

Artist's Project

SOHEILA ESFAHANI

COOLIE COOLIE VIENS

ANDIL GOSINE



Soheila Esfahani
Cultural Palaces
mixed media (ink & acrylic on tissue paper affixed to pallets)
technique varies from laser cutting to drawing and block printing
2013 - ongoing



Andil Gosine
Our Holy Waters, And Mine
(2014)

ARTIST BIOS

Andil Gosine grew up in rural Trinidad, and has since adolescence lived and worked in Canada, the United States, Britain and France. Currently Associate Professor in Liberal Arts at York University, Gosine had already established a career as a scholar of Environmental and Social Justice when he turned to artistic practice. His work has been shown at the Queens Museum, New York, the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Art Gallery of York University, in addition to recent exhibitions in England, Ireland, and Scotland.

Soheila Esfahani grew up in Tehran, Iran, and moved to Canada in 1992. She received her Master of Fine Arts degree from Western University and her BA in Fine Arts from the University of Waterloo. She is a recipient of grants from the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund. Esfahani's work is represented in numerous public and private collections including the Canada Council's Art Bank. She was nominated for the Jameel Prize at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, UK in 2015.

Gallery Staff

Tuesday to Friday 10am to 5pm
Weekends: 11am to 4pm
Admission is free

Matthew Ryan-Smith
Curator

Yvonne Morrison-Miller
Interim Gallery Coordinator

Michelle Cogger
Education Coordinator

Tyler Vinnai
Weekend Staff

Ana Olson
Gallery Director

Norm Moore
Programs Coordinator

Brian Pickering
Technician

Michelyn Sciannella
Accountant



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This exhibition is produced in partnership with
McIntosh Gallery, Western University





Soheila Esfahani
Cultured Pallets
mixed media (ink & acrylic on tissue paper affixed to pallets)
technique varies from laser etching to drawing and block printing
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Andil Gosine
Cane Portraiture
backdrop, photograph
2013 - ongoing

ANDIL GOSINE COOLIE COOLIE VIENS

COOLIE COOLIE VIENS is a study of the afterlife of indentureship. Indentureship was the colonial system of labour that brought Indians and other people to the Caribbean to replace slave labour on plantations. The program ended in 1917. Through his work, Gosine interrogates the system's historical legacy a century later, both in the social and political construction of Indo-Caribbean communities, and for its formative impact on its descendants' most intimate experiences. In this exhibition, he interrogates himself through consideration of his experiences of pleasure and violence in the places he lived: a rural village in the Caribbean island of Trinidad, Southern Ontario cities Oshawa and Toronto, the English beachside town of Brighton, and other metropolitan centres in the United States and Europe.

SOHEILA ESFAHANI | Artist's Project

Soheila Esfahani's artist's project features wooden pallets, sometimes known as wooden skids, from her recent series *Cultured Pallets*. In the work, Esfahani laser-etches arabesque patterns sourced from mosaic designs in the interior dome of the Imam Mosque in Isfahan, Iran. Isfahan is the ancestral city of the artist's family, however when she returned to Isfahan for the first time in many years, she felt both connected and disconnected to the city. In this regard, the *Cultured Pallets* series functions as a metaphor for migration and what the artist calls "in-betweenness." It is, as the 13th century poet Rumi writes, "My place is placeless, a trace of the traceless." Inscribed on the underside of each pallet is the e-mail address culturedpallet@yahoo.ca. Once the series is complete, Esfahani will return the pallets to their original use, having them circulate throughout the world. It is her hope that individuals e-mail the affixed address to correspond with the artist and to track the pallet's migration.

MARCH 25 - MAY 21, 2017 | OPENING RECEPTION MARCH 29TH AT 7PM