

A project by Farshido Larimian

In cooperation with Austrian Cultural Forum (ÖKF) Tehran, IR
Natural History Museum Vienna (NHM),
and Aichberg Castle, AT

July 2022, Yassi Foundation Tehran, IR

Scientific collaborators: Dr. Ernst Vitek and Dr. Jalil Noroozi
Project Manager: Nima Shokraei
Exhibition design: Farshido

An exhibition at the Yassi Foundation Tehran (IR) juxtaposes contemporary artistic positions from Austria with an important botanical collection at the Natural History Museum Vienna (NHM). The focus of the FLORA IRANICA exhibition is the historical collection of herbaria that the Austrian botanist Theodor Kotschy collected in Persia and Afghanistan in the 19th century. Curator Farshido Larimian expands this look into the past with artistic works by Farshido, David Eisl, Hannah Stippl, Regina Anzenberger, Karin Maria Pfeifer, Marianne Lang, Michaela Putz, Karin Karin Pliem, Christina Gruber, Yvonne Oswald, and Christopher Wittine. They all move in the subject areas of nature, plants, ecology and sustainability. In addition to works of photography, painting, installation and video, there is a selection of artist books. Discussion panels will complete the program.

With the Flora Iranica, the Natural History Museum Vienna (NHM) houses the most important international botanical collection of Iranian plants from the Flora Iranica area (Persia and Afghanistan).

The exhibition FLORIA IRANICA (from the foothills of the Alborz to the peaks of the Alps) is inspired by this history of collecting and archiving, but also of international transfer. Curated by Farshido Larimian, these historical documents are the focus of the exhibition. In addition to pictures from the NHM's herbarium collection, most of which were collected by Theodor Kotschy, including 14 original panels from 1837. there are parts of the herbarium collection at Aichberg Castle in Austria. Running for four weeks, the FLORA IRANICA exhibition aims to move visitors to the atmosphere of the time when Theodor Kotschy and Karl H. Rechinger discovered and collected plants in nature.

With the support and cooperation of the Austrian Embassy and the Cultural Forum (ÖKF) Tehran, Farshido supplements this look into the past with contemporary positions. In addition to and with works of contemporary art, selected artefacts from older European cultural history are shown in this exhibition, which document both the scientific examination of nature and the tradition of depicting natural motifs in the design of everyday objects. The 14 specimens from the late 19th century shown in this exhibition were used as teaching aids in natural history lessons at a school that was once housed in Aichberg Castle.

yassifoundation.com/flora-iranica/
nhm-wien.ac.at/flora-iranica/

[Virtual tour of the exhibition](#)

FLORA IRANICA
From the foothills of the Alborz to the peaks of the Alps

Curated by: Farshido

On behalf of the Austrian Cultural Forum (ÖKF) Tehran
In cooperation with the Natural History Museum Vienna (NHM)

Scientific collaborators:
Dr. Ernst Vitek and Dr. Djali Noroozi

Project manager:
Nima Shokraei

از دامنه‌های البرز تا قله‌های آlp

کیورتور: فرشیدو

مدیر پروژه:
نیما شکرایی

Artists:
Regina Anzenberger
David Eisl
Farshido
Christina Gruber
Marianne Lang
Karin Pliem
Karin Maria Pfeifer
Michaela Putz
Yvonne Oswald
Hannah Stippl
Christopher Wittine
Herbarium collection of
Aichberg Castle, Austria

YASSI FOUNDATION

انجمن فرهنگ ایرانیه

nhm

Schlöss Aichberg

موزه‌ها
HOUSE

تور

۱۰ تیر تا ۷ مرداد
گشایش: جمعه ۱۰ تیر، ساعت ۱۴ تا ۲۱
زمان بازدید: دوشنبه تا جمعه، ساعت ۱۶ تا ۲۱

سعادت آباد، میدان فرهنگ، انتهای بولوار
محمدعلی کشاورز به سمت غرب، کوچه‌ی
پیرسظامی، پست پویا، پلاک ۲

1st of July till 29th of July, 2022
Opening date: July 1st 2 - 9 pm
Visiting hours: Mondays to Fridays 4-9 pm
(The Gallery is closed on Saturdays and Sundays)

Address:
No.2, Pouya DE, Pirbastami Alley, Turn west
onto Evin Rd, Mohammadali Keshavarz Blvd,
Farhang RAB, Saadat Abad



Installation view.
Flora Iranica at Yassi Foundation Tehran (IR)
2022



Installation view.
Flora Iranica at Yassi Foundation
2022



Installation view.
Flora Iranica at Yassi Foundation
2022



FLORA IRANICA
From the East to the West, from the Mountains to the Sea
Herbarium of the University of Tehran



PICMA HERBARIUM
From the East to the West



Herbaria
Herbaria are collections of preserved plant specimens. The oldest herbaria in the world are the Herbarium of the University of Padua (Italy) and the Herbarium of the University of Pisa (Italy).



