

## Saba Farhoudnia's Latest Body of Work Takes Over Fou Gallery

April 12, 2024  
Kame Hame

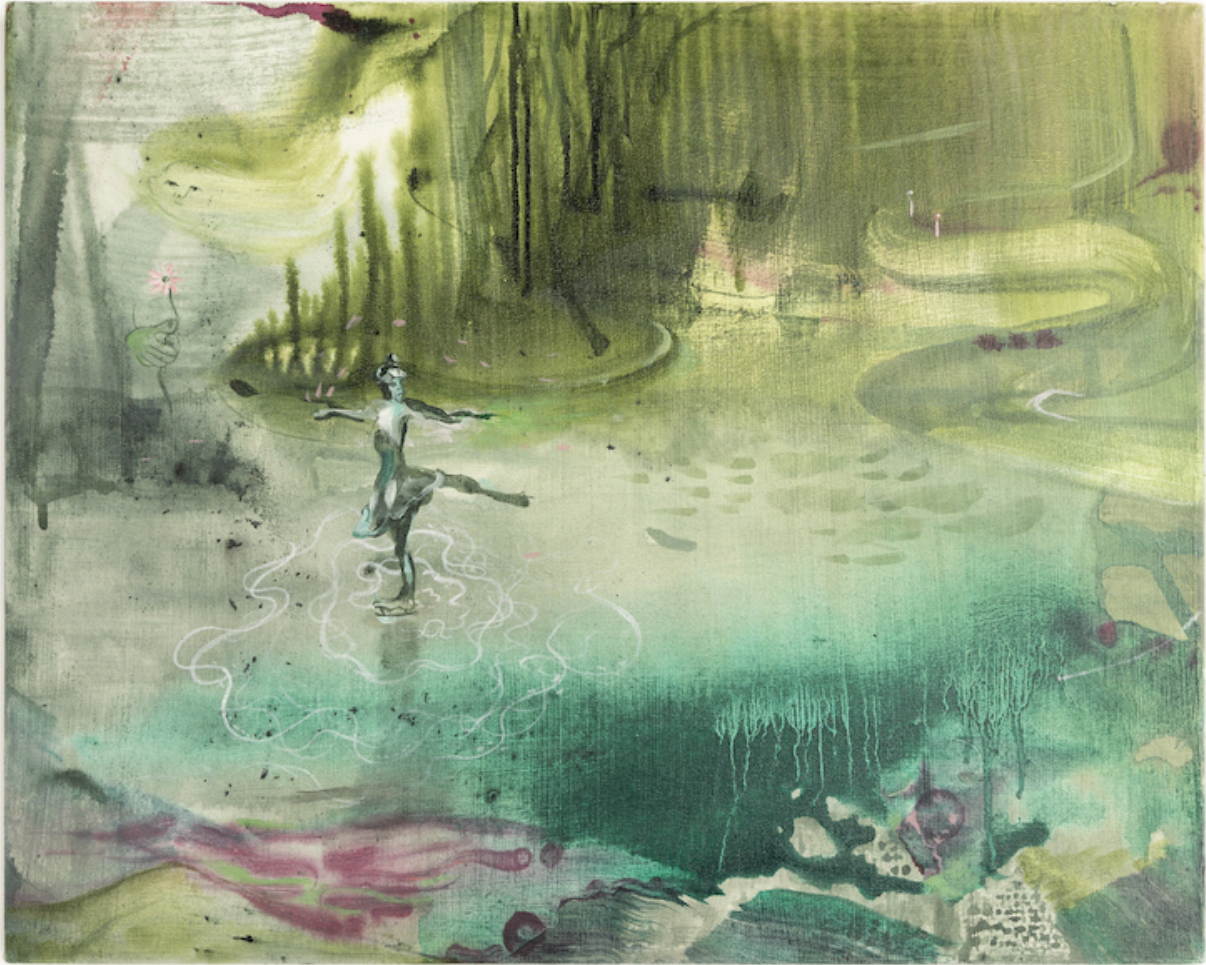


In a world full of conflict, economic hardship, and facing the perils of climate change, it is almost impossible to imagine things getting any better. It seems like humanity is holding its breath, standing on the border between an unstable present and an uncertain future, awaiting where it will land.

In a solo exhibition *Falling Petals, Standing Roses* at Fou Gallery, New York-based artist Saba Farhoudnia presents her latest works that explore all the aspects of the human condition. Her art wholeheartedly embraces both the good and the bad sides, offering a safe haven. Farhoudnia said:

*With each fallen petal, another rose will bloom. This is our battlefield. This is our Eden.*

# WIDEWALLS



Saba Farhoudnia - Where Do I Begin, 2024. Acrylic on canvas; 16 x 20 inches ©Saba Farhoudnia, courtesy of Fou Gallery

## **The Whole Spectrum of Human Experience**

Saba Farhoudnia, born in 1987 in Tehran, Iran, amid the First Gulf War, is not a stranger to hardship. Yet, unlike others who got swallowed by despair, she chooses to see the fleeting beauty of life and always strives to capture it in her art. Skillfully, the narrative in her work oscillates between despair and hope, conflict and tranquility, with full understanding that duality is always at the heart of it all.

The paintings in *Falling Petals*, *Standing Roses* evoke empathy and invite viewers to contemplate the dual nature of humanity, both joy and despair. At the same time, they celebrate our strengths and ability to always prevail, resist, and survive while shining a light on the full spectrum of human experience, from trials to triumph. Here is how Farhoudnia described her position as an artist:

*Living as a woman in this world, born in a country at war, immigrant to a country of war.  
Breathing the air of love and beauty while standing witness to violence and hatred.*



# WIDEWALLS



Saba Farhoudnia - Falling Petals, Standing Roses, 2024. Acrylic on canvas; 46 x 54 inches ©Saba Farhoudnia, courtesy of Fou Gallery

## **Intricate Visual Narrative**

From climate change to feminism and nature, the artist does not shy away from exploring these themes in-depth, no matter where they might lead her. The canvas is Farhoudnia's safe space where she can freely probe into these subjects. The end results are powerful artworks that evoke a sense of motion and are bursting with emotions that immediately engage the viewers on a deeper level.

Her artistic practice skillfully blends painting, drawing, and language by utilizing different painting techniques - from the delicate art of pouring to the intentional use of washing and nuanced brushwork. She captures beauty, drama, pain, and humor by employing geometric forms, calligraphy, and gestural marks.

# WIDEWALLS

However, the most powerful aspect of her unique artistic style is the meticulous layering process, where colors mix and textures overlap to form intricate visual narratives. Farhoudnia employs animal, human, and geometrical forms that are masterfully placed to create a rich composition and depth.



Saba Farhoudnia - Flying from the Sanchi, 2022. Acrylic on canvas; 48 x 64 inches ©Saba Farhoudnia, courtesy of Fou Gallery

## **Falling Petals, Standing Roses at Fou Gallery**

Saba Farhoudnia, holding an M.F.A from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, showcased her work all over the world, including the exhibitions at Bronx Museum of the Arts (2024) and Fou Gallery's 10-Year Anniversary Exhibition in 2023, to name a few.

The exhibition Falling Petals, Standing Roses will be on view at Fou Gallery in New York until May 25th, 2024.

Featured image: Installation view. Saba Farhoudnia: Falling Petals, Standing Roses at Fou Gallery. Photography by Ken Lee.

<https://www.widewalls.ch/magazine/saba-farhoudnia-fou-gallery>