



**Baktash Sarang
Solitary**

12 OCT - 22 NOV, 2018



Ab-Anbar gallery is pleased to showcase an exhibition of the artworks by Baktash Sarang, an interdisciplinary artist who, basically, works on human body and its connection to the habitat and surrounding. In his artworks he makes use of different mediums, such as drawing, architecture, sculpture and most recently installation and model-making.

Born in 1981, in Tehran, he started his trainings in fine arts at IRIB art school. Later on, he received his BA degree in visual arts from Azad University of Art and Architecture in 2005, after which he moved to France, where he is currently living and working. He successfully finished his course in Metal sculpture at Haute Écoles des Arts du Rhin, HEAR, Strasbourg, in 2012, and soon after, he was selected as artist in residence at Académie des Beaux Arts, Institut de France, Fondation Dufraigne, Paris, France for three years. He, then, furthered his study at Université Paris 1, pantheon-Sorbonne, Paris, France and achieved his MA in 2015. A year later, he was accepted at Casa de Velazquez as a member of French Academy in Madrid.

In an essay on Sarang's works, Azadeh Zafarani writes, " ... Born in 1981, Sarang belongs to the generation of "post-revolutionary" ideals and "war" — a dual paradox that has one foot in building, and the other in destruction; one foot in unity and the other in isolation; one foot in hope and the other in despair. A generation that stretches between the enormity of ideologies and the smallness of "selves." Sarang renders Utopias. He constructs them and destroys them. He initiates them and interrupts them. He fragments them and embodies them. His forensic dissections are often artistically threaded together to create an environment of discovery where the viewer unconsciously plunges into his/her discovery of "self." The fulcrum of his works is always an "individual" and his/her minimal space of "being;" a kind of space that is free of extras and equipped with necessities. Sarang reduces societies into walking architectural entities that resemble half-humans in ancient mythologies—sometimes in the format of a New Babylon¹ — that can be carried on shoulders of its possessors' and other times in the format of cells—only his are not half-animal but half-architectural monuments."

The central theme of the exhibition, Solitary, in which a selection of his most recent drawings together with a number of installations will be showcased, is human body, which is rather emblematic in his drawings. However, in his installations the relation to human body is more abstract; it emerges as human size and scale in the sculptures and the connection of the space, when filled by the presence of the audience, to the human body.

Azadeh Zafarani continues, " ... the evolution of this work depicts the evolution of his creatures from deformed faces and headless bodies into architecturally-infused bodies that are eventually submerged within the power of form and containment. Merleau-Ponty describes it nicely, it is as if 'our body is not in space like things; it inhabits or haunts space. It applies itself to space like a hand to an instrument. And when we wish to move about, we do not move the body as we move an object.'²



Baktash Sarang has held several solo exhibitions and participated in plenty of group exhibitions. His artworks has also been displayed at a number of biennales, the major ones are as listed below:

2018, La Biennale di Venezia, "The port and the fall of Icarus", A project for the Dutch pavilion at the 16th International Architecture Exhibition, Curated by: Hamed Khosravi, Taneha Kuzniecowa Bacchin & Filippo LaFleur. Venice, Italy. / **2017**, Viva Vila, Curated by: Cécile Deb-Ray et Federico Nicolao, "Sensory Deprivation Series" projects, Cité internationale des arts-site de Montmartre, Paris, France. / **2014**, MANCHESTER ART GALLERY, The Sensory War 1914-2014, explores the responses of a range of artists over the past century to the sensory effects of warfare through a series of themes, Manchester, UK. / **2013**, CAB CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER, Absence, disappearance and loss of memory in the work of 12 Iranian artists. Brussels, Belgium. / - DRAWING NOW Paris, Le Salon de dessin contemporain, J.P.Ritsch-Fisch Galerie, Carrousel du Louvre, Paris, France. / **2012**, De BOND, Brugge, Belgium ("Schriftuur/Scripture", Installation the Bookcase) -HilgerBROTKunsthalle, Vienna, Austria (Nadour Collection hosted by Hilger Brot Kunsthalle 20 artists from the MENA). / **2011**, 5th International Book Festival, Barcelona, Spain (Art Book, "Garden of sick Birds").

Solo exhibitions:

2016,Galerie Jean-Francois Kaiser, Series "Contre-langage(Aql-Sorkh Sohrawardi), Corps dociles and l'Archange empourpré"Installation. Strasbourg, France / **2014**,Araan gallery, Series "Exercise in Reproduction of Failure I and The Tower", Tehran, Iran

2013, Araan gallery, Tehran, Iran / **2012**,AB Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland / **2004,07,09**, Azad Art Gallery, Tehran , Iran.

¹Henri Lefebvre characterized the "New Babylon" as a figure of good that took the name of the cursed city and transformed itself into the city of the future. The idea was to create "situations" where alternative living experiences were revealed; a kind of environment to which Constant Nieuwenhuys envisaged society belongs. This society is the product of total automation in which the need to work is replaced with a nomadic life of creative play, in which traditional architecture has disintegrated along with the social institutions that it propped up. In this experimental geography, the inhabitants drift by foot through huge labyrinthine interiors, endlessly reconstructing the atmospheres of the spaces. Every aspect of the environment can be controlled and reconfigured spontaneously. Social life becomes architectural play; architecture becomes a flickering display of interacting desires.

²Baldwin, Thomas. Maurice Merleau-Ponty basic writings, New York: Routledge, 2004

