



Artist Biography

Living and working in German exile since the 1990s, themes like the violation of Human Rights and the oppression of women are of major concern for the artist and activist Parastou Forouhar, who employs a powerful feminist language in her art. Her work blurs the boundaries between form and concept, biography and artistry.

With artistic techniques such as installation, graphic print or performative photography, Forouhar engages with the positionality of the female body, and how diversity and ambivalence shape the meaning and ownership of the space in relation to gender, ethnicity and migration.

Her work has been widely exhibited around the world and is included in prestigious permanent collections, including The Queensland Art Museum, the British Museum, Belvedere in Vienna, the Museum of Modern Art in Frankfurt, the Deutsche Bank Art Collection and the Walker Art Center.



Parastou Forouhar CV

Education

1990 Bachelor's Degree, Fine Arts Studies, University of Tehran
1994 Advanced Studies at the Hochschule fuer Gestaltung, Offenbach, Germany

Solo Exhibitions

2024 *Papillon*, ADVOCARTSY Gallery, Los Angeles
2022-2023 *Butterfly Preyed Upon!*, Baden State Museum, Karlsruhe, Germany
2022-2023 *One Step*, Kunsthalle Goeppingen / Ute Pardhun Gallery, Dusseldorf, Germany
2021 *Limbo*, Karin Sachs Gallery, Munich
2020 *Parastou Forouhar at Kunstverein Ettlingen*, Germany
2020 *Written Room*, The Forecourt of Sinegria, Chur, Switzerland
2019 *Deadlines*, City Gallery Saarbruecken, Germany
2019 *Written Room*, Werkbund, Frankfurt
2018 *In the Sign of Ornament*, Kunsthalle, Goeppingen, Germany
2018 *Before All Eyes*, Epiphanias Church, Frankfurt
2018 *Written Room*, Exhibition hall of Kunsthochschule Mainz, Germany
2017 *The Grass is Green, the Sky is Blue, and She is Black*, Museum Lindwurm, Stein am Rhein, Switzerland
2017 *Contested Memories*, Anne Frank Educational Center, Frankfurt, Germany
2017 *Written Room*, Pi Artworks, Istanbul, Turkey
2017 *Written Room*, Museum of Fine Arts, Ghent, Belgium
2016 *Written Room*, Pi Artworks, London
2015 *Reimagining the Illusion*, Pi Artworks, London
2015 *The Burdened Paper*, Hinterland Gallery, Vienna
2015 *New Works*, Karin Sachs Gallery, Munich
2014 *Body Letter*, Tasvir Projects (El Greco Year 2014), Toledo, Spain
2014 *Repeating Patterns of Mrs. P.*, Azad Art Gallery, Teheran
2014 *Kiss Me*, Rose Issa Projects, London
2013 *He Kills Me, He Kills Me Not II*, Municipal Gallery Neunkirchen, Germany
2013 *Pain Has a Finer Tempo*, Evangelische Akademie, Frankfurt
2013 *Ornament and Crime*, Law Warschaw Gallery of Macalester College, St. Paul, USA
2013 *The Poetry of Unloved Perception*, Kunst Galerie Fuerth, Germany
2012 *No Home Game*, Kunst-Raum-Akademie, Weingarten, Germany
2011 *Written Room*, Fondazione Merz, Turin, Italy
2010 *He Kills Me, He Kills Me Not*, Verso Arte Contemporanea, Turin, Italy
2010 Parastou Forouhar, Leighton House Museum, London
2010 Parastou Forouhar at RH Gallery, New York
2009 Parastou Forouhar at Karin Sachs Gallery, Munich
2009 *I Surrender*, Azad Gallery, Teheran
2009 *Links of Violence*, Orgel Fabrik, Karlsruhe, Germany
2008 *Parade*, Kunsthalle Vierseithof, Lueckenwalde, Germany



