

Bahar Behbahani's work addresses her long-term conceptual dialogue with memory and loss, representing her chronic displacement and longing.

Behbahani's recent Persian Gardens series revisit her birth country's psycho-geographic landscape of memory, while questioning perception.

More recently, Behbahani embarked upon a multilayered investigation, a collection of collaborative works, which encompasses a group of videos and a participatory installation, centering the role of bread in our contemporary culture through stimulating abandoned memories.

Born in Tehran, Iran, multidisciplinary artist, Bahar Behbahani lives in Brooklyn, New York. Her work has been featured in the 18th Biennale of Sydney, Australia; Sharjah Biennial 10, UAE; The Prologue Exhibition for the 2016 Honolulu Biennial, Hawaii; Queens Museum, New York; The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan; MACRO, Museum of Contemporary Art, Italy; Mirmara Museum, Croatia; The Tribeca Film Festival, New York; as well as the Asia Art Biennial, Bangladesh, among others.

Behbahani was awarded an Art Omi International Artists Residency by The Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant in 2013 and the Art and Culture Network Program Grant from the Open Society Institute, Budapest in 2011. Guggenheim Museum Curator Suzanne Cotter selected her video for the 10th Sharjah Biennial, UAE. In 2007, her video *Suspended* was selected 'Best in Show' by Carrie Springer, Senior Curatorial Assistant, Whitney Museum of American Art.

<http://baharbehbahani.com/>

Mark Dresser is a Grammy nominated, internationally renowned bass player, composer, and interdisciplinary collaborator. He has recorded over one hundred thirty CDs including nine CDs as composer/bandleader, three solo CDs and a DVD. From 1985 to 1994, he was a member of Anthony Braxton's Quartet, which recorded nine CDs and was the subject of Graham Locke's book *Forces in Motion (Da Capo)*. He has also performed and recorded with Ray Anderson, Jane Ira Bloom, Tim Berne, Anthony Davis, Dave Douglas, Osvaldo Golijov, Gerry Hemingway, Bob Osertag, Joe Lovano, Roger Reynolds, Henry Threadgill, Dawn Upshaw, John Zorn. Since 2007 he has been deeply involved in "telematic music performance," which explores the musical, technical, and social dimensions of live performance between multiple geographical locations through high speed Internet. He was a co-coordinator, composer and performer of *Deep Tones for Peace*, a 2009 performance including thirteen internationally bassists collaborating live between Jerusalem and New York City as well as *ResoNations* (2009), a five site international telematic performance for peace. In 2013 Dresser and his colleagues performed, and collaborated with other renowned improvisers in three different cities and spread across the West Coast, East Coast and Europe on [*The Virtual Tour: A Reduced-Carbon Footprint Concert Series*](#). The DVD will be released in January 2016 on PfMentum. He was awarded a 2015 Doris Duke Impact Award as well as 2015 Shifting Foundation Award. He is Professor of Music at University of California, San Diego.

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Melody Nixon is a New Zealand-born writer living in New York City and Stuttgart, Germany. Her essays, criticism, fiction and interviews have appeared or are forthcoming in *BOMB Magazine*, *Guernica*, *Conjunctions*, *Electric Literature*, *Public Books*, *VIDA web*, *Cura Magazine*, *Midnight Breakfast*, *No Dear Magazine*, *Bloom*, and *The Pariah Anthology* from SFA Press, among others. She has been interviewed by [The Hairpin](#) and appeared on The Anti-Americana podcast.

Melody is Co-Curator of the Harlem, NYC reading series First Person Plural, the Interviews Editor of Amherst College-based literary journal [The Common](#), and the Co-Founder of [Apogee Journal](#), a literary activist project that aims to highlight "voices from the margins." She holds an MFA in nonfiction writing from Columbia University in the city of New York.

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Dorota Podlaska - a painter associated chiefly with figurative painting. Apart from that, she also creates actions and interactive performances, art/culinary workshops, installations, photographic documentations, designs books and other publications.

Inspired by numerous trips and her immigrant friends she devoted many of her projects to multicultural exchanges. The artist is absorbed by the problem of creating identity through language and often portrays life of immigrants and their difficult process of adaptation to living in new cultural environment.

She combines art with culinary skills, believing that cooking and feasting together creates unity and forms communities. She organizes imaginative culinary workshops, engages public in group performance around food, makes chocolates with insects and paints culinary recipes, to name the few.

She exhibited her works in renowned Polish galleries, as well as in Japan, South Korea, Germany, France, Holland, Ireland, Sweden, Finland. Her small size works are narrative in their character and often reflect private life of the artist. Podlaska tells stories: in the form of booklets, comic strips, posters, or freeze-frames from existing or imaginary movies. Many of her works are based on conversations and stories heard from audience.

She lives and works in Warsaw, Poland.

<http://www.podlaska.com/en>