

## **Minoo Emami**

### **Bio & CV**

Minoo Emami is an Iranian multidisciplinary artist with over three decades of experience in art practice, teaching, and exhibition. A first-generation college student, she transitioned from self-taught painter to formal art studies in the U.S. from 2015 to 2021. Her work explores Middle Eastern patriarchy through the lens of transnational justice and equity. Her projects integrate various mediums, from digital to traditional crafts.

Since 1997, Minoo's anti-war series, *Peace March* has examined the long-term effects of war – destruction, trauma, and damaged identity. This series draws from personal experience and interviews with Iranian and Iraqi women, using prostheses as symbols of resilience to highlight the war's impact on families.

Her recent project, *Andaruni Landscapes*, focuses on the Persian domestic space and examines gender roles in traditional culture. Minoo reimagines “Andaruni” as an anthropological space historically reserved for women, offering security and privacy in a male-dominated society. Self-performance videos projected within her artwork capture women's psychological experiences, revealing the public-private dynamic and the interplay between women's bodies and domestic spaces. Her art confronts colonial stereotypes, reframing Iran's post-revolutionary history through a feminist lens.

Currently, Minoo focuses on the female intergenerational learning role, domestic workers, and the liberating power of the internet and social media in driving political and community progress. She examines how these digital tools foster dialogue, amplify marginalized voices, and create new avenues for social activism across borders.

Minoo has given talks and presentations at universities and institutions in the U.S. and taught at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and RISD CE. She won the 2022 Alumni Traveling Fellowship at SMFA at Tufts University and the 2019 UNC Alumni Sculpture Garden Grant. Her work has been written about and exhibited in solo, and group shows nationally and internationally. Her work has been collected privately and within the permanent collection of the Newport Art Museum, Newport, Rhode Island, USA, and at Lettre International in Berlin, Germany.

### **Education**

2021: MFA, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

2019: BFA, Tufts University, Medford, MA

2017: Studio Art Diploma, School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, Boston, MA

### **Selected Solo Exhibition and Live Performance**

2023: "Under My Veil," Retrospective Exhibition, Hartford University, Hartford Art School, CT

2023: "Body Quilt\_ A Fire for Peace" Community Project and Live Performance, Hartford University, Hartford Art School, CT

2022: "Andaruni Landscapes," Kayafas Gallery, Boston, MA

2019: "Wounded Beauty," Kayafas Gallery, Boston, MA

2016: "Aura of War," Harbor Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

2015: "War Collection," Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
2014: "Conversation," Arts at 29 Garden, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
2013: "Selection II," Golestan Gallery, Tehran, Iran

### **Awards and Grants**

2022: SMFA Alumni Traveling Fellowship, Tufts University, Medford, MA  
2020: Hanes Alumni Sculpture Garden Commission, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC  
2016: Biot Award, Painting, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

### **Artist Residency**

2024: Indigo Arts Alliance Mentorship Residency, Portland, MA  
2022: Open Studio Residency, Haystack Mountain School of Craft, Deer Island, MA  
2021-22: Winter Residency, The Steel Yard, Providence, RI

### **Selected Group Exhibitions**

2024: "*I Would Like to Speak, But Not a Dirge*" at Brown Arts Institute's Granoff Center., Brown University, RI  
2024: "On Her Terms: Feminine Power Embodied," Group Exhibition, Fitchburg Museum, Fitchburg, MA  
2021: "Our Tears Are Sweet, Our Laughter Venomous," Eastern Connecticut State University Art Gallery, Willimantic, CT  
2021: "MFA Thesis Exhibition," Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, NC  
2018: "The Shape of Birds," Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI  
2018: "Medal Awards Auction Exhibition," Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
2017: "Violence Transformed," Slater Gallery, Tufts University, Medford, MA  
2014: "World Food Program Exhibition," Niavaran Cultural Complex, Tehran, Iran  
2010: "United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)," Niavaran Cultural Complex, Tehran, Iran  
2009: "Iran from Inside Photography Forum," Schlossplatz, Switzerland

### **Ongoing Community-Based Projects**

2025: Member of the Cohort. Art, International Mentorship Program  
2024: "Rising from Ashes", Creative Collective project (Cohort artists from Bulgaria, Italy, Iran, The United States, Armenia, and China)  
2021: "Invitation to My Garden," The Cassiopeia Caravana (Cohort of artists from Canada, China, Iran, Pakistan, and the United States)  
2013: "Peace March" (Interviews and therapeutic artistic collaboration with Iraqi and Iranian women war survivors), Iran and the United States  
2000: "Artistic and Professional Growth Mentor Initiative" (Outgrowth of teaching women in Iran from 1985-2013)

### **Publications**

2024: Body Quilt- A Fire for Peace, Published by Hartford Art School Galleries, ISBN 979-8-218-52923-9  
2012: "Minoo Emami Collection of Art," Aras Publication; Erbil, Iraq, ISBN 978-9933-487-35-5

2007: "Minoo Emami, Selective Paintings 1996-2006," LAK LAK Publications, Tehran, Iran, ISBN 978-964-8980-70-7

### **Select Press**

2024: The Art New England Magazine, Body Quilt- A Fire for Peace, Jan/Feb 2024  
2023: CT public radio interview, Body Quilt, Hartford, CT  
2023: Hartford Courant newspaper, Sewing for Justice, Hartford, CT  
2020: Featured Global Scholar, The UNC Graduate School Magazine, August 2020  
2018: "The Shape of Birds," Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI, ISBN 978-1-884186-66-0  
2018: "Art & Life with Minoo Emami," Boston Voyager Magazine, September 2018  
2017: "Travel Ban Creates Anxiety in Boston Arts Community," The Boston Globe  
2016: "Make Art Not War," The Mass Media, UMass Boston  
2016: "Contradictory Views of Conflict and Recovery," The Boston Globe  
2015: "Vivid Reminders of War," Harvard Gazette, Cambridge, MA  
2014: "Minoo Emami, An Iranian Artist on War and Its Victims," Harvard Crimson, Cambridge, MA

### **Featured In**

2018: "La Vie," Lettre International, Issue #120, Berlin, Germany  
2012: "Minoo Emami," Lettre International, Issue #97, Berlin, Germany  
2011: "The Art of the Dodge," Katholieke University, Leuven, Belgium, ISBN: 978-90-334-8400

### **Teaching Experience**

2024: "Drawing the Figure", Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI  
2022-2024: "Foundations of Drawing," Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI  
2022-2024: "Pen & Ink Illustration," RISD CE, Providence, RI  
2021: "Painting 1" (taught online), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC  
2020: "Color Theory & Concept" (taught online), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC  
2020: Teaching Assistant – Sculpture (Professor James Hirschfeld), Spring Semester, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC  
2018: Teaching Assistant – Metal and Color (Professor Tanya Crane), Spring Semester, School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, Boston, MA  
2015 Visiting Artist, Seekonk High School, Providence, RI  
2015 Visiting Faculty, William Joiner Institute "Writers Workshop", University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA

### **Related Teaching and Mentoring Experience**

1985-2013: Painting, Drawing, and Mixed Media, private group classes for women, Tehran, Iran  
2017-2025: Online mentoring of young artists, International