

Nastaran Safaei – INNER SELFIE

AB Gallery is delighted to present the artist Nastaran Safaei (*1984, Tehran, Iran) in her first solo exhibition in Switzerland. Safaei one of the young emerging talents of the Iranian contemporary art, has gain its international success through exceptional sculptures and installations. In her work, the artist mainly focuses on social issues with a touch of personal experiences and ironic view of these situations. In the exhibition "Inner Selfie", whose title can be loosely translated as "Inner Self Image", the artist shows various aspects of her personal "being" as a woman as well as her emotions which she is not allowed to show or even live in her country. In her art, Safaei expresses the schizophrenia, which she is at the mercy everyday: a flying chest, a bust of her head with octopus legs, her fingers and lips served as "finger food" or the installation "Simurgh", in which 30 decorated chicken were presented or served on golden plates.

The artist describes the origin of her artworks as follows: "Throughout and in the different stages of my life I have found aspects of my character that can in no way be fitted within a simple template or definition; various emotions, very conflicting at times, that I have been carrying through the ups and downs of my journey; and all the love/hate that has come my way, nested in or departed from me. My portrayal of such emotions and experiences is perceived as a dress that others use to judge me by. While in it, I have all these complex concepts and enigmas that even I cannot always define. I have attempted to include a quite personal part of my essence in my works while depicting my power over what I present others with and how I can become transparent in the face of judgments and comments. The embodiment of this, along with a contradicting sense of purity and evil – that can coexist in my soul – is displayed in my works."

Nastaran Safaei studied for an Associate Degree in Graphic Design from Sooreh University (2004) and she received a diploma in Graphic Design from Naghshe Kowsar Art School (2001). Afterwards she focussed mainly on the media sculpture and installation. Today she is a member of "The Association of Iranian Sculptures as well as co-founder of the sculpture circle "Maakous". Since 2002 her works has been exhibited in numerous solo - and group exhibition in Iran and abroad. 2013 her works has been shown in an extended solo exhibition at Etemad Gallery, Tehran and at the same time in a group exhibition entitled "Excuses": a group effort" in the Villa Kuriosum in Berlin, Germany.

From early October to late November 2014, the artist will participate at the Artist in Residence program of the ORYX Foundation Lucerne / Switzerland and create new artworks which will be presented during the exhibition.

We would like to invite you to the Open Sunday, November 23, 2014, from 11 am to 4 pm. The exhibition runs from November 23 to December 20, 2014 in the AB Gallery Lucerne.

For more information please give us a call: + 41 41 982 08 80, write us an email: office@ab-gallery.com or visit our website: www.ab-gallery.com.