

## Soheila Esfahani

### EDUCATION:

- 2010** Master of Fine Arts, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.  
Dissertation: Trans-(across, over, beyond); Investigations of Cultural Translation in Visual Arts.
- 2003** Honours Bachelor of Arts, Fine Arts, Studio Specialization, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2017** *Interstice*, solo exhibition, Republic Gallery, Vancouver, BC, January 28-February 25
- 2017** *TBD*, Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford, ON, March 25-May 21
- 2016** *In-Between*, Durham Art Gallery, Durham, ON.
- 2017** *TBD*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, ON, October 4-28
- 2014** *My Place is Placeless*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2012** *12/10/12*, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2011** *Somewhere in Between: Poems, Pallets, Patterns*, Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, NY.
- 2010** *Trans-(across, over, beyond)*, MFA Thesis Exhibition, Art Lab, University of Western Ontario, London, ON.
- 2009** *The Seeker & the Search*, Robert Langen Art Gallery, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON.
- 2008** *The Seeker & the Search*, Redhead Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2008** *Mapping of a Quest* (site-specific installation), Rotunda Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2007** *What is not to be found is my desire*, Cambridge Centre for the Arts, Cambridge, ON.
- 2006** *What is not to be found is my desire*, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON.
- 2006** *Hear the Secrets Hidden within the Notes*, Homer Watson Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2005** *Hear the Secrets Hidden within the Notes*, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto.
- 2005** *Poetic Compositions*, Canadian Heritage Head Office, Toronto, ON.
- 2004** *Poetic Compositions*, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON.
- 2004** *Poetic Compositions*, Rotunda Gallery, Kitchener, ON.

### SELECTED JURIED & GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2017** *Canada: Day 1*, group exhibition, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax, NS, March 18 –November 12
- 2017** *where/between*, group exhibition, Curated by Pantea Haghighi, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, AB
- 2017** *Connect 2017: Embracing Place*, group exhibition, Homer Watson Gallery, Kitchener, ON, June 11-August 13
- 2017|16|15** *Material Girls*, curated by Blair Fornwald, Jennifer Matotek & Wendy Peart, Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, SK, Doris McCarthy Gallery, Scarborough, ON, Contemporary Calgary, Calgary, AB, College Art Galleries, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.(catalogue)
- 2016** *Pattern Migration*, 3 person exhibition curated by Kendra Ainsworth, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, ON.
- 2016** *Inside|Outside*, group exhibition by members of the Red Head Gallery, Homer Watson Gallery, Kitchener, ON, Cambridge Centre for the Arts, Cambridge, ON.
- 2016** *where/between*, Curated by Pantea Haghighi, Equinox Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2016** *Defining Identity*, THEMUSEUM, Kitchener, ON
- 2016** *Connect 2016: Go with the Flow*, Cambridge Centre for the Arts, Cambridge, ON.
- 2015** *The Red Head Gallery at 25*, Red Head Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2015** *Human Nature*, curated by Corinna Ghaznavi, Kenderdine Art Gallery, Saskatoon, SK.
- 2015** *Connect 2015*, WalterFedy, curated by Suzanne Luke, Kitchener, ON.
- 2015** *Traversive Territories*, curated by Corinna Ghaznavi, Varley Art Gallery, Markham, ON.
- 2015** *Human Nature*, curated by Corinna Ghaznavi, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON.
- 2014** *The Source: Reconsidering Water Through Contemporary Art*, Curated by Stuart Reid, Rodman Hall Arts Centre (Brock University), St. Catharines, ON, May 17-September 7.

