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**“RISE” ART EXHIBITION EXPLORES THEME OF WOMEN’S
RIGHTS IN EXTREME ISLAMIC CULTURES**

BC-Based Iranian artist’s solo exhibition opens April 19 at Canada Place

VANCOUVER, BC – On April 19, Canada Place will host a solo exhibition from one of BC’s up-and-coming female artists.

Zahra Hosseinkhan is an Iranian-born artist who stormed into the Persian art world in 1985, at the tender age of 14, and had her own gallery by the age of 21. Now, at 34, she’s based full-time in Vancouver, and she’s using her art to provide insight into the struggle for women’s rights in countries dominated by Islamic extremism.

By combining classical and modern art, and eastern and western styles, this revolutionary artist has developed a genuine and unique voice. And by incorporating nudity into her works – often depicted in Mosque settings – she challenges the idea that Muslim women should be hidden behind the hejab.

This unique art exhibition takes place April 19 at Canada Place, starting at 5 p.m. Mayor Sam Sullivan and members of the Persian media will be in attendance, and local media outlets and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

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About Zahra Hosseinkhan: Zahra Hosseinkhan is a revolutionary Persian artist who started her artistic training at the Tehran college of the arts, and opened her own gallery in Tehran at the age of 21. A resident of Vancouver since 1996, she uses her art to explore the challenges women face in Islamic extremist cultures, and demand reform. She founded the Canadian Academy of Fine

Art & Design in 2003, and is represented by Devon Publishing Group. For more information, visit her profile at www.zahrahosseinkhan.com