

GALLERY 2

Nowherescape

Alireza Masoumi

December 21, 2016 – January 28, 2017

The Third Line is pleased to present *Nowherescape*, a solo exhibition of new works by Alireza Masoumi. In the exhibition, Alireza explores emblematic landscape portrayal through oil paintings on canvas and ballpoint works on paper. Influenced by the Post-war Abstract Expressionists and reflecting the emotive qualities of 19th century Romantic painters, Alireza creates turbulent and dramatic contemporary landscapes that are inspired by the correlation between the mundaneness of the everyday, the rush of the metropolis and the beauty of nature.



Alireza Masoumi, *Untitled*, 2015, oil on canvas, 206 x 352 cm

Nowherescape presents a diverse body of work that ranges across large paintings spanning over two meters wide and intimate ball point drawings on paper. Alireza employs layer upon layer of frenzied lines and brush strokes, exploring different structures within the different media. While the works on canvas result in painterly and expressive pieces that command attention, the works on paper invite the viewer to appreciate the finer details in the dense ballpoint lines scratched on paper. Although visually different, both series in essence demonstrate similar principle and intention. Through this process, Alireza creates powerful imagery that is not immediately locatable, and yet has discernible elements.

Traditional in his approach, Alireza is inspired by the beauty he encounters in daily life and in his surroundings. His works are an interpretation of his personal experiences; a narrative that he attempts to transfer to the viewer, expressed through colour, motion and his unique relationship to the medium.

About Alireza Masoumi

Alireza Masoumi was born in 1978 in Cardiff, UK, and moved to Iran in 1996 to attend Tehran Azad University. Alireza then moved into a comprehensive studio practice where he works primarily with painting and drawing, but has also forayed into experimental installations and video.

Alireza has exhibited his works in solo and groups exhibitions across UAE, Iran, US and UK. Group exhibitions in Tehran include *Gardens of Iran; Ancient Wisdom, New Visions*, Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA) Tehran, Iran (2004); *For Bam, Khaneh Honarmandan*, Tehran Contemporary Art Center, Tehran, Iran (2004). Group projects include *Environmental Art*

PO Box 72036, Dubai, UAE

T +971 4 341 1367

F +971 4 341 1369

www.thethirdline.com

Exhibition, Polour, Iran (2003), Lucky Charms, Tehran, Iran (2003); and On The Road, Tehran, Iran (2003). Alireza also participated in the 6th Tehran Contemporary Painting Biennial, Iran (2003).

Alireza is an autodidact painter who divides his time between London and Tehran.

GALLERY 1

Golnaz Fathi, *Line/Khat*

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About The Third Line

The Third Line is a Dubai-based art gallery that represents contemporary Middle Eastern artists locally, regionally and internationally. The Third Line also hosts non-profit, alternative programs to increase interest and dialogue in the region.

The Third Line 's book wing *Works on Paper* publishes books by associated artists from the region. Books published to date include *Presence* by photographer Lamy Gargash (2008), *In Absentia* by Tarek Al-Ghoussein (2009), *Cosmic Geometry*, an extensive monograph on Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, edited by Hans Ulrich Obrist and Karen Marta (2011), and the self-titled treatise *Huda Lutfi* about the artist's Cairo based practice.

Represented artists include: Abbas Akhavan, Ala Ebtakar, Amir H. Fallah, Arwa Abouon, Babak Golkar, Farhad Moshiri, Fouad Elkoury, Golnaz Fathi, Hassan Hajjaj, Hayv Kahraman, Huda Lutfi, Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige, Laleh Khorramian, Lamy Gargash, Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian, Poursan Jinchi, Rana Begum, Sahand Hesamiyan, Sara Naim, Sherin Guirguis, Shirin Aliabadi, Slavs and Tatars, Sophia Al-Maria, Tarek Al-Ghoussein, Youssef Nabil and Zineb Sedira.

Media Contact

Saira Ansari, Director of Communications

saira@thethirdline.com | +9714 3411 367

press@thethirdline.com