

L A L E H J U N E G A L E R I E

Press release

Basel, February 7 2014

BORN IN TEHRAN

February 27 – April 19 2014

Opening Reception: Thursday, February 27 2014, 6-8PM

Tehran the capital of Iran since 1786

Since the 20th century, Tehran has a very strong relationship between the artists and the art world.

Laleh June Galerie is very pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition. The group exhibition *Born in Tehran* will bring together across different media works by eight artists who were born in Tehran, between 1930s to 1980s. Four of the artists, live and work in Tehran since birth and the four other they have left Tehran for international in 1950s and 1970s.

Fascinations with architecture, history of Tehran, film, fashion, photography, design and advertising were heart of this selection. ***Born in Tehran*** will include works by **Anoush Abrar, Mostafa Darehbaghi, Kamran Diba, Sissi Farassat, Mehdi Farhadian, Ali Golestaneh, Omid Masoumi and Firooz Zahedi.**

Anoush Abrar was born in 1976 in Tehran. Abrar has lived in Switzerland since he was five years old. He studied at the University of Arts in Lausanne (ECAL) and has taught for fourteen years.

His work since early 2000s has been featured in W Magazine, French and Japanese VOGUE, VOGUE Hommes International, How to Spend it, Vanity Fair UK, Edelweiss, L'Officiel, a.o.

Abrar's *Californication* series; studies of young women who have moved to Los Angeles from all over the world with the hope of attaining fame and fortune, is among Anoush Abrar's ongoing series including in Swiss and international exhibitions.

Abrar was awarded for the Third Prize of the prestigious Taylor Wessing / National Portrait Gallery Prize in 2013. «Born in Tehran» is the seventh exhibition of Abrar with the Laleh June Galerie. His first exhibition with the gallery was in 2008 «June Begins May 29». In «Born in Tehran» is included *Jennifer*, 2004 from *Californication* series. The artist lives and works in London and Lausanne.

Mostafa Darehbaghi was born in 1966 in Tehran. He studied at the University of Arts in Tehran. Darehbaghi since 1990s has exhibited Tehran and

This is his first exhibition in Switzerland. In «Born in Tehran» are included two new mural installations entitled *About Energy*, 2014 in 4 meters and *Bohemian*, 2010-2014. The artist lives and works in Tehran.

Kamran Diba was born in 1937 in Tehran. Diba, architecte and artist studied Architecture at Howard University in Washington D.C. In 1967, he established the office *Daz Consulting Architects, Planners and Engineers* located at the No. 29 Rasht Street in central Tehran. Kamran Diba designed in 1970s the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art in the heart of Laleh Park (then Park-e Farah) and the Niavaran Cultural Center in northern Tehran. Diba was the founding director of the museum and also the legendary Rasht 29 Art Club in Tehran. Rasht 29 was a very popular destination until late 1970s. Kamran Diba left Tehran in 1977. In «Born in Tehran» are included recent paintings from Diba's ongoing series entitled *Global Newspaper & Front Page*. This is the first Kamran Diba's exhibition with the Laleh June Galerie. The artist lives and works in Paris and Malaga.

Sissi Farassat was born in 1969 in Tehran. She studied at the Schule für künstlerische Fotografie in 1990s in Vienna. Sissi playfully brings herself to bear on the action at all times. Autobiographical elements, may it be her own body, family, or wedding, are her natural working materials. Her work is included at MAK, MMKK, Kunstmuseum Winterthur a.o. This is the fifth exhibition of Sissi Farassat with the Laleh June Galerie. The first one was in 2008 «June Begins May 29» and this was also her first time exhibition in Switzerland. In «Born in Tehran» are included recent Sissi's self-portraits. The artist lives and works in Vienna.

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Mehdi Farhadian was born in 1980 in Tehran. He graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts - Tehran University with a M.F.A in Painting. This is the first Mehdi Farhadian's exhibition with the Laleh June Galerie and the first time in Switzerland. In «Born in Tehran» are included new paintings 2013-2014 entitled *The Songs of the Earth*. The artist lives and works in Tehran.

Ali Golestaneh was born in 1940 in Tehran. He graduated in 1972 with a M.F.A in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts - Tehran University. Golestaneh has lived few years in London and in Ibiza (1969-1956 (London) and 1980-1987 (Ibiza)). Since his return in 1987 the artist lives and works in Tehran. This is the first Ali Golestaneh exhibition with the Laleh June Galerie and the first time in Switzerland. In «Born in Tehran» are included paintings *Chahar Rah e Pahlavi*, 1965 in 3 meters, *Taleghan*, 2014 and *Toghrol Tower*, 1999.

Omid Masoumi was born in 1984 in Tehran. He graduated from Sooreh University in Tehran with a B.A in Graphic Design. This is the second Omid Masoumi exhibition with the Laleh June Galerie. The first time was in 2008 «June Begins May 29». In «Born in Tehran» are included paintings 2013 and 2014 from *Clash* and *Jazebah* series. The artist lives and works in Tehran.

Firooz Zahedi was born in 1949 in Tehran. Zahedi has left Tehran since he was eight years old. He started his photographic career in the mid 1970's working with Andy Warhol & the Interview magazine in New York. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and the Corcoran School of Art in Washington D.C. where he met and became friends with Elizabeth Taylor. She took him to Hollywood in 1978 as her personal photographer when she signed on to do a movie. Firooz decided to stay on in Los Angeles and build his career there. Firooz Zahedi has also directed music videos & commercials but enjoys most his work in photography including the fine art work he exhibits thru galleries and museums. This will be the fifth Firooz Zahedi exhibition with the Laleh June Galerie. The artist lives and works in Hollywood and New York.

For press inquiries, visual material and any further information please contact Laleh at info@lalehjune.com or +41.61.228.77.78.

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Hours:

Tuesday – Friday: 1 – 6PM

Saturday: 12 – 5PM

and by appointment

bus / tram stop: Kunstmuseum Basel

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Photo: Private house and school in Tehran, Niavaran, January 2014 © 2014 Laleh June Galerie Basel