.25 x 113 in



Last Steps (Dreamscape #6), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
45 x 86 in

Birth of the Pomegranate Tree (Dreamscape #7), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
80 x 42.5 in





Guardians of Eden (Dreamscape #8), 2022
Reverse transfer printmaking on raw canvas
74 x 116 in

Curriculum Vitae

Mohammad Barrangi – Renowned Illustrator, Artist, and Athlete

Education

2019-2021 Masters Degree – Royal Drawing School London
2011 Bachelor’s Degree in Graphics, Islamic Azad University of Tonekabon

Awards and Prizes

2020 International illustration and book design competition, Moscow, Russia
2019 Third Prize, Illustration, Sharjah Children’s Book
2019 First prize, Illustration, COW International Design Festival, Ukraine
2018 Finalist, Bologna Children’s Book Fair, Bologna, Italy
2017 First prize, Muestra del IV Premi International, Tragaluz, Colombia
2017 THAT’S A MOLE!, Illustration Festival, Italy
2017 Recipient of Honorary Diploma, 5th Tallinn Illustrations Triennial, Estonia
2017 Honorary diploma from Image of the Book contest, fiction section, Russia
2017 Finalist of Third Golden Pinwheel Young Illustrators Competition, China
2017 Finalist of the Bridgeman Studio Award, United Kingdom
2017 Finalist of the Hirosaki Apple Design Award, Tokyo, Japan
2017 Imagen Palabra Illustration Contest, Colombia
2017 The Migration Postcard Project, Bratislava
2017 The Pattern Design of Paper Festival- Korea, China, and Italy
2017 International Arsenal Book Festival, Kyiv, Ukraine
2017 Selected album cover design, Art Think publisher, Italy
2017 Nami Concours International Picture Book Festival, Korea
2016 Accepted in Golden Pinwheel Festival, China
2016 Accepted in the Bio-Art contest, South Korea
2016 Accepted in Turkey Printmaking Festival
2016 Accepted in Sharjah Dubai Printmaking Festival
2016 Accepted in 3th Nami illustration festival
2016 Participation in Alice in Wonderland Illustrations (It’s Always Time for Tea) - Europe Tour from 2015 to 2017.
2016 Fadjr Film Festival- Eighth Period, Tehran, Iran
2015 First prize, Illustration, COW International Design Festival, Ukraine
2012 Fadjr Film Festival- Fourth Period, Tehran, Iran
2009 First Prize, Belgrade Illustration Festival, Serbia

Exhibitions and Events

2022 Solo Exhibition, Dreamland, the Art House, Wakefield, UK
2022 Solo Exhibition, Anything is Possible, Edinburgh Printmakers, Edinburgh, UK
2022 Spirit of the Fox, Tallinn, Estonian Literature Centre, Estonia
2022 Facing the New Reality, Museum on the Seam, Israel
2022 Art Brussels, Pedrami Gallery, Group Exhibition, Belgium
2022 Chorus Group Exhibition, Arusha Gallery, UK
2022 Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Hafez Gallery, UAE.

2021 Royal Drawing School: Best of the Drawing Year, Christie’s Auction House, UK.
2021 Migration Project, Migrations: Postcards from Around the World, Hallway Gallery, Reading Room, Germany and UK.
2021 Group Exhibition, Diaspora Pavilion 2, Block 336, London, UK
2021 Group Exhibition, Once Upon A Time, ADVOCARTSY, Los Angeles, CA
2020 Solo Exhibition, The Conference of the Birds, ADVOCARTSY, Los Angeles, CA
2019 Live installation, Looking East, the British Museum
Mohammad’s installation in the Grand Hall of the British Museum served as an introduction to their 2020 exhibition ‘Looking East’ – which explored 500 years of the West’s long and complex interaction with the Islamic world, featuring objects from the Islamic Art Museum Malaysia and BM, including some exquisite examples of Persian art.
2019 Persian Calligraphy Workshop, The British Museum in London
2019 Solo Exhibition, Wounderland, Pedrami Gallery, Anterwap, Belgium
2019 Group Exhibition, Summer Art Bash, ADVOCARTSY, Los Angeles, CA
2019 Group Exhibition in collaboration with Al Madinah Arts Center, Hafez Gallery, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
2019 Biennial International: Papermade Art Work Exhibition, Palazzo Fogazzaro, Schio, Italia
2019 Lași Museum Exhibition, The Second Edition of the International Singular Art Salon organized by the Cultural Association ANARTE, Lași, Romania
2019 Group Exhibition in collaboration with Al Madina Arts Center, Madina, Saudi Arabia
2018 Eastern Bird workshop, Wakefield Cathedral, UK
2018 Human Rights EDU Group Exhibition, UNESCO, Italy
2018 Who Are We? Workshop and Commission, Tate Modern, UK
2018 Solo Exhibition, Wonderland, Wakefield Cathedral, UK
2018 The Kingdom of the Rose, Homage to the Female Figure, Lys D’Or, France
2018 Invited to Peace Exhibition for the reunification of North and South Korea,
Tokyo International Mini-Print Triennial, Tokyo, Japan
2018 Ratata Festival, Macerata, Italy
2018 Fourth International Illustration Exhibition, Colombia
2018 Love International Exhibition, Art TSUM, Kyiv, Ukraine
2018 Collective Influence, Shape Arts, London, UK
2018 Illustrate 2018, Portugal
2018 Bienal Internacional de Ilustração Solidária Ajudaris, Portugal
2017 Common Ground, curated by Juan Delgado for Plataforma Festival, Vane Gallery, UK
2017 Invited to the Dokdo’s Peace Poster exhibition, Korea
2017 Tutor of the workshop, Islamic Azad University of Lahijan, Iran
2017 Tutor of the workshop of I will tell you from the East, post-graduate students, Islamic Azad University of Ramsar

