

**BAHAR BEHBAHANI** is a painter, collaborator, educator, and a hospitable instigator. She was born and raised in Iran and resides and works in New York.

In 2019 Behbahani was granted a Creative Capital Award for her proposed project for a public Persian garden in New York City, hosting the community and the public in its pavilion for a series of public programming all year long. She is a recipient of 2020 Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant and the Drawing Center Fellowship in 2019.

## **SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

### **2022**

- *Water binds me to your name*, Trotter & Sholer, curated by Klaudia Ofwona Draber, New York, NY
- *Immigrant Flora: Rising Under*, site-specific mural, The Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art at, Ursinus College, PA

### **2019**

- *All Water Has a Perfect Memory*, commissioned for Wave Hill Garden, Bronx, NY

### **2017**

- *Let the Garden Eram Flourish*, curated by Smooth Ugochukwu Nzewi, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

### **2016**

- *Garden Coup*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, NY

### **2015**

- *The Garden of Heart's Delight*, Etemad Gallery, Tehran, Iran

### **2013**

- The Short Films of Bahar Behbahani, curated by Michael Rush, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, MI
- Hidden Camera, Causey Contemporary, Brooklyn, NY

### **2012**

- *Video 2012*, Momenta Art, Brooklyn, NY

### **2011**

- *The Chronicle of Her Innocence*, NYU AD, New York, NY

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND BIENNALES

### 2023

- *Sharjah Biennial 15: Thinking Historically in the Present*, conceived by the late Okwui Enwezor and curated by the Sharjah Art Foundation's Director Hoor Al Qasimi, Sharjah, UAE

### 2022

- *Mother River*, online series of videos in collaboration with Maciek Schejbal, Afro-Polka and Tara Ahmadinejad, Asia Society Museum, NY
- *Infinite Reminders*, curated by Srinivas Aditya Mopidevi, Nature Morte, New Delhi, India

### 2020

- Lahore Biennale 02: *between the sun and the moon*, curated by Hoor Al Qasimi, Lahore, Pakistan

### 2019

- *Otherwise Obscured: Erasure in Body and Text*, curated by Danilo Machado, Franklin Street Gallery, Stamford, CT
- *Trajectory: FiveMyles*, curated by Charlotta Kotik, FiveMyles, Brooklyn, NY
- *What's Love Got To Do With It?*, curated by Rosario Güiraldes and Lisa Sigal, The Drawing Center, New York, NY
- *Civic Women: Community Visions*, Co-curated by Lydia Matthews and Barbara Benish, Art Dialogue at the KINO, Horaždovice, Czech Republic
- *Figuring The Floral*, curated by Eileen Jeng Lynch, Glyndor Gallery, Wave Hill, Bronx, NY
- *Point of Departure: Open Session 15*, The Drawing Center, New York, NY
- *Short Shadows*, curated by Vic Brooks, EMPAC, Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center at Rensselaer, Troy, NY (two-person show with Jon Wang)
- *New Works*, Arts Projects International, New York, NY

### 2018

- *(Up)rooted: A Study on Immigrant Flora* (with Shamsy Behbahani), The Shed Space, Brooklyn, NY
- *re:home*, a For Freedoms exhibition, curated by Amy Kisch, Minnesota Street Project, San Francisco, CA
- *Active Forms: Works from the Sharjah Art Foundation Collection*, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE
- *Panorama Punjab*, curated by Sarah Singh, Punjab, India

## 2017

- *In Between (Part II): So Far*, curated by Shahram Karimi, Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ
- 7th Moscow International Biennale of Contemporary Art: *Clouds ⇌ Forests*, , curated by Yuko Hasegawa, Moscow, Russia

## 2016

- 11th Shanghai Biennale: *Why Not Ask Again: Arguments, Counter-arguments, and Stories*, curated by Raqs Media Collective and Ugochukwu Smooth C. Nzewi, Shanghai, China
- The 50 West Artist-in-Construction Residency Exhibition, curated by Time Equities Inc.'s Art-in-Buildings, New York, NY
- *Fireflies In The Night*, video art screenings, curated by Barbara London, Robert Storr, Kalliopi Minioudaki, Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens, Greece
- *MARKING 2: Drawings by Contemporary Artists from Asia*, Art Projects International, New York, NY

