

Arman Stepanian | Collage Tales

10 September – 4 October 2012

Private View: Monday 10 September 2012, 7-9pm



Arman Stepanian, *Untitled*, 2012, 120x80 cm, mixed media collage and photography

Collage Tales invokes the tradition of story telling by using photographic images to tell stories of past and present. Iranian photographer Arman Stepanian has used this method as a means of presenting visual narrative for several years. Stepanian skilfully assembles imagery into a symbolic narrative that has familiar components of Iranian people and the country's landscape through history. In this new *Untitled* series, Stepanian incorporates black and white as well as colourful symbols of people, animals and landscapes super-imposed onto a somewhat staged studio setting. Stepanian does not create a direct narrative in these photographs but invites the viewer to form a new narrative from experiencing the works. This could be a shared memory or experience or a trigger for a past event.

For his solo presentation at Etemad Gallery Dubai, Stepanian will present eleven large format collage photographs whose subject matter are in his signatory fragmented narrative style.

Arman Stepanian was born Iran in 1965 and currently lives and works in his homeland. He studied at the Tehran University and has had solo exhibitions extensively in his country. Group exhibitions of Stepanian's works have been shown internationally in Abu Dhabi, Chicago, Houston, New York and Paris.

For information further information about this exhibition/media enquiries contact: jareh@galleryetemad.com