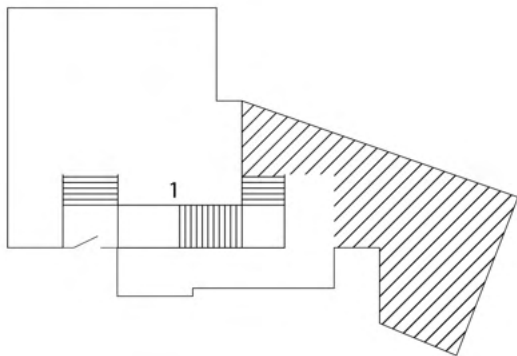


Upper gallery



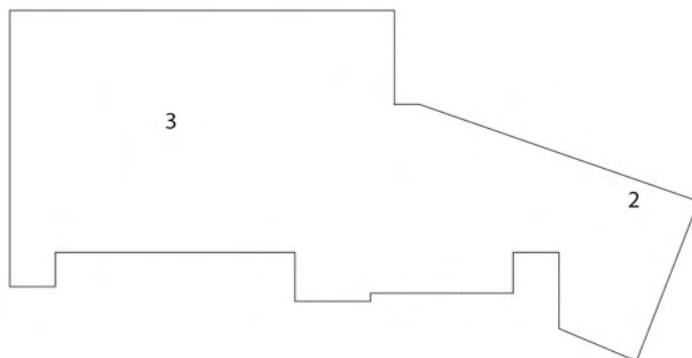
Upper Gallery

1. *In case of emergency, open and make a wish*
2023
Glass bottle, dandelion seeds
Edition of 50
£5 each

Plan

Omid Asadi
15 October 2023 — 21 January 2024
Winter closing: 18 December 2023 — 2 January 2024

Lower gallery



Lower Gallery

2. *Storage Dreams*
2023
Storage boxes and dandelion seeds

3. *Resonance and Remnants*
2023
Reclaimed bricks from demolished houses, found
objects and dandelion seeds

**For sales enquiries please contact
Castlefield Gallery Curator and Deputy Director
Matthew Pendergast
T: 0161 832 8034
matthew@castlefieldgallery.co.uk**

Castlefield Gallery is excited to present the first major UK solo exhibition by Omid Asadi. The exhibition features new work made in situ in the gallery by Asadi, exploring loss, memory and belonging.

Resonance and Remnants (2023) was built with reclaimed bricks from demolished houses, household objects and dandelion seeds. The broken but resilient found materials are 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.

The bricks used in this work were sourced locally, their red colour is characteristic of houses in the north of England and will be familiar to many visitors. Particularly as a result of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's activities in the first half of the 20th century it is also possible to find what are referred to locally as 'British bricks' in Iran. In the oil-rich south where Asadi's hometown of Abadan is located, many homes for British workers and their families were built with red bricks transported from the UK to Iran.

Storage Dreams (2023) is made from plastic storage boxes some of which have been repurposed, found or donated to make the work. Stacked up in the gallery's double height space they now contain dandelion seeds, thousands of wishes stored, suspended

and put on hold. In the upper gallery an edition of bottles containing dandelion seeds is titled *In case of emergency, open it and make a wish* (2023).

Contrast runs through both the materials and the thinking in Asadi's work. Throughout the exhibition, gentle and harsh materials are 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).

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

It is also kindly supported by Energy House Labs, University of Salford

ENERGY
HOUSE
LABS

Castlefield Gallery Funders and supporters



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL