

# Raheleh Filsoofi

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Born in Tehran, Iran - Based in Nashville, TN, USA  
Selected and Updated: July 1, 2024

## EDUCATION

2014 Master of Fine Art, Ceramics, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL, USA.

1999 Bachelor of Fine Art, Studio and Craft, Al-Zahra University, Tehran, Iran.

## SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS

2023 Joan Michelle Fellowship, New Orleans, LA.

MacDowell Fellowship, Peterborough, NH.

Tennessee Arts Commission Arts Access Grant for *The Resonance of the Lands: Finding Identity and Place in Tennessee Through Clay, Music, and Community*, Nashville, TN.

2022 Winner, Society 1858 Prize for Contemporary Southern Art, The Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.

The Steinert Family Dean's Faculty Fellowship in Race, Racial Justice, or Social Justice for 2022-2024, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

2021 Tennessee Arts Commission Arts Access Grant for *Listening: The Fourth String*, Nashville, TN.

2021 Southern Prize Tennessee State Fellowship, Atlanta, GA.

NCECA Helene Zucker Seeman Curatorial, Research, and Critical Writing Fellowship for Women, The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA).

2020 The Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation Grant, in Collaboration with Dr. Katherine McAllen for Curatorial Project "Uncovered Space" in International Museum of Art and Science, McAllen, TX.

2019 "The Outstanding International Female Faculty Award", University of Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX.

2018 Paul Hanna Lecture Award, Texas Association School of Art (TASA), South Texas College, McAllen, TX.

2017 South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship Award for Visual and Media Artists, Miami, FL.

2016 Dave Bown Projects - 12th Semiannual Competition (Jurors: Kathleen Goncharov, Irene Hofmann, Al Miner) Award of Excellence, New York, NY.

## RESIDENCIES

2024 Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, St. Augustine, FL.

2023 MacDowell Residency, Peterborough, NH.

Watershed Ceramic Residency, Edgecombe, ME.

- 2022 The Loghaven Artist Residency, Knoxville, TN.  
The Pentaculum, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN.
- 2019-22 The Chautauqua School of Art Summer Residency, Chautauqua, NY. (Four-year summer residency)

**SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONSES and PERFORMANCES (\*Two Person)**

- 2024 \**The Resonance of the Lands*, Exhibition and Performance in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, The 204 Gallery, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2023-24 *Imagined Boundaries*, The Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.
- 2023 Diphtheria, Multimedia Installation, Atlanta Contemporary, Atlanta, GA.  
  
\**Listening: The Fourth String*, Music Performance in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, Ingram Hall, The Blair School of Art, Nashville, TN.  
  
*Say Their Names (Against Oblivion)*, Performance, NCECA's 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, *Current*, Duke Energy Convention Center, Cincinnati, OH.
- 2022 *Debated Narrative*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, Engage Project, Chicago, IL.  
  
\**Listening: The Fourth String*, Interactive Multimedia Installations and Performances, The New Gallery, The Department of Art + Design, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN.  
  
*Artifacting*, Video and Ceramic Objects, Unrequired Leisure Gallery, Nashville, TN.  
  
*Bite* (Performance) in Conjunction with the Exhibition *Between Lands*, at the Southern Exposure Gallery in San Francisco, Arrowmont Auditorium, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN.
- 2021 \**Bite*, Ceramic Objects, Photography, Single Channel Video in *Intersection*, The Engage Projects, Chicago, IL.
- 2020 *Inh(a/i)bited*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, Spinello Project Gallery, Miami, FL.
- 2019 *The Overview Effect*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, Betty Foy Sanders Gallery, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA.
- 2018 *On Transcending the Inhibited Space*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, O'kane Gallery, University of Houston Downtown, Houston, TX.
- 2017 *Imagined Boundaries*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, Abad Gallery, Tehran, Iran.

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 *Bite*, One Chanel Video Installation in *Dug Deeper*, the Vernon Filley Art Museum, Pratt, KS.  
  
