

Balloon Head: Iran's Constitutional Revolution Reconfigured

Created by Leila Papoli-Yazdi as part of World Heritage Day 2021, International Day for Monuments and Sites, this exhibition of paintings by Ali Roustaeeyanfar addresses this year's theme of "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures." (<https://lnu.se/en/diversefutures>)

Focusing on Iran's *Mashrouteh (Constitutional) Revolution*, Ali Roustaeeyanfar's paintings reconfigure historical photographs of complex historic events and processes at the beginning of the 20th century. By adding colourful anachronistic details to the original motifs of the photographs his work depicts unimagined futures and the need to re-narrate the past in every present. The paintings illustrate that there are unexpected and diverse futures, both of the past and of the tangible heritage that reminds us of the past in the present. Roustaeeyanfar's hope is to revive the forgotten heritage and history of voiceless people in order to fulfil their original dream of achieving freedom and progress through the Revolution.

The exhibition is hosted by the UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures. Heritage Futures are about the roles of heritage in managing the relations between present and future societies. Perceptions of the future are just as complex and diverse as those of the past.