

Mahmoud Maktabi

Born in Tehran 1985

Interdisciplinary artist

**Statement:**

I am interested in blending my body in the environment physically and using the human body as part of the work. The unlimited investigation in the environment deepens as you get more absorbed in nature and as you search more. The placement of my body as part of the work simultaneously learns from its surroundings and at the same time adds to its conceptually. My work examines social and traditional concepts which vary in each work.

To me life is an opportunity to discover the concept of beauty that constantly attracts me toward the source and nature of things. My confrontation to the environment and its infinite immensity has shown me a way to observe this beauty from a different way. What allows me to keep going in my work is the process to explore and to create using my physical self.

**Education**

– B.A.in Painting, Shahed University of Tehran

**Professional activities:**

Founder & Director of Rah art residency, Tehran, Iran (From 2018)

Founder & Director of Vayu art residency, Kashan, Iran (From 2015)

**Solo exhibition & performance:**

2017- Paper (performance), Hepta Gallery, Tehran, 23 November

2014- About Love, Wongol Gallery (Yatoo), Gongju, South Korea

2011- I am a soldier (performance), Mohsen gallery, Tehran, 19 April

2010- Heaven at the 16th street, Laleh gallery, Tehran 14-23 Jun

**Curatorial Project:**

2020- Performance art project: Asia, Hexxy Duxxy box and Rah residency

2019- 'The voice of stone' Ulrika Sparre, Didar Gallery, Isfahan, Iran

2019- 'Chabahar', International environmental art festival, Dana & Tavana School, Chabahar, Iran  
2019- 'After Reality' Hungarian Artists, Didar Gallery, Isfahan, Iran  
2018- 'Source' Olivier Huet & Margrit Neuendorf, Jaleh Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2018- 'Beyond Inside', Szabo Reka, Jaleh Gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2017- "Dameyk" exhibition, Hepta art gallery, Tehran, Iran  
2016- "Eco Avantgarde" exhibition, Kunsthalle Museum (Múcsarnok), Budapest, Hungary  
2015- Little statue Festival of Shiraz, environmental art workshop, Shiraz, Iran  
2015- "Living Space" group exhibition, Transylvania art center, Santa George, Romania  
2015- Nap Workshop, Daniel Castle Hotel, Baraolt, Romania

**Lecture:**

2021- Reality and Entropy in environmental art, online Manthan talks, Karyashal  
2018- Lecture on Aesthetics today: Contemporary Approaches to Art and Nature, Art University of Zanzan, Iran  
2017- Lecture on Ecological Art, Persbook (7th Annual of Contemporary Art), Bayaan Gallery, Isfahan, Iran  
2016- Lecture on Environmental art and mythology, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literature University of Tehran  
2015- Lecture on Environmental art in Iran, Transylvania art center, Santa George, Romania  
2011- Lecture on Recycle art, Hoze-honari, Arak, Iran  
2010- Lecture on Environmental art, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Iran  
2009- Lecture on Recycle art, International Conference center of Tehran municipality

**Residency:**

2019- Theertha Artists' Collective Residency, Colombo  
2014- YATOO International Artist in Residence (YATOO AIR), Gongju, South Korea

**Selected of Group exhibition and Festivals:**

2021: Global Nomadic Art Project (GNAP), Saint-Lactencin, France  
2021- Lock Unlock Performance art project, Episode 12

2021- Youtab, Sharif Gallery, selected by Nazli Abbaspour and Sarah Sasani, Tehran

2020- Unfinished, Online exhibition, by Paadmaan projects and Pansion projects, Curators: Foad Alijani and Hamed Dehqan

2020- Contemporary Nature, exhibition about nature art in Iran, Transylvanian art center, Romania

2020: Return, online performance with Amir Varasteh, Tehran

2019- 3th Paez-Barg Festival, Tehran

2019- 9th annual of contemporary of art, Hyrcanian forests, Mazandaran

2019- One in front of one, group exhibition, Tam art Gallery, Isfahan

2019- Theertha Performance Platform 2019, the 3rd edition of TPP, Colombo, Sri Lanka

2019- International environmental art festival, Chabahr, Iran

2018- Persian follow deer, Group Multi media exhibition, Iran~Iran Project, Da House, Tehran

2018- Range (City and Future), Group Exhibition, Saye Art Gallery, Tehran

2017- Tree of life, GNAP Lithuania, Ciurlionis National Art Museum, Kaunas, Lithuania

