



Nikta Mohammadi:

Memory Stone

Large Print Guide

Entrance Hall

Nikta Mohammadi: Memory Stone

23 March – 5 May

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Nikta Mohammadi is an artist and filmmaker originally from Tehran and now based in West Yorkshire. This is her first solo exhibition, premiering a new film commissioned by The Lowry.

Memory Stone is a film installation exploring dreams and displacement within the context of the British countryside, accompanied by a visceral soundscape by composer Babak Mirsalari. The film follows a rambler wandering rural Calderdale; a curious otherworldly structure unearths memories that were removed from their consciousness – an ancient dream or a misplaced history, perhaps belonging to their non-existent alien ancestors.

Combining elements of science fiction and Iranian mythology, Mohammadi reflects on her own and other migrants' psychological and physical relationship with land and place. Rather than presenting the landscape as a passive backdrop for human stories, Mohammadi treats the landscape as a creature with agency, one that's alive.

This film is part of a wider body of work that investigates landscape as a visual language and Mohammadi's ongoing interest in the ghostly imprints that migrants create on foreign lands. *Memory Stone* attempts to recreate these memories and histories.

This brand-new work has been commissioned by The Lowry through its Artist Development Programme: Developed With The Lowry.

4 Photographs

Photographs taken on *Memory Stone* film set

1-2: Nikta Mohammadi

3-4: Jhenelle White

Gallery A

Nikta Mohammadi

Memory Stone (2024)

Film installation

21 minutes

Gallery B

This installation is a contemplative space featuring objects and recurring motifs that are present in the film *Memory Stone*.

The black object in the centre of the room was created using a number of different influences. As well as drawing on science fiction references, the main form is inspired by an Iranian Nakhil, a structure used during a Shi'a religious mourning ritual with roots in the ancient ritual of Sog-e-Siavash. Using projections and reflections, the structure becomes a vessel carving a tunnel in time, traversing histories and memories.

Acknowledgements

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commissioned by The Lowry
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Development Programme
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Doosti group

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Lovely people of Blackshaw
Head

Michelle Williams Gamaker

Dr Nydia A Swaby

Timothy France

Simon Connor

Phil Denton

New Adelphi Theatre

Lawrence Axe

Arghavaan Heydareslam

Alireza Mohammadi

Mehrnoush Mirsalari

Dan Sayer

John Billingsley

Kelly Loughlin

Memory Stone collaborators

Cast

Babak Mirsalari

Matilde Torres

Noushin Afshar

Vahideh Afsari

Shifaa Arfan

Versaali the horse

Voice

Bitá Moayerian

Written and Directed by

Nikta Mohammadi

Assistant Director

Jhenelle White

Producer

Nuria López de la Oliva

Production Assistant

Hossein Kouyar

Director of Photography

James Handley

1st Assistant Camera

James Aaron Sudder

Hannah Richardson

Steadicam Operator

James Wilkinson

Art Director

Nikta Mohammadi

Production Designer

Omid Asadi

Costume Designer

Elham Rafiei

Makeup Artist

Elham Rafiei

Noushin Afshar

Flyer Designer

Bijan Karamad

Editor

Nikta Mohammadi

Jhenelle White

Composer and Sound

Designer

Babak Mirsalari

Santoor

Atefeh Einali

Violin and Gheychak

Parisa Pirzadeh

Sound Recordist

Babak Mirsalari

Assistant Sound Recordist

Matthew Williams

Adam Kahan

Additional Field Recording

Jo Kennedy

Colourist

Lee Robinson

Title Designer

Golnoush Mirsalari

Archive Footage courtesy of

Seyed Abbas Mirsalari

Forough Arghande

Chef

Shadi Jaryan

Driver

Neil Briggs