

# Ali Akbar Sadeghi

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# ALI AKBAR SADEGHI

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Ali Akbar Sadeghi (b. 1937, Tehran, Iran) is an iconic figure in Iran's art history, celebrated for his various contributions across multiple artistic disciplines. An established master known around the world, he continues new directions in his art. He graduated from the Fine Art Faculty at the University of Tehran during its golden age, a time when many remarkable Iranian artists flourished. Sadeghi blended elements and motifs of traditional Iranian painting with modern art, creating a unique visual language that has been a source of influence for young artists across generations.

Ali Akbar Sadeghi started his artistic career as an illustrator. He worked with various newspapers and magazines, including the "Asia" newspaper. He designed several movie posters and created stained-glass murals for Tehran's Roudaki Hall. Alongside other artists, he co-founded the Film and Animation Department at the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults in 1970. He illustrated numerous books, winning first prize in Asia's best illustrations category for "Hero of Champions," created several animations, and participated in more than 50 film and book festivals.

In 1977, he set aside filmmaking to make painting his primary medium. Considering himself a storyteller, paintings of Sadeghi are intricately detailed, bustling with energy and characters, and they are often large-scale. His colorful, dream-like narratives draw from the Qahveh-Khanh ("Coffee-house") painting traditions, Iranian miniatures, and Western surrealism. Self-portraiture holds a special place in his wide range of paintings and sculptures. His strong presence as a storyteller demonstrates his focus not only on reviving traditions but also on personalizing the histories of both Iranian and Western art. With this approach, he weaves the past and the present, the real and the fantastical, and the visual and the sociopolitical together to create works that keep the viewer's gaze engaged indefinitely.





Ali Akbar Sadeghi. Melli Bank from "Retell" series. 1978-2015  
Ink, Acrylic and Animation celluloid on wooden Board. 150 x 150 cm





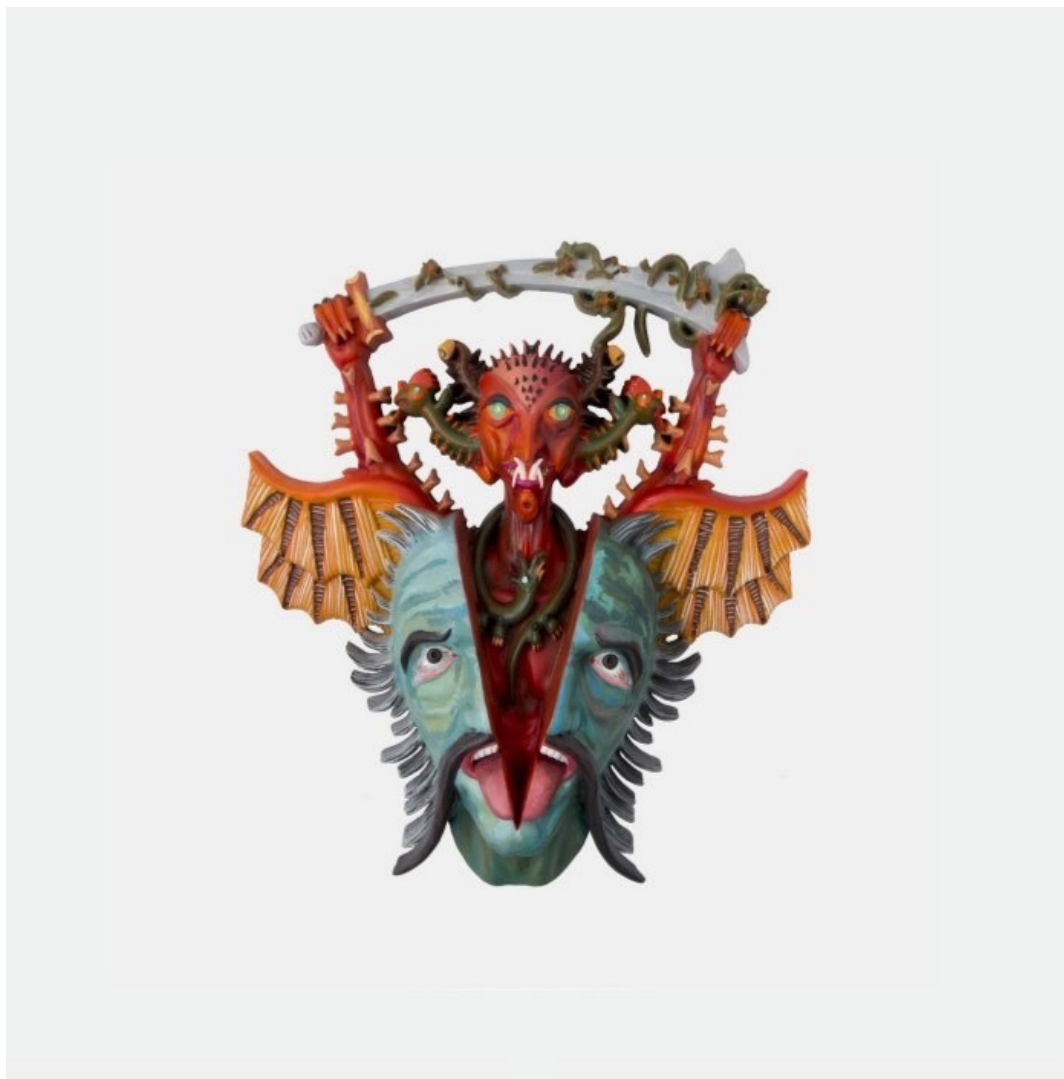
Ali Akbar Sadeghi. Blue from "Demon" Series. 2021  
Acrylic and Ink on Canvas. 200 x 150 cm