## 2014

- *Vision of Three*, Boom Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- *Chain of Fire*, The Prologue Exhibition for the 2016 Honolulu Biennial, curated by Kóan Jeff Baysa and Isabella Ellaheh Hughes, Honolulu, HI
- *Shortenin' Bread*, A participatory installation in collaboration with Torkwase Dyson and Eyebeam, Governors Island, NY
- *Portraits: Reflections by Emerging Iranian Artists*, curated by Roya Khajavi Heidari, New York, NY
- *Women: Experimental Films*, The Shed Space, Brooklyn, NY

## 2013

- *Dangerous Beauty*, Graffit Gallery, Varna, Bulgaria
- *Looks Like Torture*, HERE Arts Center, curated by Nicholas Cohn Art projects and Amy Kisch, New York, NY
- *Six Women*, curated by Eric Heist, Prosjektrom Normanns, Stavanger, Norway

## 2012

- 18th Biennale of Sydney: *all our relations*, curated by Catherine de Zegher and Gerald McMaster, Sydney, Australia
- *Part of Me: mise en abyme*, curated by Sandra Skurvida and Amirali Ghasemi, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France
- *Aftermath*, curated by Başak Şenova, Akbank Sanat, Istanbul, Turkey

## 2011

- *TV/Dinner*, Tania Bruguera's *Immigrant Movement International*, curated by Sandra Skurvida, Queens Museum, New York, NY
- *Iran Via Video Current*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, NY
- *She Devil 5*, organized by Studio Stefania Miscetti, MACRO, Museum of Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy
- Sharjah Biennial 10: *Plot for a Biennial*, curated by Suzanne Cotter, Rasha Salti and Haig Aivazian, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

## 2010

- *SanctionedArray*, Whitebox, New York, NY
- *Time After Time*, curated by Taraneh Hemami, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
- *Openly: International Video Art Exhibition*, shown in the frames of "Istanbul – Capital of Culture of Europe" curated by Sabina Shikhlinakaya, Antrepo, Istanbul, Turkey
- Silverstein Photography Annual, curated by Carrie Springer, Bruce Silverstein Gallery, New York, NY
- *The Stalking of Absence*, curated by Shaheen Merali, Tokyo Gallery + BTAP Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- *HandHeld History*, curated by Tamar Ettun and Katayoun Vaziri, Queens Museum of Art, New York, NY
- *March Meeting*, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE

## 2009

- *Masques of Shahrazad*, Candlestar Gallery, London, England
- *Women Forward*, curated by Yuko Nii, Williamsburg Art & Historical Center, Brooklyn, NY

## 2008

- Tribeca Film Festival (Official Selection: "SUSPENDED"), New York, NY

## 2007

- The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington D.C.
- 13th Annual International Exhibition of Women's Art (Best in Show juried by Carrie Springer), SOHO20 Gallery, New York, NY

## 2006

- *Experimental Media Series*, Corcoran Museum, Washington D.C.

## 2004

- The 6th Painting Biennial, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran

## 2003

- *ABIM Collective*, Mimara Museum, Zagreb, Croatia

## 2002

- Second Biennial of Contemporary Painting of the Islamic World, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran

- 10th Asian Art Biennial, Dhaka, Bangladesh

## **SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS**

### **2022**

- Sandra Kahn Alpert Visiting Artist Fellowship, Syracuse University, School of Art, NY

### **2020**

- Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant

### **2019**

- Creative Capital Award 2019, New York, NY
- Artist in Residence, EMPAC, Experimental Media And Performing Arts Center at Rensselaer, Troy, NY

### **2018**

- Open Sessions 2018-2020, The Drawing Center Fellowship, New York, NY
- The Brown Foundation Fellows Program, based at the Dora Maar House in France

### **2017**

- MacDowell Residency, Peterborough, NH

### **2016**

- Akrai Residency, Sicily, Italy

### **2015**

- Time Equities' Art-in-Buildings Residency, New York, NY

### **2014**

- Miranda Arts Project Space Residency, Port Chester, NY

### **2013**

- Art Omi International Artists Residency, Ghent, NY (Made possible by The Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant)

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESS**

### **2022**

- Aliza Edelman, "Suspended: Bahar Behbahani's Displacement and Longing in the PersianGarden," in *Transnational Belonging and Female Agency in the Arts*, ed. Basia Sliwiska and Catherine Dormor (Bloomsbury Academic, 2022), forthcoming

### **2021**

- Wendy S. Walters, “Art Matters Now — 12 Writers on 20 Years of Art: Wendy S. Walters on Catastrophe, 2020, and the Work of Alan Ruiz and Bahar Behbahani,” Los Angeles Review of Books

