



MINISTRY OF NOMADS

GALLERY | SALON | ART FOUNDATION

Babak Kazemi

1983: Born, Ahvaz, Iran

2005: BA Graphic Design, Ahvaz Islamic Azad University, Iran

Select Solo Exhibitions:

2009: *Past Continuous*, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2008: *Gavmishabad*, Silk Road Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2008: *Woman*, Mehrva Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2008: *Gavmishabad Documentary*, Mah-e Mehr, Tehran, Iran

2007: H2S, Mehrva Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2003: Shahid Mofateh University Gallery, Hamedan, Iran

2001: Self-Portraits, Young Cinema Society Gallery, Ahvaz, Iran

2000: *Shalamche*, Young Cinema Society Gallery, Ahvaz, Iran

Select Group Exhibitions:

2009: Paris Photo, Paris France

2009: *101: Oil and its Aftermath*, Assar Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2009: *New Art: Political Prisoners*, Saba Cultural Centre, Tehran, Iran

2008: *Doubles*, Mehrva Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2008: Image of the Year, Iranian Artists' Forum, Tehran, Iran

2007: 1st Iranian Photography Expo, Esteghlal Hotel, Tehran, Iran

2007: Image of the Year, Iranian Artists' Forum, Tehran, Iran

2006: Photography Biennale, Saba Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran

2006: *New Art: Khorramshahr*, Saba Cultural Centre, Tehran, Iran

2006: *Ashouraian*, Akshaneh Shahr Museum, Tehran, Iran

2006: *Sea Photos*, Saba Cultural Centre, Tehran, Iran

2005: *Deeper Depression*, Tehran Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

Awards and Prizes:

2006: 1st Place Prize, Abrang Photo Festival, Mashad, Iran

2006: 1st Place Prize, Resistance Art Festival, Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran

2002: 1st Place Prize, 2nd Black and White Iran Photo, Rasht Cultural Center, Rasht, Iran

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Publications:

2009: *Past Continuous Me*, Babak Kazmi, since 1997 started my artistic activity with painting. I studied graphic design in Art school and there, I was attracted by darkroom's magic. Now I gather rubbish, I gather photo, I take photo, I montage them and make videos. I was born in 1984 in Ahvaz, the western south of Iran and several kilometers distance from the first middle east oil well. My photos are contaminated. I am contaminated too and I contaminate. My lungs are contaminated by those mortar shell fog which I was born under them. My body is contaminated by oil polluting fog which I smelled, My mind is contaminated in social upsets with its economy and politics polluted by oil.

For me photo is a visual study. And physical operations and my reaction on them are concerned as important ones. My most recent collection (Encouraging one and punishing everyone) shows my recent life period in military educational periods, and it is the presence of oil and its product which make photo economically valuable like any other object. So I pull oil and tar on photos and the result is soldiers' pictures which during a time period have reacted against oil and tar and some times had blister from oil burning.

My camera during my activity acted as a daily notebook, and then they mixed with different materials and they changed in other work. My first collections were taken from my boring place, persons and animals as among families. Those living beings who are dying for the sake of different dimensions of human being presence. Frog collection remembers us cartoon frogs which come out by explosion wave and they died under car wheels. Other collection (which never delivered by Mosaddeq) was for butterfly deadbodies which died last night by the gas coming from oil flames. An other new collection titled in (gathering plan for your birthday) includes photos from military service period in disciplinary force center force center, most of which have been gathered based on boss

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command and without special usage. These pictures are ready-mades that taken from my life moments as a collection

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