

Andrew Kreps  
Gallery

22 Cortlandt Alley,  
New York, NY 10013

Tue–Sat, 10 am–6 pm  
andrewkreps.com

Tel. (212)741-8849  
Fax. (212)741-8163

# Hadi Falapishi

## *Almost Perfect*

February 24 – March 25, 2023

22 Cortlandt Alley

Opening Reception:

Friday February 24, 2023, 6 - 8 pm

Andrew Kreps Gallery is pleased to announce *Almost Perfect*, Hadi Falapishi's second solo exhibition with the gallery at 22 Cortlandt Alley.

In *Almost Perfect*, Falapishi divides the floors of the gallery into conceptually distinct spaces, interweaving personal narratives, with historical references, and current events. Falapishi uses media omnivorously, including painting, sculpture, and photography, and throughout his work employs a consistent cast of familiar characters. Humans, dogs, cats, and mice playfully upend the hierarchies typically embedded within their cultural depictions, as his figures seem to grasp, hold, and help one another within ambiguous vignettes. Almost humorous in nature, these scenes in turn become a vessel for a larger exploration of themes of displacement, isolation, and entrapment. Rendered in a child-like vernacular, and often adorned with stuffed animals in varying states of distress, each work elicits a sense of nostalgia, exploring the often blurred boundary between memory and imagination. While Falapishi previously left these narratives open-ended, allowing the viewer to project their own desire, and interpretations, here, these are paired with the concrete references to real life and appropriated imagery, allowing his work's own inner worlds to take on new, tangible meanings.

A monumental painted banner displaying circus scenes is adorned with the artist's own repeated likeness, and occupies the main gallery, which has been titled "The American Room". Functioning equally as a backdrop, and an activation of space, the banner additionally imbues the surrounding works with the artist's own autobiography, allowing for an exploration of the artist's meditations on the space between his adopted home of the United States, and his native Iran. In the gallery's double height space, Falapishi directly comments on the ongoing Iranian protests, filling the walls with a wallpaper that alternates with a drawing of the artist dreaming, and a hung Ayatollah. A reference to Robert Gober's seminal 1989 work *Hanging Man/Sleeping Man*, the work also highlights an ongoing tension within Falapishi's work between passivity and violence. Seen together with an intimate, realistic painting of two female Iranian activists eating with their hair exposed in a cafe, Falapishi examines the different ways in which revolution can manifest in image, and how fleeting images can be immortalized through reproduction.

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Hadi Falapishi (b. 1987, Tehran, Iran) lives and works in New York. This April, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York will present *Almost There*, a site-specific work installed on the facade of 95 Horatio Street. In 2022, CCA Goldsmith's London presented the first institutional exhibition of Falapishi's work in Europe, *As Free As Birds*. Additionally, in 2022, Power Station, Dallas presented the solo exhibition *Young and Clueless*. Falapishi's work was recently included in the *2022 Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts* at the American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, *Greater New York 2021*, MoMA PS1, New York, *100 Drawings from Now* at The Drawing Center, New York, 2020, *In Practice: Total Disbelief*, SculptureCenter, Long Island City, 2020, and *Open Call*, The Shed, New York, 2019. Falapishi received his MFA in Photography from Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York in 2016. His work is held in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, and MoCA, Los Angeles.

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22 CORTLANDT ALLEY

MAIN GALLERY



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Mousehole #4, 2023*

Oil stick, charcoal, pastel, and  
graphite on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
20 x 16 x 2 inches (50.8 x 40.6  
x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-012)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Caveman #1, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
16 x 12 1/2 x 14 1/2 inches  
(40.6 x 31.8 x 36.8 cm.)  
(HAF23-023)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Mousehole #7, 2023*

Oil stick, charcoal, pastel, and  
graphite on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
19 5/8 x 25 5/8 x 2 inches  
(49.8 x 65.1 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-017)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Almost Perfect, 2023*

Acrylic on canvas  
186 x 344 5/8 inches (472.4 x  
875.3 cm.)  
(HAF23-033)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Hadi's Head, 2023*

Oil paint on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
31 5/8 x 25 1/2 x 2 inches  
(80.3 x 64.8 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-009)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*The Myth, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
22 x 9 x 8 inches (55.9 x 22.9 x  
20.3 cm.)  
(HAF23-024)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Self Portrait, 2023*

Glazed ceramic, stuffed  
animals, and oil on panel  
84 x 54 x 9 inches (213.4 x  
137.2 x 22.9 cm.)  
(HAF23-031)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Hadi's Cave, 2023*

Oil on canvas in walnut artist's  
frame  
25 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 2 inches  
(64.8 x 64.8 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-029)

