

Raheleh T. Filsoofi

Itinerate /Interdisciplinary Artist
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Born in Tehran, Iran - Based in Nashville, TN, USA.

Updated Resume: NOV 2025

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS/GRANTS

- 2025 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Art Projects Award, for The Resonance of the Lands: Unveiling Identity and Connectivity in Tennessee through Clay, Music, and Community, Washington, DC.
- Tennessee Arts Commission Arts Build Communities Grant, for *Imagined Boundaries: Collective Chorus*, Nashville, TN, 2026.
- Creative Inquiry Grant, The Curb Center for Art, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2024 VU Community Engagement Collaboration Grant, College of Arts and Science, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2023 Joan Mitchell Fellowship, New York, NY.
- 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 of 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 2021 Southern Prize Tennessee State Fellowship, Atlanta, GA.
- Tennessee Arts Commission Arts Access Grant for *Listening: The Fourth String*, Nashville, TN.
- NCECA Helene Zucker Seeman Curatorial, Research, and Critical Writing Fellowship for Women, The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA).
- Faculty Seeding Success Grant, Office of Provost, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 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.
- 2017 South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship Award for Visual and Media Artists, Miami, FL.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES (*TWO-PERSON)

- 2026 *Bite*, Performance, Nasher Museum, Duke University, Durham, NC. (Upcoming)
- 2025-26 *Deep Listening*, Multimedia Installation, Ismaili Center, Houston, TX.
- 2025 *(Un)Grounded*, Multimedia Installation, Telfair Museum of Art, Savannah, GA.
- At the edge of Arrival*, Multimedia Installation, The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, Charleston, SC.
- *The Resonance of the Land*, Performance, Visual Arts Building, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.
- 2024 *The Excerpts of Earth*, Multimedia Installation, Galusha Gallery, Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN.
- Imagined Boundaries: Through the Eyes of the Past and Present*, Multimedia Installation, The Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.
- The Theater of Dust*, Performance in *The Parable of the Now*, The Hatcher Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- Bite*, Performance, Untitled Art, Miami Beach, FL.
- *The Hum of the Earth*, Performance, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, Untitled Art, Miami Beach, FL.

- The Excerpts from Earth*, Multimedia Installation, Mardag Gallery, Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer, MN.
- 2023 **The Resonance of the Lands*, Exhibition and Performance in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, The 204 Gallery, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 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 57th Annual Conference, *Current*, Duke Energy Convention Center, Cincinnati, OH.
- 2022 *Debated Narrative*, Interactive Multimedia Installation, Engage Project, Chicago, IL.
- Artifacting*, Video and Ceramics, Unrequired Leisure Gallery, Nashville, TN.
- 2021 **Intersection*, Video and Ceramics, 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

- 2026 *Imagined Boundaries: The Collective Chorus*, Multimedia Installation in *In Her Place*, The Frist Art Museum, Nashville, TN. (Upcoming)
- 2025 *Bite*, Ceramic Objects and Single-Channel Video in *Everything Now All At Once*, The Nasher Museum of Art, Durham, NC.
- Odyssey*, One-Channel Video Installation in *Celebrating the 1858 Prize for Contemporary Southern Art*, The Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.
- 2024 *Bite*, Video Installation in *Dug Deeper*, The Vernon Filley Art Museum, Pratt, KS.
- Odyssey*, Video Installation in *Women Working with Clay: A Shared Purpose*, The Valentine Museum, Richmond, VA.
- Halal #1*, Ceramics and Light in *To tongue-tie*, Brick Aux, Brooklyn NY.
- 2023 *Only Sound Remains*, Multimedia Installation in *Thinking Historically in the Presence*, Sharjah Biennial 15, Sharjah, The United Arab Emirate.
- 2022-23 *Imagined Boundaries Episode 3 (Facing the South, Facing the World)*, Video Installation in *Southern Voices/Global Visions*, The R.O.B, Lake City, SC.
- 2022 *Odyssey*, Video Installation in *The Future is Female*, 21c Museum Hotel, Nashville, TN.
- Bite*, Video and Ceramics in *2022 NCECA Annual – Belonging*, The Crocker Museum, Sacramento, CA.
- A Transient's Paradox*, Multimedia Installation in *Fragile Earth*, The Grounds for Sculpture Museum, Hamilton, NJ.
- Learning the Rope*, Video Installation in *Fail*, The Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA.
- 2021 *A Symmetrical Despondency, Inh(a/i)bited Space and Imagined Boundaries – Episode 2 (Alert; Miscommunication)*, Multimedia and Interactive installations in *The 2021 Southern Prize and State Fellowship Recipient Exhibition*, The Bo Bartlett Center, Columbus, GA.
- Bite*, Video and Ceramics in *Objects of Faith, Healing and Transformation*, The Vanderbilt Museum of Art, Nashville, TN.