- 2014** *Cultured Pallets: SLF*, Summer Lights Festival, Kitchener, ON.
- 2013** *Direct From the Studios*, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2013** *The Third Space*, curated by Sanaz Mazinani, York Quay Gallery, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON.
- 2013** *Equal Interference*, two person site-specific exhibition, curated by Suzanne Luke, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Waterloo, ON.
- 2013** *Ornamental Boundaries*, two person exhibition, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2012** *Past Forward | Present TENSE*, Hamilton Artist Inc., Hamilton, ON.
- 2011** *Convergence*, group exhibition of site-specific installations curated by Suzanne Luke, The Communitech Hub, Kitchener, ON.
- 2011** *Finding Correspondences*, curated by Jordan Strom, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, BC.
- 2011** *Evolution|Revolution*, Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, NY.
- 2011** *Cafka. 11. Survive. Resist.* (Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener & Area), Kitchener, ON.
- 2011** *50 Years of Art: Looking Back at the Future*, curated by Jennifer Rudder, First Canadian Place Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2011** *Organic Poetry*, two person exhibition, The Communitech Hub, Kitchener & The Accelerator Centre, Waterloo, ON.
- 2010** *Art at Work: Corporate Collecting Practices Today*, Part 2, curated by Geraldine Davis, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, ON.
- 2009** *DIASPORArt: strategy and seduction* by Canadian artists from culturally diverse communities in works from the collection of the Canada Council Art Bank, Rideau Hall, Ottawa, ON.
- 2009** *Production Still*, Art Lab, University of Western Ontario, London, ON.
- 2007** *Crossing Borders*, Kenan Center, Rockport, NY.
- 2007** *Metaphor, Meditation and the Age of Anger*, Gallery 96, Stratford, ON.
- 2006** *Studio Alert: Illuminating the Source*, curated by Allan MacKay, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2006** *Rebirth*, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON.
- 2005** *Poem as Image*, The Studio, Armonk, NY.
- 2005** *Showcase 05*, Cambridge Galleries, Cambridge, ON.
- 2004** *RBC Investments' Cross-country Canadian Painting Competition Tour*: Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, AB; Brunswick Museum, Saint John, NB; McMaster Museum of Art, Hamilton, ON; Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, ON.
- 2004** *Worship*: Ontario Society of artists' 130<sup>th</sup> Open Juried Exhibition, J. B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2003** *11 Pieces*: Juried exhibition, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON.
- 2003** *Cambridge Galleries Open Juried Exhibition*, Cambridge Galleries, Cambridge, ON.

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#### AWARDS & GRANTS:

- 2016** Waterloo Region Arts Awards (Visual Arts category)
- 2016|12|08|06|04** Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Grant
- 2015** *Jameel Prize* nominee, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
- 2011-14** Research/Creation Grant in Fine Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, co-applicant in multi-disciplinary project with Patrick Mahon (University of Western Ontario, principal applicant) & Gu Xiong (University of British Columbia)
- 2013** Ontario Arts Council Production Grant: Mid-career Artist
- 2012** Region of Waterloo Arts Fund Production Grant, Waterloo, ON.
- 2011|08|05** Ontario Arts Council Production Grant: Emerging Artist
- 2010** University of Western Ontario Graduate Thesis Research Award
- 2010|09|08** University of Western Ontario Graduate Research Scholarship
- 2008** University of Western Ontario Graduate travel Grant
- 2004** Central Canada Semi-finalist: RBS Investments' Canadian Painting Competition, Toronto, ON.
- 2003** Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery Volunteer Award, Waterloo, ON.
- 2003** Liz Edwards Memorial Award, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.