*Odyssey*, One Chanel Video Installation in *Women Working with Clay: A Shared Purpose*, the Valentine Museum, Richmond, VA.
- 2023-24 *Odyssey*, One Chanel Video Installation in *Bold!*, *Ceramics Biennial*, Giertz Gallery, Parkland College, Champaign, IL.
- 2023 *Only Sound Remains* and *Where is Hezar Afsan?*, Multimedia Installations in *Thinking Historically in the Presence*, Sharjah Biennial 15, Sharjah, The United Arab Emirate.

- Imagined Boundaries Episode 3 (Facing the South, Facing the World)*, Multi-Channel Video Installation in Southern Voices/Global Visions, The R.O.B, Lake City, SC.
- 2022-33 *Odyssey*, One Chanel Video Installation in *The Future is Female*, 21c Museum Hotel, Nashville, TN.
- 2022 *Bite*, Ceramic Objects and Single Channel Video in, *2022 NCECA Annual – Belonging*, The Crocker Museum, Sacramento, CA.
- A Transient's Paradox*, Ceramic Objects, Wire, Sound and Single Channel Video in *Fragile Earth*, The Grounds for Sculpture Museum, Hamilton, NJ.
- Learning the Rope*, Three Channel Video Installation in *Fail*, The Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA.
- 2021 *The 2021 Southern Prize and State Fellowship Recipient Exhibition, A Symmetrical Despondency, Inh(a/i)bited Space and Imagined Boundaries – Episode 2 (Alert; Miscommunication)*, Multimedia and Interactive installations, The Bo Bartlett Center, Columbus, GA.
- Bite*, Ceramic Objects and Single Channel Video in *Objects of Faith, Healing and Transformation*, The Fine Art Gallery at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- Imagined Boundaries*, Multimedia Installation in *Tenacity*, Strohl Art Center, Chautauqua, NY.
- 2020 *Halal #2*, Installation in Zieher Collective, Virgin Hotel, Nashville, TN.
- Halal #1*, Ceramics and Light in *Work Up*, C24 Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2019 *Halal #1*, Ceramics and Light in *Grounded*, Spinello Project Gallery, Miami, FL.
- A Symmetrical Despondency*, Interactive Multimedia Installation in *YOU AM I*, Veronique Wantz Gallery, NCECA, Minneapolis, MN.
- ...still traveling*, Video in *Polyopia*, Art Warehouse, Delray Beach, FL.
- 2018 *The Peace Cylinder*, Performance in Collaboration with Artist Linda Behar and Musicians Reza Filsoofi and Susana Behar, Rosemary Duffy Larson Gallery, Davie, FL.
- Imagined Boundaries*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, in *Dual Frequency*, Art and Cultural Center, Hollywood, FL.
- 2017 *...still traveling...* Interactive Multimedia Installation, in *Frontier*, the Second International Ceramic Based Exhibition, Tehran, Iran.
- Diphtheria and Soliloquy: the chant of forbidden women*, Interactive Multimedia Installations, and *One Thousand and One Pain*, Mixed Media Installation, in *Under the cloths is skin. Under the skin is sound. And her*, Bailey Contemporary Art Center, Pompano Beach, FL.
- 2016 *Fragile, Please Handle with Care*, Interactive Installation in *Breakable*, Contemporary Art Museum of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran.
- Fragile, Please Handle with Care*, Interactive Installation, in *International Fajr Art Exhibition*, Saba Cultural Institution, Tehran, Iran.
- Whose Blood is Redder?*, Performance and Installation, Collaboration with Artist Linda Behar, in "The Nerve", Performance Art Festival, FAT Village Art Complex, Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- 2015 *Fragile, Please Handle with Care*, Interactive Installation and Performance, in *Breakable*, The First International Ceramic Based Exhibition, Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran.

*The Peace Cylinder*, Collaboration with Artist Linda Behar and Musician Reza Filsoofi, The Peace Corps Iran Associate Conference, University of Texas, Austin, TX.