## 2020

- Shailaja Tripathi, “Artist Bahar Behbahani uses landscapes as a metaphor for politics and poetics,” Stirworld
- Nadia Kurd, “Lahore Biennale 02: between the sun and the moon,” Journal of Curatorial Studies – Volume 9 Number 2, University of Alberta Museums
- Klaudia Ofwona Draber, “Culture and Climate in the Work of Artist Bahar Behbahani.” J'aipur Journal
- Yuko Hasegawa, “A New Ecology and Art,” GA Journal vol.1, Graduate School of Global Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts

## 2019

- Lilly Wei, “Like a River Flows,” in *All water has a perfect memory*, Wave Hill Garden (brochure, Wave Hill Garden)

## 2017

- Dr. Shiva Balaghi “Surrounded by Quiet Nothingness: On Bahar Behbahani’s Paintings,” in *Let the Garden Eram Flourish*, Hood Museum of Art, (brochure, Dartmouth College)
- Ugochugwu-Smooth C. Nzewi Ph. D., “History as a Context of Artistic Practice,” in *Let the Garden Eram Flourish*, Hood Museum of Art, (brochure, Dartmouth College)

## SELECTED TEACHING AND PEDAGOGICAL LECTURES

### 2022

- The Impact of Public Art on the Urban Landscape, A panel discussion with artists Rico Gatson & Bahar Behbahani and MTA director of Art & Design Sandra Bloodworth, Moderated by Lolita Cros, Bronx, NY
- Dialogues in the Diaspora: Bahar Behbahani and Farsad Labbauf, Asia Society Museum, NY
- The Sandra Kahn Alpert Visiting Artist, Studio Atelier, Spring 2022
- Visiting Artist Lecture Series, Department of Art - Studio Art, Queens College, CUNY, NY
- NAEA National Convention, National Art Education Association, New York, NY
- *Water in a Shared World: Artist Perspectives (practice or action)*, In Collaboration with Asia Society and the NYU Brademas Center

- Lecture Series, Syracuse University: Visual and Performing Arts, School of Art
- Artist in Residence at The Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA
- NYC Crit Club, Guest Speaker, New York, NY
- Adjunct Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (Drawing, Painting), CUNY, New York, NY

## 2021

- *WAVE: Workshops on Activism and Visuality in Europe*, in collaboration with visual critic Nicholas Mirzoeff and political sociologists, philosophers, activists, and artists
- Adjunct Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (Drawing), CUNY, New York, NY

## 2020

- Visiting Artist, Smith College Department of Art, Northampton, MA
- *Agnes Denes: Absolutes and intermediates* with artist Bahar Behbahani; The Shed, New York, NY
- Adjunct Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, (Drawing, Painting) CUNY, New York, NY

## 2019

- Artist Lecture, Smith College Department of Art, Northampton, MA
- Visiting Critics, MASSART, Studio for Interrelated Media, Boston, MA
- Artist Lecture, Department of Art and Art History, University at Albany / SUNY, NY
- *A Scholars' Day on The Wagner Garden Carpet*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
- Visiting Critics, MASSART, Studio for Interrelated Media, Boston, MA
- Visiting Critics, Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
- Student Workshop, The Well School, Peterborough, NH
- Student Workshop, ConVal Regional High School, Peterborough, NH

## 2016

- Women Artists Panel, St. John's University, Queens, NY
- A series of lectures and workshops, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

## 2015

- Visiting Critic, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY
- Visiting Curators and Critics, Graduate Student Studio Visits, Parsons School of Design, New York, NY

## 2014

- The Arts in New York City, Macaulay Honors College Seminar, Baruch College, New York, NY

- Critical Dialogues: Bahar Behbahani, Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
- *Political Photography: Satires, Cartoons, Statements-Staged Photography and Digital*
- *Collages* Left Forum 2013, Pace University, New York, NY

## **2011**

- Visiting Artist, Video Art, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, NY
- *The Chronicle of Her Innocence*, NYU Abu Dhabi, New York, NY

## **2009**

- Art in Exile Round Table, New York Academy of Art, New York, NY

## **2003**

- Persian Art from Past to Present, University of Texas, Dallas, TX

## **EDUCATION**

1998 Azad University of Art, Tehran, Iran – MFA in painting

1995 Al-zahra University, Tehran, Iran – BA in painting