

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, announces the display of a series of works by artists Artemis Akchoti Shahbazi and Cyrus Samii in the Arts of Islamic Cultures gallery. The six works, which belong to their project *Other Kings… Other Stories…,* will be on view at the MFA until September 2022.

Akchoti Shahbazi and Samii grew up in Iran but joined the large Iranian diaspora of the 1980s, eventually moving to the United States. In *Other Kings … Other Stories …,* they offer a chronicle of Iran’s modern history from an insider/outsider perspective, offering both the cool gaze of the historian and the more intimate one of the émigré. The artists draw heavily upon the *Shahnama,* the 11th-century Persian epic that is a cornerstone of Iran’s culture, while also reaching to other forms of art and storytelling such as the travelogue and *parde-khani* (storytelling before a painted scene). In so doing, they bring the language of elites and the masses into contact with one another. *Other Kings… Other Stories…* presents tales of canny prime ministers, melancholy kings, cunning alchemists, and tragic lovers, inviting viewers to step into the artists’ minds and to view Iran through layers of imagination born both of history and myth, connection and loss, distance and proximity.

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, is open 10am to 5pm Sunday, Monday, Thursday and Saturday, and 10am to 10pm on Friday. Timed tickets are not required.