

News Release

Collected Memories, New Trends in Iranian painting 9 – 27 October 2007, ArtSpace Galleries, London.

London showcase for over 100 contemporary Iranian paintings

'**Collected Memories – New Trends in Iranian Painting**' seeks to introduce the best of contemporary Iranian painting to the international audience. Timed to coincide with Art London (4-8th October) and the Frieze Art Fair (11-14th October) this exhibition represents a major opportunity to get beneath the surface of today's Iran and to become better acquainted with the work of some of Iran's most gifted and exciting young painters.

'**Collected Memories**' will take place between 9-27 October at the ArtSpace Galleries, Maddox Street, W1.

Over one hundred paintings by over thirty young Iranian painters will be on show, some of whom have begun to establish international reputations and some who are showing internationally for the first time. A large number of these artists are now attracting the attention of international collectors and the major international auction houses.

'**Collected Memories**' brings together artists who "collect" and fix memories in their personal endeavour to describe their own Iran. The collection uncovers many common features as artists aim at grasping and fixing places of memory through which today's Iranian society identifies itself. Symbols, signs, figures and other visual instruments combine to render the historical, geographical and cultural items of the new Iranian generation.

'**Collected Memories**' is produced by 12+1 Art Associates in Tehran in association with the London-based Cultural Consultancy Candlestar Ltd. Morad Sagafi, Director of 12+1 Art Associates explains the thinking behind **Collected Memories**, 'According to many distinguished commentators there is a renewed vigor in contemporary Iranian painting. The paintings are modern, not in the sense that they belong to a defined moment in time. In many cases the artists who have made these paintings have rewritten the past from the viewpoint of the present. The artists who have made these new paintings have found a new language with which to describe their history.' Fariba Farshad, Director of Candlestar, says '**Collected Memories** is the first in a series of projects in contemporary Iranian art that the agency have planned for London and Dubai.'

Iranian art has long functioned as a channel of communication between the country and the outside world, representing alternative images usually much closer to the actual realities in Iranian society. This year has witnessed the rise of Iranian painting across the world in both the international art sales in New York, London and Dubai and in major exhibitions, including the "Wishes and Dreams" exhibition currently touring the US.

For more further information visit www.candlestar.co.uk

Ends

Notes to editors:

- A full artists' list is attached
- 'Collected Memories' is produced by 12+1 Arts Associates, www.12plus1.net in association with Candlestar.
- Candlestar Ltd. is an international cultural agency specialising in communications, collaboration, public affairs and production for individual artists, designers, major education and cultural institutions. For more information visit www.candlestar.co.uk

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Artist List

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9 – 27 October 2007, ArtSpace Galleries, London.

Abbassian, Sarah
Adambakan, Alireza
Afraz, Golnaz
Agharabi, Azin and Massoumi, Alireza
Ahmadi, Shahriar
Alikhanzadeh, Samira
Amini, Maryam
Chitsaz, Ali
Ebrahim, Omid
Ebrahimi Qajar, Elika
Edalatkah, Hossein
Fathi, Golnaz
Farajiana, Negar
Ghaemi, Ali
Ghandtchi, Shirin
Hamedi, Ahoo
Hamzeh, Mohammad
Hassanzadeh, Khosrow
Hedayat, Reza
Jahangir, Farid
Lavassani, Reza
Massoumi, Omid
Mehran, Shohreh
Morshedloo, Ahmad
Navabi, Bahareh
Soltani, Hossein
Tabibzadeh, Golnar
Varasteh, Roshanak
Zad, Ramtine
Zakerameli, Shantia

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