ANITA MEMAR

Visual Artist | Sculpture, Ceramics and Mixed Media

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Legal name: **Mahshid Memarzadehesfahan** | Professional name: **Anita Memar**.
Anita Memarzadeh and Anita Memarzade, appearing in some exhibition records, refer to the same artist.

ARTIST PROFILE

Anita Memar is an Iranian visual artist working across sculpture, ceramics and mixed media. Drawing on her experiences in Iran and the UK, her practice centres on *The Space Between Silence and Release*, from which her ongoing project MAHI-e JAN has emerged, exploring vulnerability, resilience and inner peace. She has exhibited in the UK, Canada, Turkey and Iran, with an upcoming exhibition in Ireland, undertaken private commissions and led art workshops. Her work has been featured in art and cultural publications in the UK and Iran and acquired by private collectors in the UK and Canada.

EXHIBITIONS

2026

- *Body & Identity*, 126 Artist-Run Gallery, Galway, Ireland. Selected Artist. Upcoming: 4–20 December 2026.
- *A Soft Inheritance*, Our Adoption Project, PINK, Stockport, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Flo Adams.
- *Comme Ça Art × AWOL Studios Open Studios Exhibition*, Comme Ça Art Gallery, Manchester, UK. Invited Artist. Curated by Claire Turner.
- *The Things We Carry*, CIRCA Atelier, Toronto, Canada. Selected Artist. Curated by Sepideh Chegini.
- *Rhizome*, Bankley Gallery, Manchester, UK. Invited Artist. Curated by Sotoudeh Horriat.
- *BO/D&Y**, SPIRA9 ART × Gallery 46, London, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Hui Qi.
- AWOL Studios × Comme Ça Art Open Call Exhibition, Manchester, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Claire Turner and Jude Wainwright. Judged by Sarah Walters, Pasta Paul and Matthew Frost.
- *A Day in May Revisited*, Auto Amor HQ, Sevenoaks, UK.
- *The Stockport Open Exhibition*, Stockport War Memorial Art Gallery, Stockport, UK.

2025

- *MADE IT 2025: The North West Graduate Art Prize*, PINK, Stockport, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Mollie Balshaw and Rebekah Balshaw.
- *Kind of Blue*, HappeningInMCR & Black Creative Trailblazers, 45 Black Redstart Gallery, Manchester, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Jasmine Su Juanyan.
- *Fear Exhibition*, SAAN1 Gallery, Manchester, UK. Invited Artist. Curated by Darya and Carolina.
- *Didsbury Arts Festival*, The Didsbury Parsonage Trust, Manchester, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Hannah Mahapatra.
- *Belonging Is a Social Construct*, CreativeSnow, Bolton, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Naomi.
- *The Scent of Home*, The Artisan Gallery, North Yorkshire, UK. Invited Artist. Curated by Sotoudeh Horriat.
- *Community Micro Gallery Exhibition*, HappeningInMCR Group, Afflecks, Manchester, UK.
- *Anxiety and Society*, Seesaw Gallery, Manchester, UK. Invited Artist. Curated by Darya and Carolina.

2024

- *Make Your Mark Exhibition*, Fruity Frenzy × West Art Collective, Manchester, UK. Selected Artist. Curated by Chloé Julia Smith.
- *Vertical Gallery Commission & Exhibition*, Manchester School of Art, Manchester, UK.
- *MA Illustration Degree Show*, Manchester School of Art, Manchester, UK.

EARLIER EXHIBITIONS

2020

- *Aban Istanbul'da*, Neta Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey.

2013

- *Spring/Summer: Colour, Form and Texture*, Solo Exhibition, Tehran, Iran.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2026

- *In Each* Cell, A Story, shortlisted for Best International Artist, VAA Artist of the Year Awards 2026, Visual Artists Association, UK.
- *Quietly Within*, longlisted for ArtEvol 2026: A View from Everywhere, London Art Collective, UK.

PRESS AND MEDIA

2026

- *Come Closer: Anita Memar and the Politics of Attention.* Critical Review by Mollie Balshaw, the Fourdrinier, UK.
- *Rhizome: Memar, Nakhaei, Taherian, Yousefian.* Interview and Exhibition Review by Vaishna Surjid, Corridor8, UK.
- *From Isfahan to Manchester: Anita Memar's Search for a Universal Artistic Language.* Critical Review and Interview by Seyed Morteza Hosseini, Tehran ANA News Agency, Iran.
- *Oldham Today, 19 October 2026:* Radio Interview with Ian Wolstenholme, Oldham Community Radio, GO! Artists Oldham Art Fair, UK.
- *Anita Memar: The Space Between Silence and Release.* Artist Feature, Oldham Magazine, UK.
- *Anita Memar: Meet the Artist.* Artist Film, Nova Studios, UK. (In production)

2025

- *Oldham Today, 17 November 2025*: Radio Interview with Ian Wolstenholme, Oldham Community Radio, GO! Artists Oldham Art Fair, UK.

PUBLICATIONS

2026

- Featured Artist, A Soft Inheritance Exhibition Catalogue, Our Adoption Project, PINK, Stockport, UK.
- Artwork Featured in the B*O/D&Y Exhibition Catalogue, SPIRA9 ART, UK.

2025

- Featured Artist, MADE IT 2025 Catalogue, Short Supply CIC, UK.

2024

- Artwork Featured in the 101 Art Book: Floral Edition, Arts to Hearts Project, USA.

SELECTED SALES, COLLECTIONS AND COMMISSIONS

2026

- *The Inner Sea,* acquired by a private collector in Montreal, Canada, through an exhibition at CIRCA Atelier, Toronto, Canada.

- *A Place Within,* acquired by Material Source Studio Ltd, Manchester, UK, through an exhibition at Comme Ça Art Gallery.
- *Holding The Inner,* acquired by a private collector in *A Soft Inheritance* Exhibition, PINK, Stockport, UK.
- Private Commission, two sculptural works commissioned by a private client, Manchester, UK.

2025–2026
- Original artworks acquired by private buyers through Flock & Gaggle, Salford, UK.

ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2026
- Artist Workshop Leader, Global Roots Canvas program, DIPACTMCR, Manchester, UK.

2025, 2026
- Volunteer Contributor and Artist-Led Pop-up Exhibition, Flock & Gaggle, Salford, UK.
- Invited Artist, GO! Artists Oldham Art Fair, Gallery Oldham, Oldham, UK.
- Invited Artist, The Big MCR POTSHOP, PINK Gallery, Stockport, UK.

2017
- Speaker, University–Industry Fashion Conference, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

2026–Present
- Studio Member, 7 Spot Pottery, Manchester, UK.

2025–Present
- Associate Member, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK.
- Selected Artist, Flock & Gaggle, Salford, UK.

EDUCATION

2023–2024
- MA Illustration, Manchester School of Art, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK.

2011–2015
- BA Fashion Design, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran.

2004–2007
- Graphic Design Diploma, Iran Conservatory of Art School, Isfahan, Iran.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2025–2026
- Two 12-Week Mixed Ceramics Courses, 7 Spot Pottery, Manchester, UK.

2020–2022
- Creative Illustration, Sepidarehonar Art Institute, Tehran, Iran.

2020
- Digital Painting, Inverse School, School of Art and Design, Tehran, Iran.

2019–2020
- Portraiture, Aban Art Academy, Tehran, Iran.

2007–2011
- Sculpture and Visual Arts Studies, Kashaneh Honar Art School, Isfahan, Iran.