2008 *Body Letter*, Eugen Gutmann House, Berlin
2007 *Just A Minute*, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome
2006 *Blind Spot*, Karin Sachs Gallery, Munich
2005 *Parastou Forouhar at German Dome*, Berlin
2005 *Fife and Drum Corps*, Forum im Dominikanerkloster, Frankfurt
2005 *Fife and Drum Corps*, Saarland Artists' House, Saarbruecken, Germany
2004 *Signs*, Einstein Forum, Potsdam, Germany
2004 *Language of Ornament*, City Museum in Spital, Crailsheim, Germany
2003 *A Thousand and One Day*, National Gallery in Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin
2002 *Take Off Your Shoes*, Exhibition Space de Ligt, Frankfurt
2002 *Blind Spot*, Exhibition Hall Schulstrasse 1A, Frankfurt
2002 *Blind Spot*, Golestan Art Gallery, Teheran, Iran (banned)
2001 *Blind Spot*, Stavanger Culture House, Stavanger, Norway

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 *Portraiture Now: Iranian Contemporary*, ADVOCARTSY Gallery, Los Angeles
2024 *ART IRAN: Falling Into Language*, Craft Contemporary Museum, Los Angeles
2023 *Woman, Life, Freedom*, Saarland Museum – Modern Gallery, Saarbruecken, Germany
2023 *Felix Nussbaum and Artistic Resistance Today*, Felix Nussbaum Museum, Osnabrueck, Germany
2023 *The Assault of the Present on the Remaining Time: Artistic Testimonies of War and Repression*, Bruecke Museum, Berlin
2023 *Iran: Deciphering Violence and Resistance*, Urban Arts Space, Columbus, USA
2023 *Why is There Art When There Are Wars?*, Ernst Bloch Center, Ludwigshafen, Germany
2022 *Protest! Shapes*, Ulm Museum, Ulm, Germany
2022 *Decapitalize Humanity*, Association of German Artists, Berlin
2022 *The Other Kabul; Remains of the Garden*, Kunstmuseum Thun, Switzerland
2022 *Inspection; Pop and Politics in Contemporary Textile Art*, Kunstmuseum Ravensburg, Germany
2021 *Reflections: Contemporary Art of the Middle East and North Africa*, British Museum, London
2020 *Female Bodies*, Palatine Museum Heidelberg, Germany
2020 *Body, Gazes, Power*, Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Germany
2020 *Walls*, Stuttgart Art Museum, Germany
2019 *100 Years of Women's Suffrage*, German Parliament, Berlin
2018 *Image Power Religion*, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Germany
2018 *Language is the Only Homeland*, Nest, The Hague, Holland
2018 *Waste Lands*, Casa Arabe, Madrid, Spain
2018 *4th Mardin Biennale*, Turkey
2018 *Line of Sight*, MUDAC, Lausanne, Switzerland
2017 *Open Letters, From Calligraphy to Street Art*, Institute of Islamic Cultures, Paris
2017 *The True Stories Project - Art Works for Change*, Patan Museum, Kathmandu
2017 *Disturbance*, Kunsthalle der Sparkasse, Leipzig, Germany
2017 *Ostrale*. 11th Biennial for Contemporary Art, Dresden, Germany



2017 *Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians*, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, Canada/Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA

2017 *Waste Lands*, San Telmo Museoa, San Sebastian, Spain

2017 *The Art of Joy*, MANIF D'ART/8 - The Québec City Biennial, Quebec, Canada

2016 *Green Annoys*, Marta Herford Museum, Herford, Germany

2016 *Restrictions of the Earth*, Karsi Sanat, Istanbul

2015 *Agoraphobia*, Azad Art Gallery, Teheran

2015 *Magic and Power*, Marta Herford Museum, Herford, Germany

2015 *Common Grounds*, Museum Villa Stuck, Munich

2014 *Ornamental Structures*, Kunstverein Worms, Germany

2014 *Carte Blanche to Nil Yalter*, Galerist, Istanbul

2014 *The Art of Life*, Uppsala Konstmuseum, Uppsala, Sweden

2014 *Recalling The Future*, Brunei Gallery-SOAS, London

2013 *The Pattern that Connects*, Kunsthalle Lingen, Germany

2013 *Longing for Persia*, Museum Rietberg, Zurich

2013 *My Dear Swan*, ACC Gallery Weimar, Germany

2013 7th Gothenburg International Biennial for Contemporary Art, Gothenburg, Sweden

