# James Cohan

## MONIR SHAHROUDY FARMANFARMAIAN

- 1922 Born in Qazvin, Iran
- 2019 Died in Tehran, Iran

# EDUCATION

- 1951 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 1949 Parsons School of Design, New York, NY
- 1944 –1946 Faculty of Fine Art, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

# SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Monir Farmanfarmaian: A Mirror Garden, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA The Language of Symbols, James Cohan, New York, NY
- 2021 Mirror-works and Drawings (2004-2016), James Cohan, New York NY
- 2019 Kaleidoscope Eyes, two-person show with Camille Utterback, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2018 The Breeze at Dawn Has Secrets to Tell You, The Third Line, Dubai, UAE Sunset, Sunrise, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland; travelled to Sharjah Art Foundation, United Arab Emerites
  - Mirror Variations: The Art of Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, Grand Rapids Art Museum, MI
- 2017 Lineages, Savannah College of Art and Design Museum of Art, Savannah, GA
- 2016 Monir Farmanfarmaian: Convertibles, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmain: Infinite Geometry, The Third Line, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 Based on the Hexagon: The Recent Drawings of Monir Farmanfarmaian, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Infinite Possibility. Mirror Works and Drawings, 1974-2014, Serralves Museum of Contemporary Art, Porto, Portugal; travelled to Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA.
- 2013 The First Family, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA Monir Farmanfarmaian: Hejleh, Rose Issa Projects, London, United Kingdom Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Convertibles and Polygons, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
  - Monir Farmanfarmaian 2004-2013, The Third Line, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Kaleidoscope, The Third Line, United Arab Emirates
- Mixed Hanging, Rose Issa Projects, London, United Kingdom
- 2010 Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Recent Works, Rose Issa Projects, United Kingdom
- 2008 Geometry of Hope, Leighton House Museum, London, United Kingdom
- 2007 Recollections, The Third Line, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Mirror Mosaics, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom
- 2000 Center for Iranian Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1977 Galerie Denise René, Paris, France and New York, NY
- 1976 Iran America Society, Tehran, Iran

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2011

- 1975 Jacques Kaplan Gallery, New York, NY; travelled to Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.
- 1973 Iran America Society, Tehran, Iran
- 1968 Italian Institute, Tehran, Iran
- 1963 Ecole des Beaux Arts, University of Tehran, Iran

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 All About 25, James Cohan, New York, NY Wonders of Creation: Art, Science, and Innovation in the Islamic World, McMullen Museum of Art, Boston College
- 2024 Un Ciel intérieur, Musée d'Art et de Culture Soufis MTO, Paris, France Wonders of Creation: Art, Science, and Innovation in the Islamic World, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego, CA Lumen: The Art and Science of Light, Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2023 Mosaics, Curated by Deborah Goodman Davis, James Barron Fine Art, Kent, Connecticut
- 2022 The Dynamic Eye: Op and Kinetic Art from the Tate Collection, Pudong Museum, Shanghai, China Line, Color, Shapes, and Other Stories, Rollins Museum of Art, Winter Park, FL Put It This Way: (Re)Visions of the Hirshhorn Collection, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC
- 2021 Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians, Asia Society, New York, NY
   Women in Abstraction, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; travelling to Guggenheim Museum,
   Bilbao, Spain
   Epic Iran, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
   A Boundless Drop to a Boundless Ocean, Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL
- 2020 The Desire for Transparency: Contemporary Artists Working with Glass, Intersect Chicago, IL
- 2019 Less Is a Bore: Maximalist Art & Design, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA Mirrors: The Reflected Self, Museum Rietberg, Zurich, Switzerland
- 2017 We Are Here, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, IL Mirror Mirror, Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, CA SUR/FACE: Mirrors, Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt, Germany Exhibition 1, Institute of Arab and Islamic Art, New York, NY Abstract Drawing, curated by Richard Deacon, Drawing Room, London, UK Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians, Aga Khan Museum, Ontario, Canada; travelled to Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
- 2016 Sugar Spin: You, me, art and everything, Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia Sixfold Symmetry: Pattern in Art and Science, The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 2014 Fundamental Abstraction III, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA Seeing Through Light: Selections from the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Collection, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- 2013 Transparencies: Contemporary Art and A History of Glass, Des Moines Art Center, Des Moines, IA The Fold' Absence, Disappearance and the Loss of Memory in the Work of 12 Iranian Artists, CAB Art Center, Brussels, Belgium Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian/Jef Geys, WIELS Contemporary Art Centre, Brussels, Belgium

