

Reza Aramesh

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DASTAN



OVERVIEW

Reza Aramesh (b. 1970, Iran) focuses on photography and sculpture. He currently lives and works in London, a city he moved to at 15. He received his MFA from Goldsmiths University, London (1997).

Working in photography, sculpture, video, and performance, Reza Aramesh's understanding of the history of art, film, and literature is ever-present in his artwork. As a response to war reportage images from sources such as newspapers, online articles, and social media, Aramesh takes scenes of reportage of violence out of their original context, exploring the narratives of representation and iconography of subjected body apropos race, class, and sexuality to create a critical conversation with Western Art History.

Reza Aramesh's work has been exhibited in both solo and group exhibitions, most recently at the Biennale de la Habana (2022), Asia Society Museum in New York (2020), Met Breuer in New York (2018), SCAD Museum in Georgia Atlanta (2018), Akademie der Kunst Berlin (2016), the 2015 Venice Biennale, Art Basel Parcours 2017, Frieze Sculpture Park 2015 and 2017, and at Maxxi Museum in Rome (2016). He has orchestrated several performances and exhibitions in spaces like the Barbican Centre, Tate Britain, and ICA, London. His works have entered public and private collections worldwide, including Argentina, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, USA, Belgium, France, Iran, Lebanon and the UK.

Reza Aramesh

Lives & works in London, UK

Education

1997. MA. Fine Arts. Goldsmiths University. London

Solo Exhibitions

2019. "Reza Aramesh - 12 noon, Monday 5 August", Asia Society Museum, New York, USA
2019. "Action 180", Leila Heller, New York, USA
2016. "At 11:57 Am Wednesday 23 October 2013", Ab Anbar Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2016. "Sculpture Exhibition", Leila Heller, Dubai, UAE
2016. "Reza Aramesh", Leila Heller Gallery, Dubai, UAE
2015. "Friday April 25, 2003 at 07:55", Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2015. "Spring of Recession", Centrefold Project, Sazman-Ab Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2014. "The Whistle of the Souls", Al Quoz Industrial 3, Dubai, UAE
2014, Ab-Anbar Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2013. "12 Midnight", Multi-venue show presented by Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2011. "Walking in the Darkness of a Promised Light", Isabelle Van Den Eynde Gallery, Dubai, UAE
2011. "Them Who Dwell on The Earth", Mottahedan Projects, London, UK
2010. "Between the Eye and the Object Falls the Shadow...", Gallery CM00A, Rabat, Morocco
2009. "Between the Eye and the Object Falls a Shadow...", Isabelle Van Den Eynde Gallery, Dubai, UAE
2009. "Live Action 71", Late at Tate Britain, UK
2008. "Best of Discoveries", Shanghai, China
2008, Live Action 60, London, UK
2007. "We've Lost the Hearts and Minds...", E: vent Gallery, London, UK
2007. Watermans Centre, London, UK
2007. "Who is the Third that Walks Beside You?", Matthew Bown Gallery, London, UK
2007. "You Were the Dead, Theirs Was the Future...", Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK
2006. "Live Action: I am a Believer", ICA, Trafalgar Square, London, UK
2005. "Live Action: Of this Men Shall Know Nothing", Thomas Goode Shop, London, UK
2005. "Live Action: The Key of Dreams", Gasworks Gallery, London, UK

