



Masterpieces to go on sale Mah-e Mehr Autumn Collection Showcase

Tehran Times Art Desk

TEHRAN — Tehran's Mah-e Mehr Gallery plans to display artwork created by a number of veteran and younger artists in an exhibit opening on October 23.

About 80 creations by 50 artists will be offered for sale during the showcase entitled the Mah-e Mehr Autumn Collection.

Works by veterans Mohammad Ehsaii, Hossein Zendeherudi, Ahmad Esfandiari, Naser Ovissi, Yadollah Kaboli, Nasrollah Afjeii, Jazeh Tabatabaai, and Parviz Kalantari will be put on show.

The program is organized to present artwork executed in different styles and techniques, to help boost the fine arts sector of the economy and to renew collections of private collectors.

Works by other artists, including Farideh Lashaii, Karim Nasr, Ahmad Nasrollahi, Mostafa Dashti, Kurosh Shishegharan and Puya Aryanpur, will also be on exhibit.

The works will be displayed for two weeks at the gallery located at No.7, Nilufar St. off Africa Ave.

Tehran biennial to commemorate world graphic designers



Art fans visit the 10th Tehran International Poster Biennial at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art on October 19, 2009. (Mehr/Mohsen Rezaii)

Tehran Times Art Desk

TEHRAN — The 10th edition of the Tehran International Poster Biennial will commemorate a number internationally renowned graphic designers during a ceremony on its side section program.

Briton Alan Gerard Fletcher (1931-2006), Japanese Shigeo Fukuda (1932-2009), and Iranian Morteza Momayyez (1935-2005) will be honored at the event, said secretary of the event Mohammad Khazaii.

He added that this year's thematic section of the festival focuses on "The Contemporary Human and the Environment".

Khazaii also stated that the participation of world-class graphic designers in the program is a promising sign that Tehran's biennial will find a proper place among the world's top poster biennials in the near future.

The 10th Tehran International Poster Biennial opened Monday at the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Arts (TMCA).

TMCA deputy director Ehsan Aqaii gave the initial speech at the opening formalities in which he said that the works submitted in the international section suggest a kind of evolution in the field of poster and graphic designs.

He also announced that this would be the last competitive exhibition held at the Tehran Museum and that afterwards, it would return to its previous role of displaying only old, modern, and world contemporary works.

A collection of 264 works from 24 countries including Japan, Afghanistan, Belarus, Croatia, Russia, Taiwan, Turkey and Brazil have been put on display at the one-month long event.

Several meetings and discussions are arranged on the side section of the program.

Japan's Samurai art on show in New York

NEW YORK (AFP) — The world's most comprehensive collection of armor, weaponry and art covering 700 years of Japan's fabled Samurai culture goes on exhibit this week at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

"Art of the Samurai: Japanese Arms and Armor, 1156-1868" will open Wednesday, showcasing "214 masterpieces, including 34 national treasures, 64 important cultural properties, and six important art objects," the museum said in a statement.

Open until January 10, the exhibit includes "armor, swords, sword fittings and mountings, archery and equestrian equipment, and banners, ... as well as

and go to any extreme. painted screens and scrolls," some of which have never left Japan.

"This is the most comprehensive exhibition of Japanese arms and armor ever to take place in the world," including Japan, the museum boasted.

The Bushi or Samurai, Japan's military elite, for seven centuries dominated the politics, economy and society of their country. The exhibition displays the evolution of the Samurai's "omote dogu," or exterior equipment.

Military hardware, especially swords and armor, were highly prized and used for display as well as the dress worn in battle. In pursuit of their excellence, the Samurai would spend untold amounts

and go to any extreme.

In contrast to the brutality of their profession, many Samurai became highly cultivated individuals; several were known as accomplished poets, and others as talented calligraphers.

"This exhibition is a unique opportunity to witness for the first time the emergence and development of this 'exterior equipment' together with paintings and other related materials," the museum said.

