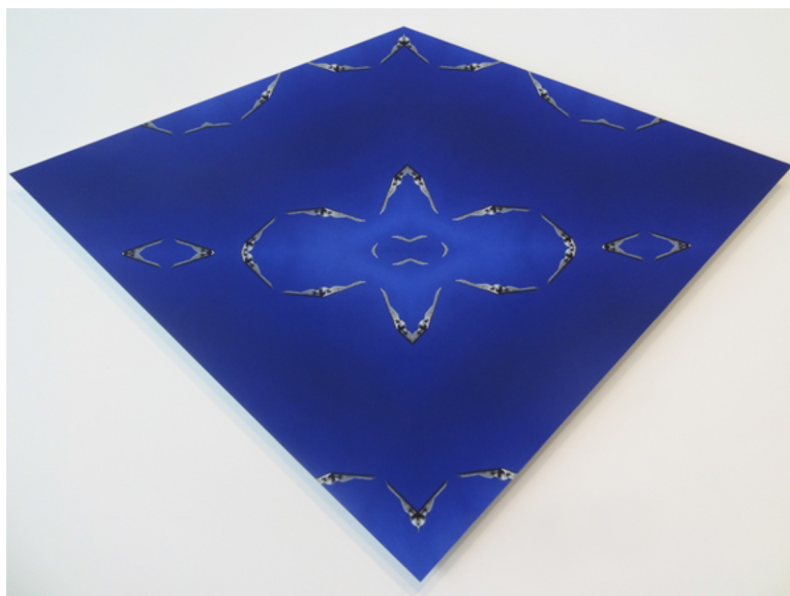


New York Gallery Beat: 6 Critics Review 18 Shows

artnet News, Wednesday, May 7, 2014



Sanaz Mazinani, *Royal Stealth* (2014).

Photo: Benjamin Sutton.

Taymour Grahne Gallery, Sanaz Mazinani, closes May 24.

The Iranian-Canadian artist's works are filled with news media images of military jets, missile explosions, soldiers, and suicide bombers, though you don't realize it at first. She deconstructs, reassembles, and arranges these appropriated images of warfare into dazzling photo-mosaics. Superficially, they evoke the traditional mosaic patterns of Mazinani's native Iran, but, more insightfully, they demonstrate how desensitized we've become to this type of visual material, how easily such disturbing and politically charged imagery can be reduced to abstract and aesthetically pleasant patterns. The resulting works, cut and arranged in abstract geometric forms, alternately seem ancient—as in the image of fireworks over a US military cemetery endlessly repeated in *Howitzer and Fireworks*(2014)—and creepily futuristic, like the diamond-shaped pattern of stealth bombers in *Royal Stealth*(2014).

Benjamin Sutton