2017 Invited to a one-day workshop by United Nations for disabled artists in Syria
2017 Group Exhibition, Viive Noor, Finland
2016 Solo Exhibition, the Children’s Museum of Estonia, Estonia
2016 Group Exhibition, Mehrva Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2016 Group Exhibition, Farzad Gallery, Mashhad, Iran
2015 Group Exhibition, Koochebagh Gallery, Iran
2013 Group Exhibition, Niavaran Hall, Tajrish, Iran
2012 Group Exhibition, Aria Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2011 Group Exhibition, Ou Gallery, Duncan Canada

Articles and Interviews

2022 Chris Bond, Turning adversity to advantage: Artist Mohammad Barrangi draws on exile, disability and his Iranian heritage, Yorkshire Post
2022 Iranian-born, UK-based artist and former Paralympian Mohammad Barrangi opens new exhibition, ArtDaily
2022 Sofia Cotrona, Mohammad Barrangi’s Fables of Possibility at Edinburgh Printmakers, ArtMag
2022 The Art of Printmaking 3: Mohammad Barrangi and Nazli Tabatabai-Khatambakhsh, Edinburgh Printmaking
2022 Susan Mansfield, Art Reviews, The Scotsman
2021 Katharine Hay, Paralympian from Iran to have artwork exhibited in Edinburgh, The Independent
2021 Paralympian from Iran to have artwork exhibited in Edinburgh, The National
2021 Phyllis Steven, At Edinburgh Printmakers – solo exhibition by Mohammad Barrangi, The Edinburgh Reporter
2021 Iranian artists honored at Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava, Tehran Times
2021 Mohammad Barrangi: “Anything is Possible” exhibition in Edinburgh, Alethea Magazine
2021 Abbey Maclure, Leeds-based Paralympian born without use of arm to have artwork exhibited in Edinburgh, Yorkshire Evening Post
2021 Student Focus: Mohammad Barrangi, The Royal Drawing School
2020 Karina Miller, Interview with Mohammad Barrangi, Toi Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2020 Mohammad Barrangi at the British Museum, The Hand Magazine, Issue 22
2020 Interview and Book Publishing, University of Zaragoza, Spain
2019 Interview with Mohammad Barrangi, Manoto Plus
2019 Tim Cornwell, British Museum Hosts Mural by Artist and Para-Athlete Mohammad Barrangi, Kayhan Life
2019 Kate Kellaway, Children’s picture book artists tell migrants’ stories through postcards, The Guardian
2019 Mohammad Barrangi: Illustrator, Calligrapher, and Storyteller, Now Then Magazine
2019 Interview with Mohammad Barrangi, Post Oyko Magazine, Turkey

2018 Interview with Mohammad Barrangi, Bincole Meets The Illustrator, UK
2018 Interview with Mohammad Barrangi, Pressing Matters, UK
2018 Meet Mohammad Barrangi, WDCOS Media
2018 New Side, Series 8 Episode 6 / Interview with Artist Mohammad Barrangi, Manoto TV
2018 Interview with Artist Mohammad Barrangi, Who are we?
2018 Artwork by Mohammad Barrangi, Drawing Academy
2017 The Drawing that came from the East: Interview with Mohammad Barrangi, El Espectador
2017 My Dream | Mohammad Barrangi Fashtami, Art People Gallery
2017 Interview with TIMPUL the newspaper, Romania

Art Fairs

Art Rotterdam, Pedrami Gallery, 2022
Art Brussels Pedrami Gallery, 2022
Art Rotterdam Pedrami Gallery, 2021
Art Brussels Pedrami Gallery, 2021
Art Brussels Pedrami Gallery, 2020

Published Works

2021 Fifth Element, Malisia Editorial
2020 Illustration for In the Shadow of an Orange Tree, Tragaluz Editores
2020 Illustration for Simorgh (Conference of the birds), Madreseh Publishing

Murals

2020 Mural Project Unlimited in Central Wakefield, UK
2020 Mural for Art Hostel in Leeds, UK
2018 Commissioned Mural, Who Are We, Art, Migration and the Production of Democracy, Tate Modern, UK

Collections

British Museum Collection, UK
Royal Family Collection, UK
National Government Collection, UK
San Diego Museum, USA
Cluj Napoka Art Museum, Romania



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