



Uncertain
ARTIST: Farhad Berahman
WHERE? Fusion Building, 3rd Floor

"In general facing the issue of migration is really tough and it takes time to adapt to a new place, if it ever happens. There are a lot of language barriers and cultural differences which could take years to overcome. It's an uncertain move and it always will be."

- Farhad Berahman

Uncertain is story about Iranian asylum seekers living in exile. Every year thousands of Iranians travel to the UK to seek asylum for various reasons. However discarding the evidence of your birth origin and assimilating into another foreign



identity is not only onerous but leaves you stuck at a cross roads belonging neither here nor there.

Iranian photographer and artist Farhad Berahman is based in the UK. In recent years he has moved from social documentary to more conceptual and sculptural work using photography. This project explores the predicament of Iranian exiles, uncertain of their past and their future.

Uncertain is presented at the Festival of Learning by b-side.

berahman.com

SATURDAY 08 JULY BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY ALL DAY 11AM – 4PM

Come and visit b-side and Counterpoints Arts: we have brought together some wonderful artwork and installations from artists Farhad Berahman, Richard DeDomenici and Alketa Xhafa Mripa. Find us at the Fusion building – share your fears, dreams, memories and a cup of tea and discover common ground with a stranger.

We are here all day 11-4pm and we would love to see you.

Many thanks to Jayne Caudwell and Janet Dickinson, Jae Yeon Choe and the rest of the team at Bournemouth University.

   @bsidefest

www.b-side.org.uk



festival of learning

SATURDAY 08 JULY
BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY



"We are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us"

Jo Cox

Refugees Welcome

ARTIST: Alketa Xhafa Mripa

WHERE? Outside Fusion Building

'Hope versus desperation – how do we, the lucky ones, the ones that do not like change, become more open towards those who bring with them so much suffering? What makes us scared of the "other"?'...

Refugees Welcome is a mobile installation comprising a Luton tail lift van – a potent symbol representing refugees crossing borders. The interior of the van is revamped to resemble a 'living room' with soft furnishings, visuals and a neon 'hope' sign evoking the 'British Welcome'.

Alketa arrived as a refugee in the UK in the late 1990's. The van and its contents act as

a prompt for conversations with visitors, extending the gesture of 'fancy a tea with a refugee'. The mix of agitprop, site-specific happening, installation and live encounter engages with current shifts in attitudes to 'welcome'. Visitors are asked to leave their thoughts in the comments book, where stories will be shared via social media and local radio.

Kosovan born Alketa came to London in 1997, where she completed her studies at Central Saint Martins. She makes art in many forms including painting, photography, embroidery, films, installations and advocates for women's liberation and independence.

Refugees Welcome is a Counterpoints Arts' commission and will be travelling around the country for the rest of this year.

[@_Alketa](https://tracesproject.org/alketa-xhafa-mripa)



Shed your Fears

ARTIST: Richard DeDomenici

WHERE? Fusion Building, 2nd Floor

'Seeing each other for the first time – an emotional and tender moment ... after emerging from the #shedyourfears confession booth where without seeing each other, we'd revealed our deepest fears for 20 minutes. An inspired installation...'

Shed Your Fears is a non-denominational, non-hierarchical booth, into which two people get to confess their fears to each other, privately, anonymously and safely. Designed as a response to recent sociopolitical upheavals, the piece invites participating audiences to share their innermost fears, and by sharing them,

hopefully transcend them, to the point where they can also share hopes and dreams.

Shed Your Fears is the latest work by Richard DeDomenici, who is described as "one of the most intellectually gifted, imaginative and dedicated performance artists in the UK today" (the Scotsman). Richard's work is often street based, humorous, subversive and political, reflecting his ongoing artistic mission to cause the kind of uncertainty that leads to possibility. Shed Your Fears is a Counterpoints Arts' commission and will be travelling around the country for the rest of this year

[@ShedYourFears](https://dedomenici.com/shedyourfears)

Shahre Farang

ARTIST: Farhad Berahman

WHERE? Fusion Building, 3rd Floor

"We all have different memories from our birthplace. These dreams and memories stay ingrained within us wherever we go."

Imagine you could never return home. What would you do, where would you go if you could go back for just 1 minute?

Shahre Farang explores memories of home of Iranians now living in exile in the UK.

This project seeks to show a different perspective on this forced migration, a more personal side to the anonymous view we see in UK media. Artist Farhad Berahman asked 20 asylum seekers to

describe what they would do if they could return home briefly, these visual memories were then recreated and documented by a network of photographers based in Iran.

The structure is custom made by skilled craftsmen and is a unique design based on a traditional Shahre Farang. A Shahre Farang is an Iranian version of a portable peep box traditionally taken around the country by wandering storytellers. The name in Persian means 'European city' and in these travelling structures photographs of cities like London, Paris and Rome were brought to the masses who experienced it as exotic entertainment.

Shahre Farang is presented at the Festival of Learning by b-side.