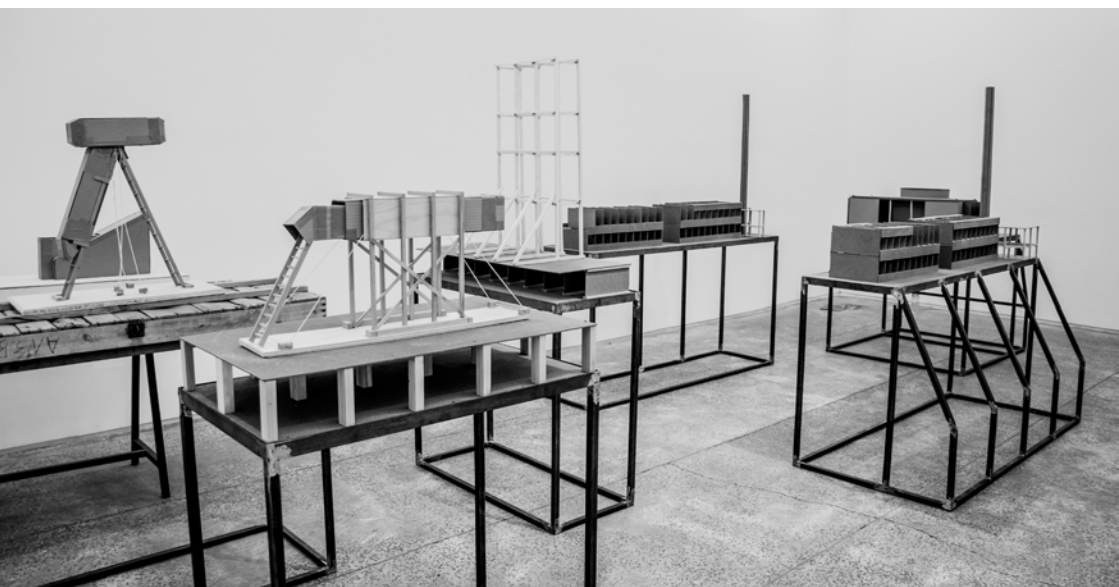


Baktash Sarang

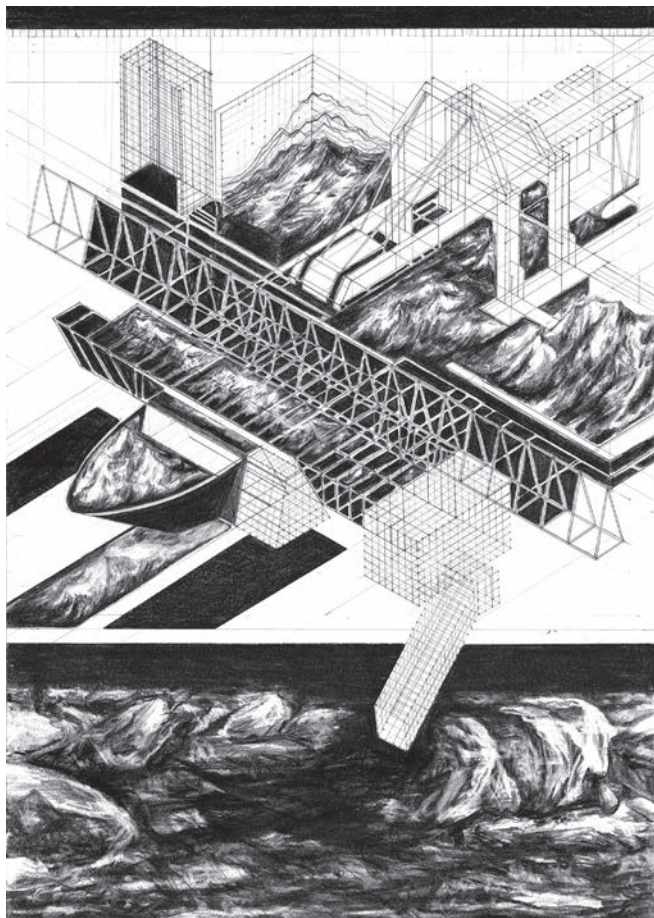
Unmade Utopia

The first stage of making a model of an
unmade utopia. Cells No. 1, 2 and 4. chapel/
Temple/ Shrine.

€ 10,000

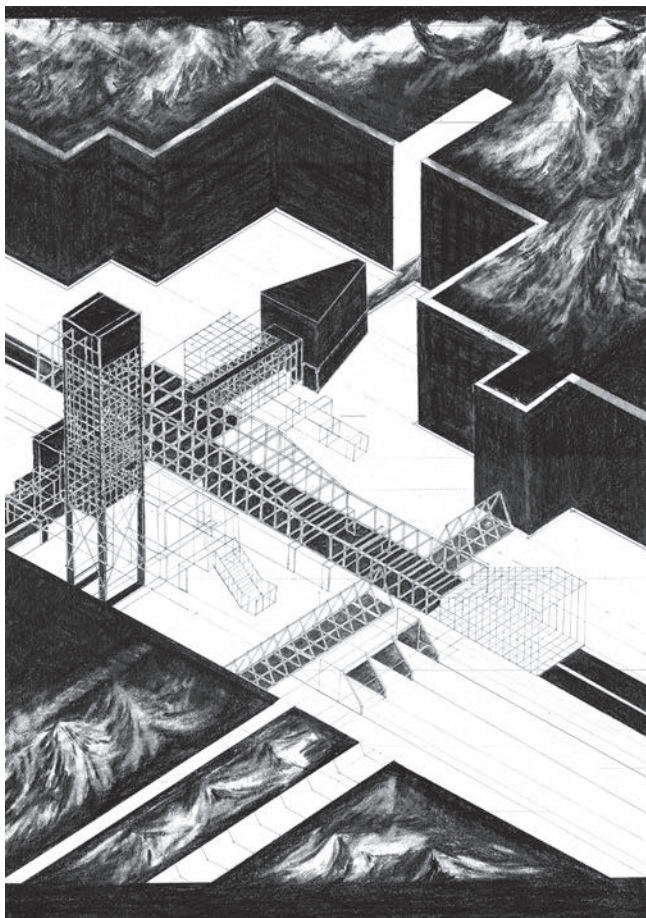


Installation view at Ab-Anbar, 2018



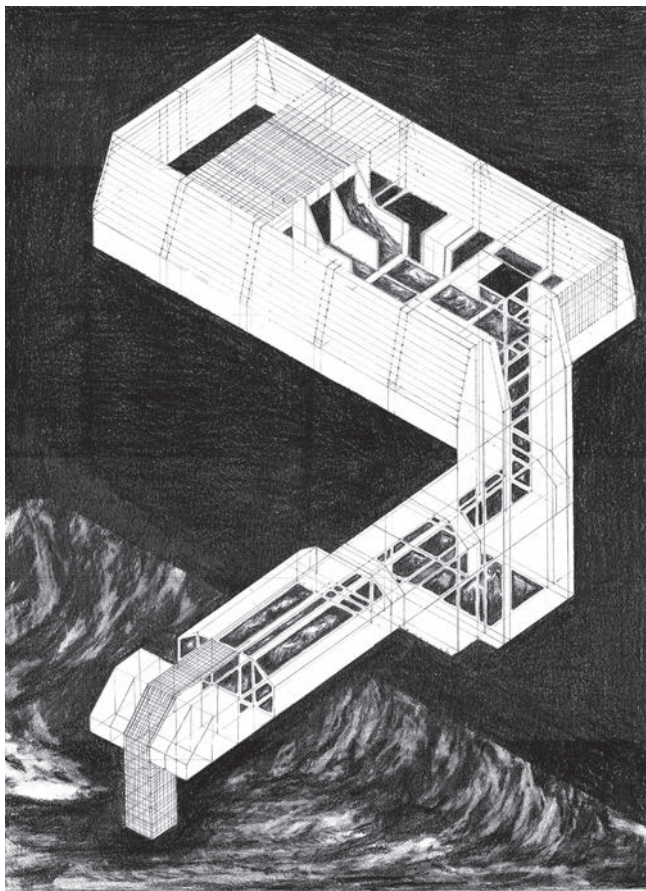
Baktash Sarang
Fall of Icarus : No. 1
Pencil on cardboard
59.5x42cm
2018