It "will include many works that are seen rarely and others that have never been shown beyond the Shinto shrines and a temple," exhibition curator Morihiro Ogawa said in the museum statement.

Christie's offers Raphael work worth up to \$26 million

LONDON (Reuters) — Christie's will offer for sale a drawing by Renaissance master Raphael which he used as a study for a figure in a Vatican fresco, and expects it to break the record for an old master drawing sold at auction.

"Head of a Muse" will go under the hammer at the London sale of old masters and 19th century art on December 8 and has been estimated at 12-16 million pounds (\$20-26 million).

The existing record for an old master drawing at auction stands at 8.1 million pounds, including buyer's premium, for Michelangelo's "The Risen Christ" in 2000 and for Leonardo da Vinci's "Horse and Rider" in 2001.

The Raphael drawing was a study for a figure in "Parnassus," one of a series of four frescoes in the Stanza della Segnatura in the Vatican commissioned by Pope Julius II and executed between 1508 and 1511.

Christie's said the series was "widely considered to be the artist's greatest masterpiece."

In 1508, Raphael was summoned to Rome and commissioned to paint frescoes at the same time that Michelangelo was painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

The December 8 auction will also include Rembrandt's "Portrait of a man, half-length, with his arms akimbo," estimated at up to 25 million pounds, and "Saint John the Evangelist" by Italian artist Domenico Zampieri, valued at 7-10 million pounds.

"The auction in December will be a landmark sale for the art market," said Richard Knight, co-head of old masters at Christie's.

Malek Museum to display rare manuscripts in Iranian cities

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — Tehran's Malek Museum is holding manuscript exhibitions at different cultural centers in Tehran, Qom, Isfahan and Shiraz.



The exhibitions are running concurrently from October 20 to 30 on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the museum's establishment.

Pictures of calligraphy artwork created by renowned Safavid and Qajar artists, including Mir-Emad and Alireza Abbasi, are on display at the Tehran's Reza Abbasi Museum.

The Saheb-Qaraniyah Palace of the Niavaran Cultural Historical Complex will host an exhibition of pictures of calligraphy artwork on the theme of the ephuisms of Imam Ali (AS).

A collection of manuscripts by Alaeddin Tabrizi, the court scribe of Shah Tahmasb Safavi, is on display at Tehran's Imam Ali (AS) Religious Arts Museum.

Qom's Museum of Hazrat Masumeh (SA) is displaying selected manuscripts of "Zad-ul-Ma'ad" written by the Qajar-era poet Vesal Shirazi.

Isfahan's Chehel Sotun palace museum and the Fars National Library and Archive in Shiraz are also hosting exhibits of pictures of selected manuscripts.

Located in the vicinity of Baq-e Melli in downtown Tehran, the Malek Museum is home to over 18,000 historical manuscripts in various languages.

It also contains collections of carpets dating back to the Qajar era, and gold and silver coins from the Achaemenid era to the Qajar era.

Wooden pen cases, chairs, tables, and paintings dating from the Safavid era to the Qajar era, as well as collections of stamps and other artifacts are on display in the museum, which is housed in a Qajar era building.

The Malek Museum is affiliated to the Astan-e Qods Museum of Mashhad.

Andy Garcia takes on Saakashvili role

TBILISI (Reuters) — The office of the Georgian president had a new occupant Monday as U.S. actor Andy Garcia took on the role of Mikhail Saakashvili in a film based on last year's war with Russia.

Filming began this month on an untitled drama by "Die Hard 2" director Renny Harlin based on the five-day August war, when Saakashvili's assault on separatists in rebel South Ossetia drew a devastating Russian counter-strike.

Hollywood star Garcia, whose credits include "The Godfather Part III" and "Ocean's Eleven," arrived in the former Soviet republic late Sunday as shooting moved from the former Russian-held town of Gori to the capital, Tbilisi.

