

## Women Artists of DRAW Art Fair

There was an impressive collection of diverse female artists on show at DRAW Art Fair, each with unique artistic backgrounds, perspectives and personal stories that have shaped the way they have created art. I've attached information on a selection of female artists exhibiting at the fair that I believe might be of interest to you. Let me know if you require any further information on any of the artists featured.

The late contemporary Iranian artist **Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian's** minimal drawings will be exhibited with **The Collectors' Editions** (stand G14.1). Farmandarmaian was born in Qazvin, Iran, in 1934, before moving to New York in the late 1940s, studying at Parsons School of Design, and the Art Students League. While quickly becoming a pivotal part of the New York art scene, she became friends with Joan Mitchell, Andy Warhol, and Jackson Pollock. Farmandarmaian's work on show at DRAW was inspired by the geometric forms she discovered in Islamic architecture after she returned to Tehran in 1992. Much of her practice was influenced by her life journey which took her from Iran to America, and back. Her artworks combine themes of Persian culture with the Western art world. "My love for my culture is in everything I create" she told The Art Newspaper in 2014.

Represented by **The Redfern Gallery**, American artist **Linda Karshan** will be performing her piece 'walked drawing', wherein the rhythm and movements of her feet become the drawing point of the work. A selection of Karshan's abstract, monochromatic drawings from the past three decades will also be on display (stand G5.2). Karshan's works form grids, geometric shapes, patterns, and repetitive markings that are inspired by her studies of psychology.

British artist **Irene Lees** only began to delve in to drawing at aged 60, when she enrolled in a BA in Drawing and Applied Arts at the University of the West of England. Her work has since been featured at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition and the Jerwood Drawing Prize. Lees' describes her detailed drawings as 'artwork essays', wherein she writes the stories of her chosen subjects within the works, creating rhythmic loops and lines of text that join together to form incredibly detailed illustrations. On show with the **Candina Stevens Gallery** (stand G6.6), Lees is exhibiting her piece 'My Silent Screams', part of her series 'A Drawing is Worth a Thousand Words', which illustrates the strength of the mothers of the 219 girls captured by Boko Haram in 2014.

**Choi & Lager** (stand G14.5) are exhibiting a solo exhibition by Korean-Spanish artist **Helena Parada Kim**. Brought up in Germany, Parada Kim studied at the Kunstakademie Dusseldorf under Peter Doig, where she became greatly inspired by her mother's photo albums, which featured photographs of Korean nurses in Germany. Influenced by identity and the culture of Korea, she painted ghostly, mysterious portraits which encapsulate her own family heritage and her mothers memories.

Drawing was a pivotal component of Brazilian born artist **Lucia Nogueira's** oeuvre. Primarily a sculptor, installation artist, and video maker, her drawings provide us with an insight into the thoughts and ideas behind her sculptural works. Nogueira moved to London in 1975 to study fine art at Chelsea College of Art, and later began to create sculptural works concerned with the relationship between objects and language. Her drawings were created intuitively, exploring the shapes of objects including chairs, canisters, tables and ladders. Nogueira's works are exhibited with **Anthony Reynolds Gallery** (stand G7.5).

Paris born contemporary artist **Marie Jacotey**'s emotionally expressive drawings are on show with **Hannah Barry Gallery** (stand G6.8), who are dedicated to the support of emerging artists through exhibition and discussion. Jacotey graduated with an MA in Printmaking from the Royal College of Art in 2013. She finds inspiration in the modern world, social interactions, and the plethora of emotions that can be expressed within these interactions.

Additionally, **Whitney McVeigh** is exhibiting her works on paper with **Encounter Contemporary** (Stand G6.4). McVeigh's work focuses on the psychological and physical attributes that make us human by utilising found objects to create artworks. These found objects allude to the relationship between the human owner of the object, and the object itself. McVeigh is particularly interested in personal and collective memory in her work, alongside the layers of time.