Specimen
A specimen is a single plant specimen or a part of a plant specimen.



The herbarium W



Type specimen
A type specimen is a single specimen or a part of a specimen that is used as a reference for a new species.



Researches by Farshido about Theodor Kotschy and Flora Iranica



Inside the Herbarium W
Museum of Natural History in Vienna

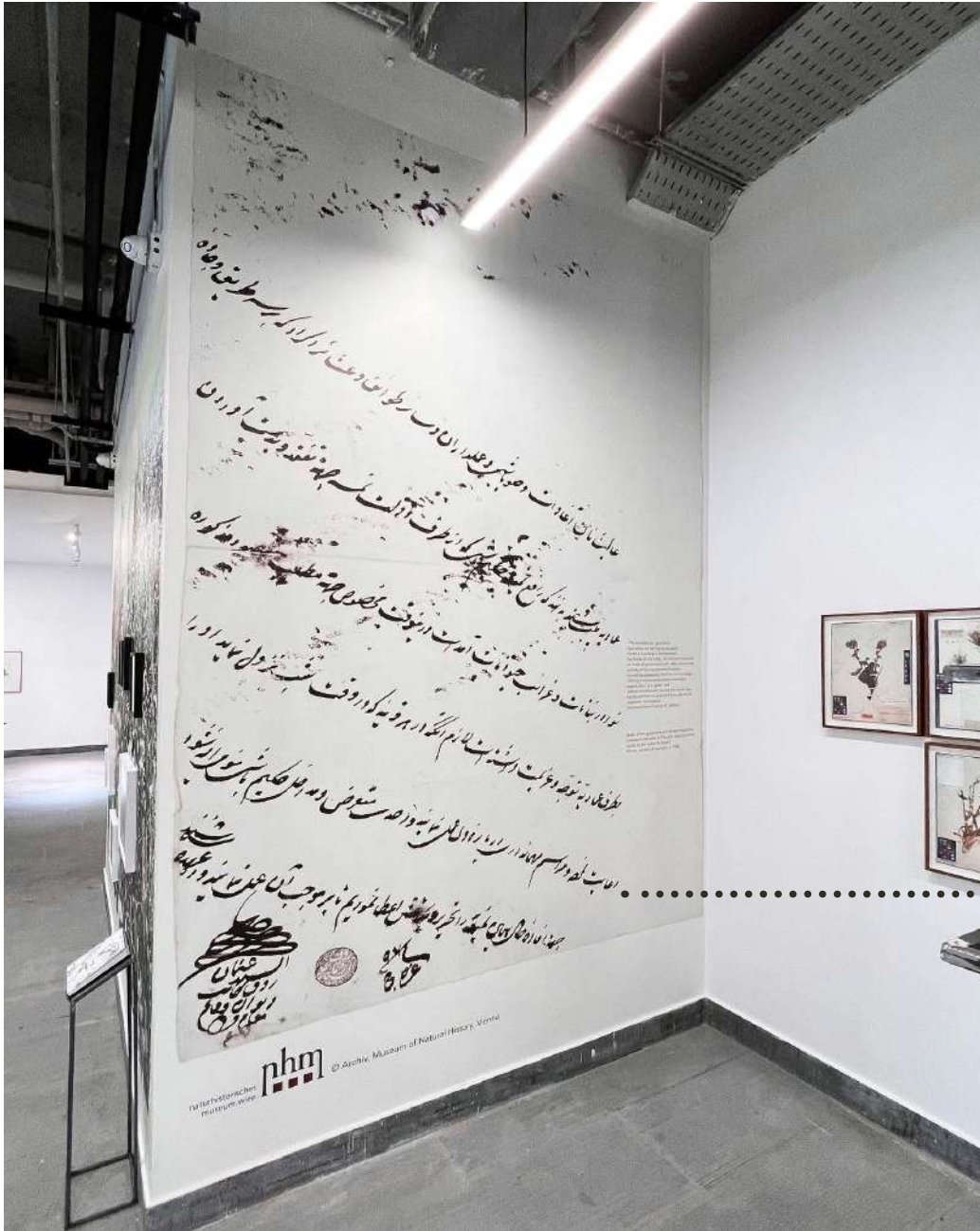
The Herbarium of the Natural History Museum in Vienna (W) was established in 1807. Current holdings in NHMW are of approximately 5.5 million plant specimens. The herbarium is especially rich in types (the plant specimen to which the scientific name of that species is attached) with around 200,000 type specimens. Almost 180 years ago, the Austrian botanist Theodor Kotschy climbed Mount Damavand, near Tehran. He brought back a rich collection of plants from his research trips to the Iranian highlands. He sent more than 10,000 botanical preparations to Vienna and thus created the basis for the most important collection of Iranian plants in the NHM Vienna, which today comprises 60,000 objects.