€ 2,700



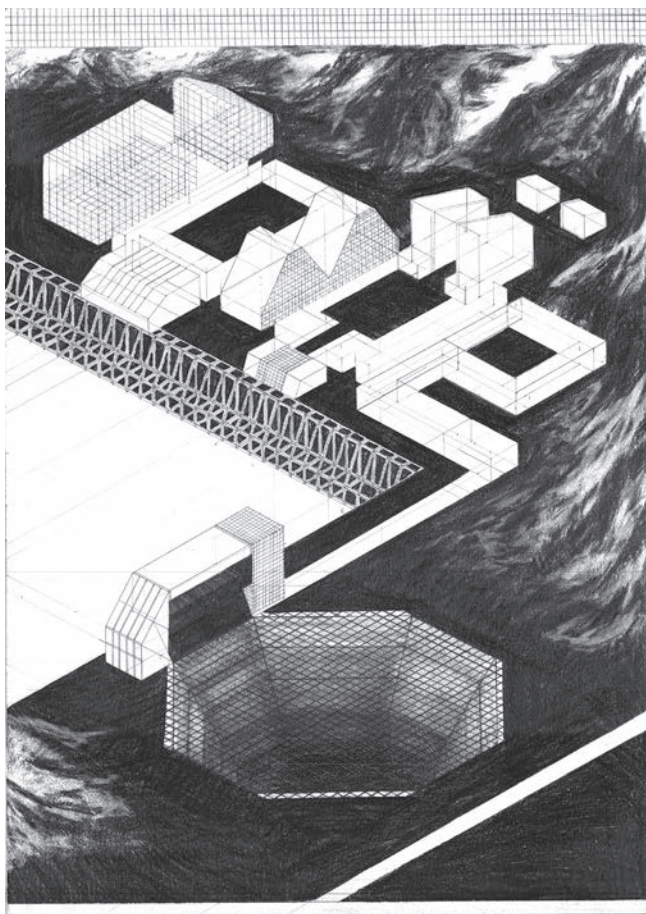
Baktash Sarang
Fall of Icarus : No. 2
Pencil on cardboard
59.5x42cm
2018

€ 2,700



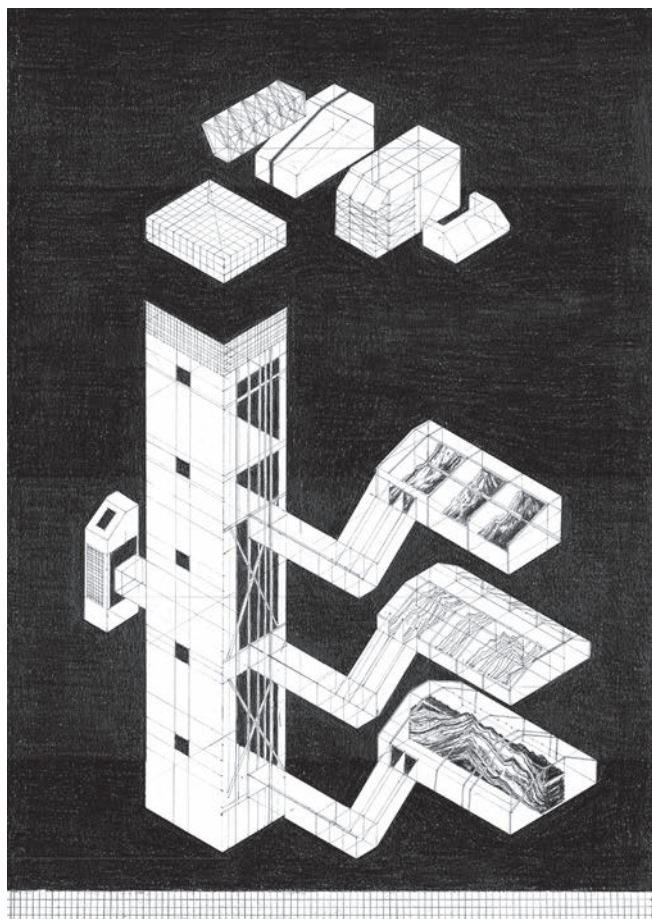
Baktash Sarang
Fall of Icarus : No. 3
Pencil on cardboard
59.5x42cm
2018

€ 2,700



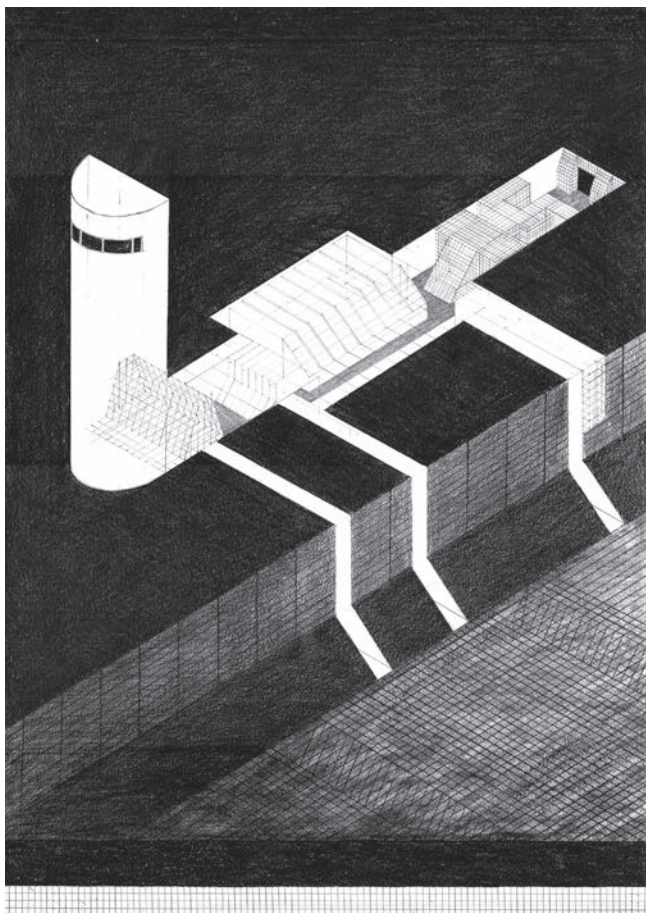
Baktash Sarang
Fall of Icarus : No. 4
Pencil on cardboard
59.5x42cm
2018

€ 2,700



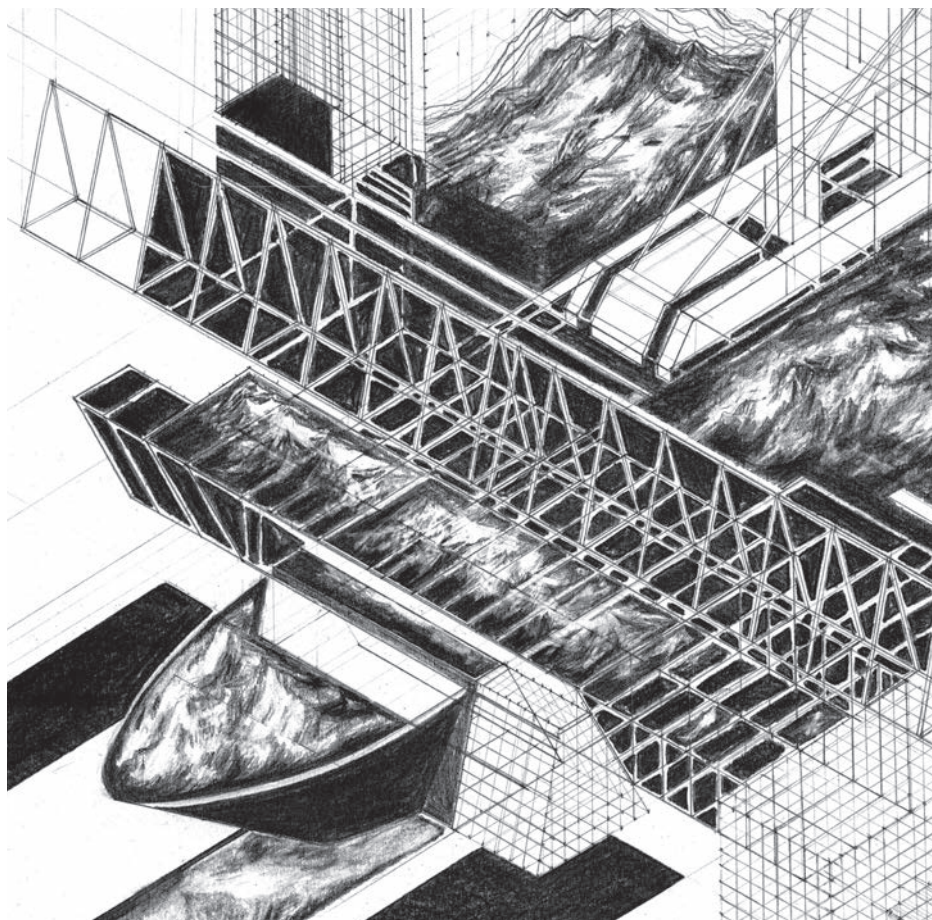
Baktash Sarang
Fall of Icarus : No. 5
Pencil on cardboard
59.5x42cm
2018

