

# VAHID VALIKHANI

vahid.valikhani@gmail.com | [www.vahid-valikhani.com](http://www.vahid-valikhani.com)

## Education

- **Master of Arts**, Film Studies concentration 2022—2024  
Department of Humanities and Cultural Studies, University of South Florida,  
Tampa, Florida  
Graduate Certificate in American Culture and Society
- **Master of Fine Arts**, Creative Photography concentration 2018—2021  
School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida  
Graduate Student Fellowship  
Thesis: *The Act of Silence, Landscape Photography*
- **Bachelor of Fine Arts**, Photography concentration 2011—2016  
Art University of Isfahan, Iran  
Thesis: *Landscape Photography—A Phenomenological Approach*

## Academic Experience

- **Graduate Teaching Assistant** 2022—2024  
Department of Humanities and Cultural Studies, University of South Florida,  
Tampa, Florida
  - **Introduction to Humanities** HUM 1020  
Lecture on Iranian landscape and Iranian architecture. Analyze selected works of literature, music, film, and visual art, representing artists of diverse periods, cultures, genders, and races.
- **Adjunct Assistant Professor of Photography and Graphic Design** 2021—2022  
Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Florida
  - **Black and White Film Photography** PGY 1401C  
Taught students how to create photographic images without a camera utilizing alternative processes like Anthotype, Cyanotype, and Rayographs. Switched to camera-produced images taught how to expose and develop 35 and 120 roll films. Demonstrated how to print photographs in the darkroom throughout various technical assignments.
  - **Digital Photography** PGY 1800C  
Taught basic camera techniques, composition, processing digital files in Adobe Bridge, Photoshop, and Lightroom, and printing images in the digital lab.
  - **Typography** GRA 2208  
Introduced students to the importance of typography and font in different aspects of our daily lives and increased their sensitivity and creativity through various assignments and projects. Utilized Adobe Creative Cloud to deliver the assignments.

- **Instructor of Record** **2020—2021**  
School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
  - **Figure-Ground** **PGY 2441C**  
Delivered lectures emphasizing the importance of comprehending both the form and concept behind a photograph. Provided an introductory appreciation of contemporary art and helped students engage in a wide range of themes relevant to art's current social, political, and historical moment.
  - **Digital Imaging** **DIG 2131C**  
Explored the aesthetic, technical, and conceptual practices of image-making with digital media within the context of contemporary art using different Adobe Creative Cloud, including Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, and XD.
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant** **2018—2020**  
School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
  - **Visual Literacy** **PGY 2101C**  
Reviewed the history of photography meanwhile teaching basic photographic techniques, composition, processing digital files, and printing images.
  - **Advanced Photography** **PGY 4420C**  
Assisted and advised undergraduate students to develop their artistic vision through extensive research and built and refined works for their final semester.

### Solo Exhibitions and Artist Lectures

- **Guest Speaker**, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Department of Art and Art History, *Landscape and the State of Power*. **2023**
- **Artist Talk**, Art University of Isfahan, Iran, *Landscape Traditions in the Early Years of Photography*. **2023**
- **Artist Lectures**, University of Florida, School of Art + Art History, *Art as Narrative class*. **2023**
- **Artist Lectures**, University of Florida, School of Art + Art History, *Experiments in Installation class*. **2022**
- **Workshop**, Santa Fe College, Studio Portrait *Photography: Studio Lighting Techniques*. **2021**
- **Solo Show**, *Elegies*, 4Most Gallery, Gainesville, Florida **2020**  
Artist talk, *Landscape, and Environmental Photography*.
- **Solo Show**, *Untitled Landscapes*, The Gallery at the Reitz Union, Gainesville, Florida **2020**
- **Solo Show**, *Elgha-Elgha*, Blue-Room Gallery, Isfahan, Iran **2012**

**Film Festival Awards and Nominations****2024**

- **Best Short Documentary Award Winner**, Hercules Independent Film Festival
- **Best International Short Documentary Award Winner**, Indo French International Film Festival
- **Best Documentary Honorable Mention**, Athens International Monthly Art Film Festival
- **Outstanding Social Impact Film Official Selection**, Symbiotic Film Festival
- **Documentary Short Film Official Selection**, Five Continents International Film Festival
- **Student Film Official Selection**, Southern Oasis Film Festival

