

## 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:

- 2018** *TBD*, Station Gallery, Whitby, ON, September 8- October 7
- 2017** *Immigrants*, University of Waterloo Art Gallery, Waterloo, ON.
- 2017** *Interstice*, The Red Head Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 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** *Downtown/s: Urban Renewal Today for Tomorrow, The 2017 Art Gallery of Windsor Triennial of Contemporary Art*, Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, ON
- 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** Art Toronto: Toronto International Art Fair, Republic Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2017** *Passage + Obstacle*, curated by Ivan Jurakic, in conjunction with Bridges Math Art
- 2017** *Connect 2017: Embracing Place*, group exhibition, Homer Watson Gallery, Kitchener, ON
- 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, Rodman Hall Art Centre, St. Catharines, ON (catalogue)
- 2016** *Pattern Migration*, 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** *DIASPORA*: 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.

#### 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:**

- 2017** Cappuccitti, Jessica. "The Art of Urban Renewal in Windsor-Detroit." *Canadian Art*, November 28.
- 2017** Gazzola, Bart. "Owning Space: Material Girls." *The Sound STC*.
- 2017** Kim, Ju Hyun. "Power and Globalization." *Imprint*, November 15.
- 2017** "Interstice by Soheila Esfahani." *The Islamic Arts Magazine*, October 15.
- 2017** Ip, Malgosia. "Patterns in Art and Mathematics." *Fields Notes*, Vol 17:2, p.19.
- 2017** McKay, Staphanie. "Material Girls: All-Female Art Show Avoids Austere Gallery Tradition." *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*, February 2.
- 2017** "Women Get Spotlight in Art Exhibit at U of S." *CBC news*, February 5.
- 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](http://Artoronto.ca), December 2015.
- 2015** "The Couplets from Reed to Paper." *Skyline 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:**

- 2017** Artist Talk, Art in the Public Sphere, The Returners: Seven Conversations, Department of Visual Arts, Western University, London, ON.
- 2017** Artist Talk, University of Waterloo Fine Arts Department, Waterloo, ON.
- 2017** Presenter & panel member, Universities Art Association of Canada Conference, The Banff Centre for the Arts, Banff, AB.
- 2017** Artist talk, University of Lethbridge ART NOW Visiting Artist Lecture series, in conjunction with where/between exhibition at Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, AB
- 2017** Artist talk, Canada: Day 1, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax, NS
- 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.
- 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.

**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.

**COLLECTIONS:**

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

**PUBLICATIONS:**

- 2017** The Source: Rethinking Water Through Contemporary Art exhibition catalogue, Rodman Hall Art Centre, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON.
- 2017** Embracing Place exhibition catalogue, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, ON.
- 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.

**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

**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.