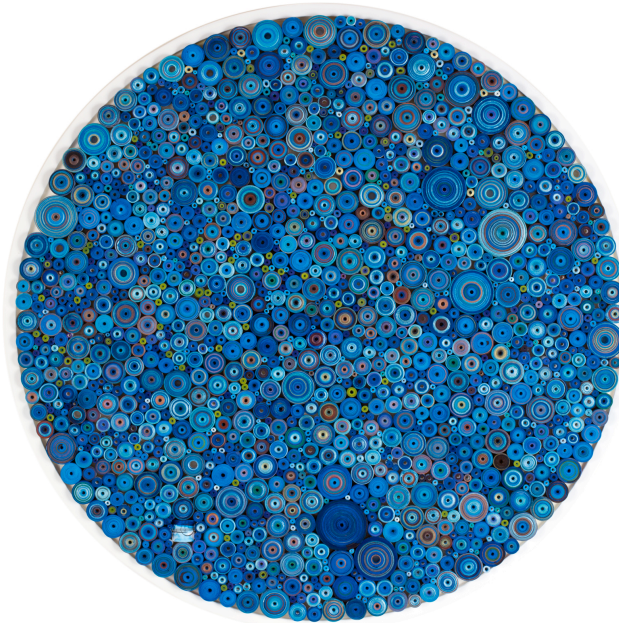


# HADIEH SHAFIE



*10650 Pages, 76 x 76 x 9 cm, ink and paper with printed and handwritten Farsi text Eshghe "Love", 2012*

## Artist Statement

"Cultural signifiers from the East and West are often conflated to create complex formal and conceptual meaning. In Hadieh Shafie's ink and paper paintings, tightly scrolled and brightly colored rolls of paper hide hand-written text by the artist. Like 1000 blooming targets a la Jasper Johns, these paintings delight with the Op-art sensation of vibrating constellations of color and intrigue, with all the mystery that hidden words hold."

Barbara O'Brien, Curator, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City

A constant element of my work has been the significance of process, repetition and time. In works comprised of paper scrolls, individual strips of paper have been marked with hand-written and printed Farsi (Persian language) text. Each strip is then tightly rolled to create a core, around which successive strips are added. During the repetitive process of adding paper strips to create individual rolls, text and symbols are sometimes revealed and often hidden within the concentric rings of the finished object. The time it takes to make each work can vary and the time spent in writing and rolling the strips of paper is an important part of the artistic process and a performative aspect of the making of this work. The title of each piece documents the number of individual strips of paper that complete the work. Concentric forms of text and material take direct inspiration from the Sama dance of the whirling dervishes and the act of turning-on-axis in search of ascendance through forgetting the body. Rumi's poetry and the search for the dervish within are at the core of my own search and rebellion, with the resulting work as the physical expression of my awe.

Repeated in the work is the Farsi word for love, or "eshghe". The repetition of text and this particular word is a recurring element in much of my work. In choosing to ignore the rules of calligraphy I create work that is grounded in the expressive beauty and individual power of the untrained hand. In addition, by removing certain language markers, such as the dots that signify specific vowel soundings, I eliminate a communicative element. In this way the resulting text is reduced to its most expressive form as a visual element.

## GALERIE KASHYA HILDEBRAND

Talstrasse 58, 8001 Zurich, Switzerland

Tel. +41 44 210 02 02 Fax. +41 44 210 02 15

info@kashyahildebrand.org www.kashyahildebrand.org

# HADIEH SHAFIE

Born in Tehran, Iran in 1969  
Lives and works in Baltimore, USA

## EDUCATION

2004 MFA Imaging and Digital Art UMBC, MD, USA  
1999 MFA Painting Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY, USA  
1993 BA Painting University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2011 Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, USA  
KETAB, XVA Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
*The Sweet Turning of the Page*, Morton Fine Art, Washington D.C., USA  
2010 *Some Kind of Love*, Jean Efron Art Consultants, Washington D.C., USA  
2009 *Paper Pattern Color Culture*, Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, USA  
2008 *Exodus*, The Carriage House, Baltimore, MD, USA  
2004 *The Little Black Fishes*, School 33 Art Center, Baltimore, MD, USA  
*Spin*, MFA Exhibition, CVAC, UMBC, Baltimore, MD, USA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2013 Jameel Prize Exhibition, Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, USA  
2012 *The Young Collectors Exhibit*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
*Uncharted: Works on Paper*, Cain Schulte Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
*20 in 2012 Vision*, Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, USA  
*Rock, Paper, Scissors*, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
*The Next Generation*, Galerie Kashya Hildebrand, Zürich, Switzerland  
*Invitational Art Exhibition*, Conley Art Gallery, USC, Fresno, California, USA  
*SHOW OFF!* Salsali Private Museum, Dubai, UAE  
Jameel Prize Exhibition, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, USA, Casa Arabe, Madrid, Spain,  
Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris, France,  
2011 Jameel Prize Exhibition, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK  
Select: Washington Project for the Arts, Washington D.C., USA  
*SHOW OFF!* SPM Private Museum, Dubai, UAE  
*IMPACT 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Benefit Exhibition and Auction* Maryland Art Place, USA  
2010 *Ritual: Form, Script and Gesture*, A Pop Up Project, Morton Fine Art, Washington, USA  
*More of the best is yet to come*, Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, USA  
*Crazy Beautiful II*, Kenise Barnes Fine Art, Larchmont, NY, USA  
*I(RAN) Home (In America)*, CoCA, Seattle, WA, USA  
Gallery Artists Group Show, Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, USA  
2009 *Hidden Wounds, Paper Bullets: Iranian Contemporary Art*, Grant Arts Central, Fullerton, CA, USA  
*I(RAN) Home (In America)*, The Fridge DC, Washington D.C., USA  
*Cross Currents: Trends in Contemporary Art Media*, Sarah Silberman Gallery, USA  
*Protocol: Syntax / Semantics*, Gallery 4, Baltimore, MD, USA  
Baker Artist Awards Exhibition, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD, USA  
*Women's Work*, Civilian Art Place, Washington D.C., USA  
2008 *Drawing Fusion*, Community College of Baltimore County, Catonsville, MD, USA  
*Hidden and Revealed*, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD, USA  
*Full Circle*, Rosenberg Gallery, Goucher College, Baltimore, MD, USA  
*Penned*, Pinkard Gallery, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD, USA  
2007 *Iconology*, Red Saw Gallery, Newark, NJ, USA  
*Changing Climate Changing Colors*, Abrons Art Center, New York, NY, USA  
2006 *The Notebook*, Current Gallery, Baltimore, MD, USA  
2004 *Solace: Searching for Meaning in a Time of Distress*, Middle East Institute, Washington, D.C., USA  
2003 *Under The Table and Dreaming*, Raleigh Studios, Baltimore, MD, USA  
1999 *30 x30*, Cinque Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
1996 *Women*, East Galleries, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY, USA  
1995 *Art Made in Exile: Iranian Artists*, George Washington University, Washington, D.C., USA

The artist has been recipient of numerous awards and grants.

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