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For immediate release:

PARADICE PALASE is pleased to host *Blue Hollow*, a solo exhibition of paintings and drawings from **Yalda Foroughmand Arabi**. Yalda is a member of PP's #OasisStudios program, and all works on view were made since joining the studio building. Works range from 4x6 inch drawings on sketchpad paper to a 62x48 inch painting on unstretched canvas. This is the final in-person exhibition for the platform, on view 2/09 - 2/27 in their Brooklyn gallery with a reception Sunday 2/13 from 4-7pm.

Unable to go back to Iran for years, Arabi's longing to reach an 'other' place has become a strong overarching theme in her current practice. She feels the mountains of Tehran, the dry earth carved out by a cold and clear stream of water, cracked heels, breathing in the pink gradient of a polluted sky from the rooftop. Views of people and places once constant and near are now hazy from a distance as she reconstructs them in memories. As Arabi grasps for familiarity in a foreign world, she references her personal archive of images, looking to photos of family and the Iranian landscape, which she then combines with memory and imagination into abstracted and somewhat surreal spaces. Repeated motifs borrowed from Islamic geometric designs and other visual elements from Iranian art make their way into the distorted, vibrantly colored perspectives where reality and fantasy merge.

Although Arabi's work stems from a personal place, there is room for viewers to discover alternative narratives and to interpret the symbolic imagery using their own vocabulary. The undertones of geopolitical conflict, gender roles, and other intersectionalities are layered into the imagery and concepts, allowing points of reference for viewers to connect the narratives with the politicized and often misrepresented Iranian experience.

PARADICE PALASE's exhibition space is located at 1260 Broadway in Brooklyn, NY. Viewing hours are Saturdays 1-5pm and by appointment. For more information on the show and to RSVP for the artist reception on 2/13, please visit [www.paradicepalase.com/yfarabi-bluehollow-feb2022](http://www.paradicepalase.com/yfarabi-bluehollow-feb2022). For a complete list of available work or to make an appointment please email [lauren@paradicepalase.com](mailto:lauren@paradicepalase.com)