

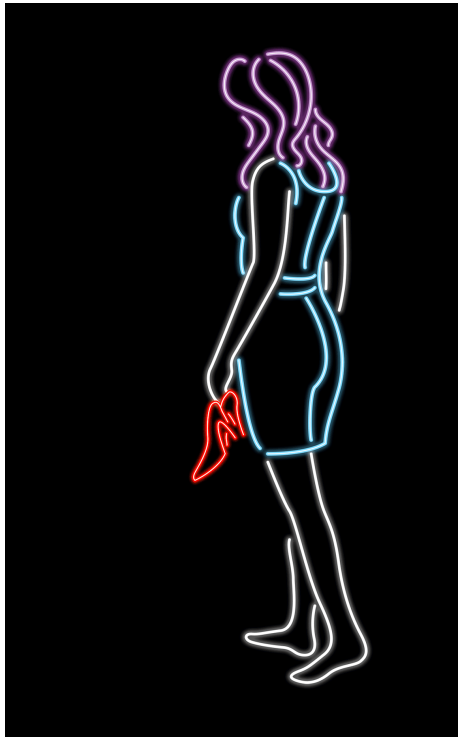
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## شگفت آور (**fabulous**).

Dana Caputo, Farnaz Rabieijah, Jaishri Abichandani, Kate Hush, Lisa Ficarelli-Halpern, Lunar New Year, Rashaad Newsome, Shoshanna Weinberger, Tatyana Fazlalizadeh, Ventiko

September 17 – October 13, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 17, 6 - 8pm



Kate Hush, *Cold Feet*, 2015

Shirin Gallery NY is pleased to present شگفت آور (*fabulous*), a group exhibition featuring the works of 10 artists. The opening will take place this Thursday, September 17, 2015, from 6-8pm. The curator, Jasmine Wahj, and artists will be present. The exhibition will be on view through October 13th, 2015.

The word “ شگفت آور ” (pronounced Shegeft Aavar) or “fabulous,” has come to mean a variety of things: formally, it means extraordinary or phenomenal. As a derivation of Latin, Middle English, and French, ‘fabulous’ means mythical, unreal, or celebrated in fable. A contemporary colloquial version of ‘fabulous’ seems to have a more onomatopoeic connotation of ‘unreal!’ and ‘stellar!’- often implying beauty, style, or flair. Pop-culturally it is a term associated with flamboyance to the point of over exaggeration.

شگفت آور (*fabulous*). is an exhibition that explores all of the definitions and implications of this term within the context of female empowerment: The exhibition uses the term as a descriptor of the aesthetic and conceptual elements of each artist’s work. The word ‘fabulous’ is also intended to be catalytic of a larger conversation about contemporary feminist politics: questioning the intersection of traditional feminist identities with contemporary pop-culture, race, identity, and privilege.

شگفت آور (*fabulous*). includes male and female artists, whose works reflect some element, definition, or interpretation of 'fabulous.' On the surface the individual works as well as the larger exhibition is the reinforcement of female strength and prowess. Just below the surface is an exploration of the future of feminist discourse and the modes of empowerment that are considered 'valid'; the issues presented range from 'Beyoncé feminism' to feminist 'waves' - from heroic females in the limelight to the unsung heroines who go unnoticed.

شگفت آور (*fabulous*). is part of a larger series of 'fabulous' exhibitions curated by Jasmine Wahj that explore the idea of female empowerment and 'feminism' in a contemporary context. These exhibitions specifically address connotations and definitions of the word fabulous within the conscientious context of both stereotyped and real perceptions of women. With each exhibition the word is translated into another language as homage to the gradual equality and empowerment of women across the globe.

Shirin Gallery NY is a contemporary art gallery and platform for curatorial and educational activities that seek to foster international cultural exchange. Originally established in Tehran in 2005, the gallery opened a New York space in 2013 in Chelsea's gallery district. The New York space furthers Shirin Gallery's commitment to exhibiting works that push the boundaries of contemporary art, as well as international perceptions of the Middle East.