



Sheida Soleimani. *Daryam*, 2017.

**Myth, Memory, Migration:
Stories from the Asian Diaspora**
Curated by Tiffany Jaeyeon Shin

January 26 - February 23 | Opening reception January 26, 6-8

Featuring: Amna Asghar, Dana Davenport, Umber Majeed, Tammy Nguyen, Ke Peng, Sahana Ramakrishnan, Sheida Soleimani

The New York Art Residency and Studios (NARS) Foundation is delighted to announce the opening of *Myth, Memory, Migration: Stories from the Asian Diaspora*, a group exhibition curated by Tiffany Jaeyeon Shin, winner of the 2017 NARS Emerging Curator Program Open Call.

Stories from the Asian Diaspora addresses the interconnections between race, sexuality, class, and debility in relation to cultural myths, migration, and memory. In dismantling the notion of a singular Asian identity, the artists from West, Central, South, Southeast, and East Asian diaspora highlight the complexity in their layered and transnational identities. They investigate the ways in which interweaving histories and ongoing legacies such as colonialism, US militarism, anti-blackness, and Islamophobia construct our understanding of and positionality to Asian identity through archiving, translating, and excavating myths, oral stories, and family lineages.

Amna Asghar speaks on the construction and translation of disparate references, cultures, geographies, and generations from Pakistan and America; **Dana Davenport** addresses the complexity of interminority racism within her own community and institutions from her experiences as a Black Korean American; **Umber Majeed**'s practice attempts to unpack the temporalities within South Asia as site, familial archival material, popular culture, and modern national state narratives; **Tammy Nguyen** interrogates natural sciences and non-human forms to explore racial intimacies and US military involvement in the Pacific Rim; **Ke Peng** documents the feeling of alienation and disorientation from urbanization and immigration by taking a journey into an imagined childhood in China, Hunan, where she was born and Shenzhen, a modern city where her family relocates to; **Sahana Ramakrishnan** explores myths and religion from Buddhist and Hindu tales to speak upon the magic of childhood and the power dynamics of sexuality, race, and violence; **Sheida Soleimani** is an Iranian-American artist and a daughter of political refugees, making work to highlight her critical perspective on the historical and contemporary socio-political occurrences in Iran.

Public programming:

Friday, January 26, 7:00 PM

Performance by exhibiting artist, Dana Davenport

Thursday, February 1, 6:30-8:30 PM

Exhibiting artist panel

Thursday, February 15 | 6:30-8:30 PM

Roundtable discussion with community organizers and activists

Panelists: Mieko Gavia, independent writer; Monica Mohapatra, board member of South Asian Diaspora Artist Collective; Mark Tseng-Putterman, writer and PhD student, Brown University Department of American Studies; Ambika Trasi, artist, board member of South Asian Women's Creative Collective, curatorial assistant at the Whitney Museum of American Art; Betty Yu, multi-media artist, educator and co-founder of Chinatown Art Brigade

Tiffany Jaeyeon Shin (b. 1993) explores the interconnections between sexuality, gender, and transgression; history, memory, and cultural myths; and social hierarchy in relationship to coloniality. Shin uses Taoist indigenous knowledge to explore the porousness of bodily boundaries and the ceaseless movement of living processes, like fermentation, echoing the history of colonialism. Shin is interested in entangling the history of conquest and the literal digestion of materials - herbs, medicine, and food - into a new system of relations that emerge from a complicated history of entanglement. Shin has exhibited at Trestle Gallery, Local Project, Abrons Arts Center, Miranda Kuo Gallery, and many others. Shin exhibited her first solo show at the AC Institute. Shin works and lives in Brooklyn, NY.

About NARS Foundation:

The New York Art Residency and Studios (NARS) Foundations a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization committed to supporting artists and curators on an international and local level. Reflecting this mission, the annual Emerging Curator Exhibition Program offers an individual or curatorial collective to organize a conceptually cohesive group show at the NARS Foundation Gallery, encouraging new dialogue and creating a platform for emerging curators to experiment and exchange ideas with the public.

NARS Foundation
201 46th Street, 4th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11220

Gallery Hours:
Monday - Friday: 12-5 pm, or by appointment

For further information, please contact us at www.narsfoundation.org / info@narsfoundation.org / 718-768-2765.



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