

Galleries

TAYMOUR GRAHNE GALLERY

Nicky Nodjoui

NEW YORK

In his paintings from the mid-1970s, Nicky Nodjoui portrayed the crimes of the Shah's security agents against leftists and democrats in Iran; a few years later he was forced into exile by the Iranian Revolution and has lived in New York ever since.

A lifelong critic of repressive governments, Nodjoui today creates canvases with a refined sense of humor, surreality and élan. In the enormous diptych *Inspector's Scrutiny* (2012), a group of suited men are tying up a horse, while another man—presumably the “inspector” of the work's title—looks on; in the background, classical Persian horsemen, painted in gray, loom over the scene. Nodjoui's works beg to be read allegorically, as in *Hasty Retreat* (2012) in which a classical marble head is strapped to the back of a dog on the summit of a barren hill. *HGM*