Imagined Boundaries – Episode 1, Multimedia Installation in *Tenacity*, Strohl Art Center, Chautauqua, NY.

- 2020 *Halal #1*, Ceramics and Light in *Work Up*, C24 Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2019 *A Symmetrical Despondency*, Interactive Multimedia Installation in *YOU AM I*, Veronique Wantz Gallery, 2018 NCECA, Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2018 *The Peace Cylinder*, Performance in Collaboration with Artist Linda Behar and Musicians Reza Filsoofi and Susana Behar, Rosemary Duffy Larson Gallery, Davie, FL.
- 2017 *...still traveling...* Interactive Multimedia Installation, in *Frontier*, the Second International Ceramic Based Exhibition, Iranian Artists Forum, Tehran, Iran.
- 2016 *Fragile, Please Handle with Care*, Interactive Installation in *Breakable*, Contemporary Art Museum of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran.
- 2015 *Fragile, Please Handle with Care*, Interactive Installation and Performance, in *Breakable*, Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran.

SELECTED RESIDENCIES

- 2025 Nasher Museum, Duke University, Durham, NC.
- 2024 Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, St. Augustine, FL.
- 2023 MacDowell Residency, Peterborough, NH.
- 2022 The Loghaven Artist Residency, Knoxville, TN.

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 ACADEMIC AFFILIATION

- 2020- Present Assistant Professor in Ceramics, Department of Art, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2023- Present Secondary Appointment. The Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2016-2020 Assistant Professor in Ceramics. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, McAllen, TX.

SELECTED LECTURES/ PANELS /CONVERSATIONS

- 2026 Lecture Series, *Bite*, Nasher Museum, Duke University, Durham, NC. (Upcoming)
- 2025 Lecture Series, *(Un)Grounded*, Telfair Museums (Jepson Center), Savannah, GA.
- 2024 Lecture Series: *Nomadic Practices: A Shift in Artistic Consciousness*, Falvey Hall, Maryland Institute of Art, Baltimore, MD.
- Visiting Artist Lecture Series, McCarty Auditorium, Art and Architecture Building, University of Tennessee Knoxville, Knoxville, TN.
- 2023 Lecture: *Raheleh Filsoofi the 2023 Winner of the Society 1858 Prize*, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC.
- Inaugural Lecture: *On Listening*, Visiting Artist Series, Department of Art History, Museum & Cultural Heritage Studies, College of Fine Arts, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2021 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.
- Keynote Speaker: *Women Potters in Iran: Tradition, Authenticity, Contemporaneity and Gender*, Women Working with Clay Symposium Virtual, Hollins University, Roanoke, VA.
- 2019 Panelist: *What Craft Can Offer*, Panel Discussion at *Past Tense* in 2019 Conference, American Craft Council, Philadelphia, PA.