€ 2,700

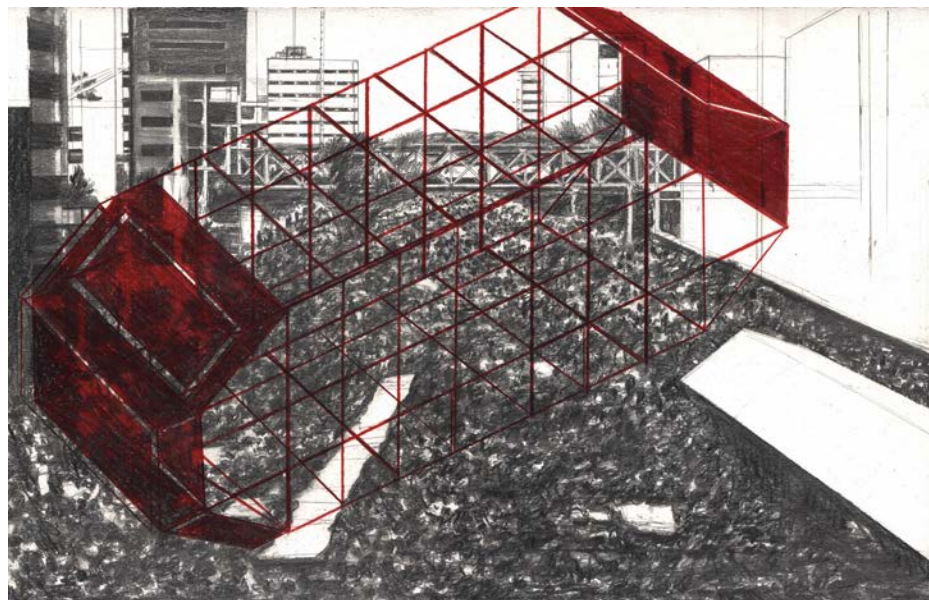


Baktash Sarang
Fall of Icarus : No. 6
Pencil on cardboard
59.5x42cm
2018

€ 2,700

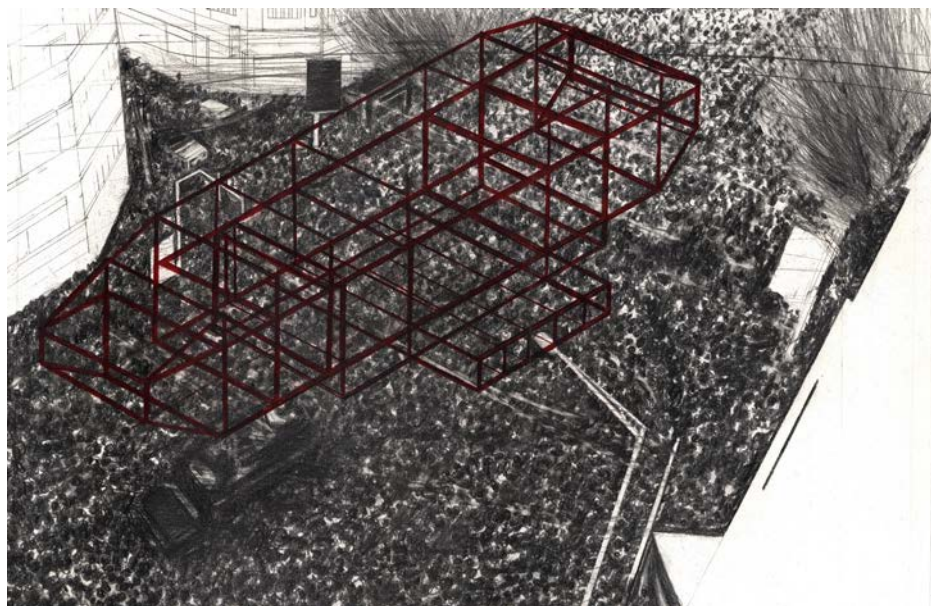


Detail of Fall of Icarus : No. 1



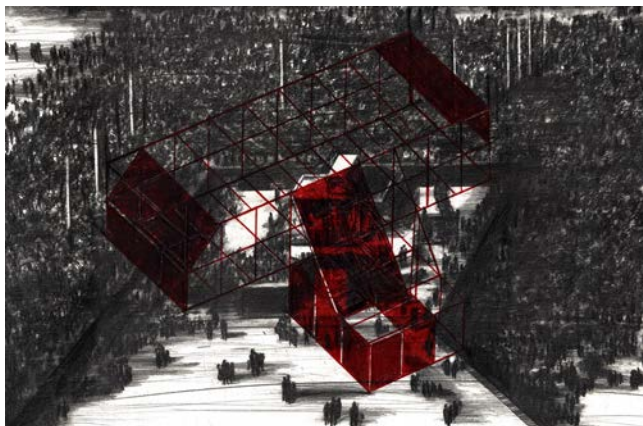
Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 1
Pencil on cardboard
32x50cm
2018

€ 1,800



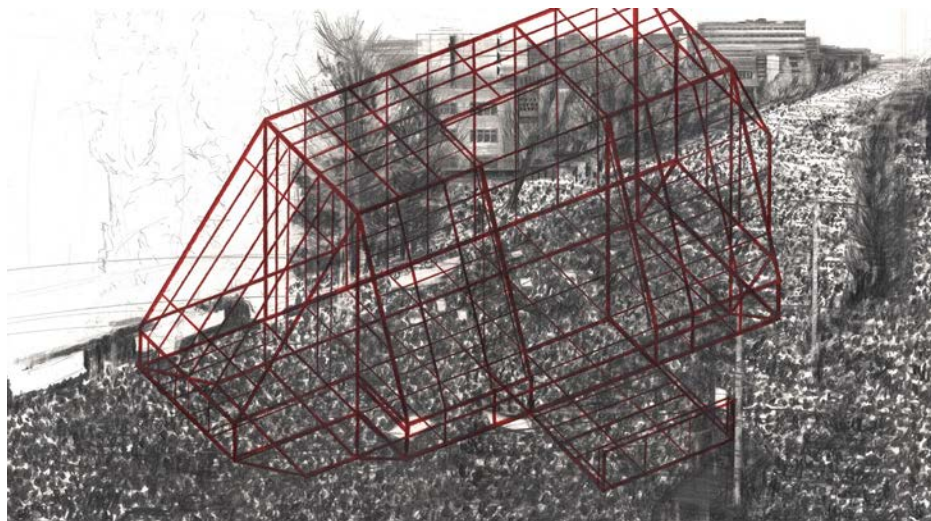
Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 2
Pencil on cardboard
36.5x56cm
2018

