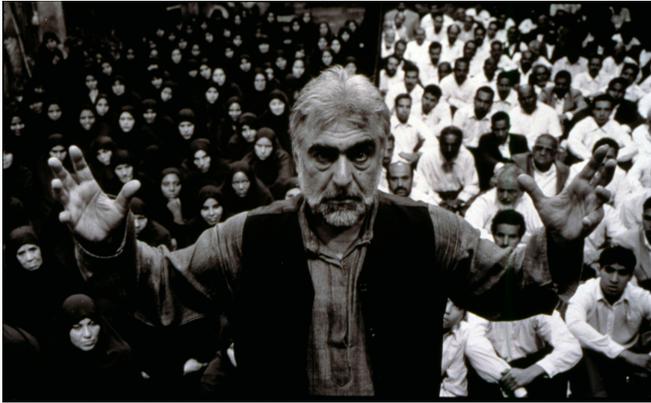


EXHIBITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Hilliard University Art Museum
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
710 East Saint Mary Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70503

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Shirin Neshat. *Fervor*, 2000. Film Still (Photo by Larry Barns). Copyright Shirin Neshat. Courtesy Gladstone Gallery, New York and Brussels

Shirin Neshat: *Fervor*

Exhibition Dates: September 7, 2018– January 19, 2019

Reception Date: Friday, September 7, 2018

The Hilliard University Art Museum is pleased to announce the solo exhibition of film and media artist Shirin Neshat. As part of a continuing series of exhibitions focused on historically significant film and video artists, the museum will feature Neshat's dual-channel video *Fervor*.

Shirin Neshat creates art with a cosmopolitan feel that is as moving as it is relatable. Born in Iran, she was pursuing her education in the United States during the Islamic Revolution of 1979. The revolution prevented her from returning home for nearly 20 years and when she did, Iran was entirely transformed. The shift from a Persian culture to an Islamic one was jarring for Neshat as she had no real connection to the transition. During her trip home she resolved to create artwork as a means of understanding this cultural shift, and as a way of creating a sense of closeness to her homeland. Ironically, her artwork is the reason Neshat is no longer welcome in Iran.

Filmed in Morocco in 2000, *Fervor* is a two-channel video that takes place in an allegorical Iran. The video features a female protagonist on one screen and a male protagonist on the other. They pass on foot in route to a gathering where a mullah preaches to a segregated crowd about being chaste. The two characters give each other sideways glances and do not act on their clearly amorous desires. Their love remains unrequited, their relationship unresolved. This understated work of art is titillating and frustrating, revealing Neshat's layered intentions. She is specifically interested in the problematic position of concepts like temptation, sexuality, and desire in the Middle East, but is more broadly interested in the tension created between individuals and the social order.

Upon request, press and media kits are available that include high resolution images and selected literature on the artist.

Museum Hours, Admission & General Information

The Hilliard University Art Museum is located at 710 East Saint Mary Boulevard, on the campus of University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Museum Hours are: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM; Saturday, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM; closed Sunday and

Monday. General Admission: \$5 Adults, \$4 Seniors (62+), \$3 Students (5-17). FREE for Members, UL Students/Staff/Faculty with identification, and visitors under 5. Guided tours of the galleries are available Friday & Saturday at 2 PM, complimentary with admission. For general information, please visit HilliardMuseum.org or call 337-482-2278.

About the Hilliard Museum

The Hilliard University Art Museum operates on the campus of University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and was originally founded in 1964 as the Art Center for Southwestern Louisiana. Featuring a state-of-the-art modern facility that was erected in 2004, the museum houses more than 2,200 objects in its permanent collection, and is the largest art exhibition space between New Orleans and Houston. The Hilliard serves a wide range of educational and cultural needs by fostering cross-disciplinary intellectual discourse on campus, and throughout the region. At the core of the Hilliard's mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit the art of our time, while celebrating the great diversity of Louisiana's heritage.

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