2003. "Picture This...", Platform Gallery, London, UK

2003. "The Eternal Spring", Laurence O'Hana Gallery, London, UK

Group Exhibitions

2023. "The Storyteller", Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA
2023. "Realism", Dastan International Exhibitions, No.9 Cork Street, London, UK
2022. "Soft Edge of the Blade", Dastan International Exhibitions, No.9 Cork Street, London, UK
2022. "14 Bienal de la Habana, Rupture; A Thousand and One Times". Museo de Artes Decorativas, Habana. Curated by Marianne Wagner and Nelson Ramirez de Arellano
2021. Colnaghi London, Dreamsongs: from Medicine to Demons to Artificial Intelligence, Curated by Bjorn Stern, London, UK
2021. "Asia Society Triennial, We Do Not Dream Alone", Curated by Michelle Yun Mapplethorpe and Boon Hui Tan, Asia Society and Museum, New York, USA
2020. "Sensual/Virtual: Two Coloured Sculptures", Curated by Dr. Victoria Avery and Luke Syson, Fitzwilliam Museum's Octagon Gallery, Cambridge, UK
2020. "The Summer/Winter Show", The Royal Academy of Arts, Curated by Jane and Louise Willson, London, UK
2020. "Rally", Soo Contemporary, Tehran, Iran
2020. "Distribution of the sensible", Azad Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2018. "WAR / VOJNA der KREIG" Koroka Art Museum, Slovenj Gradec, Slovenia
2018. "Like Life: Sculpture, Color and the Body (1300 - Now)" The MET Breuer, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
2017. Bilder Fragen H2- Centre for Contemporary art in the Glass Palace Kunstsammlungen and Museen Ausburg, Germany
2017. "Crumbling Down, Up and Up We Climb" Yarat Contemporary Art Space, Baku, Azerbaijan
2017. "Shabtab 2", Azad Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
2016. Permanent Collection Display, Art Centre Hugo Voeten, Herentals, Belgium
2016. "Uncertain States - Artistic Strategies in States of Emergency", Academie de Kunst, Berlin
2016. "RTL: LTR", curated by Tarlan Rafiee and Yashar Samimi Esfahan Museum of Contemporary Art, Isfahan, Iran
2016. "Poetics of Absence", Curated by Cristiana de Marchi, IxI Art Gallery, Dubai.
2016. "L'arte differente: MOCAK al MAXXI" Exhibition of works from the MOCAK Collection in Rome
2016. "Summer Group Show", Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA

2015. "Spring of Recession". Centrefold Project, Sazmanab, Tehran.

2015. "The Great Game", Venice biannual Edition 56, Iran Pavilion, Venice, Italy

2015. "Migrants", Muntref-Museo, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2014. "The Whistle of the Souls", a play that never starts, Proposal for a Public Sculpture, Al Quoz Industrial 3, Dubai.

2014. "Look at Me", Leila Heller, New York, USA

2013. Summer Selects, Leila Heller Gallery, New York, USA

2013. "Cultural Freedom in Europe", Goethe Institute Brussels.

2013. "12MIDNIGHT", multi-venue exhibition in five nightclubs, New York.

2013. "Cultural Freedom in Europe", Goethe Institute Brussel, Belgium

2012. "Without Hope", Without Fear, Al Joud Center, UAE

2012. "The Elephant in the Dark", curated by Amirali Ghasemi, Devi Art, Foundation, Gurgaon, India.

2012. "Migrasophia - (Migration + Philosophy)", curated Sara Raza, Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah.

2012. "Lost in Paradise", Curated by Arianne Levene and Eglantine de Ganay, Loft Sevigne, Paris.

2012. "ADVANCE/...NOTICE", Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.

2012. "Without Hope, Without Fear", Mottahedan Projects, Al Joud Center, Dubai, UAE

2012. "The Elephant in the Dark", Curated by Amirali Ghasemi, Devi Art Foundation, Gurgaon, India

2012. "Migrasophia - (Migration + Philosophy)", Maraya Art Centre, Sharjah

2012. "Lost in Paradise", Loft Sévigné, Paris, France

2012. "Eat Me / Advance Notice", Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2011. Paradise Row, London, UK

2011. "Walking in the Darkness of a Promised Light", Isabelle Van Den Eynde Gallery, Dubai, UAE (cat.)

2011. "Light - Part I", curated by Gabriel Rolt and Nick Hack- worth, Paradise Row, London.

2011. "Eat Me", Goodman Gallery, Cape Town.

2011. "Light - Part I", Paradise Row, London, UK

2011. "Eat Me", Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2010. "Statement", Paris Photo 2009, curated by Catherine Davide, France (cat.)

2010. "Hope! l'espoir, de Giacometti a Murakami", curated by Ashok Adiceam, Palais des Arts et du Festival, Dinard, France. (cat.)

2010. "Between the Eye and the Object falls the Shadow". Isabelle Van Den Eynde Gallery, Dubai, UAE (cat.)

2010. "Hope!", Palais des Arts et du Festival, Dinard, France

2009. "Relaunch", Sunbury House, London, UK.

