

An abstract painting featuring a teal background with several stylized flowers in shades of purple, red, and blue. A large black arrow points upwards from the bottom center towards the text.

# FARBOD ELKAEI WAYPOINT

JUNE 7 - JULY 26, 2025

VHC is pleased to present 'Waypoint', a solo exhibition of Iranian artist Farbod Elkaei.

Primarily working with oil and acrylic as his mediums, Farbood Elkaei treads between the definite and the intuitive as he distills naturally occurring forms into abstract geometric compositions. In his artworks, colourful papers are cut and superimposed over amorphously painted landscapes, clouds, mountains and skies, to produce a contemplative dialogue between the seen and the imagined.

The selected body of work, created between 2019 and 2021, marks a significant turning point in Elkaei's practice where he consciously moved away from a focus on outcomes towards a space guided by instinct and playfulness, as colours, texture and form became his tools for exploration. In earlier works, nature was depicted from a distance – vast, open, and observational. Here, however, the compositions became more intimate, abstract and emotionally resonant.

A key influence on this shift was "An Album of Artists' Drawings" from Qajar Iran - a collection of anonymous student sketches from the 19th and 20th centuries, each framed within richly detailed, decorative borders. Inspired, he began creating small - scale works on cardboard, embedding layered, vivid frames into the compositions.

These frames – referencing the tradition of miniature painting while rendered in abstract form - became metaphors for intimacy and structure, both at once containing and revealing. For Elkaei, they functioned as "windows" into moments of vulnerability, contemplation, and spontaneity.

This series- encompassing collages and framed abstractions - offered the artist a more liberated mode of working, away from the constraints of large - scale canvases. It marked a return to painting with a renewed vision; a perspective shaped by tradition yet unbound by it. What emerged was therefore a more personal and layered approach - a new direction in the artist's evolving practice.





***Untitled*** , 2018  
Acrylic, Oil, Canvas  
177 x 79 cm (69.5 x 31 in)



***Untitled*** , 2019  
Acrylic, Canvas  
79.5 x 65 cm (31 x 25.5 in)





***Panjare 12, 2020***  
Acrylic, Canvas  
108 x 84.5 cm (42.5 x 33 in)





HAROLD CLARK  
WAYPOINT





***Panjare 13*, 2020**  
Acrylic, Canvas  
74 x 52.5 cm (29 x 20.5 in)





***Panjare 14, 2020***  
Acrylic, Canvas  
78 x 52.5 cm (30.5 x 20.5 in)



***Panjare 15***, 2021  
Acrylic, Cardboard  
69 x 48.5 cm (27 x 19 in)





***Panjare 16*, 2021**  
Acrylic, Canvas  
119.5 x 70 cm (47 x 27.5 in)





***Panjare 1*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 32.5 x 23 cm (12.5 x 9 in)



***Panjare 2*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 35 x 24.5 cm (13 x 9.5 in)



***Panjare 3*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 29.5 x 20.5 cm (11.5 x 8 in)



***Panjare 5*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)



***Panjare 6*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)



***Panjare 7*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)





***Panjare 8*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)



***Panjare 9*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)



***Panjare 10*, 2019**  
 Acrylic, Cardboard  
 49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)



***Panjare 11***, 2019  
Acrylic, Cardboard  
49 x 34 cm (19 x 13.5 in)





## FARBOD ELKAEI

Farbod Elkaei, born in 1992 in Tehran, Iran, is a conceptual artist, who received his BFA from Soore Art University in Iran. Elkaei's art practice involves socially-themed projects, based on contemporary communal experiences. His paintings and sculptures juxtaposed natural landscapes, mainly mountain ranges, with colourful geometric scenes. Inspired by forms and colours that he observes in the skies, his artworks explore the unique relationship between colours, nature and geometry.

Farbod Elkaei's recent solo exhibitions include Plus Porche at Philippe ES Gallery, France in 2025; Double Take at Hamzianpour and Kia Gallery, Los Angeles in 2023; Livelier in 2024 and Here, We Can Stay For A While in 2020, both held at Dastan's Basement Gallery in Tehran. His work has also been featured in several group exhibitions, such as Another Birth at Mine Gallery, Dubai in 2023; Prospect 2 at Parallel Circuit, Tehran in 2023; Nature of Things at Plus 2, Tehran in 2021; a group show at 1x1 Gallery, Dubai in 2018; Fluorescent at Iranshahr Art Gallery, Tehran in 2017; and a group show at Assar Art Gallery, Tehran in 2016, among others. Elkaei also participated in "The Wave" at the 12th Tehran Ceramic Biennial which was curated by Bita Fayyazi at Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran in 2024.

Farbod Elkaei lives and works in Tehran, Iran.

# FARBOD ELKAEI CV

Born in 1992, Tehran, Iran

Lives and works in Tehran, Iran

## Education

2015 - Bachelor of Arts in Painting, Sooreh Art University, Tehran, Iran

2010 - Graphic Diploma, School of Fine Arts, Tehran, Iran

## Solo Exhibitions

2025 - Plus Proche, Philippe ES Gallery, Nice, France

2024 - Livelier, Dastan's Basement, Tehran, Iran

2023 - Double Take, Hamzianpour & Kia Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2020 - Here, We Can Stay For A While, Dastan's Basement, Tehran, Iran

## Group Exhibitions

2025 - MAYDAN:A living Agora, Leila Heller Gallery X Zaal Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2024 - The Wave, 12th Tehran Ceramic Biennial, Niavaran Cultural Center, Tehran, Iran

2024 - Crescendo, Parallel Circuit Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2023 - Another Birth, The Mine Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2023 - Prospect 2, Parallel Circuit, Tehran, Iran

2022 - In My Beginning Is My End, Hasht Cheshmeh Artspace, Kashan, Iran

2022 - A Group Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture, Nowan Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2021 - Nature Of Things, Dastan Plus 2, Tehran, Iran

2020 - The Dinosaur Lost Her Bearings, Parallel Circuit Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2020 - Resemblance, Soo Contemporary, Tehran, Iran

2019 - Backyard, Vali Gallery, Iran

2018 - Summer Show, 1x1 Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2018 - Modern Contemporary, V Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2017 - Fluorescent, Iranshahr Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2017 - I Love You Because You're Sweet And Tender, Khak Art Gallery, Tehran Iran

2017 - Damoonfar, Biennial Exhibition, Mellat Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2016 - Blue Gold, Etemad Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2016 - Insomnia, Assar Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2015 - Abstract Approach, Sareban Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran

2014 - Damoonfar, Biennial Exhibition, Mellat Gallery, Tehran, Iran



## **ABOUT VHC | VIDA HEYDARI CONTEMPORARY**

VHC | Vida Heydari Contemporary is an international art gallery in Pune specialising in contemporary art and representing established and emerging artists with diverse backgrounds, across a variety of mediums and genres. Founded in 2020 with an emphasis on authenticity, quality and innovation, VHC aims to contribute to the cultural fabric of the city. The gallery is committed to fostering the careers of its artists and sharing their work with a global audience, providing a platform for under-represented artists, presenting pioneering museum-quality exhibitions, positive collaborations, price transparency and offering a very hands-on and tailored high quality experience. In less than three years from its inception, VHC has mounted significant exhibitions featuring local and international artists. It has also participated in some of the most prestigious art fairs, such as Art Basel Hong Kong, India Art Fair and India Design ID. In addition to the gallery program, VHC hosts talks, performances, workshops and educational programs to create engaging and enriching artistic experiences that capture the essence of life.

## **ABOUT THE FOUNDER**

VHC was founded by Vida Heydari, a visionary curator, gallerist and collector with nearly two decades of diverse experience in the global art world. She has worked with accomplished Indian, Iranian and Chinese contemporary artists and has consulted for various private and public collections. Known for her keen eye for detail and talent recognition, Heydari's Canadian-Iranian heritage and long exposure to Indian Culture have also informed her curatorial choices. This is reflected in VHC's unique collection that celebrates the fusion of Eastern and Western artistic influences. Under Heydari's direction, VHC has become a platform to encounter and engage with relevant contemporary art practices from around the world.

VHC

VIDA HEYDARI

CONTEMPORARY

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