

The Silent Majority Speaks

“Each face could be that of a political prisoner or a martyr”, explains Bani Khoshnoudi in *The Silent Majority Speaks*, shot in Tehran during the “green revolution”, which circulated clandestinely until 2013 as the anonymous work of The Silent Collective. To film a popular uprising against the dictatorship while taking care not to endanger the participants; to summarize a century of more or less insurrectional political upheavals, systematically and bloodily crushed; and to reflect the pernicious, lethal—or, on the contrary, emancipatory—functions of images: the way *The Silent Majority Speaks* carries out all these tasks is an immediate pointer to what drives this artist, filmmaker, and producer.

Cem

Filmed in Super-8 during a demonstration of Kurds in Paris, *Cem* joins the idea of a collective body. The “cem” or “jam” in Persian and Kurdish means being together, united; the term also refers to Sufi gatherings, always manifested through dance.

Here and There: Minutes on the New Iranian Revolution

From what ruins do we emerge? The images struggle to come out but they come out all the same, by themselves, collected by little hands. Dates, times and clues to give back to the vital force of our resistance a new calendar that takes shape before us. This “we” who is here, who watches from a distance, who follows, who archives and who hopes at every minute to hear the pulse that still testifies to a persistent determination. The liberation movement in Iran is intergenerational and plural. It defines itself with each passing minute through gestures and the images that document them; the fires and the bodies that dance around, on the ruins of our past.