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Iran Modern, Asia Society Museum, New York, NY Besoin d'Orient, Museum Villa Stuck, Munich, Germany Poetic of Construction, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA Trade Routes, Hauser & Wirth, London, United Kingdom Poetics of Construction, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA

- 2012 Contemporary Iranian Art from the Permanent Collection, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
- 2011 Monir Farmanfarmaian & Zhan Wang, Haines Gallery, San Francisco, CA Zendegi: Twelve Contemporary Iranian Artists, Beirut Exhibition Center, Iran Jameel Prize 2011, Casa Arabe, Madrid, Spain; The Cantor Arts Centre, Stanford, CA; travelled to Victoria & Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom; The Institute du Monde Arab, Paris, France; San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio, TX
- 2010 The Future of Tradition The Tradition of Future, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2009 Traum und Wirklichkeit Zeitgenössische Kunst aus dem Nahen Osten, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland
- 2008 The Power of the Ornament, Orangery, Lower Belvedere, Vienna, Austria
- 2007 ING Bank Exhibition, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2002 Grey Gallery, New York University, New York, NY
- 2001 Iranian Contemporary Art, The Curve Gallery, Barbican, London, United Kingdom
- 1999 Center for Iranian Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1998 Kent Fine Art, Kent, CT
- 1986 Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, New York, NY; travelling exhibition Muscarelle Museum of Art, Williamsburg, VA University of Idaho, Moscow, ID Amarillo Art Center, Amarillo, TX Tampa Museum of Art, Tampa, FL University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Museum, Milwaukee, WI Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC Boca Raton, FL Hunter Museum of Art, Chattanooga, TN Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock, AR Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH 1982 The Heritage of Islam, Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston, TX; travelled to California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA; Minnesota Science Museum, St. Paul, MI; National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.; Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY Royal Ontario Museum, Ontario, Canada Art Students League of New York, NY Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, CA
  - Leila Taghinia-Milani Gallery, New York, NY
- 1976 Iran America Society, Tehran, Iran Modern Iranian Art,
- 1975 Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York, NY

Takht-e-Jamshid Gallery: Blue, Tehran, Iran Ministry of Culture and Arts, Tehran, Iran *Color, Light and Image: Works and Statements*, Women's Interart Center, New York, NY

- 1973 Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- 1968 Columbia University, Center for Iranian Studies, New York, NY
- 1965 Palais des Congres, Monte Carlo, Monaco

### **BIENNIALS**

- 2018 Liquid City Vloeibare Stad, Bruges Triennial, Belgium
- 2016 The Eighth Climate (What Does Art Do?), 11th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea
- 2015 Ideas for Change, Vienna Biennale, Austria
- 2014 Prospect.3, New Orleans, LA
- 2013 Sharjah Beinnial 11: Re:emerge, Towards a New Cultural Cartography, Sharjah Art Foundation, United Arab Emirates
- 2010 29th Bienal de São Paulo, Brazil
- 2009 53rd International Art Exhibition, la Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- 1964 32<sup>nd</sup> International Art Exhibition, la Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy Fourth Biennale of Tehran, Iran
- 1958 First Biennale of Tehran, Iran Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy Iranian Pavilion, 29<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition, la Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy (Gold Medal)

# SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: The Collection, Delmonico Books/Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: Washington, D.C., 2022.
- O'Neill-Butler, Lauren, Let's Have a Talk: Conversations with Women on Art and Culture, New York, NY: Karma, 2021.
   Macel, Christine, and Karolina Ziebinska-Lewandowska, Women In Abstraction, New York, NY: Thames & Hudson, 2021.
   Epic Iran 5000 Years of culture, V&A Publishing, London: 2021.
- 2018 Sunset, Sunrise, Dublin: Irish Museum of Modern Art, 2018.
- 2015 Monir: Works on Paper, London, United Kingdom: Koenig Books, 2015.
- 2014 Cotter, Suzanne, Media Farzin and Shiva Balaghi (Eds.), *Monir Sharoudy Farmanfarmaian: Infinite Possibility. Mirror Works And Drawings 1974-2014*, Serralves, 2014.
- 2011 Obrist, Hans Ulrich, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Cosmic Geometry, Bologna, Italy: Damiani Editore, 2011.
   Obrist, Hans Ulrich, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Kaleidoscope, Tehran, Iran: The Third Line Gallery, 2011.
- 2009 Amirsadeghi, Hossein, ed., East West Divan: Contemporary Art from Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan, Kabul, Afghanistan: Turquoise Mountain, 2009. Selected Works of Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, 1979-2008, Tehran, Iran: Nazar Research and Cultural Institute, 2009.

Farmanfarmaian, Monir, *Different Sames: New Perspectives in Contemporary Iranian Art*, London: Thames & Hudson, 2009.

- 2008 Farmanfarmaian, Monir, *Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Mosaic of Mirrors*, Tehran, Iran: Nazar Research and Cultural Institute, 2008.
- 2007 Farmanfarmaian, Monir and Rose Issa, *A Mirror Garden*, New York, NY: Random House, 2007.

Farmanfarmaian, Monir and Zara Houshmand, *Monir Farmanfarmaian: Heartaches*, Tehran, Iran: Nazar Research and Cultural Institute, 2007.

2001 Pakbaz, Ruyin and Rose Issa, Iranian Contemporary Art, London, United Kingdom: Booth-Clibborn Editions, 2001.

#### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022 Messman, Lauren, "At Museums and Auctions, Private Treasures Are Unveiled," New York Times, October 22, 2022.
  Cascone, Sarah, "Editors' Picks: 13 Events for Your Art Calendar This Week, From Paola Pivi's Immersive Denim Tunnel to a Fountain Sculpture at Rock Center," June 21, 2022.
  "Finding Beauty in the Abstract at the Rollins Museum of Art," Flamingo, January 12, 2022.
  "Tanavoli 'Seated Poet' sells for record \$550,000 at Tehran auction," Tehran Times, January 15, 2022.
- Williamson, Caroline, "2021 Year in Review: Unframed," *Design Milk*, December 21, 2021.
   "Works by Iranian modernists on display NYUAD Art Gallery," *Tehran Times*, December 12, 2021.

Shehadi, Lemma, "The Middle Eastern artists showing at Art Basel: from Etel Adnan to Afra Al Dhaheri," *The National,* September 23, 2021.

Tarmy, James, "At Art Basel, Hot Paintings Face Off Against House Made of Bread," *Bloomberg*, September 16, 2021.

"13 UAE art shows to see this summer: Monir Farmanfarmaian to Satwa 3000," *The Natinal News*, July 6, 2021.

Yusuf, Muhammad, "SAF's Al Hamriyah Studios hosts Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian's work," *Gulf Today*, June 26, 2021.

"Khayyam Fountain' goes for Sharjah Art Foundation showcase," *Tehran Times*, June 25, 2021. Dowd, Vincent, "The show highlighting Iran's rich artistic streak," BBC News, June 4, 2021. Behringer, David, "The Brilliant Mirrored Sculptures of Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian," Design Milk, February 23, 2021.

Corwin, William, "Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Mirror-works and Drawings (2004–2016)," Brooklyn Rail, February 2021.

Eshan, Pari, "A Love Letter to Artist Monir Farmanfarmaian," *Cultured Magazine*, February 16, 2021.