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HADI FALAPISHI  
*Sheherazade, 2023*

Oil paint on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
33 5/8 x 26 5/8 x 2 inches  
(85.2 x 67.5 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-008)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Professional Painter, 2023*

Oil paint on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
25 5/8 x 30 1/2 x 2 inches  
(65.1 x 77.5 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-010)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Dreaming Man, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
24 x 18 x 20 inches (61 x 45.7  
x 50.8 cm.)  
(HAF23-006)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Planning Man, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
19 x 18 x 18 inches (48.3 x  
45.7 x 45.7 cm.)  
(HAF23-003)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Waiting Man, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
21 x 18 x 18 inches (53.3 x  
45.7 x 45.7 cm.)  
(HAF23-001)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Shitting Man, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
26 x 18 x 18 inches (66 x 45.7  
x 45.7 cm.)  
(HAF23-002)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Thinking Man, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
24 x 18 x 18 inches (61 x 45.7  
x 45.7 cm.)  
(HAF23-005)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Praying Man, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
21 x 18 x 18 inches (53.3 x  
45.7 x 45.7 cm.)  
(HAF23-004)

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CORRIDOR



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Mousehole #9, 2023*

Oil stick, charcoal, pastel, and  
graphite on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
12 1/2 x 15 7/8 x 2 inches  
(31.8 x 40.3 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-014)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Hadi's Head, 2023*

Oil paint on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
29 5/8 x 20 1/2 x 2 inches  
(75.2 x 52.1 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-007)

DOUBLE HEIGHT SPACE



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Persian Family, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
31 x 40 x 17 inches (78.7 x  
101.6 x 43.2 cm.)  
(HAF23-028)  
(Sold as set with HAF23-025 and  
HAF23-018)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Persian Kings, 2023*

Glazed ceramic sculpture  
15 x 12 x 13 inches (38.1 x  
30.5 x 33 cm.)  
(HAF23-025)  
(Sold as set with HAF23-028 and  
HAF23-018)



HADI FALAPISHI  
*Revolution, 2023*

Oil paint on canvas in walnut  
artist's frame  
17 5/8 x 21 3/4 x 2 inches  
(44.8 x 55.2 x 5.1 cm.)  
(HAF23-018)  
(Sold as set with HAF23-025 and  
HAF23-028)



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# Hadi Falapishi

BORN 1987, TEHRAN, IRAN.  
CURRENTLY LIVES AND WORKS IN NEW YORK CITY.

## EDUCATION

- 2016 MFA Photography, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York
- 2015 Creative Practices Program in Photography, International Center for Photography, New York

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Almost Perfect*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, NY
- 2022 *As Free As Birds*, Goldsmiths CCA, London, UK  
*Getting Closer*, Champ Lacombe, Biarritz, France  
*Young and Clueless*, Power Station, Dallas, TX
- 2021 *Young and Clueless*, Rodeo Gallery, Piraeus, Greece  
*Young and Clueless*, Rodeo Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 *Parrot*, John Young Museum of Art: University of Hawaii, Mānoa, HI  
*BLOW-UPS*, Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York, NY  
*Good*, Efremidis Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
*Times*, Fahrenheit Madrid, Madrid, Spain  
*Arrest*, Central Fine, Miami, FL
- 2019 *Almost Alone*, Tramps, New York, NY
- 2018 *With My Hands Over My Mouth*, Page-NYC, New York, NY
- 2017 *May Died in June*, Delgosha Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
*Fear Eats the Soul*, 67 Ludlow, New York, NY
- 2016 *Everything Is True*, Kai Matsumiya, New York, NY  
*Read It Loud*, GNYP Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 *Things to Know (Persian Techniques)*, Dastan Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013 *USPrime*, Maryam Harandi Gallery, Tehran Selected, Iran

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *2022 Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts*, American Academy of