**SELECTED REVIEWS:**

- 2016** “In-Between by Soheila Esfahani.” *The Islamic Arts Magazine*, October 1.
- 2016** Mason, Hailey. “[Inspiration from Antiquity](#).” *The Medium*, September 12.
- 2016** Griffin, Kevin. “[Art Seen: Works by Artists of Iranian Heritage Explore What It Means to be Caught Between](#).” *Vancouver Sun*, July 8.
- 2016** Dick, Terence. “[Material Girls and Feminism](#).” *Akimbo TV*, season 1, episode 10.
- 2016** Samuel, Daniel. “[Living in a Material World](#)” *The Varsity*, February 7.
- 2015** Griffin, Kevin. “[Atoms and Artists: The Spookiness of Being in Two Places at Once](#).” *Vancouver Sun*, December 31.
- 2015** Red Head Gallery 25th anniversary exhibition, [Artoronto.ca](#), December 2015.
- 2015** “The Couplets from Reed to Paper.” *Skylife magazine*, Turkish Airlines, October 2015.
- 2015** Fournier, Lauren. “Material Girls” Takes Up Space at the Dunlop.” *Canadian Art*, April 2.
- 2014** Neudorf, Kim. “The Souce at Rodman Hall in St. Catharines.” *Akimblog*, September 23.
- 2013** Snyder, Leah. “Written on the Body/ Politics of Poetry: Iranian Artists & the Power of the Script.” *Mixed Bag Mag*, July 17, 2013
- 2013** Manao, Anna. “The Third Space.” *Frank*, July 25, 2013
- 2013** Reid, Robert. “Two Artists Cross Ornamental Cultural Boundaries.” *The Record*, January 15, C1.
- 2013** Neudorf, Kim. “Brandon Tang & Soheila Esfahani at Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery.” *Akimblog*, February 5.
- 2012** Behiery, Valerie. “Working Across Cultures: An Interview with Soheila Esfahani.” *The Islamic Arts Magazine*, July 6, 2012.
- 2012** Reid, Robert. “Exploring Multiculturalism.” *The Record*, March 29, 2012, B6.
- 2011** Reid, Robert. “Here’s Art You Just Can’t Miss.” *The Record*, September 17, 2011, D1-2.
- 2011** Cafka TV. Cafka 11. Survive. Resist. Interview, Sept. 2011.
- 2011** Reid, Robert. “Thought-provoking Art in the Workplace.” *The Record*, September 13, 2011, D1.
- 2011** Zerehi, Sima Sahar. “Reading Tehranto in Buffalo.” *Shahrvand Publications*, Toronto, ON, Jan. 20.
- 2011** Dabkowski, Colin. “Cultural Infusion.” *The Buffalo News*, January 14.
- 2011** Ross, Veronica. “Cultural Connections.” *Grand Magazine* (Jan., Feb. 2011): 112-117.
- 2010** Matheiu, Emily. “Corporate Art: Not Just Pretty Pictures.” *The Toronto Star*, Sept. 7.
- 2010** Adzic, Jelena. *Outsider Art*. CBC: The National, Interview, January 31.
- 2009** Fraser, J Lynn. “The Tactile Abstractions of Soheila Esfahani.” *Letter Arts Review* 23 (2009): 29-41.
- 2008** Reid, Robert. “Let Life Surround You.” *The Record*, February 16, 2008, C1.
- 2007** Dale, Alison. “Works by Iranian-Canadians at Gallery 96.” *The Beacon Herald*, May 16, 2007.
- 2006** Reid, Robert. “Diversity of Show Illuminates.” *The Record*, October 18, 2006, B4.
- 2005** Genocchio, Benjamin. “Art Review: Some Rich Pickings for the Art Lover.” *The New York Times*, November 2.
- 2005** Reid, Robert. “Artist Profile: Blending East & West.” *The Record*, May 14, 2005, C1.
- 2005** Ariaratnam, Daniel. Rogers Cable News: Today’s Waterloo Region, Kitchener, ON, Interview, September 23.
- 2004** “Geographical Expressions.” *Visual magazine* 1 (2004), Art Review.
- 2004** Nestruck, J. Kelly and Julia Dault. “Brush Strokes of What’s to Come.” *National Post*, November 18, 2004, AL 6-7, picture.
- 2004** CKCO TV News, Leslie Gordon, Kitchener, ON, Interview, July 16
- 2003** Howe, Linda. “Stage & Studio.” *University of Waterloo Gazette*, April 2.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

- 2016** Lecturer, Pattern Finding: Popular Expression of Transcendent Ideas, [Bridges Lecture series](#), St. Jerome’s University, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.
- 2016** Artist talk, KW Society of Artists, Kitchener, ON.
- 2015** Artist Talk, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.
- 2015** Presenter & panel member, The Varley Art Gallery, Markham, ON.
- 2015** Presenter & panel member, Multiple Li(v)es of Art/ists & ... Conference, OCAD University, Toronto, ON.
- 2015** Artist talk, Knowledge Integration Seminar Series, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.
- 2014** Artist talk, Third Age Learning lecture series, Guelph, ON.
- 2014** Artist talk, The Source: Reconsidering Water Through Contemporary Art, Rodman Hall Arts Centre (Brock University), St. Catherine’s, ON.
- 2014** Juror, Artist in Education Grant, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto, ON.