Herbaria from the Plant collection of Aichberg castle Austria
Pressed plants and ink on paper
50x30 cm each
ca. 1873-1882

Exhibits from the Cajetan Gril Collection, Aichberg Castle. In addition to and with works of contemporary art, selected artefacts from older European cultural history are shown in the exhibition, which document both the scientific examination of nature and the tradition of depicting natural motifs in the design of everyday objects.

Herbaria from the last 250 years are indispensable, especially for research into flora and landscape change. The 21 specimens from the late 19th century shown in the exhibition Flora Iranica were used as teaching aids in natural history lessons at a school that was once housed in Aichberg Castle.

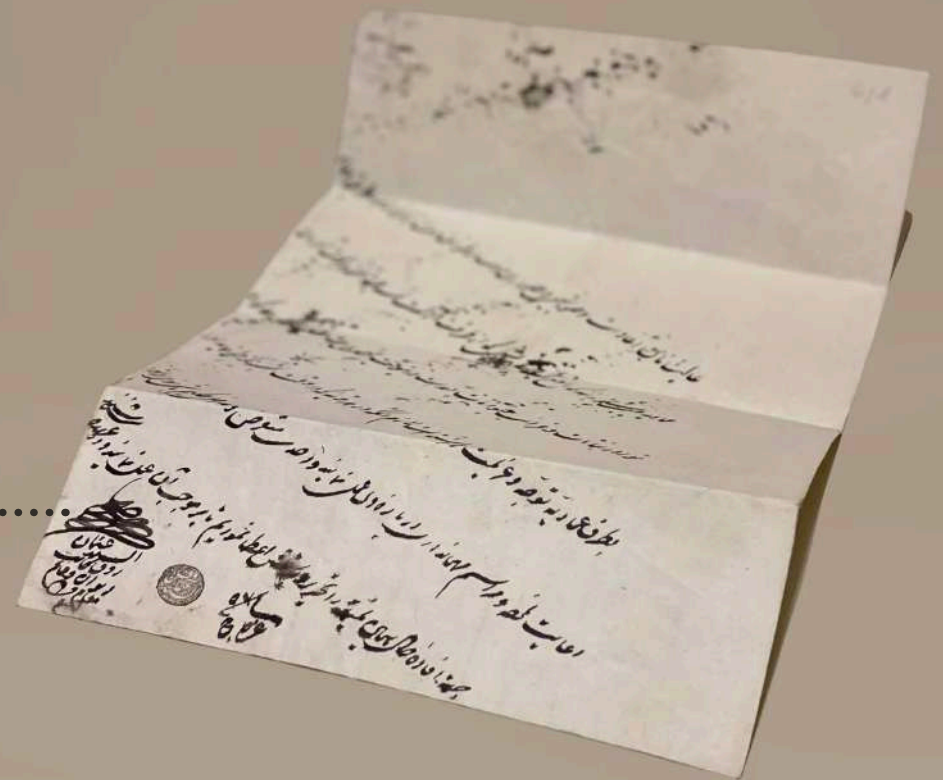


Order of the government of Mohammad Shah to support the work of Theodor Kotschy in Iran issued by the scribe Al-Seyed Osman, servant of the helm, c. 1843.

