

## Abbas Kiarostami



FOREST WITHOUT LEAVES - ABBAS KIAROSTAMI

It is with great regret that Iran Heritage Foundation notes the passing of acclaimed film director, photographer, artist and poet, Abbas Kiarostami on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 in Paris at the age of 76 years. He was the most influential and celebrated Iranian cultural figure of the past and current century. Many of his productions were hailed as instant classics. *Where is the Friend's House* (1983), a multi-award-winning film, gave him a truly deserved international fame, and he went on to be the first Iranian to receive a Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival for his film *Taste of Cherry* (1997).

It was an honour for IHF to work with him on his critically acclaimed exhibition *Forest Without Leaves* at the Victoria and Albert Museum in 2006, and to support many projects among which were a Kiarostami retrospective at the National Film Theatre, a photographic exhibition, *Trees in Snow* at Zelda Cheatle Gallery and the V&A, and *Ta'ziyeh*, also at the V&A, an installation based on his theatrical production of the same name.

His death is a major loss to Iran and the art world. IHF extends condolences to his family and friends.

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