

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



In blue: a momentary assembly of the absent, the impossible, and the hopeful

Reyhan Yazdani

In blue: a momentary assembly of the absent, the impossible, and the hopeful, Reyhan Yazdani's first solo show in Vancouver considers the displacement of objects and people, legacies of dispossession and the generational, geographical and terrestrial experiences of loss and yearning. Through creative processes of transformation, reorientation, fragmentation, replication and modification, Yazdani thinks through museum archives of objects, images, and narratives – often visited with limited online access.

In this body of work presented at Seymour Art Gallery, Yazdani engages with an online archive of folios from the *Shahnama* (Book of Kings) by Abu'l Qasim Firdausi (Iranian, Paj ca. 940/41–1020 Tus) in possession of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This manuscript, created in Tabriz, Iran, dates back to 1530 and has been migrated and exchanged between more than ten ownerships as a gift. In interacting with these uprooted materials, Yazdani prompts questions such as: *What happens to landscapes and geographies that have been excavated of their generational and cultural heritage? What do displaced bodies – of objects and people – have in common, and what does their interaction look like in diaspora? Who gets to be preserved and cared for and who is left behind?*

Yazdani is curious about the generative space of recalibration. Her work aims to articulate the stretching of time and space that shapes displacement as an embodied experience of simultaneity, ambiguity and wonder while mediating between the historical and contemporary.

Reyhan Yazdani (she/her) is an interdisciplinary artist and designer currently based in Vancouver, the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Selilwítlh (Tsilil-Waututh) people. Her research-driven work migrates between a range of media including works on paper, objects, social invitations, and poetry to engage with ontological, material and spatial inquiries around and about themes of exile, language, and diaspora.

July 22 – August 31, 2024

Exhibition Reception: Sunday, July 28 from 2 – 4 p.m.

Paper-making workshop with Reyhan Yazdani: Sunday, August 25 at 2 p.m.

Image credit: Reyhan Yazdani

For more information, please contact curator/director Vanessa Black at 604-924-1378 or curator@seymourartgallery.com The Seymour Art Gallery is a non-profit, public gallery located in the heart of Deep Cove, North Vancouver. 4360 Gallant Ave, North Vancouver BC, www.seymourartgallery.com, 604-924-1378 Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., except holidays | free admission