

NEW YORK 9/11

WAR IN TIMES OF PEACE

From 9 April 2022, Yadegar Asisi will be presenting 'NEW YORK 9/11 – War in times of peace' at the Panometer Leipzig. The anti-war project reflects on the September 11 attacks and the immense global impact they have had.

The exhibition leads chronologically from the present day back through the last 20 years to 11 September 2001. Five installations depict the effects of the events that often go overlooked: the suffering caused in the countries in the Middle East that were ravaged by war; the enormous monetary cost of the 'war on terror'; the fate of refugees and contemporary witnesses; the nameless victims of fighting, torture and persecution as direct results of 9/11. The imposing installations offer an insight into the human suffering that is frequently forgotten in a culture of remembrance that focuses chiefly on the West. Yadegar Asisi highlights existential questions about our attitude towards war and violence: why do we respond to terrorism with wars of aggression? How do we deal with refugees and people who have been displaced? Why do we forget war and suffering so quickly when they do not directly affect us?

At the end of the chronological exhibition, the NEW YORK 9/11 panorama shows the scene at the World Trade Center on the morning of 11 September 2001 at 8:41 am, five minutes before the attacks. In the knowledge of the tragedy that is about to unfold, the snapshot of the morning hustle and bustle in multicultural Manhattan seems almost utopian.

'NEW YORK 9/11 – War in times of peace' is Yadegar Asisi's fourth anti-war project, following on from LEIPZIG 1813, THE WALL and DRESDEN 1945, and applies his unique perspective on the world to the conflicts of recent years.