€ 1,800



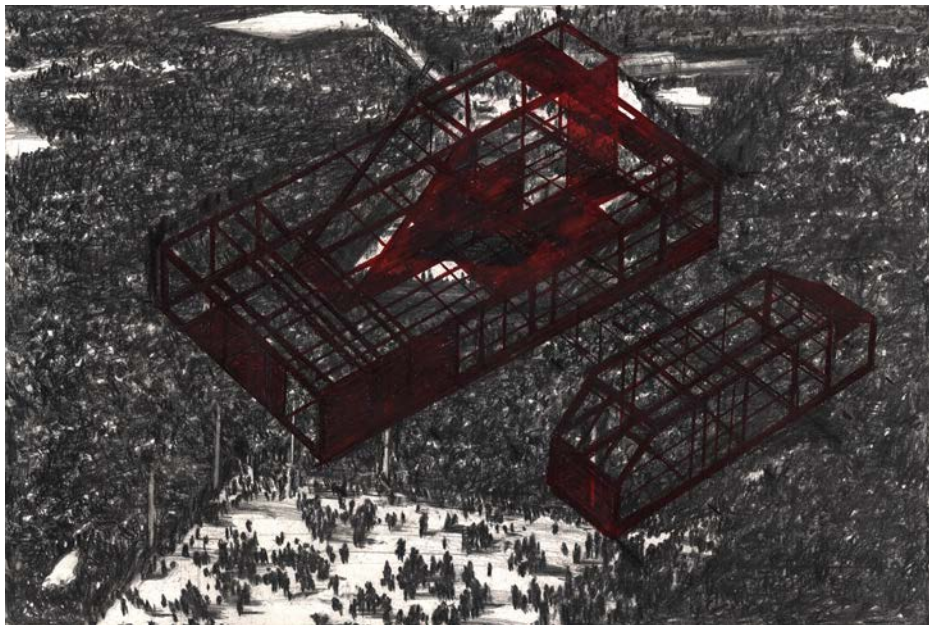
Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 3
Pencil on cardboard
39x58.5cm
2018

€ 2,000



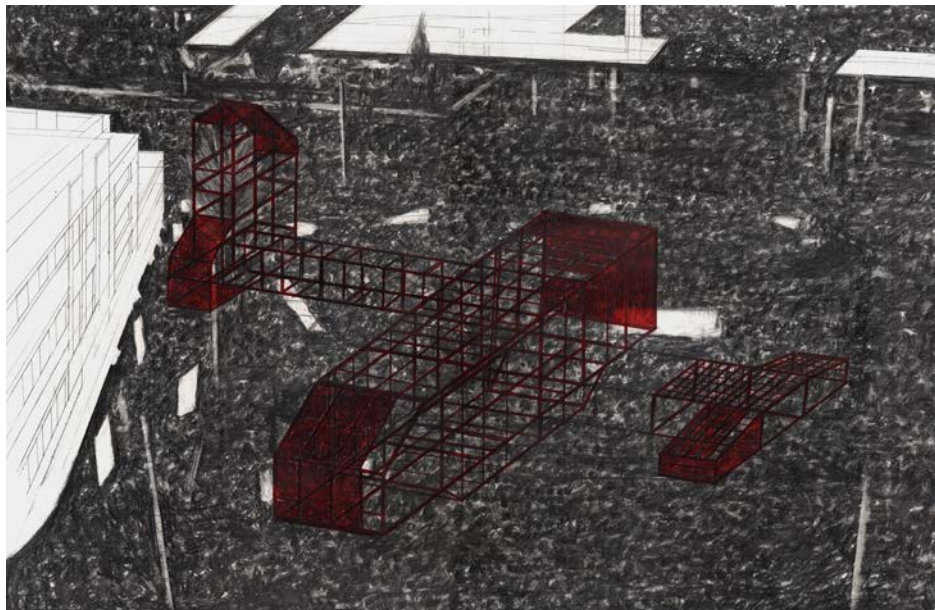
Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 4
Pencil on cardboard
39x70cm
2018

€ 2,000



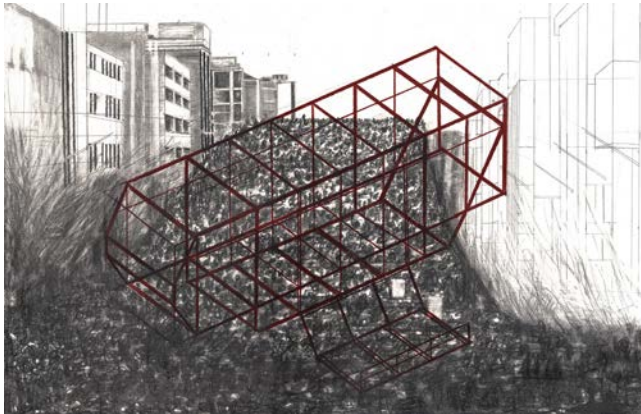
Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 5
Pencil on cardboard
40x60cm
2018

€ 2,000



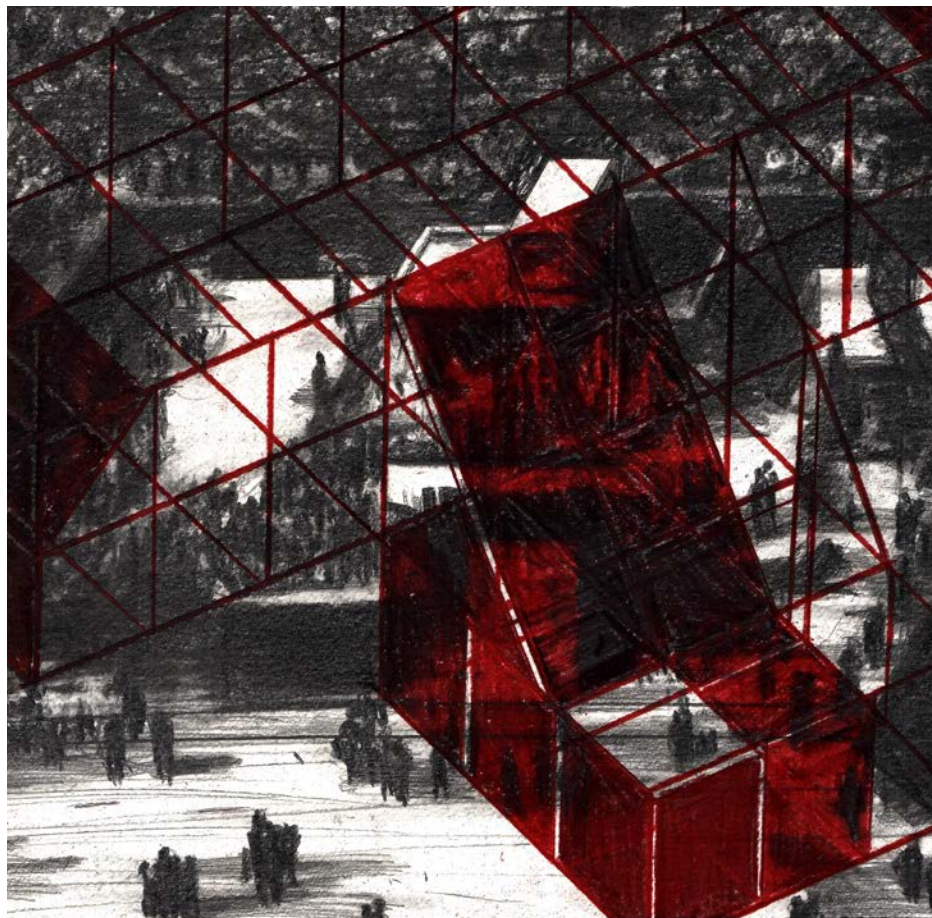
Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 6
Pencil on cardboard
46x70cm
2018

