

Farniyaz Zaker

1982 Tehran

Education

2016 PHD, Philosophy, Fine Arts, The Ruskin School of Art, St John's College, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

2009 MA, Textiles (Art), Winchester School of Art, The University of Southampton, Southampton, UK

2006 BA, Carpets and Textiles, Tehran University of Art, Tehran, Iran

2004 Associate Degree (A.A.), Photography (Photojournalism)

Solo Exhibitions

2024 "Fault Lines", O Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2023 "Enclaves", Kendrew Barn Gallery, St John's College, Oxford, UK

2020 "Cut from the Same Cloth (yekparche)", O Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2016 "Something there Was that Must have Loved a Wall", Pi Artworks Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey

2014 "Primeval Relationship", The Ruskin School of Art, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

2014 "I.A.F. I Sharjah", Sharjah Contemporary Art Museum, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

2013 "Re-Enveloped", King Way's Corridor, Goldsmiths College, London, UK

2013 "Repeated Return", Dolphin Gallery, St John's College, Oxford, UK

2011 "Pardeh", Old Masters Study, The Ruskin School of Art, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 "Still Point", O Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2019 "CYLAND", Stieglitz State Academy of Art and Design, Saint Petersburg, Russia

2019 "ID, Ca'Foscari Zattere, Venice, Italy

2019 "BEN HER ZAMAN ÖTEKİ'NİN ALANINDAYIM", A Selection from Agah Uğur Collection, Müze Evliyagil, Ankara, Turkey

2018 "Kronstadt Stories-3. Slowness", curated by Elena Gubanova, Lydia Griaznova, State Museum of the History of St Petersburg, St Petersburg, Russia

2017 "Letters in Space", Farniyaz Zaker and Václav Magid, National Centre for Contemporary Arts (NCCA) / the State Museum and Exhibition Centre (ROSIZO), Kronstadt, St Petersburg, Russia

2017-2018 "Hit Parade -Sculpture Project", Museo dell'Auto, Turin, Italy

2018 "Animali Notturmi - The Dark Side of Life", IAAD, Bologna, Italy

2016 "The Slow Disappearance of Meaning and Truth", curated by Eleonora Angela Maria Ignazzi & Francesca Pich, Paratissima 12 - Artissima, Turin, Italy

2015-2016 "Fortress Ma", Mark Rothko Museum and Art Centre, Daugavpils, Latvia, November Contemporary Istanbul International Art Fair I, Istanbul, Turkey

2014 "A House Is Not a Hotel", Pi Artworks Gallery, London, UK

2014 "8° International Arte Laguna Prize", Arsenale di Venezia, Venice, Italy

2013 "The Wall of Europe", Paese Museo, San Sperate, Sardinia, Italy

2013 "Mapleton Bree Prize", Kendrew Barn, St John's College, Oxford, UK

2012 "[HYPHENATED]", Farniyaz Zaker and Jessica Draper, The North Wall Gallery, Oxford, UK

2012 WEYA (UK Young Artists), Bonington Gallery, Nottingham, UK

2012 "Rewind Pause, Fast Forward: Mirrors on Iran", Pi Artworks Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey

2012 "mise-en-scène", Etemad Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2012 "In site", The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, UK

2012 "Ruskin Shorts", Phoenix Cinema, Oxford, UK

2011 International Print Biennale, Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle, UK

2011 "Power House", Osney, Oxford, UK

2011 "Surplus to Requirements?", Slade Gallery, UCL, London, UK

2010 "The Art of Nurture", Lloyds TSB, Bristol, UK

2009 "10 Days at the Laundry", The Yard, Old Hyde Laundry, Winchester, UK

2009 "THIS LEADS HERE", Winchester Gallery, Winchester School of Art, UK

2009 "The Art of Nurture", Lloyds TSB, Watershed Gallery, Bristol, UK

2008 "In-between (MA show)", Winchester School of Art, Winchester, UK

2002 "World Art and Worship", Niavaran Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2002 The First Festival of Art for Art Students, Tehran University of Art, Tehran, Iran

Art Fair

2021 Artissima, Turin, Italy

Academic Positions, Lecturing, Fellowships and Art Residencies:

