

CASTLEFIELD GALLERY

Press release
August 2023



Omid Asadi, *The Little Messenger* (2023). Image courtesy of the artist.

Omid Asadi

15 October 2023 - 21 January 2024

Castlefield Gallery is excited to present the first major UK solo exhibition by **Omid Asadi**. The exhibition will feature new large scale sculptural work by Asadi exploring loss, memory and belonging.

Resonance and Remnants (2023) will be built in situ in the gallery space using reclaimed bricks from demolished houses, found objects and dandelion seeds. These broken but resilient found materials will be set in contrast with the delicate seeds and their connotations of childhood hopes and dreams. This work is informed by Asadi's experiences of revisiting the locations of destroyed family homes, lost to either war or so-called development. Despite this personal inspiration behind the work, it is hoped that it will resonate with the diverse range of memories, histories and knowledge that visitors bring to the exhibition.

Contrast runs through both the materials and the thinking in Asadi's work. Throughout this exhibition, gentle and harsh materials will be brought together. Like fragments of the past that linger in our minds, solid, stable and enduring objects mix with ephemeral matter, resembling the fragile nature of recollection. Asadi hopes this exhibition will be '... a testament to the power of human resilience, creativity, and the everlasting longing to reclaim a sense of belonging even when the physical spaces have disappeared' Asadi (2023).

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For further information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact: Leslie Remonato at Castlefield Gallery on leslie@castlefieldgallery.co.uk or 0161 832 8034

More about the artist

Omid Asadi (b.1979, Iran) currently lives and works in Manchester, UK. Asadi has an MA Fine Art (2018) and a BA (Hons) Fine Art from Manchester Metropolitan University (2017). **Selected residencies include:** *Kulturföreningen*, Svenshögen Station, Sweden (2022); SODAS2123 Vilnius, Lithuania (2022); *Conversations Series III*, Venture Arts, Manchester UK (2022); PROFORMA Pavilion, Corte Supernova, Venice, Italy (2019). **Solo exhibitions include:** *Last Drop of Oil*, Svenshögen Station, Sweden (2022); *Autopsy Of A Home*, esea contemporary, Manchester, UK (2020-21). **Selected group exhibitions include:** *Narratives*, The Lowry, Salford (2023); *Intersections*, Paradise Works, Manchester, UK (2022); Proforma Pavilion, Pase Platform, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy (2022); *Agent Of Change*, John Ruskin Art Prize at Holden Gallery, Manchester, UK (2019); PROFORMA Pavilion, at Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy (2019); *Sources*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK (2019); *State of the Arts*, Selfridges, Manchester, UK (2019); *The Ground Beneath Your Feet*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK (2018); *Warrington Contemporary Art Festival*, Warrington Museum & Art Gallery, Warrington, UK (2018); *The Manchester Contemporary*, represented by Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK (2017); *In Visible Lines*, Scaffold Gallery, Manchester, UK (2017) *Air Open*, Air Gallery, Altrincham, UK (2017). Asadi took part in *Creative Lives* a collaboration between artists, academics and other stakeholders, University of Sheffield (2022) and *SUSTAIN: Artist Digital Exchange*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester & Aarhus Billedkunstcenter, DK, (2021 – 2022). Asadi has work in the **Public Collection** of Siam Discovery shopping mall, Bangkok, Thailand.

More on Castlefield Gallery

We are a contemporary art gallery and artist development organisation. Established in 1984, we've led the way in artist development for almost 40 years. We provide creative and career development, exhibition opportunities and commissions for

artists and independents. We work from our galleries in Manchester, off-site, online and in the public realm. We create long-lasting impacts in our city region, North West and beyond. Our national and international activities focus on artist exchange. Castlefield Gallery's public and participation programmes provoke new ways of thinking, bringing together artists, creatives, communities and audiences to explore the art and issues of our time. We believe when artists and communities come together they can help shape a better world.

We support more than 300 Castlefield Gallery Associates and a host of creatives through person-centred development programmes. Castlefield Gallery New Art Spaces provide affordable making and project space in the North West of England, including on the high street. We are a home for artists and creatives. We are advocates for what we believe in. We believe in the power of new art. We make new art happen.

Ryan Gander OBE is Castlefield Gallery's Artist Patron. We are a registered charity, supported by Arts Council England and Manchester City Council.

Exhibition Title: Omid Asadi

Exhibition dates: 15 October 2023 - 21 January 2024

Preview: Thursday 12 October, 6-8pm

Slow Saturday Preview: Saturday 14 October, 12noon – 5.30pm

Christmas closing: 18 December 2023 - 2 January 2024 inclusive.

Images available [HERE](#)

Venue: Castlefield Gallery, 2 Hewitt Street, Manchester M15 4GB

Tel: 0161 832 8034

Web: castlefieldgallery.co.uk

Email: info@castlefieldgallery.co.uk

Opening Times: Wed to Sun 12noon – 5:30pm

Omid Asadi is generously supported with funding from The Haworth Trust and Castlefield Gallery Commissioning Patron Prof. Chris Klingenberg.

Omid Asadi is kindly supported by [Energy House Labs](#), University of Salford



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