**Selected Group Exhibitions**

- ***Unpromised***, MVA Art Gallery, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania **2024**
- ***Seen, Unseen***, Reitz Union Gallery, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2023**
- ***Into the Woods, Out of the Woods, An Unconventional Encounter with Landscape***, Historic Thomas Center, Gainesville, Florida **2022—2023**
- ***A Position in Nature, A Position in Power***, Good News Arts, High Springs, Florida **2022**
- ***Waterloo Photography Invitational 2021***, PHOTOCENTRIC Contemporary Photography Gallery, Cleveland, Ohio **2021**
- ***Post-Industrialism***, International Group Exhibition, LoosenArt, Rome, Italy **2021**
- ***The Shape of Things***, Praxis Gallery, Minneapolis, Minnesota **2020**
- ***DocuFlorida***, Pensacola Museum of Art, University of West Florida, Pensacola, Florida **2020**
- ***Photography Student Exhibition***, Gary R. Libby Gallery, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2018**
- ***Guitar Art: Historic Innovation of an American Icon through Industrial Design, Art & Music*** | University Gallery, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2018**
- ***Isfahan University of Art's Student Juried Show***, University of Education, Freiburg, Germany **2016**
- ***Photography Students Show***, Creative Commercial Photography, Central Library of Isfahan, Iran **2014**
- ***Isfahan University of Art's Annual Exhibition***, Museum of Contemporary Art, Isfahan, Iran **2014**
- ***Isfahan University of Art's Annual Exhibition***, Museum of Contemporary Art, Isfahan, Iran **2012**

**Other Professional Experience**

- **Professional Film Processing and Scanning Technician**, **2022—2023**  
Coastal Film Lab, Tampa, Florida

- Mixed photography chemicals including color, black and white, ECN2 and E6.
- Developed a variety of films, including color, black and white, ECN2, and E6 with Noritsu QSF V30 color processor and Jobo Auto Lab ATL2000.
- Utilized special ways of hand-developing films with special conditions, such as stand-developing.
- Scanned films with the camera scanning system, Fuji Film Frontier, Noritsu HS-1800 and Kodak F135.
- Color corrected and removed color cast from images.
- Categorized and archived the orders.

- **Teaching Lab Specialist - Photography, Drawing + Painting**

**2021—2022**

School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

- Performed extensive group and individual demonstrations each semester regarding proper equipment handling and usage for all photography equipment, location, and studio lighting techniques, digital and analog color grading and printing, and darkroom lab procedures.
- Sole personnel of a 30,000 square foot building, responsible for supervising and maintaining black and white wet darkroom, managed black & white and color photography chemistry, supplies, and related darkroom equipment.
- Collaborated with UF Environmental Health and Safety Department, ensured safe collection and disposal of hazardous chemicals, and regularly filled out Hazardous Waste Pickup Request Forms every two weeks.
- Responsible for upkeep and repair of still photography, video, sound, projection, and other A/V equipment, including DSLR cameras, 35mm, medium format, and large format film and digital cameras, Paul C Buff lighting kits, and projectors.
- In charge of managing and maintaining the lighting studio and equipment outfitted with backdrops and Paul C Buff lighting equipment.
- Responsible for managing and maintaining digital printing labs equipped with 12 iMacs, six large format printers (Epson 9890, 9900, 7900, and P9000), Epson V800 flatbed scanners, Hasselblad Flextight Drum Scanner, and large format Titan 2 Vinyl Cutter.
- Researched and recommended new computers.
- Configured the new computers and installed Adobe Creative Cloud.
- Hired, scheduled, and organized the figure modeling program consisting of 15-20 figure models per semester.
- Hired, scheduled, and trained a team of four Federal Work-Study student employees and two Graduate Assistants for Photography and Drawing + Painting areas each semester.

