

From 18 Avril to May 3rd 2012,  
L'espace Le Commun, Bâtiment d'Art Contemporain (BAC), 28 rue des Bains (rez),  
1205 Geneva-Switzerland.

You are invited to "Survivals", second contemporary art exhibitions of the Iranian artists curated by Mojgan Endjavi-Barbé

Choosing SURVIVAL as a theme for this exhibition, Endjavi-Barbé has picked her artists from Iran's contemporary arts scene. Three generations of artists who, like their predecessors, have mastered the art of self-expression without getting involved in social or political trends. All belonging to the post-revolution generation, the artists have the art of survival through the thick and thin of life in Iran, as well as developing their very own unique styles.

The survivor is an outsider. He is from here but not of here. He is contemporary but not of the day. He is familiar but not one of us. The survivor is an outsider.

"Survivor" is a controversial term. A person born in the Middle East will always be a survivor throughout his life. A survivor of centuries of religious and political dominance. A survivor of wars that occur all around, wars over oil and ideology, and wars over tradition and modernity. My generation is the survivor of street combats, a struggle for freedom from the dominion of conventions and laws. At the same time, the Iranian artist is a survivor of conflicts between Eastern and Western traditions, an East that no longer wants him, and a West that considers him an outsider.

My job is to depict this struggle for existence. It is to express on pieces of paper, these enmities that require peace more than war. I want to have everything all at once. These things show up in my work in the form of disfigured masses merged into one another. I am not alone here. There is a world of survivors living here with me. Survivor is not a vague concept, it is just very complex.

I am an outsider who does not scream; I only whisper. [Amir Farahd April 2012](#)

"Survivors" includes works of

Sadegh Tirafkan's photographs from the "Endless Series";

Houman Mortazavi's "Self-Defense" series;

Amir Farhad's ink on paper & silk screen ;

Vahid Jafarnejad's paintings;

Yasser Mirzaee's "War Paintings",

Also a joint photo project by Ramyar Manoucherzadeh and Ali Nadjian – "We live in a Paradoxical Society".

## CONTEMPORARY ART FROM IRAN

Endjavi-Barbé Art Projects 24 Chemin de Sous Caran, 1245 Collonge  
Bellerive, Switzerland Tel: +41 79 670 36 93 Fax: +41 22 789 48 81

<http://mojganendjavi.com/contact.html>