2009. "Live Action 71". curated by The Diogenes Club, Late at Tate Britain, London, UK.

2009. "Relaunch", Sunbury House, London, UK

2008. "The Apartment", curated by Brian Chalkley and Lewis Amar, Royal London House, London.

2008. "Live Action 60", commissioned for Zoo Art Fair and CollectingLiveArt, London.

2008. "Best of Discoveries", Shcontemporary, Shanghai, China. (cat.)

2008. "A World without Borders", Event Horizon, GSK Contemporary, Royal Academy of Art, London, UK.

2008. "The Apartment", Royal London House, London, UK

2008. "A World without Borders", Event Horizon, GSK Contemporary, Royal Academy of Art, London, UK

2007. Los Vinilos, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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2007. "You Were the Dead", Their's Was the Future, seduced, Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK.

2007. "Who is the Third that Walks Beside You?", Matthew Bown Gallery, London, UK.

2007. "We've Lost the Hearts and Minds...", Event Gallery, London, UK (cat.)

2007. "The Politics of Fear", Albion Gallery, London, UK.

2007. "The Lucifer Effect," curated by Gordon Cheung, Gallery. Primo Alonso, London.

2007. "Temporary Measures", curated by Hut Projects, Associates Gallery, London, UK.

2007. "Space Invasion", an International Offspace Project, various venues, Vienna, Austria (cat.)

2007. "Reza Aramesh", Watermans Centre, London, UK

2007. "Into Position", curated by Anthony Gross, Bauernmarkt 1 and 9, 1010 Vienna.

2007. "The Politics of Fear", Albion Gallery, London, UK

2007. "The Lucifer Effect", Primo Alonso Gallery, London, UK

2007. "Temporary Measures", Associates Gallery, London, UK

2007. "Space Invasion: An International Offspace Project", Vienna

2007. "Into Position", Bauernmarkt 1 and 9, Vienna

2006. "Metropolis Rise: New Art from London", CQL Design Centre, Shanghai, and 798 Art District, Beijing, China (cat.)

2006. "Making a Scene", curated by Tal Yahas Haifa Museum of Art, Israel (cat.)

2006. "Live Action: I am a Believer", commissioned by ICA, Trafalgar Square, London, UK.

2006. "Metropolis Rise: New Art from London", Shanghai and Beijing, China

2006. "Culture-Bound", East Wing Collection VII, Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, London, UK
2005. Pencil (a drawing show), Carter Presents, London, UK
2005. "We Have Met The Enemy, and He is Us", Curated by Shezad Dawood, Redux Project Space, London, UK
2005. "Defense", University of California, Sweeney Art Gallery, Riverside, CA, USA
2005. "Contemporary Drawings", Curated by Synthesis, Parnassos Literary Society, Athens
2004. ICA, London, UK
2004. Copy-art.net, Curated by Irini Papadimitriou, ICA, London, UK
2004. "The Politics of Revulsion", Curated by Peter Lewis, Redux Project Space, London, UK
2004. "So You're Afraid of What?" Curated by Centerfold, Redux Project Space, London, UK
2004. "Pilot!", Lime House Town Hall, London, UK
2001. "What if I Told the Truth?", Curated by Reza Aramesh, Cell Projects, London, UK
2001. "Trick Peaser", Curated by Luke Oxley, Mandarin Duck, London, UK
2001. "Teeth and Trousers", Curated by Richard Priestly, Cell Projects, London, UK
2001. "Heart of Glass", Curated by Esther Windsor, London College of Printing, London, UK
2001. "Forever Yours", Victoria House, London, UK
2001. "Desert Rose", Curated by Reza Aramesh, Victoria House, London, UK
2000. "Wooden Heart", Avco, Curated by Reza Aramesh and Tina Spear, London, UK
2000. "Include Me Out", Curated by John Chilver, London, UK