2019 Fletcher, Lily, "Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Artist who mixed geometrics with patterning of her Iranian heritage," *Independent*, May 22, 2019.
Neshat, Shirin, "Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian (1922 – 2019)," *Artforum*, May 17, 2019.
Farago, Jason, "Monir Farmanfarmaian, 96, Dies; Artist Melded Islam and the Abstract," *New York Times*, April 29, 2019.

Stapley-Brown, Victoria, "Tributes to Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, giant of contemporary Iranian art," Art Newspaper, April 23, 2019.

Greenberger, Alex, "Iranian Artist Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, Sculptor of Mindbending Mirror Works, Dead at 97," *ARTnews*, April 21, 2019.

- 2018 Wilson-Goldie, Kaelen, ""Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Sunset, Sunrise," Artforum, May 2018. Safaieh, Charles, "Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian," Kinfolk, Issue 27, February 2018. Masters, HG, "The Monir Museum Opens in Tehran," ArtAsiaPacific, December 18, 2018. Daley, Jason, "Inside the First Museum in Iran Devoted to a Female Artist," Smithsonian 2017 Magazine, December 15, 2017. Cornwell, Tim, "Iran's first museum for a female artist honours nonagenarian," The Art Newspaper, December 14, 2017. Heartney, Eleanor, "Exchange Program: The New Institute of Arab and Islamic Art," Art in America, May 20, 2017. Harris, Gareth, "Exhibition featuring four female artists to launch Arab cultural institute in New York," The Art Newspaper, April 17, 2017. Garcia-Vasquez, Marina, "Beyond the #ArtSelfie: The Power of Reflection in Artwork," Vice Creators Project, March 7, 2017 Belichis, Justin, "Infinite Possibility' to showcase cultural compromise through media at the Chrysler Museum of Art," Southside Daily, March 2, 2017.
- 2016 Heing, Bridey, "A Portrait of an Iranian Artist Who Went Home After 25 Years in Exile," *Hyperallergic*, February 17, 2016.
- 2015 Wright, Robin, "Two Iranian Artists and the Revolution," *The New Yorker*, September 15, 2015. Obrist, Hans-Ulrich, "Mirroring Monir," Interview, March 2015. Kennedy, Randy, "Monir Farmanfarmaian, Iranian and Nonagerian, Celebrates a New York Museum First," *The New York Times*, March 20, 2015. Swanson, Carl, "An Iranian Artist Recalls Her Life in New York and Tehran," *New York Magazine*, March 18, 2015. O'Neill-Butler, Lauren, "Interview: Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian," *Artforum*, March 13, 2015. Feitelberg, Rosemary, "Monir Farmanfarmaian Talks Art," *Women's Wear Daily*, March 10, 2015.
  2014 Morris, Natasha, "Infinite Possibility: Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmian," *The Guardian*, December 27, 2014.
  2013 "A Singular Vision," *World Sculpture News*, Autumn 2013.

"Monir Farmanfarmaian 2004-2013," *Islamic Arts Magazine*, January 23, 2013.
Cembalest, Robin, "The Other Modernism: Rediscovering Iran's Avant-Garde," *ARTnews*, February 2, 2013.
Seaman, Anna, "Mirror, mirror: The Iranian Artist Monir Farmanfarmaian's dazzling work shines in Dubai," *The National*, February 26, 2013.
Inouye, Kelly, "Poetics of Construction at Haines Gallery," *SFAQ International Arts and Culture*, March, 2013.
Kalsi, Jyoti, "Iranian Artist Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian on her eternal tryst with 'aineh kari," *Gulf News, Weekend Review*, April 4, 2013
Ruimy, Karen, "Female Warriors of Art at Tate Modern," *Huffington Post*, May 10, 2013.
Cotter, Holland, "Modernism Blooming in Iran," *The New York Times*, September 5, 2013.

Bailey, Stephanie, "The Point of Refraction: Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian," *Solo Mosaico*, September 2013.

Curiel, Jonathan, "Infinite Regress: Two Iranian Artists Multiply Their Spiritual Images," *SF Weekly*, November 6, 2013.

