

SITE SANTA FE

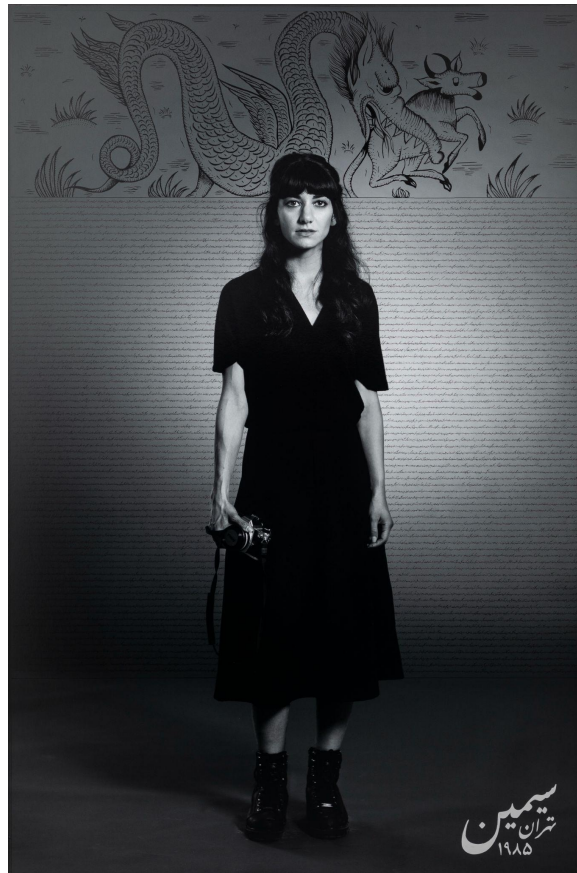
SITE SANTA FE PRESENTS THE NEW MEXICO PREMIERE OF
SHIRIN NESHAT'S SOLO EXHIBITION, *LAND OF DREAMS*.

October 7, 2022 - January 16, 2023
Opening Weekend Events: October 7-8, 2022

(Santa Fe, NM, September 22, 2022) –
SITE Santa Fe presents *Land of Dreams*, a
solo exhibition by Iranian-American artist and
filmmaker Shirin Neshat from October 7,
2022, through January 16, 2023.

The exhibition features a selection of film,
video, and photography and is centered on a
series of portraits created in New Mexico in
2019. *Land of Dreams* is a multidisciplinary
project that combines the artist's unique and
intimate approach to portraiture with an
imaginative yet documentary-like journey
through the subconscious mind.

The exhibition presents one hundred and
eleven photographs of New Mexico residents,
embellished with Neshat's signature use of
Farsi calligraphy and illustrations referencing
ancient symbols of dream interpretation.
Accompanying the portraits is a two-channel
video installation set against the cinematic
landscape of New Mexico. The first video
follows a young Iranian photographer who is
traveling door-to-door, creating portraits of strangers and collecting their dreams. The second
video transports the viewer into a sterile bureaucratic setting where the dreams she collects
are logged and analyzed.



Alongside *Land of Dreams* is Neshat's *Dreamer's Trilogy* (2013-2016), three short films which draw inspiration from the artist's own recurring dreams and universal themes of isolation, fear, and anxiety. Together, these two video installations reflect one another, mirroring layers of ambiguity between dreams and reality, fiction and memory.

Complementing the exhibition is *The Making of Shirin Neshat's Land of Dreams*, a documentary by Sophie Chahinian at SITE Santa Fe, as well as a screening of Neshat's feature length film *Land of Dreams* (2021) starring actors Sheila Vand, Matt Dillon, Isabella Rosallini, and Anna Gunn at The Violet Crown Cinema. During the course of the exhibition, SITE Santa Fe will offer a wide range of programs, including a film series curated by Shirin Neshat in partnership with SITE Santa Fe and the Center for Contemporary Art.

In conjunction with the exhibition SITE Santa Fe and Radius Books published a major publication on *Land of Dreams*, featuring introspective writings by curator Brandee Caoba and Lucy R. Lippard, as well as a selection of vivid images from the series.

