

THE HILLSIDE

Mina Heydari-Waite

In sleep it made itself present to them

02.10.21—21.11.21

In sleep it made itself present to them is a new installation by Glasgow-based artist Mina Heydari-Waite. For the Hillside space Mina has created a new immersive installation that builds on her interest in the reciprocal relationship between diasporic histories and their emerging futures.

Composed of sculptural objects and a sound work, this environment creates a dreamscape of ritual sites, moments of rupture and social dreaming. The space is conceived as a stage set; centring objects, colour and sound that are suffused with theatrical light to create a sense of the breaking dawn; a period of transition; a time for renewal. This suspended moment allows us to linger in a space of potential and emergence.

Mina has produced a series of sculptural modular pillars that reference those from the ancient site of Persepolis in modern-day Iran. Some pillars act as seating, while others serve as plinths for stylised props that are drawn from Mina's archival research around artefacts, folklore and family histories. Persepolis was the

ceremonial capital of the Achaemenid Empire, and while the function of the site is contested, it is probable that it was built as a ceremonial complex to celebrate the spring equinox: the dawn of a new season.

Working collaboratively with sound artist Claude Nouk, Mina has made a new piece which reconstructs fragments of conversation between her and her mother, Hamideh Heydari-Waite, a psychotherapist and anthropology researcher based in London. Their discussion loops around practices of social dreaming and its inherent potential for moments of social rupture. Social dreaming is a reflexive practice (re)developed by the Tavistock Institute in the 1980s, whereby dreams are shared in a structured process to bring forth new perspectives and meanings about our wider social context. Social dreaming seeks to enable a connection across communities and across both 'rationally' defined reality and our wider imaginative, associative, dreaming minds.

From this there is the potential for new ideas, proposals and futures to arise.

In contrast to dominant Western culture, whereby the influence of psychoanalysis has meant dreams are often thought of as reflective of an individual's inner life, many indigenous cultures incorporate dreams into the fabric of their waking realities. *In sleep it made itself present to them*, is a translation of a common Farsi phrase *tou khaab behesh zaher shod* referenced in the sound piece, referring to communal revelatory aspects of dreaming in some Muslim and Zoroastrian cultures.

At a time of global rupture, Mina's installation asks us to listen, question and inhabit this period of transition, to contemplate what it means to dream together and the importance of amplifying radical and progressive histories in order to find new possibilities for how we understand our present and imagine our emergent futures.

COLLECTIVE

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Mina Heydari-Waite is an Iranian-British artist based in Glasgow. Central to her artistic practice is an interest in the reciprocal relationships between places and communities, their histories and their emergent futures.

Satellites Programme is Collective's development programme for emergent practitioners based in Scotland. Satellites aims to support diverse practitioners to produce a new commission and a critical development programme of critical of retreats, workshops, studio visits and group discussions, public exhibitions, events and publishing. Practitioners are selected from an open submission by a new panel each year. The 2021 participants are Stephanie Black-Daniels, Mina Heydari-Waite, Katherine Ka Yi Liu, Joey Simons and Ray Camara.

Thanks to Hamideh Heydari-Waite and Claude Nouk for being engaged and loving collaborators; to Kate Bonney and Simon Hayes for their lighting wizardry; to Hussein Mitha for writing a thoughtful companion piece to hold the work's hand; to all at Collective and the other 2021 Satellites artists for their time and support; and to Thomas Querns, Molly C Farrell, Molly Mae Whawell, Gulia Gentilli, Sara Lily Heydari-Waite, Charlotte Sammons, James Waite and Grace Woodcock for helping me think through the tricky thoughts and get the hard jobs done.

Sound piece running time – 26 minutes