2013 *Conflicts*, Herzliya Museum of Contemporary Art, Herzlia, Israel

2013 *Clear View*, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, Germany

2013 *The Fold*, CAB Contemporary Art, Brussels,

2013 The 4th Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece

2013 The 5th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow

2012 7th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia

2012 *Fertile Crescent*, Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey

2012 *Feminist and....*, Mattress Factory Museum, Pittsburgh

2012 *Omid is my Name*, (Co-Curator), Anne Frank Educational Center, Frankfurt

2012 *The Elephant in the Dark*, Devi Art Foundation, Delhi, India

2012 *Killing*, Kunsthalle Erlangen, Germany

2011 *Medi(t)ation*, 3rd Asian Art Biennial, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung

2011 *Ornamental Structures*, Stadtgalerie Saarbruecken, Germany

2011 *Political Patterns*, ifa-Galerie, Berlin and Stuttgart, Germany

2011 *ZENDEGI*, Beirut Exhibition Center, Beirut

2010 *Nagsh and Raghsh*, Museum of Islamic Civilization, Sharjah

2010 *Veiled Memoirs*, XIV Biennale Donna, Ferrara, Italy

2010 *War/Individual*, Kunsthalle Münster, Germany

2010 21st Century, Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia

2009 The Power of Ornament, Belvedere, Vienna

2009 *Dream and Reality*, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland

2009 In Istanbul - Between Arrival and Departure, BM Contemporary Art Center, Istanbul

2009 *Rebel*, Museum for Modern Art, Arnhem, Holland

2009 *TASWIR*, Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin

2009 Incheon Women Artists' Biennale, South Korea

2008 *Mahrem*, Kunsthalle Vienna / Tanas, Berlin



2008 *Re-Imagining Asia*, House of The World Cultures, Berlin
2008 *Vote for Women*, Kunst Meran, Merano, Italy
2008 *Naqsh*, Pergamon Museum, Berlin
2007 *Global Feminisms*, Brooklyn Museum, NY
2007 *Retracing Territories*, Kunsthalle Fribourg, Switzerland
2007 *Form - Design Media Art*, Museum of Applied Arts, Frankfurt
2007 *Mahrem*, Santral Istanbul, Istanbul
2006 *Eastern Expressway*, Evangelical City Academy Frankfurt
2006 *The Critical Eye*, New Art Association Aschaffenburg
2006 *Hannah Arendt Thinkspace*, Former Jewish Girls' School, Berlin
2005 *Intersections*, Jewish Museum Melbourne / Jewish Museum San Francisco
2004 *Gabriele Münter Prize*, Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin / Women's Museum, Bonn
2004 *Distant Proximity*, House of The World Cultures, Berlin
2004 *The Ten Commandments*, German Hygiene Museum, Dresden
2004 Time Zones/3rd Triennial of Contemporary Art, Weingarten, Germany
2004 4th Busan Biennale, Busan, South Korea
2003 *M_ARC – Art and War*, New Gallery Graz, Austria
2003 *Feast/Hospitality*, Århus, Denmark
2003 *Bellisima*, Gallery of the Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig
2003 *Zan-e-irani*, Women's Museum, Bonn
2002 *The Source as Inspiration*, Francke Foundation, Halle, Germany
2001 2nd Berlin Biennale, Berlin
2001 *Frankfurt Crossroads*, Schirn Art Hall, Frankfurt
2001 *Change of Scene XIX*, Museum of Modern Art, Frankfurt
2001 *Moving Away*, Women's Museum, Bonn