

Taraneh Hemami

When you hear the words “Most Wanted” you immediately might consider a rather terrorist-like conspiracy of sorts. San Francisco-based Iranian artist, Taraneh Hemami related to the initial accusations thrown upon the Arab-American and Muslim culture once 9/11 struck, and in result, she created a series of identities, based on the Identifications brought about the FBI who had immediately conjured 72 MOST WANTED suspects on their website. Following the terrorist act, racial profiling became an immediate form of social abuse to the general public in light of a religious epidemic that brought about blurred arraignments of people’s faces.

Heroes Martyrs Legends is a series of headshots of young Iranian student activists, executed before and after the revolution (1357/1979), representing the outcry of a generation dissolved in the zeitgeist of the romantic notion of a selfless revolutionary who in massive unified action, contributed to a major shift in the political direction of the country and the faith of the region.

Fragmented, with varied degrees of articulation, the images for the series are downloaded from various internet sites, their bitmaps translated into beads, to create a commemorative to a silenced generation.

Image and text courtesy of the artist

Heroes, Martyrs, Legends 2008
6 mm faceted beads, thread and steal



1st row: Mohammad, 360; Asmar, 1360; Yousef, 1352; Shireen, 1354

2nd row: Mehrnoosh, 1350; Yousef, 1352; Tahereh, 1355; Naaser, 1360

3rd row: Syroos, 1350; Ghazaal, 1356; Mokhtar, 1362; Behrooz, 1350

www.taranehemami.info