- 2012 Krischer, Olivier, "Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian: Cosmic Geometry," Art Asia Pacific, January, 2012.
- 2011 Katz, Marisa Mazria, "Cosmic Geometry: The Life and Work of Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian," *Vogue*, October 19, 2011.
  Barnett, Laura, "Monir Farmanfarmaian: 'In Iran, life models wear pants," *The Guardian*, July 12, 2011.
  "Art Gallery: Zendegi – 12 Contemporary Iranian Artists in Beirut," *Payvand*, April 2011.
- 2010 Masters, HG, "Fractured & Dissolved into Brilliance," *Art Asia Pacific* #68, May/June, 2010.
- Ismail, Nadia, "Woman Today," *The Accidental Artists*, March 2009, pp. 16–20.
  Gharib, Saleh, "Iranian Artist Monir Shahroudy Exhibits New Work," *Al Sharq*. February 4, 2009, p, 43.
  Al Watan, "Reflections in Doha," *Qatar*, February 11, 2008, p. 6.
  Hamdi, Abdullah, "A Glittering New Exhibition at The Third Line, Doha," *Al Raya*, February 11, 2009, p. 38.
- Abdul-Qati, Yousrah, "Souq Waqif Presents Monir Shahroudy," Al Arab Newspaper, February 4, 2009. p. 25. 2008
  Bentley, Kyle, Artforum, March 23 2008.
  White, Lucy, "Arty Investments," Wafi Collection Magazine, June/July 2008, pp. 13–6.
  Stokes, Emily, "Art of Our Times," Financial Times, March 2008, pp. 38–41.
  "Art Investment, Hong Kong," Art Dubai, May 2008, pp. 83–9.
  Cestar, Juliet, "Recollections Monir Farmanfarmaian," Universe in Universe Online
- Plunkett, Jane, "Mirror Mirror On The Wall," 7 DAYS, October 26 2007, pp. 18–19.
   Parker, Enid, "A Modern Reflection of Tradition," *Khaleej Times, City Times*, October 25, 2007
   Mohamed, Arsalan,. "Monir Talks," *Time Out*, November 1, 2007, pp. 22–23.

# **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

The Alfond Collection of Contemporary Art, Cornell Fine Arts Museum, Rollins College, Winter Park, FL

The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA

Barry Art Museum at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

The Carpet Museum, Tehran, Iran

Chase Manhattan Bank, New York, NY

Columbia University School of Law, New York, NY

Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY

Dag Hammarskjold Towers, New York, NY

Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France

Grand Rapids Museum of Art, Grand Rapids, MI

Grey Art Gallery, New York University, New York, NY

Guggenheim Museum, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC Hotel Intercontinental, Shiraz and Tehran, Iran M+ Museum, Hong Kong McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, TX Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, NY Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN Monir Museum, Negarestan Museum Park Gardens, Tehran, Iran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX Museum of Modern Art, Tehran, Iran Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran Park Farah, Tehran, Iran Queensland Gallery of Contemporary Art, Queensland, Australia Royal Reception Room, King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia The Senate Building, Tehran, Iran Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, United Arab Emerites Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY Swisscorp Bank, Geneva, Switzerland Tate Modern, London, United Kingdom Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran Toledo Art Museum, Toledo, OH Victoria and Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom

### SELECTED PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

- 2012 Installation for Hagop Kevorkian Fund Special Exhibition Gallery, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
- 2009 Permanent Installation commissioned on the occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Museuem, Brisbane, Australia
- 2006 Mirror Mosaic, Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom

Fountain, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran

- 1998 Stained Glass Window, Dag Hammasköld Tower, New York, NY
- 1981 Textile installation, Royal Reception Room, King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- 1977 Sculpture, Mosque at Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran
- 1975 Mirror and Glass Works, Hotel Laleh, Tehran, Iran Wall and ceiling installation, Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran
- 1966 Installation, Senate Building, Tehran, Iran