



# **BOTH, NEITHER, AND ALL OF THE ABOVE**

*Michelle Emami*

On display August 5 - October 15, 2022  
at the Chandler Center for the Arts

**THE GALLERY  
AT CCA**

# BOTH, NEITHER AND ALL OF THE ABOVE

## Gallery Guide

Mexican/Iranian artist Michelle Emami uses her artwork as a space to celebrate her mixed heritage on canvas. In *Both, Neither and All of the Above*, Emami explores both her Iranian and Mexican heritages through motifs and cultural symbols drawn from both cultures. Her work also confronts the negativity and profound prejudices she has experienced within her communities. She reflects on instances where she felt neither Mexican nor Iranian, and sometimes not even American. Emami asserts that she is not just one race or another, nor is she simply the sum of her parents' cultures: she is unapologetically all of the above.



**LEARN MORE**

Scan the QR code to learn more about being multiracial in America.

## THIS OR THAT

There are a lot of similarities between Mexican and Iranian artforms! Can you tell whether these examples are Mexican or Iranian? Answers at the bottom of the page.



## MAKE YOUR OWN

Learn a basic method for making papel picado, the intricate Mexican art of paper cutting! Make your own banner to hang up at home. Check out the QR code for more paper cutting techniques!

You'll need tissue paper, scissors, tape, and string.

1. Fold a piece of tissue paper in half, then in half again.
2. Using scissors, cut out small shapes along the folds. Try triangles, circles, and rectangles! If you've ever made a paper snowflake, this is the same method.
3. Make several more in varying colors of tissue paper.
4. Attach the top edges of the tissue paper pieces to a piece of string or yarn and hang it up to admire.



## TALK ABOUT IT

How did *Both, Neither, and All of the Above* broaden your understanding of what it means to be American?

a. Iranian; b. Mexican; c. Mexican; d. Mexican; e. Iranian; f. Iranian