Art Fairs

2023. Art Dubai, Represented by Dastan's Basement, Dubai
2021. FIAC, Represented by Dastan's Basement, Paris
2021. Asia Now, Represented by +2, Paris
2021. Art Dubai, Represented by Leila Heller Dubai, Dubai
2019. Art021 Shanghai, Represented by Dastan's Basement, Shanghai
2019. Art Dubai, Represented by Leila Heller Gallery, UAE
2019. Art Dubai, Represented by Leila Heller Dubai, Dubai
2018. Art Dubai, Represented by Ab Anbar Gallery, Dubai
2017. Artissima, Represented by Ab Anbar Gallery, Turin
2017. Art Dubai, Represented by Leila Heller Gallery
2017. Art Dubai, Represented by Ab Anbar Gallery, Dubai
2015. Leila Heller Gallery at The Armory Show 2015, New York City

2014. Leila Heller Gallery at ARCO Madrid 2014, Madrid
2013. The Armory Show, Leila Heller Gallery, New York
2008. Zoo Art Fair, London
2006. Art Car Boot Fair, curated by Karen Ashton and Helen Hayward, Brick Lane, London

Institutional Collections

- Tate UK
- Lazaar Foundation
- Hugo Voeten Foundation
- Mocak Museum Poland
- Rodin Museum
- Versaille Palace Collection
- Zabłudowicz Collection

Prizes & Awards

2011. Nominated for a Paul Hamlyn Foundation Award for Visual Artists.
2010. Nominated for a Paul Hamlyn Foundation Award for Visual Artists.
2006. Artsadmin Bursary.
2006. Arts Council of England grant for the 'I am a Believer' show hosted by the ICA. 2004. London Arts Research and Development grant, Arts Council.

Projects & Publications

2018 - Centrefold Project Issue 10.
2017 - Centrefold project Issue 9.
2015 - Friday April 25, 2003 at 07:55, Leila Heller Gallery, Murtaza Vali.
Centrefold Scrapbook, Issue 9, Spring of recession, Sazmanab Centre for Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran.
At 11:08 March 14, 2006, Sazmanab centre for contemporary art, Ab-Anbar, David Thorp.
2014 - 12MIDNIGHT, multi-venue exhibition in five nightclubs, New York Milovan Farronato, Media Farzin, Eugenio Viola.
Crude Humanity, Sara Raza, The Whistle of the Souls.
2012 - Centrefold Scrapbook, Issue VIII, The Circle of Manias. Launch and exhibition/talk at Zabłudowicz Collection, London.

2011 - Walking in the Darkness of a Promised Light, Isabelle Van Den Eynde Gallery.
2010 - Between the Eye and the Object falls the Shadow, Isabelle Van Den Eynde Gallery, Thomas Frangenberg.
2008 - Centrefold Scrapbook, Issue VII, A world without borders ...
2007 - Centrefold Scrapbook, Issue VI, It is is, And it is now only...
2006 - Centrefold Scrapbook, Issue V, We've lost the heart and minds...
2005 - Centrefold Scrapbook, Issue IV, I think I'll Speak To...

Texts

Harper Bazaar, March 2019, Delara Zand. 2019
The Garden of Good and Evil, Anna Wallace Thompson, Folio Magazine, 2019. Artforum, Art guide, Asia Society New York, 2019
Reza Aramesh at Asia Society Musuem New York, Wall Street International, 2019. Reza Aramesh at Asia Society Musuem New York, New York Art Beat, 2019. Reza Aramesh, 12 Noon, Monday, 5th August 1963, at Asia Society, 2019
Baku Art Culture, Art Newspaper Russia, 2018
The New York Times, Real, or Too Real?. "Like Life" at the Met Breuer, 2018 BLOUIN ARTINFO, What to See at Frieze Sculpture Park 2017 in London, 2017
I am a believer paper, Ruba Shield, 2017
Insecure states, uncertain times, ID Online, 2017
Poetics of Absence, The National, Anna Seaman, 2017
Sculpture captures the suffering, Al Roeya newspaper, Ruba Shield, 2017
Berlin Art Link, Migration 'Uncertain States' at Akademie der Kunste, 2016
Zeit Online, Cultural policy instead of culture, 2016
Academy of Arts: Uncertain States, Der Tagesspiegel, 2016
A study of human suffering during wars, Gulf news, Jyoti Kalsi, 2016
Artforum, Best of 2016, Sylwia Serafinowicz, 2016
At 9:15am Sunday 28 May 1967 The National, 2016
New York Times, Ginanne Brownell, 2016
Honaragah, 2016
At 11:57 am Wednesday 23 October 2013 , Art Agenda, 2016
Migration as a condition of existence , Código Magazine, Daniel Montero, 2016
Friday April 25, 2003 at 07:55 , 2015 12 - Midnight, 2014

