

Monireh Askari

Land is a living organism; living by the regulation of nature. Within this cycle of living when land faces forms of damage from human or non-human forces, it could reproduce itself during over time, and get back to its balanced comfortable state of being.

The ways in which we use land, have an important role in its ability to reproduce itself. With earlier and more basic forms of excavation mechanisms, mostly thin surfaces areas of land were affected; so the process of reproduction was faster – like the engagement of nomads with land as a surface for setting up their homes or agriculture practices. Today, advanced mechanisms of land excavation have made (and continue to make) is more substantial damages, consequently expanding the time scale for its reproduction.

A comforted land is a body for a large number of microorganisms. Diversity of these organisms make this body a nourishing place where plants can live, grow, and even yield by.

In this series of photographs I looked for wild plants in suburbs around my hometown. They are tiny and weak mostly, die in fall season leaving their seeds behind for spring recursion. Yet, they can grow and live wildly, regardless of actions (interferences) from us, (whether acts of care or making use). The series shows this ongoing possibility in leftover areas of land around our living zones, and manifestations of what we can see on the surface of land when it is still in the state of reproduction.

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This series of works are all photographs on color 35 mm film, all taken with a 50 mm lens, over the span of a few years between 2015 and 2018 in Esfahan, Iran.



















































































Monireh Askari is a freelance interdisciplinary artist, researcher and urban designer. During her practice she has worked in and out of various creative disciplines such as visual arts, graphic design, creative direction and urban design. Her practice is an exploration in working with layers and fragments, using a variety of mediums such as photography, video, collage, diagram, text, interactive sculpture, and installation. Her work is concerned with contemporary issues, thinking about exploring 'possibilities' through redefining and imagining new relations. Her work borrows concepts and imagery from propaganda, media, scientific facts, technology, metaphoric stories, history and futuristic practices/ fantasies. Her works have been shown in different solo and group exhibitions such as in Venice Architecture Biennale and Athen's art fair, and has been an artist in residence at ZK/U Berlin.

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