- 2014** Panel member, *The Source: Reconsidering Water Through Contemporary Art*, Rodman Hall Arts Centre (Brock University), St. Catharines, ON.
- 2013** Artist talk, Third Age Learning lecture series: Canada Land of Immigrants, Waterloo, ON.
- 2013** Panel member, Muslim Women: Now & Then, Kitchener City Hall, Kitchener, ON.
- 2013** Artist talk, Curator's Circle, Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2013** Artist talk, Off Topic, Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2012** Panel member, "Past Forward | Present Tense" Exhibition Panel Discussion, Hamilton Artist Inc., Hamilton, ON.
- 2012** Juror, Box 12 Art Exhibition, Cambridge, ON.
- 2011** Artist talk/panelist, "Cultural Translation," Shift Symposium: Dialogues of Migration in Contemporary Art, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, SK.
- 2011** Presenter/exhibitor, "Here, There, and Beyond" conference, Studies in Islam, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.
- 2011** Artist talk, Women's Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.
- 2011** Artist talk, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.
- 2009** Artist talk, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON.
- 2007** Panel member, "Images of Faith," Kitchener Public Library, Kitchener, ON.
- 2006** Panel member, "Sources & Inspirations," Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener.
- 2005** Artist talk, Canadian Heritage Head Office, Toronto, ON.

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#### RESIDENCIES:

- 2015** Frans Masereel Centrum, Kasterlee, Belgium
- 2013** Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery's In|sight residency, St. Mary's Catholic Secondary School & Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2013** *Artist Residency, Immersion Emergencies and Possible Worlds: Engaging Water as Culture and Resource through Contemporary Art*, SSHRC, The Banff Centre, Banff, AB.
- 2012** Artist Residency, Immersion Emergencies and Possible Worlds: Engaging Water as Culture and Resource through Contemporary Art, SSHRC, Niagara Fall, ON.
- 2003-5** Artist-in-Residence, Homer Watson House and Gallery, Kitchener, ON.

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#### COLLECTIONS:

- Art Bank, Canada Council for the Arts, Ottawa, ON.
- The Accelerator Centre, Waterloo, ON.
- Brock Solutions, Kitchener, ON.
- Private Collections: Canada, USA, Germany, Iran, Egypt.

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#### PUBLICATIONS:

- 2015** The Red Head Gallery at 25 exhibition catalogue, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2015** Matotek, Jennifer ed. *Material Girls*. London, UK: Black Dog Publishing Ltd, 2015.
- 2014** Nokyoung Xayasane, Soheila Esfahani. *Encountering Difference*. Kitchener: Stonegarden Studios.
- 2014** Soheila Esfahani. "Photo Essay." *Lalit Kala Contemporary*. New Delhi: Lalit Kala Akademi, 2014.
- 2014** Nokyoung Xayasane, Soheila Esfahani. *Encountering Difference*. Kitchener: Stonegarden Studios, 2014.
- 2012** Linsley, Robert. "Iran in the Mirror." *Past Forward|Present TENSE* exhibition catalogue. Hamilton: Hamilton Artist Inc., 2012.
- 2011** Evolution|Revolution Exhibition Catalogue, Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, NY.
- 2011** Davis, Geraldine. *Art At Work: Corporate Collecting Practices Today*. Mississauga: Art Gallery of Mississauga, 2011.
- 2010** Orpana, Jennifer. "Somewhere In Between: Trans- (across, over, beyond)." *Intersections* exhibition catalogue.
- 2008** RBC Canadian Painting Competition 10 years, exhibition catalogue.
- 2004** RBC Canadian Painting Competition, exhibition catalogue.
- 2003** Reid, Robert. "From Rathke's Pouch." University of Waterloo Graduating Class Exhibition Catalogue.

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**AFFILIATIONS:**

- The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, ON. 2007-2009, 2012-ongoing.
- SAVAC: South Asian Visual Arts Collective, Toronto, ON.
- Propeller Center for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON. 2003-2007
- City of Kitchener's Public Art Working Group, Kitchener, ON. 2006-2008

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCES:**

- 2012-present** Lecturer, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON. (Calligraphy to conceptual Art & Islamic Visual Culture)
- 2012-present** Education Officer, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, ON.
- 2003-present** Art instructor, Homer Watson House and Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 2012-13** Lecturer, University of Western Ontario, London, ON. (Foundation Studio)
- 2009-10** Co-Instructor, University of Western Ontario, London, ON. (Foundation Studio)
- 2008-09** Teaching Assistant, University of Western Ontario, London, ON.
- 2002-2008** Educator, Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, Waterloo, ON.