

Acknowledgements

ReFocus: The Films of Sohrab Shadid Saless has been developed as part of my ongoing practice-based research on the representation of diaspora and double agency within the medium of the moving image. The initial starting point was a personal fascination with the work of this remarkable filmmaker, which led to the development of the first UK retrospective on his work (co-curated with Nikolaus Perneczky, October 2017 to January 2018), alongside the first English-language book on the director. During the retrospective, eleven films were screened at three sites – Close-Up Cinema (East London), Institute of Contemporary Art (Central London) and Goethe-Institut London (West London) – to reach as wide an audience as possible and share our admiration for Shahid Saless's outstanding practice. We are pleased to report that the project was a great success.

Through *ReFocus: The Films of Sohrab Shadid Saless*, its selected chapters and contributions from remarkable scholars, you will notice the unique condition of Shahid Saless's films as a stateless archive and will be provided with a deeper insight into the filmmaker's practice, as well as the notion of curating stateless moving images.

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