

## EDUCATION

**Two years of post-graduate course work**, Mass Communication, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, course work in mass media structures and comparative literature  
**Master of Arts**, Mass Communication, major in photography, University of Minnesota  
**Bachelor of Arts**, Studio Arts and Economics, double major, University of Minnesota

## SOLO PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 "Faces of New America," Cargill Hall Gallery, Central Library, Minneapolis, MN  
2007 "Heroines Portraits," Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, MN  
2006 "Iran Diary," Minnesota Center for Photography, Minnesota Projects Gallery, Minneapolis, MN  
2002 "Three Portfolios: Jila Nikpay's Photographs/1995-2002," House of Artists, Tehran, Iran; organized by the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran  
1999 "Against Gravity," The Print Center, Philadelphia, PA  
1998 "Recent Work," Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN

## FILM SCREENINGS / GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 "Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival," MN, *Hour of the Dark*  
2010 "MNTV," Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN, *Poem for the Sea*  
2010 Walker Art Center's Best Buy Film/Video Bay, Minneapolis, MN, *In Waiting*  
2009 "MNTV," Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, *In Waiting*  
2009 "Women with Vision Film Festival," Walker Art Center, *In Waiting*  
2008 "MNTV," Twin Cities Public Television, *Labyrinth*  
2008 "International Short Films on Culture," Jaipur, India, *Rhythm of Tides & Shroud and Torrent*  
2008 "Women with Vision Film Festival," Walker Art Center, *Labyrinth*  
2007 "Manifestations of Contemporary Art," Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran, selected photographs from the World in Between  
2007 "Latitudes," California Building Gallery, Minneapolis, MN, *Labyrinth*  
2007 "Arizona International Film Festival," Tucson, AZ, *Rhythm of Tides*  
2007 "Women with Vision Film Festival," Walker Art Center, *Rhythm of Tides*  
2005 "Women with Vision Film Festival," Walker Art Center, *Keepers of the Garden*  
2005 "23<sup>rd</sup> Annual MPLS-St. Paul International Film Festival," *Shroud & Torrent* Minneapolis, MN  
2004 "Central Standard Film Festival," organized by IFP Center for Media Arts, St. Paul, MN, *Keepers of the Garden*  
2004 "Women with Vision Film Festival," Walker Art Center, *Shroud & Torrent*  
2004 "Sacred Texts," film installation: *Shroud & Torrent*, Minneapolis College of Art & Design, Minneapolis, MN  
2001 "New Photography: McKnight Fellows 2000/2001," Katherine E. Nash Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

1998 "Inner Landscapes," PARTS Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

### **COMMUNITY ART PROJECTS**

2008-10 **Exploration of Identity through Photographic Portraiture**, Como Park Senior High School, St. Paul, MN, in this project, I used digital photography to create portraits with students to explore issues of cultural identity. The project was supported by St. Paul Foundation's Arts, Culture & Humanities Grant, in 2009 and McKnight Foundation's Community Art Program grant in 2008. My role in the project was artist, project coordinator, and grant writer.

2005-06 **Heroines**, in collaboration with various organizations in the Twin Cities, MN, in this project, I created photographs of breast cancer patients who wrapped themselves in fabric to re-imagine their bodies. The photographs were accompanied by my poetry and published as a book. The project included solo exhibitions at Minnesota Historical Society, public performance of song-cycles based on the poetry, and a conference, entitled "Healing through Illness," at the University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality and Healing. My role in the project was artist, project director, and fundraiser.

### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

2010 **Artist Initiative Grant, Media Arts**, Minnesota State Arts Board  
2009 **Arts, Culture & Humanities Grant**, St. Paul Foundation, MN  
2008 **COMPAS Community Art Program**, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis  
2008 **Film & Video Travel and Study Grant Program**, Jerome Foundation, MN  
2007 **Minnesota Film & Video Program**, Jerome Foundation  
2006 **Latitudes**, Mizna and Metropolitan Regional Arts Council's Special Initiative  
2006 **Artist Initiative Grant, Media Arts**, Minnesota State Arts Board  
2005 **Minnesota Film & Video Program**, Jerome Foundation  
2005 **Access Grant**, Independent Feature Project, Minneapolis/Saint Paul  
2004 **Artist Initiative Grant, Media Arts**, Minnesota State Arts Board  
2004 **Minnesota Media Arts Program**, Jerome Foundation  
2003 **Access Grant**, Independent Feature Project, Minneapolis/Saint Paul  
2002 **Travel and Study Grant Program**, Jerome Foundation  
2002 **Artist Assistance Fellowship**, Minnesota State Arts Board  
2001 **Career Opportunity Grant**, Minnesota State Arts Board  
2000 **McKnight Photography Fellowship**, McKnight Foundation  
1998 **Artist Assistance Fellowship**, Minnesota State Arts Board

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2009-10 **Consultant**, Perpich Center for Arts Education, Minneapolis, MN, produced electronic & print materials for the Multicultural Voices Initiative program  
2006-09 **Instructor**, IFP Center for Media Arts, St. Paul, MN, taught portrait and lighting classes to adult students utilizing digital and analog photography  
2006-08 **Instructor**, Minnesota Center for Photography, Minneapolis, taught portrait and lighting classes to adult students utilizing digital and analog photography  
2003-05 **Adjunct Professor**, Department of Art, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