"The excellencies, guardians, Kurd tribes on the way to Emadieh (name of a palace in Kermanshah); the holder of this letter, the German physician, on order of government will collect plants and animals on his way towards Eradich. You will be pleased to host him in any village (offering him) accommodation overnight, respect [him] as a guest, and nobody should make trouble him on his way. For hi comfort we prepared this order to be respected and applied"

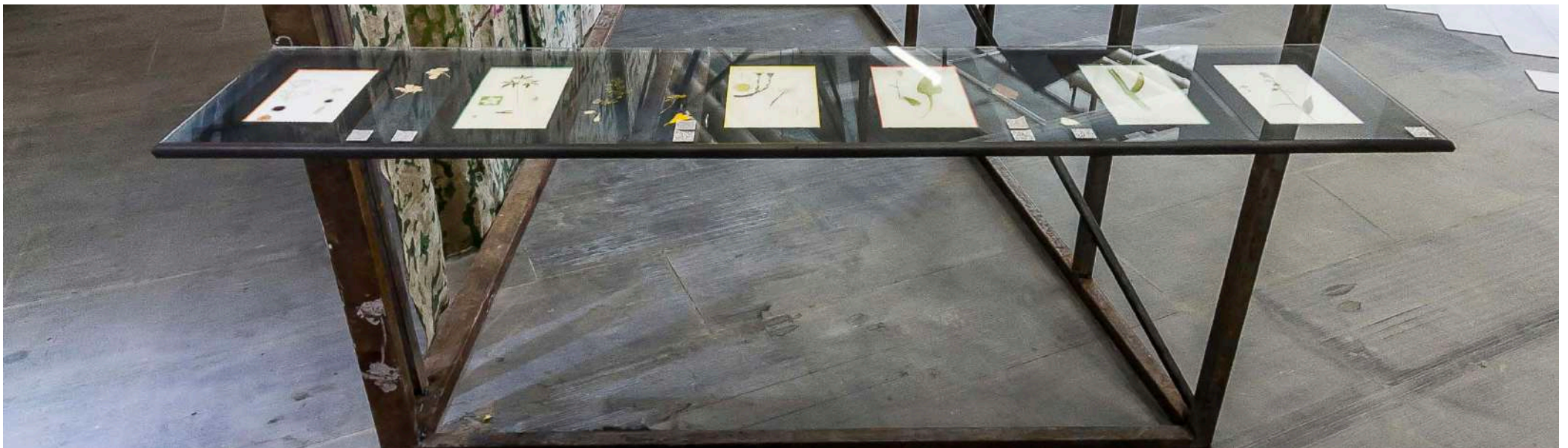
Translated from Farsi by M. Alhani]

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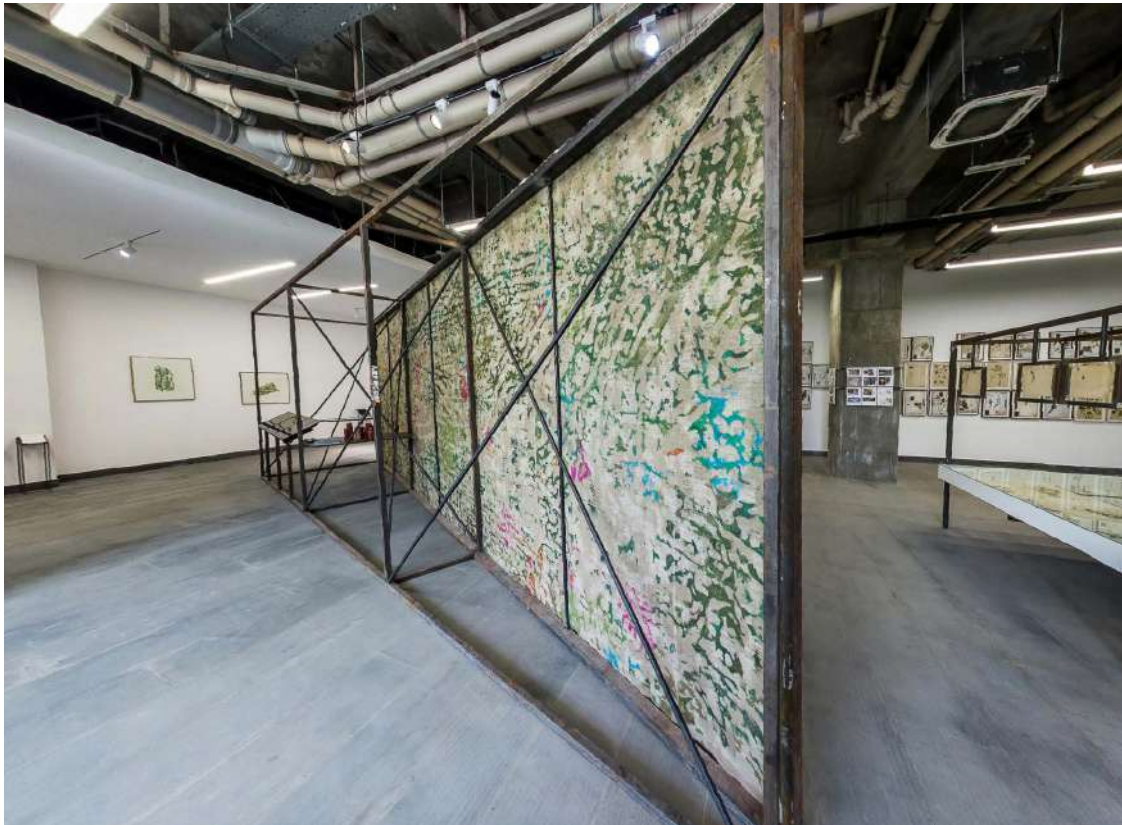


