

She Who Tells a Story

Women Photographers from Iran and the Arab World

Through January 12, 2014 | Foster Gallery, 158

"This project is about teenage girls and young women at a transitional time of their lives, alone in the privacy of their own personal space and surroundings."

—Rania Matar

In Lebanese artist Rania Matar's series of intimate portraits, *A Girl and Her Room* (2009–12), young women pose comfortably in their bedrooms. Six works from this series are in the exhibition "She Who Tells a Story." Personal and poetic, the images capture the girls in their own havens, surrounded by their belongings—from bold pink walls and a Marilyn Monroe poster to a small circular representation of a Palestinian flag and a prayer rug. Matar's series reveals themes of developing identity, disclosing characteristics both regional and universal. (These photographs focus on girls in the Middle East, but the series also includes images taken in the United States.) The diversity of settings and sitters reflects the shared coming-of-age experiences, as well as the complexities of being a young woman in a particular historical and cultural place.

THIS EXHIBITION IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE FOUNDATION.

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Related Program

Member Event:
"She Who Tells a Story"

Thu, Dec 19, 6:30 pm

Enjoy a curatorial talk on the exhibition. For details see page 27.

BELOW: Rania Matar's *Alia, Beirut, Lebanon* (2010) from the series *A Girl and Her Room*.