*Where is Hezar Afsan?*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, in *Artistically Speaking: Women's Roles in Contemporary Society*, The Exhibition of Selected South Florida Female Artists, Cornell Museum, Delray, FL.

*Where is Hezar Afsan?*, Multimedia Installation, *Existence*, Girls Club Gallery, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

2014 *Storytellers*, Prints and *The Peace Cylinder*, Performance in Collaboration with Linda Behar, in *Southern Exposure: New Work Now*, Palm Beach Cultural Council, Lake Worth, FL.

*Only Sound Remains*, Multimedia Installation, in *Confluence*, Schmidt Center Gallery, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL.

### SELECRED LECTURES/ PANELS /CONVERSATIONS

2024 Artist Lecture, *Nomadic Practices: A Shift in Artistic Consciousness* Falvey Hall, Maryland Institute of Art, Baltimore, MD.

2023 Artist Lecture, *Raheleh Filsoofi the 2023 Winner of the Society 1858 Prize*, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.

The inaugural lecture of the 2023-2024 Visiting Artist Series, *On Listening*, Department of Art History, Museum & Cultural Heritage Studies, College of Fine Arts, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

Lecture, *Polyvocality: Solidarity in the Time of Political Rupture*, Women Working with Clay Symposium, Hollins University, Roanoke, VA.

Conversation, *Universal Languages: Unifying Nashville's Diverse Communities Through Art and Music*, Conversation at OZ, Nashville, TN.

2022 Artist Lecture, *Listening: The Fourth String*, Department of Art and Design, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN.

2021 *Virtual Artist Lecture, The Intersection of Transient and Permanent*, Department of Art and Art History, Oakland University, Rochester, MI.

Keynote Speaker, *Women Potters in Iran, Tradition, Authenticity, Contemporaneity and Gender*, Women Working with Clay Symposium, Hollins University, Roanoke, VA.

Virtual Artist Lecture, *The Intersection of Transient and Permanent*, Department of Art, Columbus State University, Columbus, GA.

Virtual Conversation, *3 Works: Raheleh Filsoofi, In Conversation with Curator Sequoia Miller*, Gardiner Museum, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Moderator & Panelist, *Strategies for Bridging Identity and Politics in Clay Communities*, 2021 Virtual NCECA Conference: Rivers, Reflections, Reinventions. Cincinnati, OH.

2020 Virtual Artist Lecture, *The Intersection of Transient and Permanent*, Department of Art and Design, Augusta University, Augusta, GA.

2019 Panelist, *What Craft Can Offer*, Panel Discussion in "Past Tense: 2019" Conference, Moderator: Sharon Loudon, American Craft Council, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

Artist Lecture, *Aural Memorabilia*, The Middle Eastern Studies Department, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Artist Lecture, *The Intersection of Sound, Space, and Solidity*, Hultquist Center, Chautauqua Art Institution, Chautauqua, NY.

2018 Artist Lecture, *On Transcending the Inh(a/i)bitated Space*, Paul Hanna Lecture, Texas Association of School of Art, McAllen Convention Center, TX.

Artist Lecture, O'kane Gallery, University of Houston Downtown, Houston, TX.

Conversation, *Artaxis Conversation 2018*, Presentation on the Theme *Industry*, with 47 Artaxis Members in Conjunction with the National Clay Week.

2017 Lecture, *Create Locally, Promote Internationally*, the Iranian Ceramic Organization, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran.

Lecture, *Beyond the Borders*, A Report on the Curatorial Project for the Ceramic Based Exhibition in United States, Iranian Artist Forum, Tehran, Iran.

2016 Artist Lecture, *An Evolving Cultural Narrative*, School of Art, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Brownsville, TX.

2015 Lecture, *Women Potters in Iran*, Peace Corps Iran Conference, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

2014 Lecture, *Women Potters in Iran: Tradition, Authenticity and Gender*, Iranian Studies Conference, Montreal, Canada.

Keynote Speaker, *Women Potters in Iran: Tradition, Authenticity and Gender*, Women Working with Clay Symposium, Hollins University, Roanoke, VA.

