

THE COMMERCIAL

HOSSEIN GHAEMI



Spirit Awl Hickey

Vox Talent / Crest of the Pious Hex-dump!

Friday 14 December, 6-8pm

exhibition: 07/12/12 - 22/12/12

open Wednesday-Saturday, 11am-6pm

Due to the opening of the Asia Pacific Triennial at QAG | GOMA in Brisbane, the opening drinks for Hossein Ghaemi's exhibition will be delayed one week. The exhibition will be open to the public from Friday 07/12/12 until Saturday 22/12/12 and then again after the Summer break from 23/01/13 until 25/01/13.

148 ABERCROMBIE STREET, REDFERN, NSW, AUSTRALIA +61 2 8096 3292

office@thecommercialgallery.com

www.thecommercialgallery.com

Hossein Ghaemi (b. 1985, Tehran) presents surreal scenarios via real and imaginary characters from his own life. Secrecy and the unconscious, theatricality and mysticism operate as veiling elements in his paintings, sculptures, installations and performances. Ghaemi employs colour and materials intensely, lending the work a jewel-like quality. He elevates non-standard materials – like pistachio nuts and pomegranate juice – as vivid symbols in a hierarchy that emerges from his native Persian culture.

In 2010, Ghaemi completed a Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) at Sydney College of the Arts, The University of Sydney. His solo projects include major choreographed choral performances for which Ghaemi composes music and creates costumes and make-up. His performance, *SKIN IN ON*, was included in Performance Space, Sydney's program, *NightTime: Twilight*, at St Stephen's Church, Newtown, curated by Bec Dean (2012) and Firstdraft Gallery's *We Are Here* program at Church on Chalmers in Surry Hills (2011).

Major collaborative works include a week-long performance project with Claire Finneran for Next Wave Festival, Melbourne, Artistic Director Emily Sexton and Artistic Program Manager Serena Bentley (2012); a two-person exhibition with Claire Finneran at Firstdraft Gallery, Sydney and a large installation with Sydney Guild for an exhibition at Papermill, Sydney (2011).

Group exhibitions have included *Wunder Pond* at Tin Sheds Gallery, Sydney, curated by Sandra Di Palma (2012); *Everything's Alright* at Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, curated by Amanda Rowell (2010).

In 2010, Ghaemi was nominated for the Redlands Art Prize, Sydney by Lindy Lee.

Ghaemi is part of the Sydney-based collective, Sydney Guild (with Christopher Hodge and Amelia Wallin). In 2012, Sydney Guild established a regular exhibition program in their Darlinghurst studio space.

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