

Homecoming

Bahareh Khoshooee, Ke Peng, and Minoosh Zomorodinia
Curated by Sabrina Greig

October 6 - 27, 2017

Opening Reception: Friday, October 6th 6 - 9PM

Homecoming is a three-person exhibition presenting work by Bahareh Khoshooee, Ke Peng, and Minoosh Zomorodinia at ACRE Project Galleries from October 6th-October 27th. Working across the mediums of photography, video, and installation, the exhibiting artists expand the scope of transnational narratives to challenge notions of citizenship and sensations of belonging. Through the manipulation of digital interfaces, they collectively provide an innovative commentary on the sociopolitical uncertainties Diasporic communities face.

Originating from the international locations of Iran and China, the artists on view in *Homecoming* redefine place-making from multiple perspectives. Minoosh Zomorodinia exhibits Shelter, a multimedia installation that uses kaleidoscopic projections to investigate the humanitarian issue of homelessness and society's relationship to the natural world. Bahareh Khoshooee's video entitled '<<--space spice ,;']' foreign sneeze)'''!';,; Sunday snooze =';,;>>' is an ironic exploration of the challenging process of obtaining a U.S Visa. The piece touches upon the fragility of American citizenship and how the nuances of immigration politics can complicate one's daily experience. Your Flower Might not Blossom by Ke Peng is a meditation on maturation and becoming an adult away from loved ones. The narrative follows the artist's grandmother who believes in the auspicious significance of lotus flowers.

Each exhibited piece, bordering on the uncanny and the otherworldly, gives agency to Bahareh Khoshooee, Ke Peng, and Minoosh Zomorodinia as they question the value and intricacies of locating home. Their transnational critiques dynamically visualize their internal and external worlds through digital means, making their immigrant experiences tangible and accessible to the viewer.

Minoosh Zomorodinia is an Iranian-born interdisciplinary artist and educator who employs video, photography, installations, and performance to make visible for audiences the emotional and psychological reflections of her mind's eye inspired by nature. Her work exposes and experiments with humanity's relationship to the natural world. She earned her MFA in new genres from San Francisco Art Institute and holds a Masters degree in Graphic Design and BA in Photography from Azad University in Tehran. She has been the recipient of several awards and residences such as MFA Fellowship from San Francisco Art Institute, Finalist Tosa Award, Djerassi Resident Artists Program and the Affiliate Program at Headlands Center for the Arts. Her work has been exhibited locally and internationally such as Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Root Division, SOMArts, Transylvania Art Center Romania, Pori Art Museum, WORKS San Jose, Marin Community Foundation, Niavaran Cultural and Historical Complex Tehran,

Museum of Contemporary Art Isfahan and Nevada Museum of Art.

Bahareh Khoshoee was born in Tehran, Iran, in the year of the goat, 1991. The artist received her BA in Industrial Design from the University of Tehran and is a recent MFA graduate from the University of South Florida. Her work was recently featured in the Museum of Fine Arts Saint Petersburg, USF Contemporary Art Museum, and ACRE Projects, and was this summer was an artist-in-residence at the Ox-Bow residency.

Ke Peng 彭可 (b. 1992, Hunan, raised in Shenzhen, China) lives and works in Los Angeles, CA and southern China. She is interested in how the different connect, and distinctions within similarity. The urge, burden, and limitation of being in a specific space, as well as actively looking are very important to her, while constantly thinking about one's own self is the least important. She spends an unbelievable amount of time observing people, space.. and cute animals. She is also very fond of milk, jackfruit and canelé. She received a BFA in Photography from Rhode Island School of Design.

Sabrina Greig is an art critic, curator, and communications professional from New York City. She graduated with a B.A from Carleton College and M.A in Art History from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC). Her curatorial practice uses exhibition spaces to showcase experiences that are unique to Diasporic communities on the margins. Through the lens of Afrofuturism, she seeks to understand past cultural histories in an effort to transcend contemporary oppressive narratives that frequently surround people of color. Her curatorial work has been exhibited at the Haitian American Museum of Chicago, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and ACRE Project Galleries. Through her curatorial residency at ACRE Projects, she produced the two exhibits *New Earth: Caribbean Mythmaking* in July 2017 and *Homecoming* in October 2017. She explored artists that engage with digital and virtual spaces to locate a stronger sense of selfhood and racial identity. She executed digital communications for the exhibition program the Petty Biennial on view at the Arts Incubator through the University of Chicago May 19 – June 23, 2017. In December 2017, she will be a participant in the Ghetto Biennial located in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Her art criticism and research draw from her curatorial practice, as she focuses on representations of the Black diaspora in popular culture, fine art, and gentrified urban spaces. She has published work in *Arts.Black*, *Contemporary And*, *Bad at Sports*, *Sixty Inches from the Center*, and *Fnewsmagazine*.