

RENOWNED IRANIAN SCULPTOR AND PAINTER POOYA ARYANPOUR IN HIS FIRST UK SOLO EXHIBITION

Art Exhibitions • Nadia Herzog

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Left: Pooya Aryanpour – Temptation, 2015 – Part 1 / Right: Pooya Aryanpour – Temptation, 2015 – Part 2

Philosophical Approach and Artistic Practice

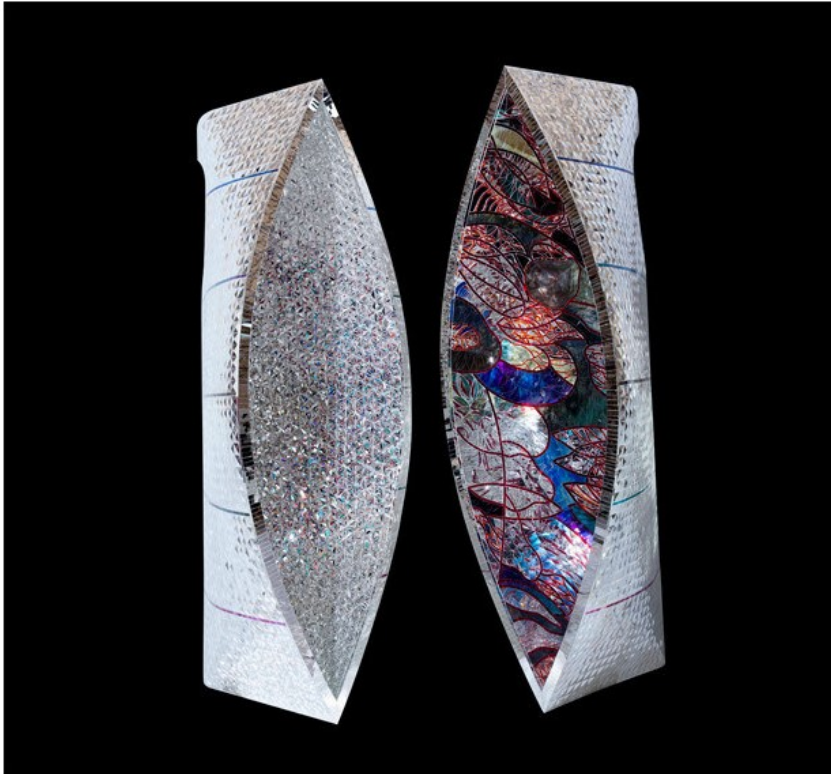
Jacques Derrida's theory of **deconstruction** had a great influence on Ayanpour's work. The connection between the philosophical approach and the artistic practice may not be too obvious, but it was due to the artist's father that this concept was introduced to Iranian academic circles in the first place. Growing up in a truly academic family devoted to bringing modern social sciences into the Iranian society of the 1960s, Pooya Aryanpour had found his **inspiration** in the work of some of the most profound thinkers of the 20th century. His family heritage brought contemporary expression to the artist's work, mixing the local visual culture with the Western abstract art.



Pooya Aryanpour – Drifted, 2016

Everlasting Feeling of Motion

Aryanpour's interests went further than cultural symbolism. He had started experimenting with a poetic notion in colors and various forms, and he slowly incorporated symbols of flowers, typography, and architecture in his work as well. Besides that, his artworks are also recognized as a showcase of a strong feminine principle, which is usually interpreted as the secret idea that the artist likes to mention. While trying to shape his painting and sculpture skills furthermore, Pooya Ayanpour came on to something that truly intrigued him, and basically set the flow of his widely renown art series. It was the tradition of mirror works, in Iran better known as *ayeneh-kari*, which originates from the ornamentation of the ceilings of Iranian mosques with mirror mosaics. This original technique enabled the artist to create mirror-like surfaces that evolve everlasting feeling of the motion, always changing itself, depending on the viewer's perspective. It is especially visible in the series *Beautiful Virgin* and *Temptation* from 2015, where the artist used mirrored sculptures to explore the sense of flexibility and resilience.



Pooya Aryanpour – Temptation, 2015

Pooya Aryanpour Exhibition in London

Pooya Aryanpour is a painter, sculptor, and an art teacher, living in Tehran, Iran, whose artworks have been exhibited all over the world. The upcoming show at London's **Sophia Contemporary Gallery** is going to be his first solo show in the UK. Within the exhibition named *Under the Shell*, Aryanpour's art pieces will be on view from June 10 until July 21, 2016. The private view is scheduled for the June 9 from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Featured image: Pooya Aryanpour – Cold Dark Matter, 2016

Slider images: Left: Pooya Aryanpour – Beautiful Virgin, 2015 / Right: Pooya Aryanpour – Untitled, 2015; Pooya Aryanpour – Temptation, 2015 – Front
All images are courtesy of the artist and Sophia Contemporary Gallery