- 2003-04 Taught beginning and intermediate silver-based photography classes  
**Instructor**, Compleat Scholar Program, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis,  
taught four-week interactive workshops on photography and body image

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2008 Panelist, Jerome Foundation's Media Arts Program, Minneapolis  
2007 Juror of Merit Scholarship Competition, Minneapolis College of Art &  
Design, Minneapolis, MN  
2000 Member of the Artist Assistance Photography advisory panel of Minnesota  
State Arts Board

### GUEST/VISITNG ARTIST PRESENTATIONS

- 2011 **Guest artist**, Faces of New America, Department of Sociology, Critical Studies  
of Race/Ethnicity, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN  
2011 **Guest artist**, Faces of New America, Department Instructional Curriculum,  
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis  
2011 **Visiting artist**, Faces of New America, Lake Agassiz Regional  
Libraries in Breckenridge, Moorhead, Mahnomon, MN  
2011 **Guest artist**, Faces of New America, Carver County Library,  
Chanhassen, MN  
2009 **McGuire Visiting Artist**, Migration and Identity, a month long  
residency in digital cinema and photography, Blake Schools, Minneapolis, MN  
2009 **Visiting artist**, Visual Lecture Series, Department of Art And Design,  
University of Minnesota, Duluth, MN  
2007 **Guest artist**, Department of Art and Art History, Gustavus Adolphus College,  
St. Peter, MN  
2007 **Guest artist**, Iran Diary, Women's Art Institute, Minneapolis College of Art &  
Design, MN  
2006 **Guest filmmaker**, Veil: An Exploration to Liberate the Body, Institute for  
Global Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis  
2006 **Guest filmmaker**, One Night, post-screening discussion of a film by Niki  
Karimi, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

### COLLECTIONS

Minnesota Historical Society, Minneapolis, MN; Hennepin County Library, Minneapolis,  
MN; Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Tehran, Iran; Target Corporation,  
Minneapolis, MN; The Museum of Modern Art's Library, New York, NY

### PUBLICATIONS

**Heroines: Transformation in the Face of Breast Cancer**, book published by Zenith,  
Minneapolis, MN, 2006. Contributing writer, Thomas Moore  
**Sacred Texts**, Minneapolis College of Art & Design, Exhibition Catalog, 2004  
**McKnight Fellows 2000/2001**, Katherine Nash Gallery, Exhibition Catalog, 2001

## **REVIEWS & ARTICLES**

**City Pages Blogs**, April 21, 2011, “Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival showcases Minnesota Filmmakers,” by Ann Regan

**Minnesota Women’s Press**, March 21, 2011, “Photo dialogue,” feature article by Sheila Regan

**Minnesota Public Radio News**, January 5, 2011, “The new faces of America,” article by Marianne Combs

**Twin Cities Daily Planet**, November 30, 2010, “Jila Nikpay’s Faces of New America:” Coming to a library near you, article by Sheila Regan

**Minneapolis / St. Paul magazine**, July 2009, “The New Face Book: Photographer Jila Nikpay points her lens at teenagers from local immigrant families,” by Kate Dohman

**The Bridge newspaper**, December 2007, “An Individual Journey,” feature article by Anna Pratt

**10,000 Arts magazine**, November 2007, “Point of Entry,” feature article by Ann Klefstad

**Star Tribune newspaper**, July 30, 2006, section E, “Artist Jila Nikpay transformed lives with Heroines Project,” feature article by Kay Miller

**Minnesota Public Radio**, April 7, 2006, coverage of Heroines Music by Karl Gehrke

**Radio mnartists**, April 6, 2006, interview with Jila Nikpay by Marya Morstad

**Minnesota Public Radio**, April 5, 2006, interview with Jila Nikpay by Cathy Wurzer

**Minnesota Women’s Press**, Vol., 21, No. 26, March 2006, “An emotional Landscape: artist’s book portrays women who have survived breast cancer,” by Alison Bergblom Johnson

**Minnesota Monthly magazine**, March 2006, Art section, feature article on Heroines Project

**NY Arts**, Vol.9, No. 7/8, July/August 2004, review of “Sacred Texts” exhibition, pp 14-15

**Minnesota Monthly magazine**, August 2003, Spotlight section, pp 77-78

**AKS magazine**, No. 182, May 2002, interview in Farsi

**Iran Newspaper**, No. 2105, April 23, 2002, review of solo exhibition at the House of Artists in Farsi

**Minneapolis Star & Tribune newspaper**, September 6, 2001, “New Photography: McKnight Fellows 2000/2001,” Katherine Nash Gallery

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2010-present, College Art Association

2008-present, Member of COMPAS Writers & Artists in the Schools, St. Paul, MN

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Travelled to Iran in 2002 to present a solo exhibition and in 2003 to research and create a film trilogy and a series of photographs, entitled Iran Diary

## **LANGUAGES**

Fluent in English and Farsi