2021-Present Lecturer in Persian Studies, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

2018 Teaching Fellow, The Ashmolean Museum, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

2017-2018 Visiting Research Fellow, The Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS), UCL, London, UK

2017 Visiting Lecturer (selected lectures at BA level), Department of Asian and African Studies, National Research University, Higher School of Economic (HSE), St Petersburg, Russia

2017 Artist in residence, National Centre for Contemporary Arts (NCCA) / the State Museum and Exhibition Center "ROSIZO", St Petersburg, Russia

2015 Artist in residence, Mark Rothko Museum and Art Centre, Daugavpils, Latvia
2014–2015 Sessions for students (A Level) and their teachers, The London Centre for Languages and Cultures (LCLC): Pembroke College Oxford, The Open University, and William Morris Sixth Form, with funding from the London Schools Excellence
2012 Artist in residence, Paese Museo, No Arte – The Wall of Europe, San Sperate, Sardinia, Italy
2012 Artist in residence, WEYA: UK Young Artists, Nottingham, UK
2004 Artist in residence, Marine, Sea and Navigation Organization, Chabahar, Iran

Awards

2020 Grant, Oxford Nizami Ganjavi Centre (ONGC), Oxford, UK
2016 Winner of the Hit Parade Art Prize, Paratissima 12 – Artissima, Turin, Italy
2014 Special Grants, St John's College, Oxford, UK
2014 Finalist, Arte Laguna Prize (Installation and Sculpture Section), Venice, Italy
2014 Award (covering production costs), Sharjah Museum of Contemporary Art, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
2011–2013 The Lamb and Flag Scholarship, St John's College, Oxford, UK
2013 Selected for The State of Art (Installation and Sculpture Section), Bare Hill Publishing House, London, UK
2013 Award (covering production costs), Goldsmiths College, University of London, London, UK
2012 Special Grants, St John's College (The University of Oxford), Oxford, UK
2012 Grant – The Ruskin School of Art, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
2012 Finalist, "WEYA", UK Young Artists, Nottingham, UK
2011 Winner of the Birgit Skiold Memorial Trust Prize, International Print Biennale, Newcastle, UK
2009–2010 Regional Finalist, Lloyds TSB, Art of Nurture, Bristol, UK
2006 Finalist, Shafaghi Tabriz Art and Design Competition, Niavaran Palace, Tehran, Iran
2003 Finalist, Kaveh Golestan Photojournalism Competition, Khane Honarmandan Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2002 Finalist, World Art and Worship, Photography Competition, Niavaran Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2002 First prize, Photography, First Festival of Art for Art Students, Tehran University of Art, Tehran, Iran

Designs and Commissions

2007–2008 Milad Tower – commissioned by the Municipality of Tehran and MTE UAE to design carpets of the interiors of Milad Tower
Zaker's carpet and textile designs are in numerous public buildings and hotels in the UAE and Iran, including: Jumeirah Creekside Hotel, Hyatt Hotel Capital Gate in Abu Dhabi, Dubai Renaissance Hotel, Dubai Marriott Hotel, Dubai Novotel Hotel, Laleh and Homa International Hotels in Iran.
2007–2008 Design books for textiles and carpets in collaboration with MTE UAE, exhibited at the Domotex – Interior Design Fair, Hanover, Germany