Artist Lecture, *Clay as a Record Keeper of Iranian Cultural Heritage*, 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Milwaukee, WI.

### SELECTED VISITING ARTIST

2024 Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, St. Augustine, FL.

The Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.

East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

2023 Department of Art, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

The Department of Visual Arts and Art History, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL.

2022 Department of Art and Design, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN.

Department of Art, Columbus State University, Columbus, GA.

2017 Chautauqua Art Institution, Chautauqua, NY.

2016 Chautauqua Art Institution, Chautauqua, NY.

## SELECTED WORKSHOPS

- 2024 Embodied Connection through Clay, Circle, and Collective Creativity Workshop in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN.  
*Embodied Earth: A Workshop Exploring Clay, Movement and Place, Make Space, Sant Augustine, FL.*
- 2023 *An Alternative Practice: Ceramics and Kinesics*, The Department of Visual Arts and Art History, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL.
- 2022 *An Alternative Practice in Clay*, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN.
- 2021 *The Pedagogy of Earth*, Summer Residency, Chautauqua School of Art, Chautauqua, NY.
- 2020 *Ceramics in the Realm of Socially Engaged Art*, Summer Residency, Chautauqua School of Art, Chautauqua, NY.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2024 Jenny Gill, Joan Michelle Journal, *In the Studio: Raheleh Filsoofi*, Joan Mitchell Journal, April 18, 2024. ([Online](#))  
Maggie Trela, Raheleh Filsoofi of Nashville to be Artist in Residence at Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida, Number: Inc. Magazine, January 31, 2024. ([Online](#))
- 2023 Laura Hutson Hunter, Raheleh Filsoofi Talks Memory, Ceramics and Winning the Joan Mitchell Fellowship, Nashville Scene, November 16, 2023. ([Online](#))  
Rachel Ebio, Revive, Ruckus, May 27, 2023. ([Online](#))  
Chloe Hogan, Artist Filsoofi Wins Gibbes Museum's Society 1858 Prize, Charleston City Paper, February 1, 2023. ([Online](#))  
Farah Abdessamad, *No Narrative to Debate: Artist Raheleh Filsoofi Knows Iran, Clay, and Migration*, Observer, September 19, 2022. ([Online](#))
- 2022 Joe Nolan, *Raheleh Filsoofi's Sculpture and Video Installation Is a Meditative Mouthful*, Nashville Scene, May 26, 2022. ([Online](#))  
Liz Kim, *"Uncovered Spaces" at the International Museum of Art & Science, McAllen*, Glasstire (Texas Visual Art), July 1, 2022. ([Online](#))  
Jorge Pedro Uribe Llamas, *Uncovered Spaces, art and feminine identity*, Relatto, June 3, 2022. ([Online](#))  
Ann Fortescue, *Discovering Uncovered Spaces: An Interview with Dr. Katherine McAllen and Raheleh Filsoofi*, International Museum of Art and Science, January 7, 2022. ([Online](#))
- 2021 Jordyn Russell, *A creative Force: 'Tenacity' honors contemporary female visual artists, paying tribute to 100 years since ratification of 19<sup>th</sup> amendment*, The Chautauqua Daily, July 16, 2021. ([Online](#))
- 2020 Ann Marie Deer Owens, *New faculty Raheleh Filsoofi: A bridge between cultures*, Vanderbilt University, October 3, 2020. ([Online](#))
- 2019 Eleanor Bishop, *Social Sculpture Project Connects School of Art with Natural Resources*, The Daily Chautauqua, August 23, 2019. ([Online](#))  
Whitney Jones, *Featured: Raheleh Filsoofi's 'On Transcending the Inh(a/i)bitated Space' Exhibition*, *Cfile* Edited by Garth Clark, January 16, 2019. ([Online](#))

Meet Raheleh Filsoofi, Interview, *VoyageMIA*, February 19, 2019. ([Online](#))

