

## **We Keep Reviewing: Part 2 by Moslem Khezri**

**November 13 - December 24, 2020**

Khezri's latest works are an extension of his earlier series, We Keep Reviewing, which was exhibited in August 2019. The first series was very well received during this year's online Art Dubai event, even though the physical program had to be canceled to comply with social distancing protocols of the Covid-19 pandemic. We Keep Reviewing series are due to be presented at Art Dubai 2021.

We Keep Reviewing: Part 2 illustrates the artist's continued explorations through the voids and openings of the same all-boys school, recording different facets of the ongoing dynamic between the adolescent figures and their rectilinear, somewhat claustrophobic educational environment. Again, daylight plays a key part in the visual narrative, albeit this time with a muted presence. The striking chiaroscuro between those lucent traces of sunshine and the deep shadows cast on faces and figures has been largely replaced by a rather dull balance which results in a dim, indirect, moody light. The shorter the school days become in these frames, the more the viewers and the schoolboys both long for brightness.

Through their solids and voids alike, Moslem Khezri's frames each visualize some kind of presence: the presence of light; human presence within architecture; the vibrations of shared emotion in space; the teacher's invisible but palpable authority; the thick presence of regulations; time's constant presence, and the incessant birth of memories; even the stealthy presence of the audience.

One of the main features of this series is the increasingly ethereal quality of colors and forms. Most of the works are done in pencils and watercolor, tools which inherently yield such qualities. But the painter has gone even further to strip his oil paint technique of the common impasto effects and richness, to create an effect similar to watercolor or Copic markers; reminiscent of Turner's masterful, misleading oil painting depictions of the vaporous dominance of dim sunlight and fog over his landscapes.

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### **About the artist**

Moslem Khezri (b. 1984, Kerman, Iran) received his BA in painting from the University of Sistan and Baluchestan, Zahedan, in 2008, and an MA in painting from Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, in 2011. Khezri has been a lecturer at Semnan University (2011 - 2015) and Soore University, Tehran (2017 - 2018). His solo exhibitions include Bootia Gallery, Kerman (2006); A Cursory Induction at 26 Gallery, Tehran (2015); We Keep Reviewing at SARADIPOUR Art Gallery, Mahshahr (2019). Khezri's works have been displayed in numerous group exhibitions, some of which are Iranian Painters Association, Saba Art Gallery, Tehran (2012); Selected Works by Aydin Khankeshipour, No. 6 Gallery, Tehran (2015); Iranian Cultural Center in Paris, Paris (2017); Art Feast 7: Figurative, Iranian Artists

Forum, Tehran (2019). He also received great acclaim at Art Dubai 2020, Solo Bawwaba section, for his We Keep Reviewing series. Working in publications as writer and editor, Khezri has been in cooperation with Herfeh Honarmand Magazine (since 2010) and Shiveh Bimonthly (since 2016). In 2016, his articles were published in the book Dar Jost-o Juy-e Zaman-e No [In Search of a New Era], Herfeh Honarmand Publishing House, Tehran. He also helped write the book titled Naghashan-e Figurativ-e Iran [Figurative Painters of Iran], Nazar Publication, Tehran, in 2018.

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## CV

Born on April 9, 1984, Kerman, Iran.

### Education:

- 2008 BA in painting, University of Sistan and Baluchestan, Zahedan.
- 2011 MA in painting, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran.

### Work Experience:

- 2017-2018 Lecturer, Soore University, Tehran
- 2011-2015 Lecturer, Semnan University, Semnan

### Selected Solo Exhibitions:

- 2019 We Keep Reviewing: Part 1, SARADIPOUR Art gallery, Bandar-e Mahshahr
- 2015 A Cursory Induction, 26 Gallery, Tehran
- 2006 Solo exhibition, Bootia Gallery, Kerman

### Selected Group Exhibitions:

- 2019 Art Feast 7: Figurative, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran
- 2018 Drawing as Living: Selected by Amir Soqrati, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran
- 2017 Group exhibition, Iranian Cultural Center in Paris, Paris, France
- 2016 Group exhibition, Gallery 26, Tehran
- 2015 Group exhibition selected by Aydin Khankeshpour, No. 6 Gallery, Tehran
- 2013 Three Galleries, Three Shows, Art Center Gallery, Tehran
- 2012 Group exhibition by Iran Painters Association, Saba Art Gallery, Tehran

### Bibliography:

- 2018 Writing and compilation of the book entitled “Naghashan-e Figurativ-e Iran ” [Figurative Painters of Iran], Nazar Publication, Tehran
  - 2016 Cooperation and writing articles for the book entitled “Dar Jost-o Juy-e Zaman-e No” [In Search Of A New Era], compiled by Iman Afsarian, Herfeh Honarmand Publishing House, Tehran
  - 2016 (up to present) Editor of the visual arts section of Shiveh Bimonthly
  - 2010 (up to present) Cooperation with Herfeh Honarmand Magazine
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### About SARADIPOUR Art International

SARADIPOUR Art International is a contemporary gallery dedicated first and foremost to introducing Middle Eastern visual arts. Founded by Hassan Saradipour in 2018, our gallery serves as a platform to showcase both emerging and established artists internationally by organizing exhibitions, defining regional and international competitions and joint events, and publishing bodies of works by artists.

As the cradle of civilizations, we believe that the historically, culturally and geopolitically significant region of the Middle East and North Africa is still suffering from the lack of a robust, dedicated platform to represent its creative forces, and all that has been done so far has come from a rather external viewpoint. Our mission is to be the voice that comes from the inside out. With our passionate, relatively young team of various creative backgrounds, our vision is to expand our represented area from Iran to its neighboring countries and towards other countries in the rest of ME, North Africa and beyond, following traces of fresh potentials, cultural affinities and a mutual desire to express and grow.

As a step in this direction and a creative response to COVID19 challenges, we launched Khor Art Initiative in march 2020; a nation-wide open call with the objectives of bringing financial and creative vitality back to the art community by creating a competitive event and promoting the winners via organizing multi-platform online shows and introducing the artists on social media. The project proved successful. A high profile regional and international jury of gallerists, curators, critics, and artists including Christian Viveros-Fauné, Gorka Garcia Herrera, Iva Gueorguieva, Janet Rady, Karim Nasr, Katie Grinnan, Kenny Schacter, Nancy Adajania, and Nicola Samori graciously accepted to review the submissions. This resulted in the selection of 55 mostly little-known, young painters of great quality and dedication. Due to the pandemic and to further support the artists, the gallery has waived its commission from sales in this event. Our next step is to turn ‘Khor’ into an annual art prize whose scope will expand each year to include other countries in the Middle Eastern and North African region. Moreover, our long-term plan is to develop Khor into a magazine of international standards dedicated to visual arts developments of the region.