2017- Apologize for modernity, 57th Venice Biennale, NSK State Pavilion, Venice, Italy

2016- Global Nomadic Art Project (GNAP), Johannesburg to cape Town, South Africa

2016- Environmental art exhibition (GNAP India), Gallery beyond, Mumbai, India

2016- Rite of Passage, Environmental art exhibition, San Francisco City Hall, USA

2015- Global Nomadic Art Project (GNAP- India 2015), Gujarat, Ahmedabad, India

2015- Spring Festival of urban sculptures, site specific work in Argentina Square, Tehran

2014- Earth and Time 2, Selected of Iranian Environmental artists, Iran artists forum, Tehran

2014- Global Nomadic Art Project – Korea (GNAP-Korea2014), South Korea

2013- Hiroshima Memorial Exhibition “644”, Qasr museum, Tehran

2013- Earth and Time, Iran artists forum, Tehran

2013 – Tehran’s Environmental Art Festival – Laleh Park – February & March 2013 – Tehran

2012 – Persbook Exhibition in Iranian Artists’ Forum, with Open 5 Group Tehran

2012-”Nomadic Report”, Arko art center museum, South Korea

2011- Eco Art Awards, online contest, with Open 5 Group, USA

2011- 3 Worlds in 1, Klaipeda Culture Communication Centre, Lithuania

2011- CONTACT Photography festival, Toronto, Canada

2011- Environmental art Group exhibition, Esfahan Contemporary art museum, Isfahan, Iran

2011- Participate in “24th INSTANTS VIDEOS”, with Open 5 Group, France

2011- Participate in” Videoholica Art Festival”, with Open 5 Group, Bulgaria

2011-Spaceless, 1st Persbook Winners, Sin Gallery, Tehran

2011- Rok-Iran Artist Exchange Residency Project, with UNICEF, Masouleh, Iran

2011- The 6th National Sculpture Biennial of Iran, Niavarn Cultural Center, Tehran

2011- Participate in “Autama2011” Video Art Festival, with “Fireworks” video, France

2011- Persbook the 1st Annual of Iranian Contemporary Art Contest, Sin Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2011- Participate in Tasvire Sal Festival, Photo Art, Tehran, Iran

2010- 1st Recycle art festival, Qazvin

2010- 1st Iranian contemporary art contest, Facebook

2008- The 1st Visual Art festival “FajrAfarinan”, participate “New Art” part, Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute- with Open 5 Group

2008- New language, New art, Exhibition of Recycling art, Laleh gallery, Tehran

2008- Exhibition of Lorestan Avant garde painters – Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute, Tehran

2008- Faber Castle painting festival, Niavaran Cultural House, Tehran

2007- New Art Festival “Stability- Art”, SABA Gallery, Tehran

2007- “Snowy Town” Festival, Charmahal&Bakhtiyari, Iran

2007- Seminar and Visual art festival, Lorestan, Khoram Abad

2006- Second Festival of Contemporary art, Semnan, Iran

2007- Iran contemporary painting Biannual, Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute, Tehran

2007- Group Painting exhibition, Shahed Gallery, Tehran

2006- The 3rd of experimental Visual Art, (honarejavan), Tehran Contemporary art museum, Tehran

2006-2011 – Participating in more than17 Environmental art Festivals in Polour, Hormuz, Shoushtar, Uremia, Isfahan, Ghaemshahr and Nowshahr

2005- Collaborating in installation Group Exhibition, “Ashora”, Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute, Tehran

**Awards:**

Finalist in Eco Art Awards, online contest, with Open 5 Group, America-2011

Winner of 1st Iranian contemporary art contest (persbook), 2010

Winner of the Group Prize, Flight and Persistence Exhibition in cooperation with Open5Group-2007

The top seven artworks by Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute-2007

Winner of the First Group Prize, Snowy Town Festival in cooperation with Open5Group-2007

**Other Experience:**

- Curator and head of International environmental art festival, Chabahar, Iran 2019
- Secretary & Curator of Recycle art festival, Qazvin, 2010 & 2012
- Conference Secretary of 21st and 22nd environmental art festivals in Iran
- Collaborating with “Iranian Academy of Art” & “Saba” Cultural and Artistic Institute from 2008
- Publisher and Shef-Editor of “SiahMashq” quarterly periodical from 2005 to 2008
- Member of “Open5” Group from 2005