Television pictures showed Garcia holding court in a suit, red tie and a lapel pin bearing the red-and-white Georgian flag in Saakashvili's office in the presidential palace.

The plot revolves around an American reporter who gets caught in the crossfire as war engulfs the country, testing his impartiality as a journalist. Papuna Davitaia, a parliament deputy from Saakashvili's ruling United National Movement, is one of the producers on the project.

Archaeologists excavating Khosrow Parviz palace

Tehran Times Culture Desk

TEHRAN — A team of Iranian archaeologists has recently begun the sixth season of excavations at the palace of the Sassanid king Khosrow Parviz (reigned 590-628) in the Bisotun region of Kermanshah Province.

The palace is located near Farhad Tarash, also known as Faratash, a cliff at the foot of the Zagros Mountains whose vertical surface was smoothed during the Achaemenid period.

The construction of the palace was never completed but the site was converted into a caravanserai by the Ilkhanids (1256-1353), a Mongol dynasty that ruled in Iran.

Ruins dating back to the Sassanid period and the Ilkhanid era have been unearthed this season, team director Mehdi Rahbar told the Persian service of CHN on Monday.

Some of the stones used in constructing the palace walls still bears an intact mason's mark, he stated.

"The Ilkhanids converted the unfinished palace into a caravanserai, which most likely was destroyed by an earthquake later on and then another caravanserai was built by the Safavid dynasty (1502-1736) at distance of 200 meters from the Ilkhanid structure," Rahbar explained.

People built their houses on the ruins of the palace of Khosrow Parviz during the last years of the Qajar period (1794-1925). In 1976, the people were relocated to enable archaeologists to study the palace ruins.

The Persian Empire achieved its greatest expansion during the reign of Khosrow II (Khosrow Parviz). Ultimately defeated in a war with the Byzantines, he was deposed in a palace revolt and executed.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Construction and Operation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities for Lengeh and Kong Cities (B.O.T)
 Host Company: Hormozgan Province Water & Wastewater Company

Invitation to Investors for Construction and Operation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities for Lengeh and Kong Cities on Build, Operation & Transfer (B.O.T.) Basis

It is the intention of Hormozgan Province Water & Wastewater Company (HWWC) to award the contract for Construction and Operation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities for Lengeh and Kong cities on Build, Operation & Transfer (B.O.T.) basis with the following specifications through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) and to a qualified investor. Consequently, this invitation has been published by HWWC before proceeding with bidding process and for identifying interested investors.

A. Brief Description of the Project:

- **Estimated Cost Of the initial investment of the project:** about 350 billion Rials
- **Construction period:** 60 months
- **Commercial operation period:** 25 years
- **Host company:** Hormozgan Province Water & Wastewater Company (HWWC) (as representative to the Ministry of Energy, HWWC, guarantees purchasing treated effluent during operation period according to Article 8 of Operational By-law designated for Paragraph C, Note 4 of the Annual Budget Law, 2007)
- **Treatment plant capacity:** about 8400 cubic meters per day and for each module
- **Length of collection network:** about 260 km

B. Investors' qualifications:

Capability of financing the project and managerial or executive experiences for similar projects. Documents and description of the project and also invitation letter may be obtained by interested investors **from: 2009/09/21 to 2009/10/11 from Pars Ab Tadbir Consulting Engineers Company with address: No. 36, Nosrat Street, Kargar-e-Shomali Street, Tehran, Iran; Tel: +98-21- 66937786; Fax: +98-21- 66592794; Contact Person: Mr. Alizadeh (First Floor).** Investors may study and complete and deliver the documents and also their comments on scope of the works not later than 2009/10/16 to Pars Ab Tadbir Consulting Engineers Company or to Hormozgan Province Water & Wastewater Company (executive representative of sewage projects in the province) to this address: Beside Shariaty Hospital, Nasser Boulevard, Bandar Abbas.

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