



Artist Biography

Pouya Afshar is an alumnus of the California Institute of Arts Character Animation department and is a graduate of the University of California Los Angeles Graduate Department of Film and Television focusing on Animation and Digital Media. He has exhibited his work as a visual artist throughout the United States and the Middle East, including Harold M. Williams Auditorium at the Getty Center, Bovard Auditorium at the University of Southern California, Royce Hall at the University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Santa Monica Art Studios, 18th street Art Center, Craft Contemporary Museum, and numerous galleries and art fairs around the world. Pouya has presented his research at Stanford University, Harvard University, University of Southern California, The School of Museum of Fine Arts Boston, University of California Los Angeles, and Residency Unlimited NY. He is the creator, character designer, and producer of the animated series 'Rostam in Wonderland' the co-creator of '1PA2PA' comics, and the creator of 'TEHRAN' graphic novel. He is currently an associate professor of art at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.



Pouya Afshar - CV

Education and Academic qualifications

Education: Graduate

2007-2009 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES (UCLA), Los Angeles, CA
Master of Fine Arts in Animation (School of Film, TV, and Digital Media)

2004-2007 CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS (CALARTS), Valencia, CA
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Character Animation (School of Film and Video) Minor:
Natural Science

Academic Teaching Experience

2014-Present UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, Lowell, MA
Assistant Professor of Art, Art Department

Courses: 2D Animation I, Interactive Media, Introduction to 3D Modeling and
Animation, Animation Studio

2013-2014 MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY, Palos Verdes, CA

Lecturer, Film and Video Department

Courses: Motion Graphics and Interactive Design, 2D Animation

2010-2014 ART INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA HOLLYWOOD, Hollywood, CA

Part-Time Faculty, Animation and Visual Effects Department Courses:
Principles of 2D Animation, Animation Studio, Figure Drawing, Character
and Object Design, Layout and Background Design, Language of
Animation

2012-2013 ART INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES, Santa Monica, CA

Part-Time Faculty, Animation and Visual Effects Department Courses:
Principles of 2D Animation, Character and Object Design

2004-2012 CALARTS COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP, Valencia, CA

Animation and Drawing Instructor for:

Sony Pictures Media Arts Program

Inner City Arts: The Dreamworks Animation Academy

Artscool Program in collaboration with LA Unified School District

2009-2011 INNER CITY EDUCATION FOUNDATION, Los Angeles, CA

Part-Time Faculty, Art Department

Courses: Animation, Figure Drawing

2009-2010 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES, Los Angeles, CA

Guest Instructor, Art Department

Course: Art Education

Pouya Afshar Curriculum Vitae

SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2022 ADVOCARTSY, A Return to the Flesh, Los Angeles, CA - June - July. Solo Exhibition
2021 CRAFT CONTEMPORARY MUSEUM, Los Angeles, CA - November. Solo Exhibition.
2020 MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS BOSTON. South Asian and Islamic Art, Boston, MA - TBA
2020 THE SPACE BY ADVOCARTSY. Out of Character. January. Solo Exhibition. LA, CA 2018
NICOLAS FLAMEL GALLERY. Out of Character. November. Solo exhibition, Curated by Yasi
Metghalchi. Paris, France.
2018 THE SPACE BY ADVOCARTSY. MOURNBABYMOURN. January. Solo exhibition, Curated by
Roshi Rahnema. Los Angeles, CA 2017 DASTAN GALLERY. MOURNBABYMOURN. Solo
exhibition, Curated by Ashkan Zahraei. July-Aug, Tehran, Iran
2014 SHULAMIT GALLERY. Romance with the Crow I killed. Solo exhibition, Los Angeles, CA
2013 SHULAMIT GALLERY. The Mystery of Suveyda. Two person exhibition, Los Angeles, CA
2012 AUN GALLERY. Seven Conquests of Story. Solo Exhibition, Tehran, Iran 2011 AUN
GALLERY. Div-e Aaz / The Demon of Greed. Solo Exhibition, Tehran, Iran 2011 18 TH STREET
ART CENTER. My Hijab Limitation, not Immunization. Duo Performance. Santa Monica, CA
2010 AUN GALLERY. Disorderly Scuffled. Solo Exhibition, Tehran Iran
2009 ANNENBERG FOUNDATION. Figure In Motion. Solo exhibition, Los Angeles, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