Publications

Forthcoming 'Facile Contemporariness: The Centrality of Fashion and Architecture in the Modernist Movement in Iran', Textile Museum Journal
2024 'Between Ornament and Structure: Carpets in Modern Art and Architecture', Textile Museum Journal
2017 'Jenseits: Place, Dwelling and Art Practice', *Oxford Artistic and Practice-Based Research Platform (OAR)*, Issue 1, pp. 111–117.
2016 Interview, *Made in Mind Magazine*, edited by Francesca Pirillo and Dario Carotenuto, Issue 8, pp. 25–37.
2016 'A Room Without Boundaries: Ai Weiwei at The Royal Academy of Arts', *Home Cultures Journal*, Issue 13:2, pp. 221–223.
2016 'Bolgeler Ve Sinirlari Acan Sanatci', interview by Levant Ozata, *Istanbul Art News*, January Issue, p. 22.
2016 'Home, Displacement, and the Body: Mona Hatoum at Tate Modern | London', *Romulus Magazine (The Journal of Wolfson College)*, pp.12–13.
2015 'Words and Walls, Texts and Textiles', Mariam Motamedi Fraser and Farniyaz Zaker, *Theory Culture & Society Journal*, Vol. 32(3), pp. 115–134.
2015 'Earthly Paradise: Identity // and Place', *Oculus Magazine - The Journal of the Edgar Wind Society for Art History*, pp. 37 and 46–47.
2013 'Dealing with an Image: Representation of Iranian Women in Iranian Contemporary Art', *aRm Magazine (The Ruskin Magazine)*, Third Issue, pp.14–15.
2012 'Umutlu Kaygi Arasinda', interview by Meltem Yilmaz, *Cumhuriyet Newspaper: Kultur Sanat*, July Issue, p. 6
2012 'Parmaklikarin Arkasina Bir Medeniyet', interview with Farniyaz Zaker and Mahmud Bakhshi by Firat Demir, *Art Unlimited*, issue18, pp. 112–113.

Conference Talks / Public Lectures

2021 'Alternative Epistemologies', UCL–The Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) London, UK
2019 'Stalinist Cultural Diplomacy Towards Iran: Soviet Orientalists at the 1934 Ferdowsi Millennial Celebration in Tehran', University of Exeter, Exeter, UK
2019 'Russo-Iranian Relations through the Prism of the Life of Fatemeh Sayyah', Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland
2018 'Architecture and Place in Classical Persian Miniature Painting', Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS), University College London (UCL), London, UK
2016 'Urban Space as a White Canvas: The Politics of Architecture and Fashion in Twentieth Century Iran' | U A E S, Commission on the Middle East, Visual Culture, Law and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa, Krakow, Poland
2016 'Something there Was that Must have Loved a Wall', a conversation between Farniyaz Zaker and Ceren Arkman, Pi Artworks Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
2015 'Architecture of Iran: from Metaphysical Places to Physical Non-Places', St John's College (The University of Oxford), Oxford, UK
2013 'Re-Enveloped: Words and Walls, Texts and Textiles', a conversation between Farniyaz Zaker and Dr. Mariam Motamedi Fraser, Goldsmiths College, University of London, London, UK
2012 'Representation of Women in Iranian Contemporary Art', Cultural Identities in Art and Art Practice, GOA Project, Brasenose College, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
2012 'The Veil as Architecture: Conceptualization and Genderization of the Private and Public Space in Iran', Women's Rights Research Seminar, St Antony's College, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
2010 'Diasporic Iranian Art: A Response to the Social and the Political Idiosyncrasies Inside Iran', WSA Graduate School Conference, Winchester School of Art, The University of Southampton, Southampton, UK
2009 'Middle Eastern Garden Designs', WSA Graduate School Conference, Winchester School of Art, The University of Southampton, Southampton, UK

Curation & Organization of Exhibitions and Symposiums

2022 'The Middle East from the Margin', Commission of The Middle East (IUAES), Institut Francais de la'Etude Anatolien (IFEA) and Orient-Institut, Istanbul, Turkey

2021 'The Reinvention of Traditions in the Middle East', Orient-Institut, Istanbul, Turkey

2019 'Anthropology of Art and Architecture', panel-seminar, Commission of The Middle East (IUAES), Visual Culture, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland

2017 'Anthropology of Art and Architecture', panel-seminar, Commission of The Middle East (IUAES), Visual Culture, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland

2013 'Re-Enveloped: Words and Walls, Texts and Textiles', Goldsmiths College, University of London, London, UK

2012 'In Site: Exhibition and Symposium' (Art as a Mode of Enquiry), The Ashmolean Museum and St John's College (University of Oxford), Oxford, UK

2012 'Power House', Old Power Station-Osney, The Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford, UK

Collections

The Arter- Space for Art, Turkey

The Koç Foundation, Turkey

Video Insight Foundation Collection, Italy

Mark Rothko Museum, Latvia

Agah Uğur Collection, Turkey