Tandis Magazine, 2014
Artforum review , 2014
The Whistle of the Souls, a Play That Never Starts , Art Asia Pacific, Sara Raza, 2014 Walking in the Darkness of a Promised Light , Thomas Frangenberg, 2011
The disturbing triptych of war, violence and wealth GQ feature, Sophie Leris, 2011
Art House, The Big Issue, Michael Parker, 2009
The Re-Framing of Conflict, Canvas Magazine, Anthony Downey, 2009
Between the Eye and the Object Falls a Shadow, B21 Gallery, Thomas Frangenberg, 2009
Conflicting Statements, The National, 2009
Deceptions of the true and the accurate, Gulf News, Jyoti Kalsi, 2009
Contemporary Practices magazine, Gemma Tully in conversation with Reza Aramesh, 2009
The Atrocity Exhibition, Time Out Dubai, 2009 Aesthetica magazine, Niamh Coghlan, 2006

Books

2018. "Reza Aramesh" Published by the Collectors' Editions
2018. "Like Life Sculpture, Colour, And the Body" Published by The MET New York
2017. "Uncertain States, Travelling Fragments" Published by Akademie Der Kunste
2016. "At 11:57 am Wednesday 23 October 2013" Published by Ab Anbar Gallery, Tehran
2015. "Friday, April 25, 2003, at 07:55" Published by Leila Heller Gallery New York.
2016. "The Great Game" Art, Artists, and Culture from the heart of the world: Silvana Editoriale
2010. "Hope" Une Exposition d'art contemporain sur l'Espoir. Skira Flammarion.
2011. "Reza Aramesh Them Who Dwell on the Earth"
2006. "12 MidNight" Published by Damani Press Italy Metropolis Rise: New Art From London
Published by Temporary Contemporary

Reza Aramesh
"Action 190: At 5:00am Wednesday 9 July 2014". 2017
Hand carved, polished Carrara marble, polypropylene rope.
247cm
Location: Zivilgericht Basel-Stadt, Bäumleingasse 5
(Court of Justice Basel)

Courtesy of the Artist





Reza Aramesh
"Action 181: At 10:00pm Sunday 14 April 2013", 2017
Hand carved, polished Carrara marble, polypropylene rope.
237 x 74 x 58cm

Location: Wettsteinbrücke (along Rhine Promenade)