2025 ADVOCARTSY WEST HOLLYWOOD, PORTRAITURE NOW: Iranian Contemporary,
Los Angeles, CA, Group Exhibition
2024 ADVOCARTSY WEST HOLLYWOOD, VINTAGE MODERN, Los Angeles, CA, Group
Exhibition
2023 ADVOCARTSY WEST HOLLYWOOD, Resilience, Los Angeles, CA, Group Exhibition
2021 ADVOCARTSY WEST HOLLYWOOD, Once Upon a Time, Los Angeles ,CA, Group
Exhibition,
2019 PEMBROKE COLLEGE, Contemporary PersianMoving Image Art at Cambridge. Sep.
Cambridge, UK
2019 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IRVINE, Contemporary Photography and Video at
Viewpoint Gallery. October. Irvine, CA
2019 GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE, "American". March. Huntington Beach, CA 2019 CRAFT AND
FOLK ART MUSEUM, Short-listed as a finalist for 'Focus Iran III; Contemporary Photography
and Video Competition' at Craft and Folk Art Museum. January. Los Angeles, CA
2018 ART BRIEF IV: IRANIAN CONTEMPORARY SAN FRANCISCO, Curated by Roshi Rahnema,
Dec, San Fransisco, CA
2018 AN ART AND DESIGN COLLABORATION: ADVOCARTSY X RYAN SAGHIAN, November, Los
Angeles, CA
2018 TEER ART, "Mossavar-Nameh II" group exhibition, Curated by Hormoz Hematian and
Ashkan Zahraei. June, Tehran, Iran
2018 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, Art of The Middle East's 'In the fields of empty
days: the intersection of the past and present in Iranian art' Group Exhibition, May. Curated by
Linda Komarov. Los Angeles, CA
2017 UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL, Earth Day Group Exhibition, Curated by
Ingrid Hess. March, Lowell, MA

2016 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, 'Rostam in Wonderland' series. Art of The Middle East's 'Islamic Art Now: Contemporary Art of the Middle East's exhibition, Curated by Linda Komarov. January, 2016. Los Angeles, CA

2015 AUN GALLERY. Creative Art, Innovative Science. Group Exhibition, November. Tehran, Iran

2015 UNIVERSITY OF ADAM MICKIEWICZ /ART BRIDGES, December, Kalisz. Poland

2015 CRESCENT MOON PROJECTS. Screening of 'Rostam in Wonderland' Series, Curated by Cyrus Samii. Access Theater NYC, March. NY, NY

2014 NEW YORK UNIVERSITY. Screening of "Voided Loom: Kelardasht's Carpet", November. NY, NY

2013 SKIRBALL CENTER – "Noor film festival screening of Rostam in Wonderland: Sohrab's Blood", Los Angeles, CA

2012 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART - "Farhang short film festival" screening of "Rostam in Wonderland: Sohrab's Blood". Los Angeles, CA

2012 GETTY'S PACIFIC STANDARD TIME. "Three Weeks in January" by Suzanne Lacy, Video Projection by Pouya Afshar, held in conjunction with LACE's LA Goes Live. Los Angeles, CA

2012 FARJAM COLLECTION - 'Chants from Paradise'. Special screening of "The Voided Loom". Dubai, UAE

2011 THE VORTEX. La vs. War. Art for peace in the hope era, Group Exhibition. Los Angeles, CA

2011 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART - "Farhang short film festival" screening of "The Voided Loom". Los Angeles, CA

2011 ROYCE HALL – UCLA. Sima Bina and Lian Ensemble visual performance. Los Angeles, CA

2011 NIL GALLERY. Group Exhibition. Tehran, Iran

2011 SANTA MONICA ART STUDIOS, ARENA 1. Evolution/Revolution; The Interconnectedness of All Beings, Group Exhibition. Santa Monica, CA

2008 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (USC), 'Visions and Voices, Mystic Love and Personal Transformation' visual performance and video projection. Los Angeles, CA

2007 HAROLD M. WILLIAMS AUDITORIUM, THE GETTY CENTER. The J. Paul Getty Trust, Sounds of LA, Video projection and visual poetry. Los Angeles, CA

2006 GALLERY 1919. El Gallo Café, Group Exhibition. Los Angeles, CA

2005 CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS, 'Out of Character' Exhibition under Cornelius Cole III's direction, Group Exhibition. Valencia, CA

ARTWORK ACQUIRED BY MUSEUM

2020 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, Works on paper from "Characters" series, 2018, Los Angeles, CA

2019 CRAFT CONTEMPORARY MUSEUM, 'Displaced II'. 2018, Los Angeles, CA

2016 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, 'MournBabyMourn' site specific installation for Art of The Middle East's permanent collection to be exhibited within 'In the fields of empty days: the intersection of the past and present in Iranian art' Group Exhibition in May 2018, Los Angeles, CA.

2015 LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART, 'Rostam in Wonderland' Series. Art of The Middle East's permanent collection, Los Angeles, CA.