- Established a new online equipment checkout system, making a thorough inventory of photography and painting equipment; categorized, labeled, and entered every equipment into the computer.
  - Organized and instructed students on proper Health and Safety procedures and disposal.
- **Photographer**, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2021**  
Commissioned by the Museum to photograph the Asian Rock Garden.
  - **Photographer and Videographer**, P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School, Gainesville, Florida **2021**  
Commissioned to photograph and film sculptures created and installed on campus by artist Béatrice Coron.
  - **Printing Assistant**, Gainesville, Florida **2021**  
Assisted in printing for artist Sergio Vega's "Walter Benjamin in Naples" project. Ensured precise color matching to the artist's vision. Trimmed and prepared borders for framing. Conducted quality control to meet exhibition standards for delivered prints.
  - **Photographer**, UE | Applications, Teton Hand and Upper Extremity Conference Series, Gainesville, Florida **2021**  
Product photography, staged products for company brochure and website.
  - **Editor**, University of Florida's University Gallery, Gainesville, Florida **2020**  
Commissioned to perform extensive Photoshop editing for the artist Roberto Obregón, which comprised approximately 600 images, for the exhibition catalog.
  - **Photographer**, Kian Confectionery Company, Isfahan, Iran **2017—2018**  
Product photography, staged products for a company brochure. Edited photographs with Lightroom and Photoshop for Kian's website and social media.
  - **Set Designer and Photographer**, Hiss Fashion Clothing Collection, Isfahan, Iran **2018**  
Designed the set and photographed the annual clothing collection; designed Instagram promotion.
  - **Photographer**, Rameshgaran Ensemble, a traditional Persian musical group **2017**  
Photographed band members for an album and CD covers.
  - **Photographer**, Instructional Publication of the Tombak (Persian Drum) Portraits of Jamshid Mohebbi, instructional musician. Created imagery for the book to guide readers on how to play the tombak. **2015**
  - **Photographer**, Drug Addiction Treatment Center, Iran Drug Control Headquarters, Isfahan, Iran. **2013**  
Captured the day-to-day activities of the patients both during and post-withdrawal for a documentary project on drug addiction.

## Curatorial Experience

- **Curatorial Intern** **Fall 2019**  
 Photography Department, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida,  
 Gainesville, Florida

  - Did in-depth research on the African American community during the Civil War in Florida, landscape photography, and issues surrounding the imaging of incarceration in the U.S. for Dr. Carol McCusker, Curator of Photography.
  - Refined exhibition checklists, proofreading labels, and texts for accurate research content.
  - Designed and laid out exhibition catalogs.
- **Curatorial Assistant** **2018—2019**  
 University Galleries, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

  - Assisted in four exhibitions: planned and installed, designed labels, prepared vinyl signage and text panels.
  - Photographed University Galleries' exhibitions, special events, and individual artworks.
  - Organized photographic archives of University Galleries.
- **Curator**

  - Pop Microscopy*, Gary R. Libby Gallery, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2019**

*Photography Student exhibition*, Gary R. Libby Gallery, University of Florida,  
 Gainesville, Florida **2018**
  - **Juror, photography competition** **2018**  
*Global Culture* Photo Competition, International Center, University of Florida,  
 Gainesville, Florida

## Publications

- *Photography Changes Everything, Exercise*, an article on photographs by Roozbeh Maleki, Tehran, Iran **2023**
- *Dinner + No Show*, Fourth Issue, School of Art + Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2021**
- *Talon Review*, Second Volume | Third Issue, the English Program of the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida **2021**
- *Dinner + No Show*, Third Issue, School of Art + Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida **2020**

## Awards and Achievements

- Graduate Assistantship, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL **2022—2024**

- Graduate Student Fellowship, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**2018—2021**

### **Licenses & Certifications**

- **Certificate for Online Design and Instruction**, Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Florida
- **Teaching & Learning in the Diverse Classroom**, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- **Seeing Through Photographs**, Museum of Modern Art, Manhattan, New York

### **Skills**

- Knowledge of the history of Contemporary art
- Knowledge of the History of Photography
- Skills in Film Photography Labs; Knowledge of the Chemical Composition in Darkroom
- Silks in Digital Photography Labs; Managing and Operating Photography Lab Equipment
- Microsoft Office
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe Lightroom
- Adobe Bridge
- Adobe InDesign
- Languages: fluent in Persian and English  
Beginner at Arabic