2018 Suzanne Weaver, 'Mi vaiaje del rio Grande Valley', *Glasstire* (Texas Visual Art), February 22, 2018. ([Online](#))

Nancy Moyer, 'Exhibit Combines Unique Disciplines Through Art', *The Monitor*, February 26, 2018. ([Online](#))

Daniel A. Flores, 'UTRGV, IMAS Provide Venues for Inclusive Dialogue, Interdisciplinary Exploration', *The Monitor*, February 1, 2018. ([Online](#))

Molly Glentzer, Art Daybook: Raheleh Filsoofi's 'Inh(a/i)bited Space', *Houston Chronicle*, August 29, 2018. ([Online](#))

### PUBLICATIONS AS AUTHOR

2021 *Strategies for Bridging Identity and Politics in Clay Communities*", NCECA Journal 42, March 2021. 161-163.

2020 *Teaching Art from a Distance Could Have Benefits*, Hyperallergic, March 25, 2022. ([Online](#))

2018 *Current Directions in Iranian Ceramics*, NCECA Journal 39, March 2018. 194-196.

2014 *Clay as a Record Keeper of Iranian Cultural Heritage*, NCECA Journal 35, March 2014. 122-123.

### COLLECTIONS

2024 (Upcoming) The Gibbes Museum, Nashville, TN.

2022 SoHo House, Nashville, TN.

2020 Metro Art, Lending Library Collection, Nashville, TN.

2011 Crocker Mansion, Mahwah, New Jersey, NY.

### SELECTED PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

2024 Director, *The Resonance of the Lands*, Event Celebrating Nashville's immigrant and refugee Community, in Collaboration with Nashville International Center for Empowerment (NICE) and Vanderbilt Community Relations, Multiple locations within the Department of Art, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

2023 Curator, *Revive*, in Conjunction with Tennessee Triannual, Fine Art Gallery, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

2022-23 Coordinator, the Middle Eastern Program and Events in the Department of Art, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, Since 2022.

Co-director, *Visions of Diversity: Middle Eastern Arts and Aesthetics*, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

2022 Curator, *Uncovered Spaces*, An Exhibition of Women and LGBTQIA+ Artists at the International Museum of Art & Science (IMAS), McAllen, TX.

2019-22 Core Faculty, Chautauqua School of Art, Chautauqua, NY.

2019 Board Member, Artaxis, (An Evolving Independent Networks of Ceramic Artist). 2017-2019.

- 2018 Curator, *FOLD: 'Art, Practice and Metaphor'* A Collection of Exhibitions with Thirteen Female Artists, International Museum of Art and Science, McAllen, TX – The Visual Art Gallery and The Visitor Center at UTRGV, Edinburg, TX. (February 2- March 3)
- Director, *FOLD: 'Art, Practice and Metaphor'* Events (Art Talks, Series of Lectures and Discussion Panels) International Museum of Art and Science, McAllen, TX – Galleries at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX. (February 2 – March 3)
- 2017 International Coordinator and Head of Curators, The Second International Ceramics Based Exhibition "Frontier", Tehran, Iran and FL.

### SELECTED COMMUNITY ENGAGED PROJECTS

- 2024 Community Workshops on Ceramic Darbuka and Drums to (Nashville International Center of Empowerment (NICE) Community, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, Department of Art, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2023 Music Workshops on Shahtar Instrument, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, in Conjunction with the Listening: The Fourth String Performance, The Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2022 Performance, in Celebration of Nowruz with Afghan Refugees, Casa Azafran, Nashville, TN.
- 2021 The Community Dinner Party at Chautauqua School of Art Residency, Chautauqua, NY.
- 2019 The Empty Bowl Project with Collaboration with Food Bank Organization at Rio Grande Valley, McAllen, TX.
- Fundraising Program to Support the National Butterfly Center Fight Against Wall Construction in Court, Mission, TX.
- 2018-11 The Iranian New Year at Iranian Cultural Society, Miami, FL.