€ 2,000

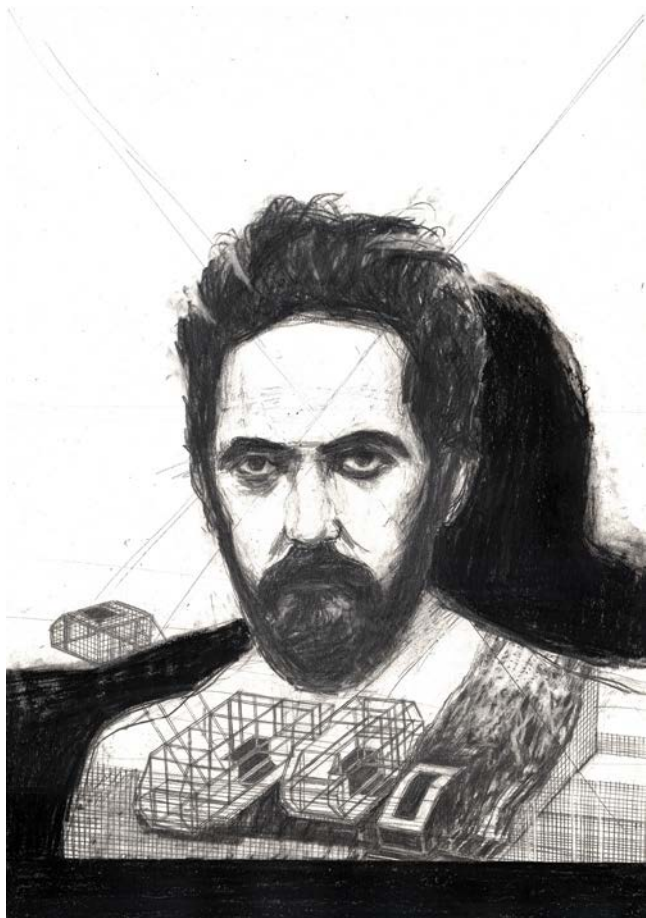


Baktash Sarang
Texttture series : No. 7
Pencil on cardboard
32x50cm
2018

€ 1,800



Detail of Textture series : No. 3



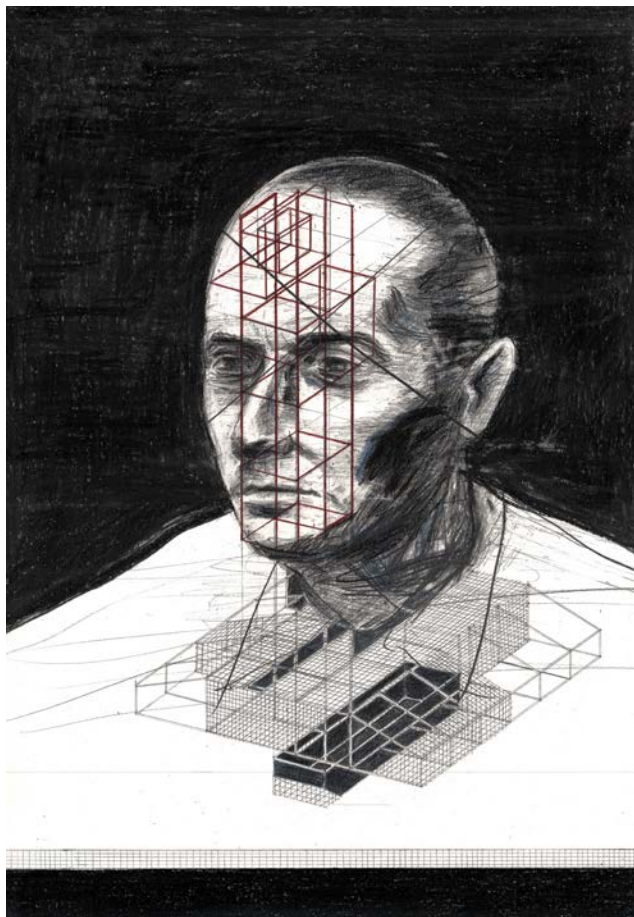
Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 1
Pencil on cardboard
42x30cm
2018

€ 1,600



Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 2
Pencil on cardboard
50x35cm
2018

€ 2,000



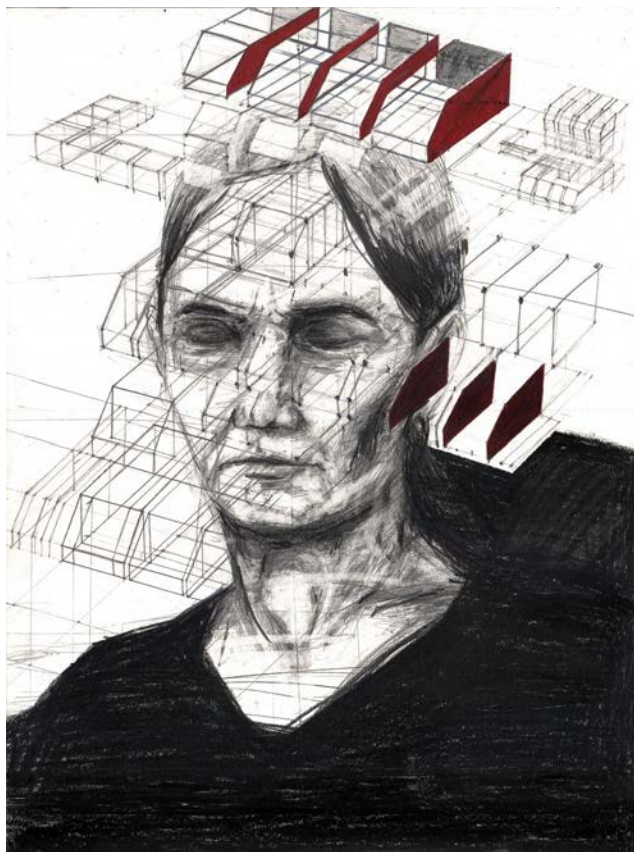
Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 3
Pencil on cardboard
50x35cm
2018

€ 2,000



Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 4
Pencil on cardboard
50x35cm
2018