SELECTED WORKSHOPS

- 2025 *Clay Collection and Process in The Stono Preserve*, in conjunction with the At the Edge of Arrival Exhibition, Hasley Institute of Contemporary, Charleston, SC.
- 2024 *Embodied Connection through Clay, Circle, and Collective Creativity Workshop* in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN.
- 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.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2025 *Raheleh Filsoofi: At the Edge of Arrival*. Hyperallergic, September 3, 2025. ([Link](#))
- 3.09 | *Raheleh Filsoofi*. Barbara London Calling, episode 9. Podcast. April 29, 2025. ([Link](#))
- Logan, Beth. *(Un)Grounded exhibit at Savannah's Jepson Center is an act of reframing works across time*. Savannah Morning News, July 17, 2025. ([Link](#))
- "Raheleh Filsoofi: The Wandering Earth Within Me." *Textura Magazine*, July 15, 2025. <https://textura-mag.org/views/9139/>
- 2024 Torey Akers. *Raheleh Filsoofi's toothy performance at Untitled Art fair*, The Art Newspaper, December 6, 2024. ([Link](#))
- 2023 Jenny Gill. *In the Studio: Raheleh Filsoofi*, Joan Mitchell Journal, April 18, 2024. ([Link](#))
- Laura Hutson Hunter. *Raheleh Filsoofi Talks Memory, Ceramics and Winning the Joan Mitchell Fellowship*, Nashville Scene, November 16, 2023. ([Link](#))
- 2022 Farah Abdessamad. *No Narrative to Debate: Artist Raheleh Filsoofi Knows Iran, Clay, and Migration*, Observer, September 19, 2022. ([Link](#))
- Joe Nolan. *Raheleh Filsoofi's Sculpture and Video Installation Is a Meditative Mouthful*, Nashville Scene, May 26, 2022. ([Link](#))
- 2021 Jordyn Russell. *A creative Force: 'Tenacity' honors contemporary female visual artists, paying tribute to 100 years since ratification of 19th amendment*, The Chautauqua Daily, July 16, 2021. ([Link](#))
- 2019 Whitney Jones. *Featured: Raheleh Filsoofi's 'On Transcending the Inh(a/i)bited Space' Exhibition*, Cfile Edited by Garth Clark, January 16, 2019. ([Link](#))
- 2018 Suzanne Weaver. *'Mi vaiaje del rio Grande Valley'*, Glasstire (Texas Visual Art), February 22, 2018. ([Link](#))
- Molly Glentzer. *Art Daybook: Raheleh Filsoofi's 'Inh(a/i)bited Space'*, Houston Chronicle, August 29, 2018. ([Link](#))

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AS AUTHOR

- 2025 Conclusion. In *Last Artist Standing: Living and Sustaining a Creative Life*, edited by Sharon Loudon. Chicago: Intellect Books, 2025.
- Transcending the Institutional Archive. *New Suns*, accessed June 1, 2025. ([Link](#))
- 2023 *Say their Names*. NCECA Journal 44, March 2023.
- 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. ([Link](#))

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- 2025 The Nasher Museum, Durham, NC.
- 2024 The Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, TN.

- 2022 SoHo House, Nashville, TN.
- 2020 Metro Art Lending Library Collection, Nashville, TN.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTION

- 2026 Curator, *Clay in Performance*, NCECA 2026, Detroit, MI. (Upcoming)
Co-Founder, Nashville Immigrant and Refugee Music and Art Project (NIRMA Project), Nashville, TN. (Since 2024)
- 2024 Juror: *The 2024/25 MCAD-Jerome Fellowships for Early Career Artists*, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2023 Director, *Visions of Diversity: Middle Eastern Arts and Aesthetics*, Faculty Impact Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2022 Curator, *Revive*, In Conjunction with 2023 Tennessee Triannual, Vanderbilt University Museum of Art, Nashville, TN.
Curator: *Uncovered Spaces*, with Thirteen Female Artists, International Museum of Art and Science, McAllen, TX, USA.
- 2019 Core Faculty, Chautauqua School of Art, Chautauqua, NY, USA. (2019-2022)

SELECTED COMMUNITY ENGAGED PROJECTS

- 2025 *Melodies of Crossing: An Immersive Night of Music Across Rooms*, Curb Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2025 Performance, in Celebration of Immigrants and Refugee Communities of Nashville, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, Frist Museum of Art, Nashville, TN.
- 2024 Workshop 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.
Performance, Demonstrations and Workshops on Shahtar Instrument, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, The Blair School of Music, Nashville, TN.
- 2023 Performance, in Celebration of Nowruz and Afghan Refugees, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, Casa Azafran, Nashville, TN.
- 2022 Performance, in Celebration of Nowruz and Community, in Collaboration with Reza Filsoofi, New Gallery, Austin Peay State University, Nashville, TN.