Ali Akbar Sadeghi. "N/A". 2023  
Acrylic and ink on canvas. 131.5 x 59 cm





Ali Akbar Sadeghi. "Mad Mask No.3". 2022  
From the Demon series. Acrylic on Wood. 56 x 51 x 16 cm



Ali Akbar Sadeghi. "Winner". 2017  
Acrylic on Canvas. 150 × 100 cm





Ali Akbar Sadeghi. "Diplomat". 2017  
Acrylic on Canvas. 150 × 100 cm





Ali Akbar Sadeghi. "Daughter". 2019  
Acrylic on Canvas. 150 x 100 cm





Ali Akbar Sadeghi. "Mad" 2022  
Acrylic on Canvas. Each Piece: 60 x 60 cm





Installation view of Mad Parallel Circuit. Tehran, Iran



Installation view of Mad Parallel Circuit. Tehran, Iran





CV

## **Ali Akbar Sadeghi**

### **Education**

1969. BA from Faculty of Fine Arts, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

### **Solo Exhibition**

2022. "Mad", Parallel Circuit, Tehran, Iran

2018. "A Retrospective", Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran

1992. "Iran: The Land of the ...", Sabz Gallery, Tehran, Iran

1988. Lashudofond Gallery, Switzerland

### **Group Exhibition**

2024. "Point of View", E1 Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2023. "Event: Iranian Contemporary Art and Shifting Realities", Bavan Gallery, London, England