€ 2,000



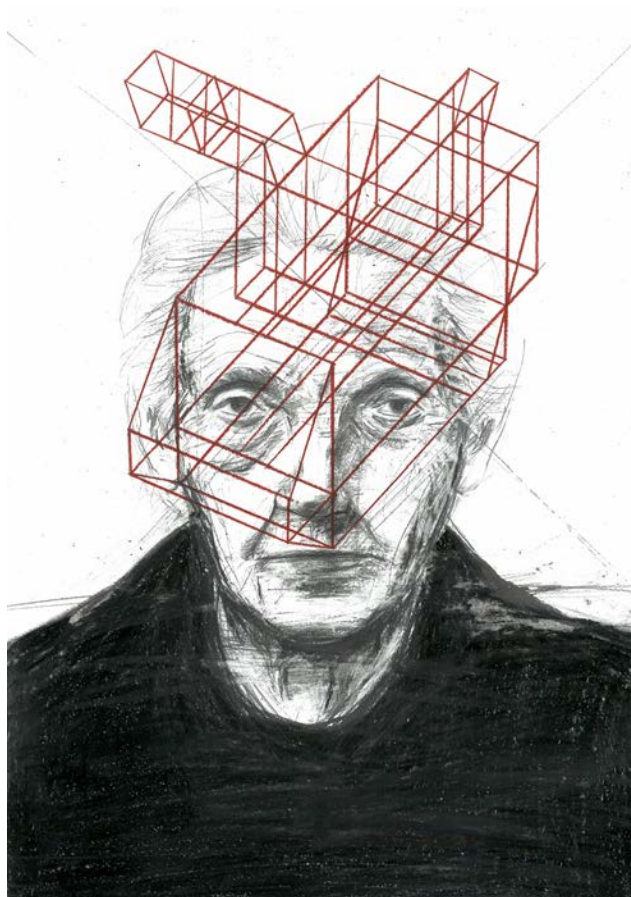
Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 5
Pencil on cardboard
50x35cm
2018

€ 2,000



Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 6
Pencil on cardboard
42x30cm
2018

€ 2,000



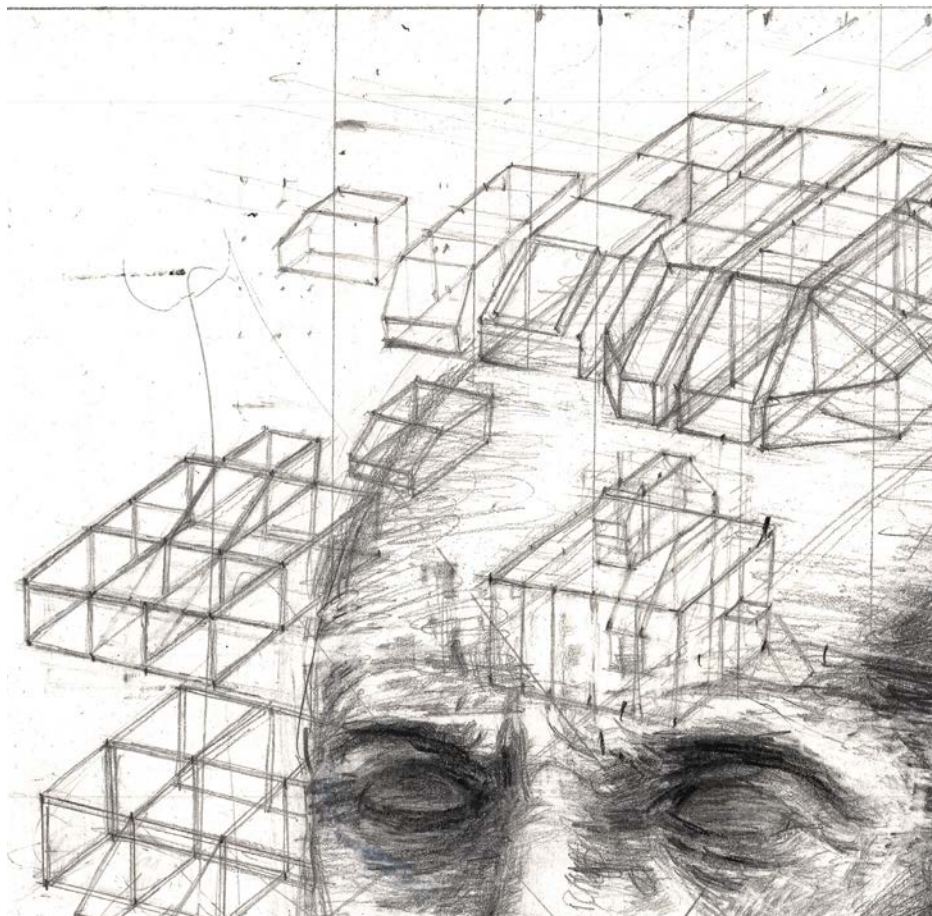
Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 7
Pencil on cardboard
42x30cm
2018

€ 2,000



Baktash Sarang
Portrait : No. 8
Pencil on cardboard
50x35cm
2018

€ 2,000



Detail of Portrait : No. 8



Baktash Sarang
Digital printing : No. 1
Print on coated paper
100x70cm
Edition of 2+1AP
2017
€ 800,00 from € 1.000,00

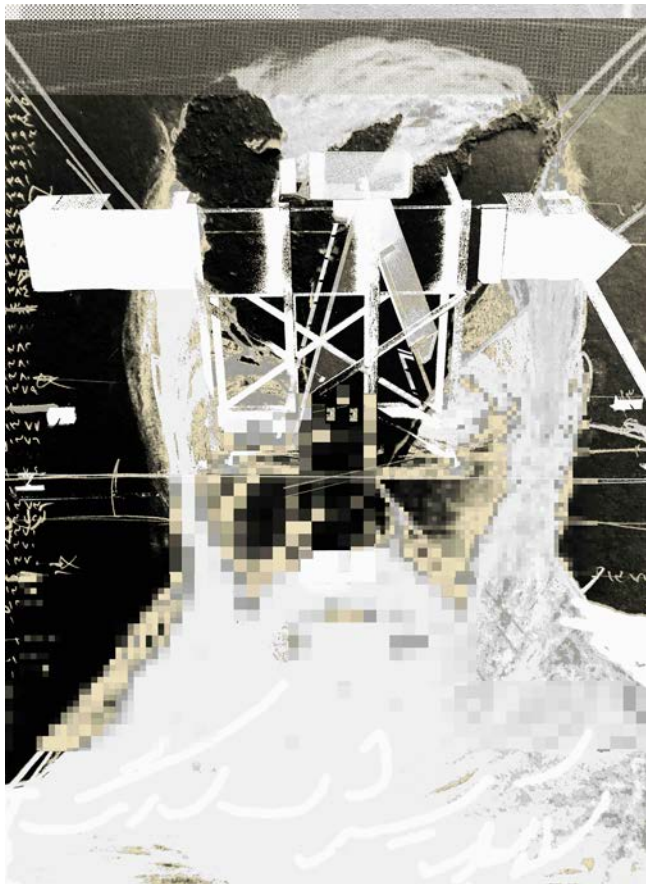
Baktash Sarang
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Print on coated paper
100x70cm
Edition of 2+1AP
2017

