

# COUNTDOWN;

ONE HUNDRED NIGHTS + ONE EXTRA NIGHT

CONCEPTUAL PHOTO PROJECT PROPOSAL

Arezu Zargar  
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## Project Description

Starting in December 2022, for 100 consecutive nights, I took a black-and-white photo of my hands holding an object. I began this project at a time when social media monitoring had intensified, and any action related to current events became highly challenging. The choice of "100 nights" for this project was inspired by ancient Iranian culture and their belief in the duration of enduring cold and darkness each year. They believed that 100 nights marked the period of coldness, and to endure it, people would gather, tell stories, and share tales to make this difficult time more bearable.

After completing these 100 nights, I've started to invite 100 artists with diverse artistic expertise from around the world to participate.

I ask each artist to imagine that after seeing my photograph, they have no language—they cannot speak. I want them to respond to my photograph not with words, but with an image of their own. I will choose one object in my photo to represent my situation, but I won't explain it directly. Instead, I want the artists to interpret the meaning themselves and respond using their own chosen object. The object I use in my photograph will carry multiple layers of meaning, and the challenge is to reply visually, as if we had no language to communicate. This way, we explore how to respond to an idea or situation without relying on words. They were also asked to write (optional ) a short text (max to 150 words) in their language about their photograph.



## project goals

- Expressing repressed emotions through photography in a long-term and consecutive time frame by choosing an object.
- Creating cultural and artistic communication between people from all over the world through photography and storytelling.
- Validation of "comprehension and understanding" without context and cultural context through photography.
- Display and print these photos in a creative and special way that will attract the attention of artistic audiences.

## How to Display

14 x 14 cm glasses that are connected to the wall with a fixture

The photos are printed on gelatin transparencies and fixed with killer spray.

## Philosophical references of the project

In this project, I have used Heidegger's philosophy about objects. Heidegger believed that objects do not exist only by themselves, but always point to something beyond, and our understanding of them depends on their implicit meaning and connection with the world. This project specifically addresses the philosophy that every object and every image represents a part of human existence and experience.

Hands as mediators; In my project, hands play the role of a mediator between people and objects. Hands are not only a physical tool to hold objects, but also a symbol of interaction, feeling and artistic creation. Every photo that shows my hands holding an object somehow represents my personal and emotional connection to that object and the meaning behind it.

objects as carriers of meaning; In Heidegger's philosophy, objects always refer to something more than themselves. Every object depicted in my photos is a symbol of my daily thoughts, feelings and experiences. These objects carry deep meanings that cannot be fully understood just by seeing them, but must be interacted with and understand the hidden connections and meanings behind them.

shared experience; The second part of the project, which includes the collaboration of artists around the world, shows that every person in any part of the world can have a special relationship with their objects and hands. Every photo and story that my friends have provided represents their unique point of view and experience. This shared experience represents human connection and connection that transcends geographical and cultural boundaries.

# An example of one of the nights: the first night

## In original language

به وقت تولد دستبندی را به دستمان می بندند روی آن نام مادر و پدر، جنسیت و تاریخ تولدمان بدون نام خودمان حک شده. در نود و نه درصد مواقع از تولدمان خوشحال هستند. در موقع مرگ هم تکه کاغذی آویزان به انگشت شصت پایمان برای اینکه گم نشویم. بامزه روزگار این است که در نهایت میمیریم چه ۸۵ سالگی، چه ۸ سالگی یا ۵۰ سالگی. مهم این است که عده ای دست به دعا برای مرگ ما نشده باشند.

شيء انا مش عارفاه. كنت هقول انه شيء غير معروف زي المستقبل بس هي مكتوب عليها علامة ودي حاجة مقدرش اقول انها موجودة في مستقبل اي حد بشكل اكيد. علامتها متغيرة معمولة باليد، نفس اليد اللي ممكن اي حد فينا يستخدمها عشان يخلق او يدمر حاجة

Photo of the first night



The answer to the photo of the first night  
Egyptian artist



