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Authors

Siamak Anvari is a composer and sound artist based in the Netherlands. He is active in the field of electroacoustic music, where he composes multichannel pieces, makes installation works and collaborates with other artists on interdisciplinary projects. He studied composition at the Art University of Tehran and electroacoustic music at the Institute of Sonology at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague. Working with various multichannel sound systems and loudspeaker configurations, his music is often concerned with using space as a musical parameter.

Annemarie Bucher is an art and landscape historian. She completed her doctorate at ETH Zurich and currently works as a lecturer, author, curator and researcher in different contexts. Currently she teaches in the Fine Arts program at the Zurich University of the Arts and co-directs the independent research platform FOA-FLUX.

Fujan Fahmi is a Swiss Iranian architect and urban planner. A native of Tehran, she immigrated to Switzerland and grew up in the Italian-speaking canton of Ticino. She received her master's degree from ETH Zurich and has worked in various countries for local and international companies. In 2018 she founded the interdisciplinary, *MØFA Urban Landscape Studio* together with her partner Michael Mosch. Her work encompasses a broad spectrum of interventions between urban planning and architecture, framing technical, functional and aesthetic concepts through the design of open spaces. She is a research associate at the Chair of Landscape Architecture of Christophe Girot at ETH Zurich, where she also currently teaches in the design studio.

Christophe Girot is the dean of the Department of Architecture at ETH Zurich and professor at the Chair of Landscape Architecture. His teaching and research activities include the development of new topological methods in landscape design, the history and theory of landscape architecture, and the use of new media in the analysis of landscape.

Javad Hoseinzadeh is assistant professor at the Department of Archaeology at the University of Kashan, and also teaches archaeology at the University of Tehrwan, where he completed his doctorate in prehistoric archaeology in 2014. He

leads several research projects in the area of Kashan, and since 2018 he has overseen the archaeological site of Sialk, supervising its ongoing archaeological investigations.

Azadeh Arjomand Kermani is a researcher and lecturer at the Chair of Heritage and Values at TU Delft. Before competing her doctorate at Delft University of Technology, she was affiliated to the Tehran University of Art and the University of Siegen, Germany. Her research interests concern the impact of urban planning and governance reform on the historic built environment and intangible cultural heritage, and the development of value assessment frameworks for historic urban areas and buildings in providing a basis for conservation. She is a co-supervisor of masters and doctoral students, and lectures in several courses in the fields of heritage planning and landscape-based approaches to design.

Reihaneh Khorramrouei is a PhD candidate in landscape architecture in the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Tehran, where she also teaches courses on garden history, practical botany and landscape design. Her translation of Ali Asghar Adibi's book, *Collage: A Process in Architectural Design*, will be published by Springer in 2020. She is the author of many articles in journals and conferences on landscape, and in 2016 she was selected to represent Iran in the Gardening World Cup held in Japan.

Amin Mahan is assistant professor in the Department of Architecture at the Azad University, Iran, and also teaches at the University of Art in Tehran and BU-Ali Sina University in Hamedan. He worked as an expert of landscape architecture at the Heritage Cultural Organization of Iran for six years, and in 2017 was awarded the Outstanding Landscape Architecture award by the Iranian Scientific Association of Landscape Architecture. He is the author of many articles in journals and conferences and has served on more than five international conference and workshop committees as a reviewer or judge. In 2016, he was selected to represent Iran in the Gardening World Cup held in Japan.

Ali Mousavi is an archaeologist and specialist on ancient Iran. He teaches archaeology and ancient history at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Mahroo Movahedi is an Iranian visual artist and researcher based in Switzerland. She received her bachelor and master of fine arts in Iran, after which she completed a master's degree in transdisciplinary studies at the ZHDK in Zurich, followed by a research master in social anthropology at the University of Bern. Her practice and research derives from anthropology, cultural-, migration-, and landscape studies. Her ongoing doctoral project is a sensory ethnography, in which she uses art practice to explore the sensory experience of everyday life in the region of the river Zayanderood in Isfahan, Iran.

Dunja Richter is a landscape architect, garden historian and author. After studying landscape architecture at the Technical University of Dresden, she worked at the department of historic garden preservation at the State Palaces and Gardens of Hesse. In 2013 and 2014 she served as project manager at the Office for Urban Development of the City of Zurich. Since 2009 she has worked as a teaching and research associate at the Chair of Landscape Architecture of Christophe Girot at ETH Zurich, where since 2018 she has coordinated the development of a new master program in landscape architecture. Her doctoral dissertation focuses on garden history in the nineteenth century, with a concentration on the trade, meanings and uses of plants.

Shirana Shahbazi is an artist born in 1974 in Tehran. She completed her education at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Dortmund, and at the Zurich University of the Arts, and has lived in Zurich since 1997. Her works have been exhibited at the Sprengel Museum in Hanover, the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, MoMA in New York, the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, the Barbican Art Gallery in London, the Fotomuseum Winterthur, the Kunsthalle Bern and the Venice Biennale, among others. Her works are represented in numerous international public collections. Together with the graphic designer Manuel Krebs (NORM), she has published various artist books and monographs. In 2019, she was the youngest winner to date of the Prix Meret Oppenheim.

Myriam Uzor is an architect. Since 2018, she has been a research associate at the Chair of Landscape Architecture of Christophe Girot at ETH Zurich, where she has worked on various teaching and research projects. Alongside her architectural and academic activities, she pursues an interest in the performing arts and has been involved in several performance, theatre and dance projects.

Saskia de Wit is a landscape architect and assistant professor at the Technical University of Delft. She holds a master's degree from Wageningen University and a doctorate from TU Delft. She combines teaching and research with practice at her own firm, Saskia de Wit tuin en landschap. Her research focuses on the garden as a core concept of the field of landscape architecture, as expressed in her recent publication *Hidden Landscapes* (2018), which ties the concept of the enclosed garden as an expression of landscape to contemporary urban developments.

Drawings

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This pamphlet is the fruit of an inspiring and unforgettable journey through the extraordinary landscapes of Iran. Our thanks go to everyone whose contribution made this unique experience possible and guided us through deserts and gardens.

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FF, MU

Amin Mahan is assistant professor in the Department of Architecture at the Lahijan branch of Azad University, Iran and also teaches at the University of Art in Tehran and BU-Ali Sina University in Hamedan.

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Saskia de Wit is a landscape architect and assistant professor at TU Delft. She holds a Masters degree from Wageningen University and a PhD from TU Delft.

Gardens throughout history have elicited intangible fascination. Mystical beauty and a poetic sense for eternal longing are intrinsic to the long tradition of the Persian Garden. It was these values that formed the foundation for all Western gardens that have followed, even giving us the word ‘paradise’, the setting for the biblical Garden of Eden. Deriving from the Zoroastrian culture, the Avestan word *pairidaēza* simply means ‘walled around’.

To the outside world today, Iran’s image is marked by political and cultural ambiguity. Yet it is in the gardens of this arid country where one can experience its Persian heritage most vividly. Lying solitary and almost untouched by time in the sparse landscape between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf, the gardens still serve as places for quiet contemplation.

Lost in Paradise offers different interpretations of the walled garden and aims to reconcile contemporary events with the enigmatic notion of paradise.

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