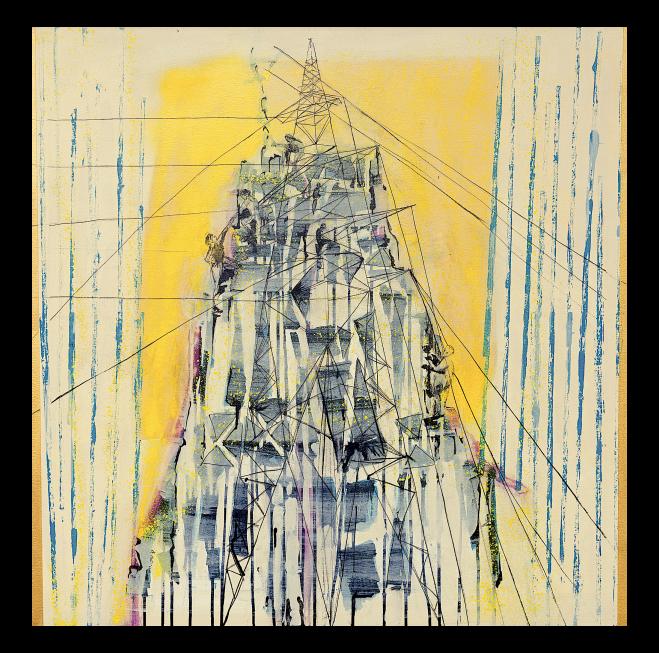
" I was born in a transition period from Monarchy to the Islamic Republic and war crisis. I remember how the buildings and the people's customs changed gradually. How architecture and the face of my city transformed. I remember homes having a more open format and not necessarily private, however, they transformed to secretive spaces that divided people from each other. I remember how architectural open spaces became covered with materials and clear windows became matte. I believe that architecture is the self-portrait of my country and our generation".

From Portraits of public spaces, memory and urban life in Tehran, an Artist Talk by Farima Fooladi at the Hyllier Art Space. Fall 2017. <u>MEI</u>





Tower of Bable 38x38" 2017 Displacement 2016

The built environment, in its resolute tangibility, its pronounced thingness and its tectonic solidity seems to willingly offer itself to focus our personal, emotive idiosyncratic projection. All the more so for its silence. Despite an obsolescence imposed upon it by ever-shifting aesthetic tastes and bureaucratic consensus, architecture has the potential to endure a suprahuman lifespan. As such, it is often asked to bear a collective psychic weight of those who have walked amidst its cast shadows. This burden born becomes inextricably entangled with the visual manifestation of the accrued physical stresses imposed upon it by gravity and meteorological fluctuations. Ever more so when the locus of nostalgic longing is separated by many thousand miles. It is the simultaneous presentness and elusiveness of a homeland's architecture, which makes it seem fit to anchor the diffuse inarticulable feelings attendant to such dislocation.

Aaron Ziolkowski



*Iman and JFK airport* Mixed Media on Canvas 18" x 18" 2016



*Ferdows Garden* Mixed Media on Canvas 17.5" x 15" 2016



National Garden, Tehran Mixed Media on Canvas 17.5" x 15" 2016



Laleh Zar St, Stone St Mixed Media on Canvas 18" x 18" 2016



Brides of Mokhbero doleh Mixed Media on Canvas 18" x 18" 2016



*Bridal Windows* Mixed Media on Canvas 18" x 18" 2016



*Tehran* Mixed Media on Canvas 16" x 18" 2016



*Liaison #1* Mixed Media on Canvas 49".72" 2014