

Hojat AMANI (Hojatolah AMANI)

Date of Birth: July 30, 1978 | Nationality: Iranian

Summary of qualifications

Accomplished scholar, artist, and educator with a Ph.D. in Comparative and Analytical Islamic Art History and over 20 years of experience in research, teaching, and artistic practice. Extensive academic background includes faculty appointments at Tarbiat Modares University and Isfahan University of Arts, as well as international teaching in Pakistan and Germany. Demonstrated leadership as Director of the Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute and active contributor to national and international conferences, research initiatives, and art institutions.

Recognized for expertise in Persian calligraphy (including revival of the Taliq script), Islamic aesthetics, and modern visual culture, with a portfolio of published books, peer-reviewed articles, and over 60 exhibitions across Asia, Europe, and North America. Combines deep knowledge of traditional Islamic art with a critical and contemporary approach to research, pedagogy, and studio practice.

Education

- PhD, Comparative and Analytical Islamic Art History (Middle East), University of Tehran, Iran, 2015–2020
- MA, Art Research, University of Art, Tehran, Iran, 2006–2008
- BA, Painting, University of Art, Isfahan, Iran, 2001–2004
- Diploma in Fine Art, School of Higher Education, Isfahan, Iran, 1998–2001
- Diploma in Persian Calligraphy, Persian Calligraphy Society, Isfahan, Iran, 1997–2003

Academic & Professional Roles

- Faculty Member, Tarbiat Modares University of Tehran – Faculty of Art and Architecture
- Faculty Member, Isfahan University of Arts – Faculty of Visual and Applied Arts (Painting Department)
- Research Member, Specialized Art History Department, Academy of Arts, Iran
- Director and President, Saba Cultural, Artistic and Research Institute, Academy of Arts
- Invited Professor, Sepehr University of Isfahan – Bachelor of Painting
- Tutor, Iranian Calligraphers Association
- Instructor of Iranian and Arabic Calligraphy, Karachi University of Visual Sciences, Pakistan
- Instructor of Iranian and Arabic Calligraphy, HKDM University, Freiburg, Germany
- Member, Institute for the Development of Visual Arts
- Member, Multimedia and Painting Groups, Academy of Arts
- Member, National Conference on Bricks and Brickwork in Iranian Architecture
- Secretariat, International Conference of Isfahan School

- Artistic Consultant, Exhibition of Modern Painters, Saba Cultural and Artistic Institute
- Reviver and Promoter of the Taliq Script

Research Projects

- Nastaliq Inscriptions of Iran, commissioned by the Academy of Arts
- Aesthetics of Iranian Mosques from the Early Centuries to the Fifth Century AH
- Tones of Shahnameh Reading in Lorestan, commissioned by the Academy of Arts

Books

- Ungeteilte Himmel, with Prof. Dr. Wenzel, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2016
- The Book of the Mythical World: Myth in the Islamic Lands of Italy and Spain, Mahkameh Publications, 2021
- An Introduction to the Calligraphy Method of Mirza Shafi Tabrizi, Naskh Publications, Academy of Arts of Iran, Tehran, 2018

Articles

- 2025 – Discourse Study of the Formation of Haft Awrang by Norman Fairclough's Discourse Analysis Approach
- 2022 – Analysis and Review of Erol Akyavaş's Calligraphic Works in Modern Turkey
- 2022 – New Qajarism in Iranian Contemporary and Modern Visual Arts, Journal of Art and Civilization of the Orient, Vol. 10
- 2022 – Renovation of Traditional Turkish Painting Art in Contemporary Turkey, Bagh-e Nazar, Vol. 18
- 2021 – Changing the Meaning in Contemporary Iranian Calligraphy Discourse (with Hasan Bolkhari and Sedaqat Jabari), JACO, No. 31
- 2021 – Evolution of Traditional Painting in Contemporary Turkey (with Sara Farahmand), Bagh-e Nazar
- 2020 – Developments of Islamic Calligraphy in Contemporary Turkey (with Sara Farahmand), JACO, No. 32
- 2020 – Nasta'liq Style Calligraphy in Qajar Period, For Tomorrow Magazine, No. 25
- 2018 – Pakistani New Art, For Tomorrow Magazine, No. 21

Lectures & Presentations

- 2023 – Review and Criticism of Traditionalist Views on Islamic Calligraphy, Nazar Institute, Tehran
- 2023 – Intertextual Analysis of the Rosary of Particles by Ziauddin Emami, University of Sistan and Baluchistan
- 2022 – Impact of Calligraphy on Treatise of Mahmoud bin Muhammad, Isfahan Art University
- 2022 – Webinar on Calligraphy Movements and Treatises, University of Sistan and Baluchistan
- 2021 – Webinar on Neo-Miniature Movement in Middle Eastern Art, University of Sistan and Baluchistan

- 2021 – National Webinar on the Harufiyeh Art Movement, Visual Arts Secretariat
- 2021 – The Effect of Miniature Painting on Modern Middle Eastern Art, Isfahan University of Arts
- 2018 – Integration of Arts in Iranian Primary Schools (with Omid Karimi), Congress on Iranian Islamic Architecture, Tehran
- 2017 – Taaliq Calligraphy and Khajeh Ekhtiar, National Congress, Gonabad, Iran
- 2016 – Persian Paintings and Calligraphy, HKDM University, Freiburg, Germany
- 2016 – Persian Calligraphy, Padagogische University, Freiburg, Germany
- 2015 – New Qajarism in Iranian Modern Art, Museum of Islamic Art, Doha, Qatar
- 2014 – Seminar: The Physics of Angels, with Catherina Wenzel
- 2014 – Islamic Calligraphy, Karachi Visual Art University, Pakistan
- 2013 – Islamic Calligraphy from Past to Present, Raudondaris Castle, Lithuania
- 2012 – Environmental Art in Iran, 2nd Kathmandu International Art Festival, Nepal

Workshops

- 2013 – Persian Painting and Calligraphy Workshop, KCCC Gallery, Klaipeda, Lithuania
- 2014 – "Making History" Workshop, 3rd Colombo Art Biennial, Sri Lanka
- 2011 – Persian Calligraphy Workshop, Baroti Art Gallery, Klaipeda, Lithuania
- 2014 – Performance Art Inspired by Mowlavi's Poetry, Chowkendi Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (with actress Kiaf Qaznavi)

Artist Residencies

- 2010 – Art Residence, London, England
- 2011 – Art Residence, Lithuania (supported by the Lithuanian Communication and Culture Center)
- 2012 – Art Residence, Kathmandu, Nepal
- 2014 – Art Residence, Karachi, Pakistan

Selected Exhibitions

- 2024 – Group Exhibition: Still Life, Cama Art Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2022 – Solo Exhibition: Still Life, March Art Gallery, San Francisco, USA
- 2019 – Solo Exhibition: Common Imagination, Fereshteh Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2016 – Solo Exhibition: Still Life, Negah Gallery, Tehran, Iran
- 2015 – Group Show: Qajariat, Museum of Islamic Art, Doha, Qatar
- 2014 – Group Exhibition: Displacement Anxieties, Chawkhendi Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2013 – Solo Exhibition: REORIENT, Artin Art Gallery, Mashhad, Iran
- 2012 – Group Exhibition: From Tehran, Scope Miami, Florida, USA
- 2011 – Curated Show: 3 Worlds in 1, Klaipeda Culture Communication Centre, Lithuania (curated by Edward Lucie Smith)
- 2010 – Solo Show: Concerning Angels, Janet Rady Fine Art, London, UK