Courtesy of the Artist

Reza Aramesh

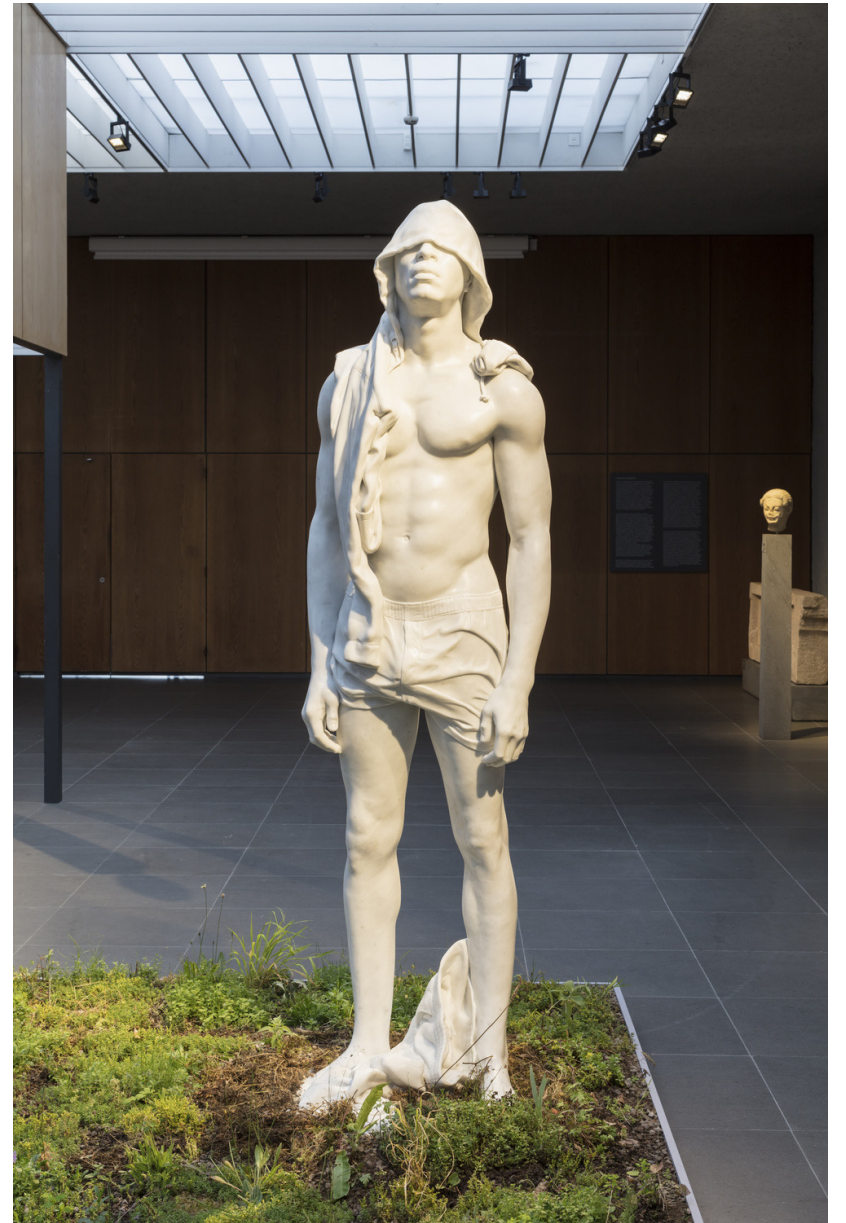
"Action 19: At 6:20pm Sunday 2 April 2006", 2017

Hand carved, polished Carrara marble.

220 x 340 cm

Location: Antikenmuseum Basel und Sammlung Ludwig, St. Alban-Graben 5 (Basel
Museum of Ancient Art and Ludwig Collection)

Courtesy of the Artist



Reza Aramesh
"Action 180: At 9:15 am Sunday 28 May 1967", 2016
240 x 80 x 55cm
Hand carved, polished Carrara marble.

Courtesy of the Artist



Reza Aramesh

"Action 123 - Korean prisoner of war awaiting execution, 1950", 2011
Polychrome Lime Wood, Glass and Wood Veneers. Marquetry: Fumed
Eucalyptus and Bird's Eye Maple. Plinth: Fumed Eucalyptus and Walnut
63 cm, Width 36 cm, and Depth 23 cm
Overall Height: 156 cm

Courtesy of the Artist





Reza Aramesh

Action 126. A Vietnamese paratrooper threatens a suspected Viet Cong soldier with a bayonet during an interrogation in 1962., 2011

Polychrome Lime Wood, Glass and Wood Veneers. Marquetry: Fumed Eucalyptus and Bird's Eye Maple. Plinth: Fumed Eucalyptus and Walnut
Sculpture Height 65 cm , Overall Height 108 cm

Courtesy of the Artist



Reza Aramesh
"Metamorphosis - a study in liberation."
Action 183", 2016
Bronze
32 x 24 x 18 cm

Courtesy of the Artist

Reza Aramesh
"Action 214.09: At 7:00 pm, March 05", 2010
40.5 x 37 cm

Courtesy of the Artist



Installation View
Frieze No.9 Cork Street
2022
London, England

Courtesy of the Artist and Dastan Gallery





Reza Aramesh
"Action 110: Wednesday 8 January 2009.
A man sits beside the body of two
youths killed. Gaza City."
2011
Silver gelatin print mounted on
aluminum and archival board, framed.
Triptych 195 x 270 cm

Courtesy of the Artist



Installation View, Reza Aramesh & Homa Delvaray, Presented by Dastan Gallery,
Frieze London, 2022



Installation View, Reza Aramesh & Homa Delvaray, Presented by Dastan Gallery, Frieze London, 2022



Installation View, Reza Aramesh at Art Basel
Parcours, 2017