



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*, Taswir 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 Vierendeithof, 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*, Kunstpalais, 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_ARS – 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