- Arts and Letters, New York, NY  
A Maze Zanine, Amaze Zaning, A-Mezzaning, Meza-9, Zwirner  
Gallery, New York, NY
- 2021  
Greater New York, MoMA PS1, New York, NY  
*Omelette Papier*, Capitain Petzel, Berlin, Germany  
*Catfish*, two person show with Kyle Thurman, Sophie Tappeiner,  
Vienna, Austria  
Greater New York 2021, MoMA PS1, New York, NY
- 2020  
*Drawing 2020*, Gladstone Gallery, New York, NY  
*A Love Letter to a Nightmare*, Petzel Gallery, New York, NY  
*Painting Is Painting's Favorite Food*, by Alison Gingeras, Montauk,  
NY  
Group Show, Eva Presenhuber, New York, NY  
*New Images of Man*, Curated by Alison Gingeras, Blum & Poe, LA  
WTF @ WAF, Soloway, New York, NY  
*Total Disbelief*, Curated by Kyle Dancewicz, SculptureCenter, New  
York, NY  
*The Blind Man*, Socrates Sculpture Park, LI, New York, NY  
*Revealing*, curated by Rachel Dedman, Beirut, Lebanon  
*She Models for Her*, The Shed's Open Call, Shed, New York, NY  
*When Legacies Become Debts*, The Mosaic Rooms, London, UK  
*Not for everybody*, curated by Allie Tepper, Simone Subal Gallery,  
NY
- 2017  
*Condo New York*, Off Vendome Gallery, New York, NY  
*Compassionate Protocols*, curated by Moyra Davey and Jason  
Simon, Callicoon Fine Arts, New York, NY
- 2016  
*We the Dulles*, fortfortfort, New York, NY
- 2015  
*Landscape Changes 30 Times*, Anahita gallery, Tehran, Iran  
*Tipping Point*, ICP, New York, NY
- 2014  
*Wandering Island*, Parking Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2013  
*Hafttir*, Kaf Project, Tehran, Iran
- 2011  
*Reassemblage*, Assar Art Gallery, Tehran  
*Iranian Contemporary Photography*, Tehran Museum of  
Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran  
*Image of the Year*, Iranian Artist's House, Tehran, Iran

#### PERFORMANCES & SCREENINGS

- 2019  
2018  
2019  
*The Revolution Is Not a Virgin*, UnionDocs, Brooklyn, NY  
*Truth Has Four Legs*, Simone Subal Gallery, New York, NY  
*Of Conspiracy and Resuscitation*, curated by Azar Mahmoudian.  
H.K.  
*Urban Observations*, Tehran; What Kind of Modern, Sheffield  
Fringe, UK  
*USPrime*, International Film Festival Rotterdam, Netherlands

#### SELECTED ARTICLES

- 2021 Levin, Boaz. "I Don't Know Whether to Laugh or Cry On Humor, Violence, and Vulnerable Bodies in Hadi Fallahpisheh's Photographic Drawings." *Camera Austria*  
Lee, Ricky. "How Artist Hadi Fallahpisheh 'Paints with Light' Without a Camera." *Cultured*  
Fallahpisheh, Hadi. "Trump Cocktail," *Bidoun Magazine*.
- 2020 Madsen, Kristian Vistrup. "A Wolf's Dog Whistle: Hadi Fallahpisheh." *Mousse Magazine*
- 2019 Wu, Simon. "Hadi Fallahpisheh: Almost Alone." *Brooklyn Rail*  
Johnson, Rin. "Hidden In Translation." *Spot Magazine*  
Press, Clayton. "Almost Alone." *Forbes*  
Wu, Simon. "Not For Everybody." *Offing Magazine*
- 2018 Atterbury, Daisy. "Not Corrective. Not Correct. Talking at the Boundaries." *The Center for the Humanities, Graduate Center City University of New York blog*, August 14
- 2017 Garcia, J. "New York – Condo New York: Off Vendome Hosts Freedman Fitzpatrick through July 28th, 2017," *Art Observed*, July 26  
Hoseini, Maryam. "The Best of 2017." *The December Issue, Artforum*  
Langjahr, Kathleen. "Indexical Inversions and Haptic Transcendence: Hadi Fallahpisheh's Photograms." *Temporary Art Review*, March 27  
"Fallahpisheh's Photograms." *Temporary Art Review*, March 27  
"Work of Hadi Fallahpisheh." *Tandis Magazine*
- 2016 Frame, Allen. "In the Studio of Hadi Fallahpisheh." *Photograph Magazine*, September/October
- 2014 Tayyari, Shabahang. "Works of Hadi Fallahpisheh, White Hot Magazine, May
- 2013 Koll, Juri. "How Artists Survive: Never Stop Pushing/Hold This and I'll Be Back!"

#### RESIDENCIES AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2019 Artadia Awardee, New York  
2019 Socrates Sculpture Park, LI, New York  
2018 Ceramics Studio at Hunter College, New York  
2016 NMPoetics, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
2015 Bard Grant and Scholarship, Bard College, New York  
2014 International Center for Photography Grant and Scholarship, New York



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#### VISITING ARTIST & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019 - 2021 Teaching Fellowship, Harvard University Boston  
2020 Guest Lecturer, Princeton University, Princeton  
2020 Guest Lecturer, Pratt Institute, New York  
2020 Visiting Artist, School of Visual Arts, New York  
2019 Visiting Artist, The Cooper Union, New York