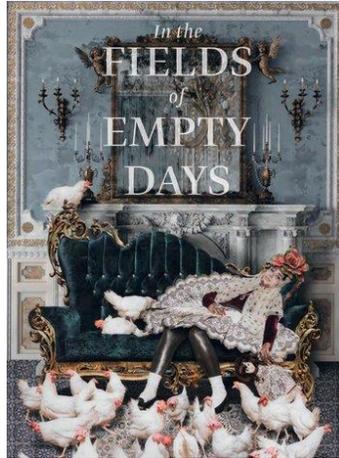


LACMA Publishes Catalogue to Accompany *In the Fields of Empty Days: The Intersection of Past and Present in Iranian Art*



(Los Angeles—February 22, 2018) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is pleased to announce the publication of a catalogue accompanying the exhibition *In the Fields of Empty Days: The Intersection of Past and Present in Iranian Art* (on view May 6–September 9, 2018). The 208-page book is designed by Lorraine Wild and Xiaoqing Wang of Los Angeles-based Green Dragon Office and co-published by LACMA and DelMonico Books • Prestel. Filled with vibrant examples of painting, photography, sculpture, video, and other media, this book reveals how Iran’s leading artists weave the country’s past into the fabric of its contemporary art.

The catalogue includes essays written by Linda Komaroff, curator of Islamic art and department head of Art of the Middle East at LACMA, and contributions from Sheila R. Canby, Sheida Dayani, Hamid Keshmirshakan, Hani Khafipour, Vali Mahlouji, Shabnam Rahimi-Golkhandan, Shadi Shafiei, and Sandra Williams. The book also explores how pre-Modern artists first began to manipulate time by visually shifting the past into the present as demonstrated by Persian miniature painting, in particular illustrated versions of the *Shahnama*, or Book of Kings, the Iranian national epic. Statements from prominent contemporary artists consider the creative means by which they evoke the past to address present-day social and political concerns. Designed to promote fluid movement between the historical and the modern, this wide-ranging book offers a unique and important exploration of a country with a rich and complicated heritage.

On view from May 6–September 9, 2018, *In the Fields of Empty Days: The Intersection of Past and Present in Iranian Art* brings forth both historical and contemporary Iranian works that highlight ways in which artists have used and continue to use the past as a metaphor for present day. The exhibition examines this appropriation of the past, largely in the context of the present, through 125 works of art in a variety of media including photography, painting, sculpture, video, posters, political cartoons, animation, and historical illustrated manuscripts. More than 50 artists are featured—many of whom are active and working today—including Pouya Afshar, Fereydoun Ave, Siamak Filizadeh, Shadi Ghadirian, Ramin Haerizadeh, Shirin Neshat, Parviz Tanavoli, and Newsha Tavakolian. In focusing on the intersection of past and present, *In the Fields of Empty Days* offers a novel approach to viewing anachronisms in Iranian art.

\$60 | Member Price: \$54

Hardcover, 208 pages, 8.6 x 11.8 x 0.9 inches, 180 color illustrations

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Credit: This exhibition was organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

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About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, mirroring Los Angeles's rich cultural heritage and uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection of over 135,000 objects that illuminate 6,000 years of art history from new and unexpected points of view. A museum of international stature as well as a vital cultural center for Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collection with the Greater Los Angeles County and beyond through exhibitions, public programs, and research facilities that attract over 1.5 million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions more through community partnerships, school outreach programs, and creative digital initiatives. LACMA's main campus is located halfway between the ocean and downtown, adjacent to the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum and the future home of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. Dedicated to serving all of Los Angeles, LACMA collaborates with a range of curators, educators, and artists on exhibitions and programs at various sites throughout the County.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

Press Contact

Erin Yokomizo | Communications Associate | eyokomizo@lacma.org | 323 932-5825

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