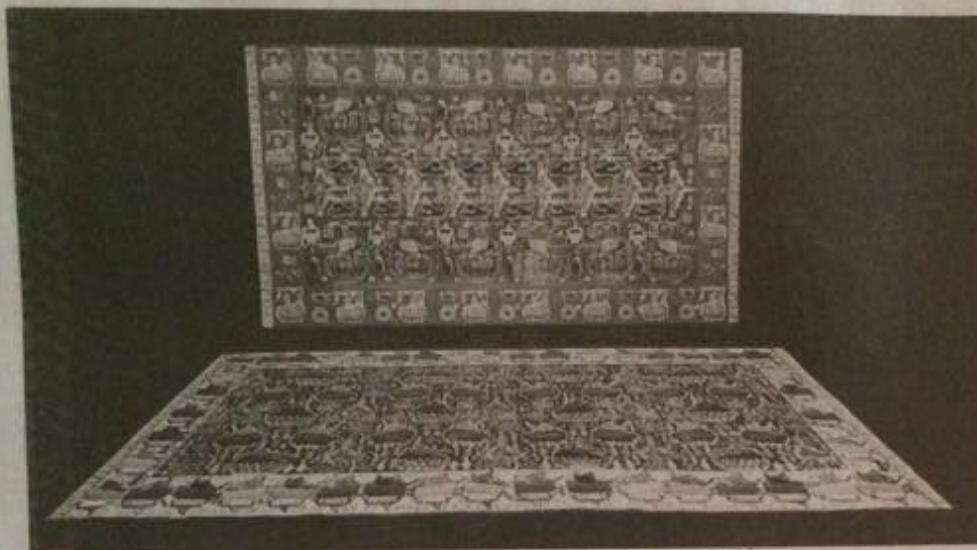


CRITIC'S PICK



WOVEN WAR: Israeli artist Nevet Yitzhak has created two animated videos based on carpets made by Afghan women who for decades have woven images of war into their rugs.

World of warcraft inspires impressive art week exhibits

What: Topical Conflict Art

Don't be scared. Well-done artworks that address contemporary war situations can be the most moving, impressive and, yes, *beautiful* images you'll find at fairs. Two indelible examples appear this year. At Wynwood's Screening Room, Israeli artist Nevet Yitzhak has created two animated videos based on Afghan war rugs — carpets made by Afghan women who for decades have been weaving images of violence and war into their tapestries. Yitzhak's rugs come alive with flying helicopters, exploding guns and bombed-out tanks taking over the luscious woven "textiles" beneath them.

At Art Basel Miami Beach, Hrair Sarkissian has a solo exhibit at a Greek gallery, where his gray-and-

white staged photographs, videos and light box depict the destruction of his parents' apartment in his native Syria. (To create them, Sarkissian built models and then destroyed them for the camera.) Both artists have created stunning pieces of art that don't preach but that will stick with you long after the fairs are gone.

Where: "Warcraft" at The Screening Room, 2626 NW Second Ave., Wynwood; "Home-sick" at Kalfayan Galleries (P-14), Art Basel Miami Beach Convention Center.

When: Art Basel Miami Beach, open through Sunday; www.artbasel.com. The Screening Room runs through Feb. 5; www.thescreeningroommiami.com.

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