[Opening Weekend Events:](#)

Two Openings One Night: Shirin Neshat and Max Cole
Friday, October 7, 2022 5:00-9:00 pm

Celebrate the opening of two solo exhibitions, Shirin Neshat: *Land of Dreams* and Max Cole: *Endless Journey* with musical performances by Nacha Mendez and Lone Piñon, drinks by Altar Spirits, and food by a local food truck.

My Life in Art: Shirin Neshat in Conversation with Lucy R. Lippard
Saturday, October 8, 2022 2:00 pm

Join SITE Santa Fe for a *My Life in Art* talk between exhibiting artist Shirin Neshat and celebrated art historian and critic Lucy R. Lippard.

Land of Dreams Screening at the Violet Crown Cinema
Saturday, October 8, 2022 4:30 pm

Join SITE Santa Fe and the Violet Crown Cinema for an opening weekend screening of Shirin Neshat's feature length film, *Land of Dreams*. Neshat will introduce the film and host a Q&A with Shoja Azari afterwards.

[About the Artist](#)

Shirin Neshat (b. 1957 Qazvin, Iran) is an Iranian-born artist and filmmaker living in New York. Her photographs and video installations are highly poetic and politically charged images and narratives that question issues of power, religion, race, gender, and relationships between past and present, occident and orient, individual and collective through the lens of her personal

Shirin Neshat: *Land of Dreams*

experiences as an Iranian living in exile. Neshat's early photographic works include the *Women of Allah* series (1993–1997), which explored the question of gender in relation to Islamic fundamentalism and militancy. Her subsequent video works departed from overtly political content or critique in favor of more poetic imagery and complex human narratives.

Neshat continues to explore and experiment with the mediums of photography, video, and film. Her most recent bodies of work include the photographic series *Land of Dreams* (2019), *The Home of My Eyes* (2015) and the *Dreamers Trilogy*, comprised of three video installations: *Illusions and Mirrors* (2013), *Roja* (2016), and *Sarah* (2016).

Neshat has directed three feature-length films, *Women Without Men* (2009), which received the Silver Lion Award for Best Director at the 66th Venice International Film Festival, *Looking For Oum Kulthum* (2017), and most recently, *Land of Dreams*, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival (2021).

Neshat has held numerous solo exhibitions at museums internationally, including the Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich (2022); Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth (2021); The Broad, Los Angeles (2020); Museo Correr, Venice (2017); Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C. (2015); Detroit Institute of Arts (2013); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2006); Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2005); the Serpentine Gallery, London (2000); and Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (2001).

Neshat has been awarded the Golden Lion Award, the First International Prize at the 48th Biennale di Venezia (1999), the Hiroshima Freedom Prize (2005), and the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize (2006). In 2017, she received the prestigious Praemium Imperiale Award in Tokyo

Neshat directed her first opera, Verdi's *Aida*, at the Salzburg Festival In 2017, which was restaged in 2022.

She is represented by Gladstone Gallery in New York and Goodman Gallery in London.

Thank you

Support for *Land of Dreams* is generously provided by Gay Block and Billie Parker, Cornelia Bryer and Herman Siegelaar, Elaine and Ken Cole, Marleen De Bode and Marc Olivié, Bobbie Foshay, Barbara Gladstone, Diane and Werner Grob, Helen Kornblum, Rosina Yue, SITE Santa Fe Board of Directors, SITE Santa Fe Annual Exhibition Fund, and Radius Books.

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Image Credit

Shirin Neshat

Simin, from Land of Dreams series, 2019

Digital c-print with ink and acrylic paint

81 x 54 inches (205.7 x 137.2 cm)

© Shirin Neshat

Courtesy of the artist and Gladstone Gallery

About SITE Santa Fe

SITE Santa Fe nurtures innovation, discovery, and inspiration through the art of today. Founded in 1995 to establish the first international contemporary art biennial in the United States, SITE Santa Fe is a non-collecting art institution committed to supporting new developments in contemporary art, encouraging artistic exploration, and expanding traditional museum experiences. Since its launch, SITE Santa Fe has presented 11 international biennials, more than 95 contemporary art exhibitions, and works by hundreds of emerging and established artists from around the world and right here in New Mexico. SITE Santa Fe also presents a wide range of public and educational programs that include conversations with artists and curators, performances, film screenings, concerts, hands-on workshops, and collaborations with dozens of local schools and community organizations.

VISUALS AVAILABLE

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