

A L E R I N

Reza Afchar Nadéri

Reza Afchar Nadéri born in 1952 in Machhad, an Iranian Khorasan province, came to France for the first time when he was five. Five years later, after primary school, the young boy returned to Iran and passed his A-levels.

He attended the Arts Faculty during four years and wished to leave his home country again, yearning for a true freedom of speech and culture : he arrived in Strasbourg in 1975 where he passed his master's degree based on the novel *Les Travailleurs de la Mer* by Victor Hugo and then completed a "DEA" (post-graduate diploma taken before completing a PhD) in comparative literature, on the initiation theme in Victor Hugo and Herman Melville's works. From 1980 onwards he worked on his doctorate on Persian literature at the Sorbonne University in Paris. In 1982, he defended his PhD with honours, his subject being "The myth of the blacksmith in the *Livre des Rois* by Firdoussi", an Iranian epic dating from the 10th century.

In the meantime, the 1979 Islamic revolution creates dissolution with foreign countries; he thus quickly casts aside his doctoral thesis to start working. He obtained French nationality by decree in 1986 when he had already starting working for the press. He worked for regional French magazines but also for various publications such as Voyage, Balades, Trek Magazine, Escape, Vivre l'Aventure, La Marche, Bon Voyage and the general press such as Voici, Gala, Nous Deux, L'Humanité Dimanche, La Tribune, La Croix, Reader's Digest.

At the same time he published many poems in a variety of magazines such as Commune, Le Temps des Cerises, Faites entrer l'infini (Louis Aragon association) or Les Cahiers du Sens, and translated the contemporary Persian poet Ahmad Chamlu or even the great classical poets such as Khayyâm and Hâfiz.

Reza Afchar Nadéri has been working as a photo-journalist for the last 15 years, travelling around the world searching for singular pictures; his reports allowed him to travel in the Caribbean (Cayman Islands, Cuba, Florida), the Balkans (Bulgaria, Macedonia) and the Mediterranean region (Egypt, Malta, Marocco) as well as the Near and Middle East (Lebanon, Turkey, Bahrain, Yemen), the Indian Ocean (Djibouti, Mauritius, Mayotte, the Seychelles) and South East Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand).

In his work, poetry and writing are associated with the photographic approach.

Reza is also specialised in underwater photography, he has achieved many reports for diving magazines (Océans, Plongée Mag, Subaqua, Apnéa...) in the Caribbean and the Red Sea – he has made seventeen journeys there - and even in the North Atlantic Sea.

Every year since 1999, Reza Afchar Nadéri goes to Iran to visit a new region and enrich his photographic records.

Paris rooftops

Alerion law firm asked Reza to be in charge of its rooftop photo project, he was expected to create an artistic work of the rooftops of the French capital, from our firm's terraces. Alerion's offices are located amidst the prestigious areas of the Champ de Mars and the Invalides, thus offering amazing perspectives of the capital's heights.

After researching views for two months and selecting the best photos among the 2000 shots, 20 photographs were chosen to create a unique collection of these singular views which are now displayed at Alerion's head office permanently.

Alerion law firm's clients therefore have the privilege to admire the rooftops of Paris every day in this permanent exhibition devoted to the beauty of the capital city, symbolizing the culture and the magnificence of the town, all around the world.