€ 800



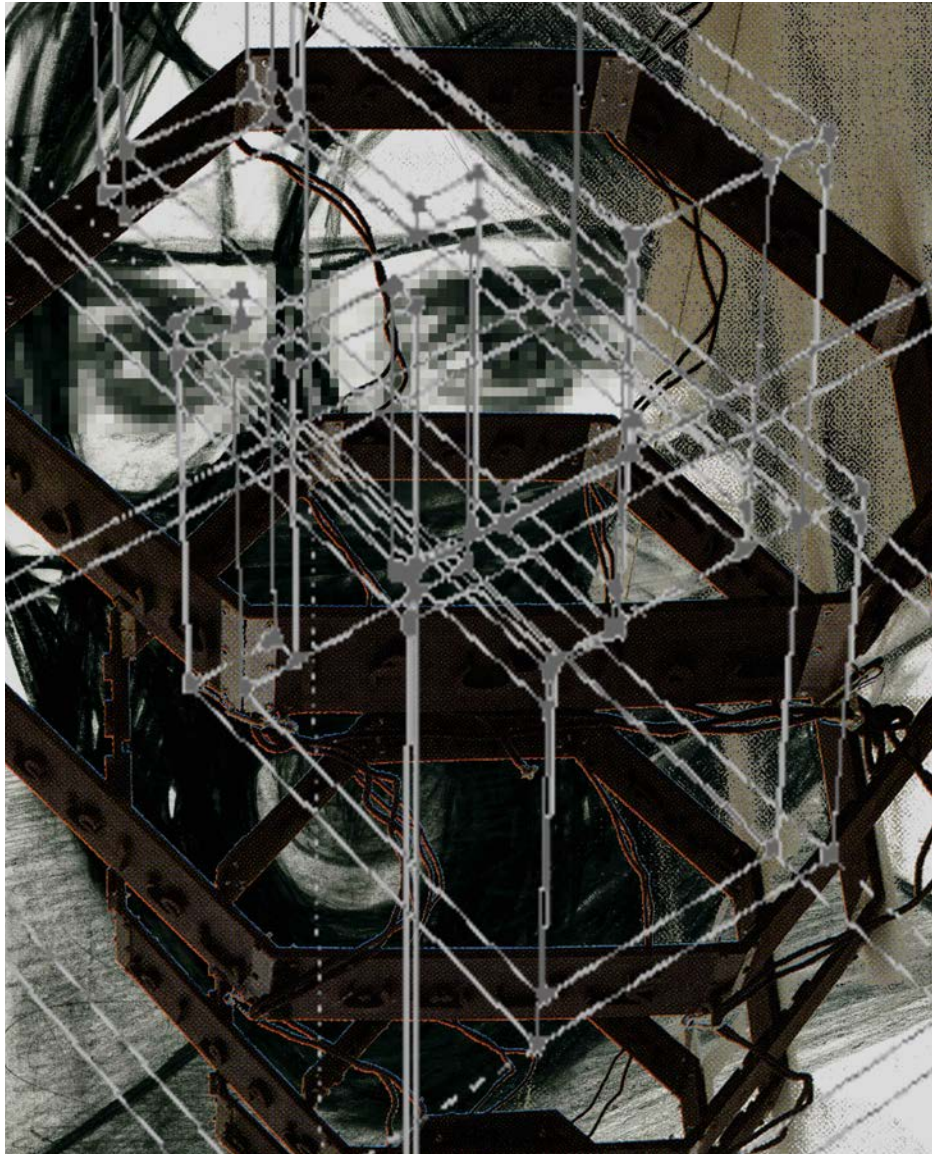
Baktash Sarang
Digital printing : No. 2
Print on coated paper
100x70cm
Edition of 2+1AP
2017

€ 800



Baktash Sarang
Digital printing : No. 3
Print on coated paper
100x70cm
Edition of 2+1AP
2017

€ 800

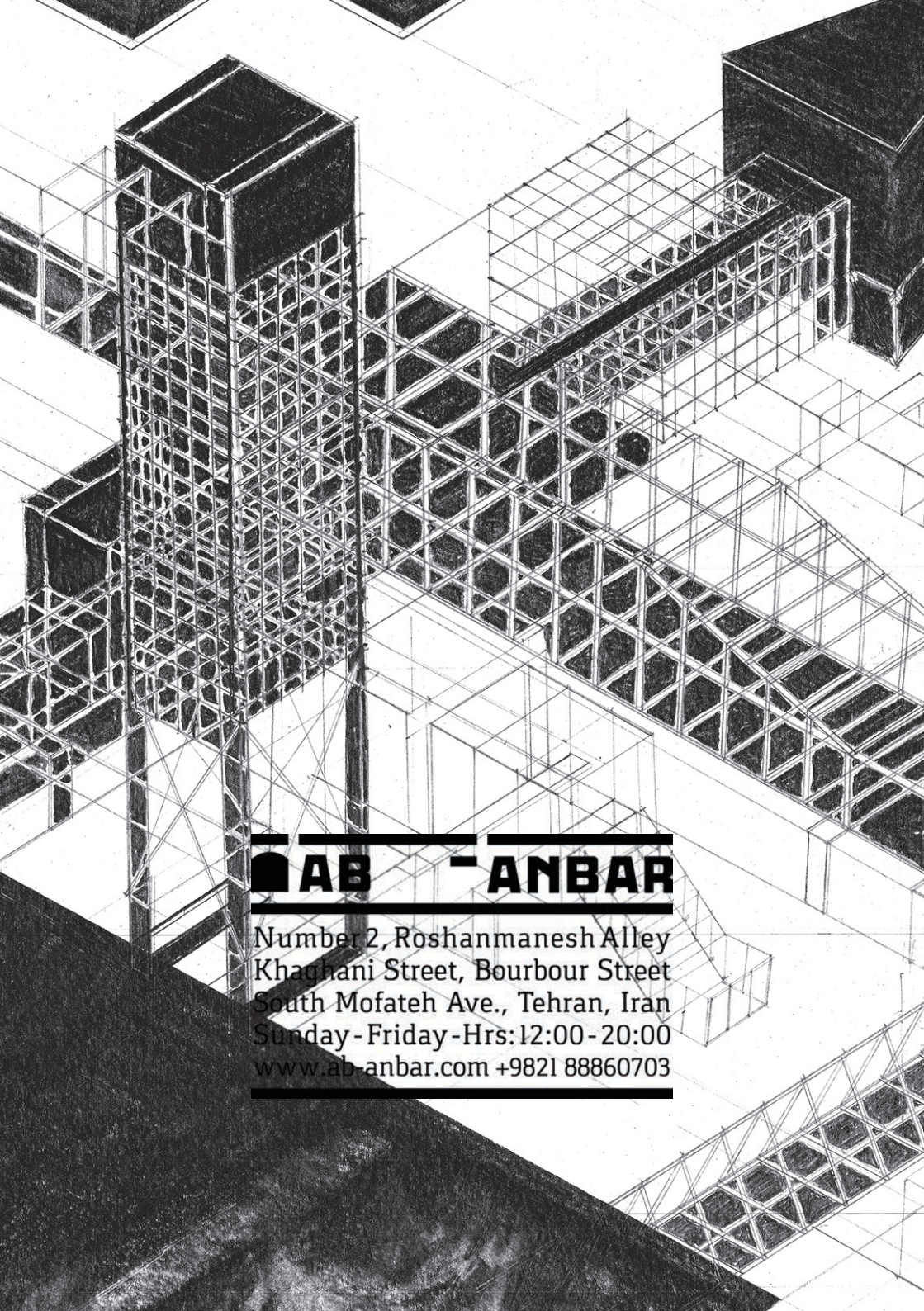


Detail of Digital printing : No. 1



Baktash Sarang
Untitled 1
Mixed Media
16x24cm
2010

€ 1,200



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