2023. "Soft Edge of the Blade Vol. 2", Zaal Art Gallery, Toronto, Canada

2023. "Prospect", Parallel Circuit, Tehran, Iran

2023. "Root", Tooba Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2023. "Lotfi X Mashahir Cross 3", Guye Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2023. "A Selection of 70 Years of Iranian Sculpture", Art Center, Tehran, Iran  
2023. "Root", Tooba Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2023. "Realism", Dastan Outside Projects, London, England  
2023. "Prospect", Parallel Circuit, Tehran, Iran  
2023. "Lotfi X Mashahir Cross 3", Guye Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2022. "Soft Edge of the Blade", Dastan Outside Projects, London, England  
2022. "Season of Flower", Taalaar Space, Tehran, Iran  
2022. "Resize", Artibition Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2022. "Mirrored Reflections", TMOCA, Tehran, Iran  
2022. "Face to Face", Javid Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2022. "A Nostalgic Glimpse", X Homa, Tehran, Iran  
2022. "11th Collector", Artibition Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2021. "The Collection of Liam Gallery", Liam Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2021. "Legendary Artist", Negah Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2021. "Basket Goes Persian", Galerie Nicolas Flamel, Paris, France  
2021. "A Rare Collection of Iranian Modern Art", Leila Heller, Dubai, UAE  
2020. "Masters of Iranian Art", Negah Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2020. "Editions", Aknoon Gallery, Isfahan, Iran  
2018. "Painting Exhibition", Iranian Artist Forum, Tehran, Iran  
2018. "I Sohrab Sepehri", DD Museum Gallery, Mazandaran, Iran  
2018. "Free Sale", Azad Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2018. "Drawing as Living", Iranian Artist Forum, Tehran, Iran  
2017. "Amordad", Afrand Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2017. "Amordad", Afrand Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2014. "Zoo", Shirin Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
1993. Export Development Center, Tehran, Iran  
1992. "Show for the People of Bosnia and Herzegovina", Niavaran Cultural House, Tehran, Iran



1991. Export Development Center, Tehran, Iran  
 1990. "A Tribute to Firooz Shirvanloo", Seyhoun Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
 1989. "Iranian Water-colorists Show", Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran  
 1987. "A Tribute to Asghar Mohammadi", Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran Art Fairs  
 2023. Frieze Seoul, Represented by Dastan Gallery, Seoul, South Korea  
 2023. Art Dubai, Represented by Dastan Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
 2018. Art Dubai, Represented by Dastan Gallery, Dubai UAE  
 2016. Abu Dhabi Art, Shirin Gallery, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
 2015. Contemporary Istanbul, Represented by Shirin Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey Biennials  
 2019. Participated in the Singapore Biennale Major Collections The British Museum  
 The Los Angeles County Museum of Art The Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art

## Awards

2004. Won the Iranian and foreign special jury prizes at the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults' Festival  
 1989. Awarded by the "Center of Intellectual Development for Children and Young Adults", for the book "Victory"  
 1985. 1st prize winner of the 1st Iranian Graphic Designers' show  
 1980. Received an honorary diploma from Odense's 4th International Film Festival, Denmark  
 1980. 1st prize winner of the Leipzig Festival, for the Book "No Worship Is like Thinking"  
 1978. The first Prize of the Illustrators Book of Asia (Noma) for "Contemplation is the Best Worship"  
 1978. "The Voyages of Sindbad the Sailor" won first prize of Asian Illustrators  
 1977. "Malek Khorshid" won the honorary diploma, Festival International de Court Metrage pour la Jeunesse, Paris  
 1975. Won a silver plaque at the 11th edition of Chicago Film Festival  
 1975. A bronze plaque from Columbus Film Festival in Ohio, USA  
 1975. Won a bronze plaque and as well as a certificate of appreciation from the International Festival of Cartoon Films in New York  
 1974. A directed film by him named "Boasting" won Gandhi Peace Prize in the 24th World Film Festival in Berlin  
 1974. Received Artist's Award from Union of Soviet Artists  
 1974. Gold plaque from Virgin Islands Film Festival in USA

1974. Bronze plaque from Paris  
1974. First prize at International Educational Film's Festival of Lebanon  
1974. Won the bronze plaque from 12th International Festival in Cracow, Poland  
1973. Won an award from Tampere Film Festival in Finland  
1973. Won a special award from Los Angeles Festival and San Francisco Festival  
1972. Won a gold plaque at the 7th international festival of films for young  
1970. The book "Hero of Champions" won the 1st prize in the category of Asia's best illustrations







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