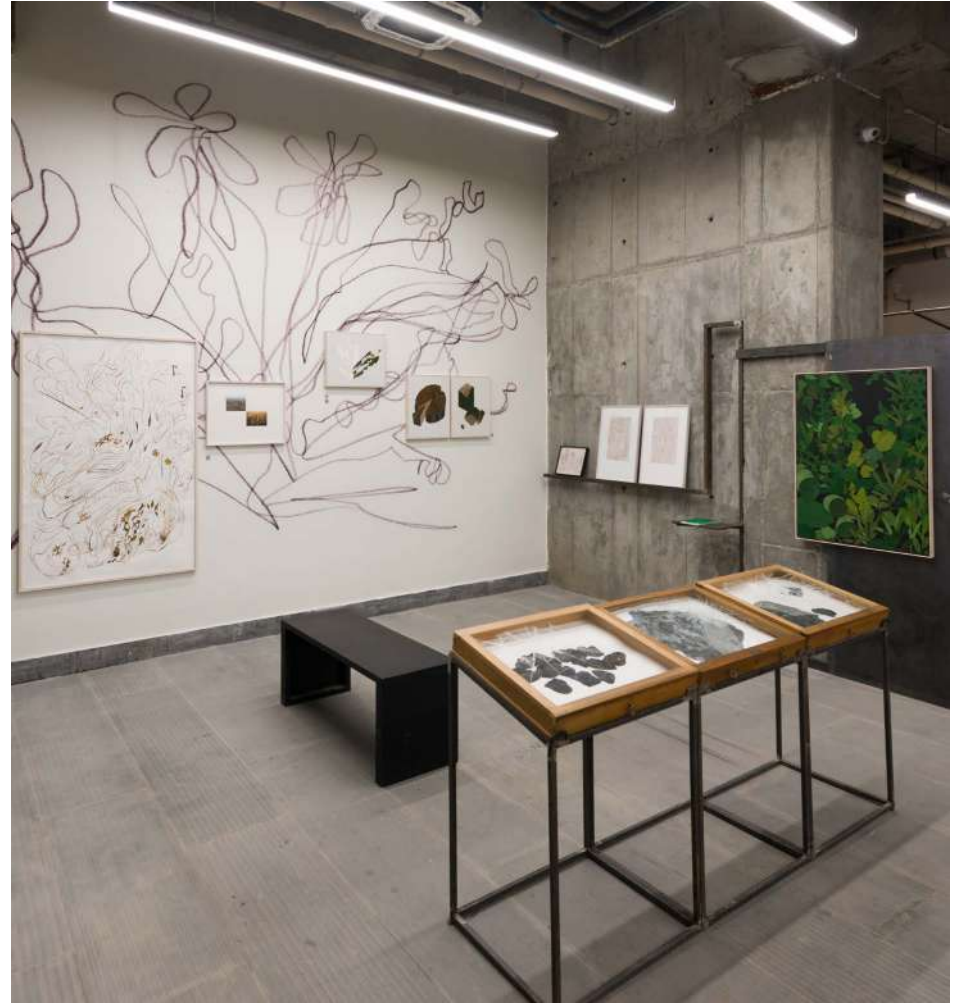


Installation view.
Flora Iranica at Yassi Foundation Tehran (IR)
2022









Interactive installation including Farshido's private collection with 30 watercolors of botanical content from the 19th century.





Farshido's installation view.
Yæssi Foundation



"Flora Iranica", Video of the Opening

