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or write to ncindric@gmail.com

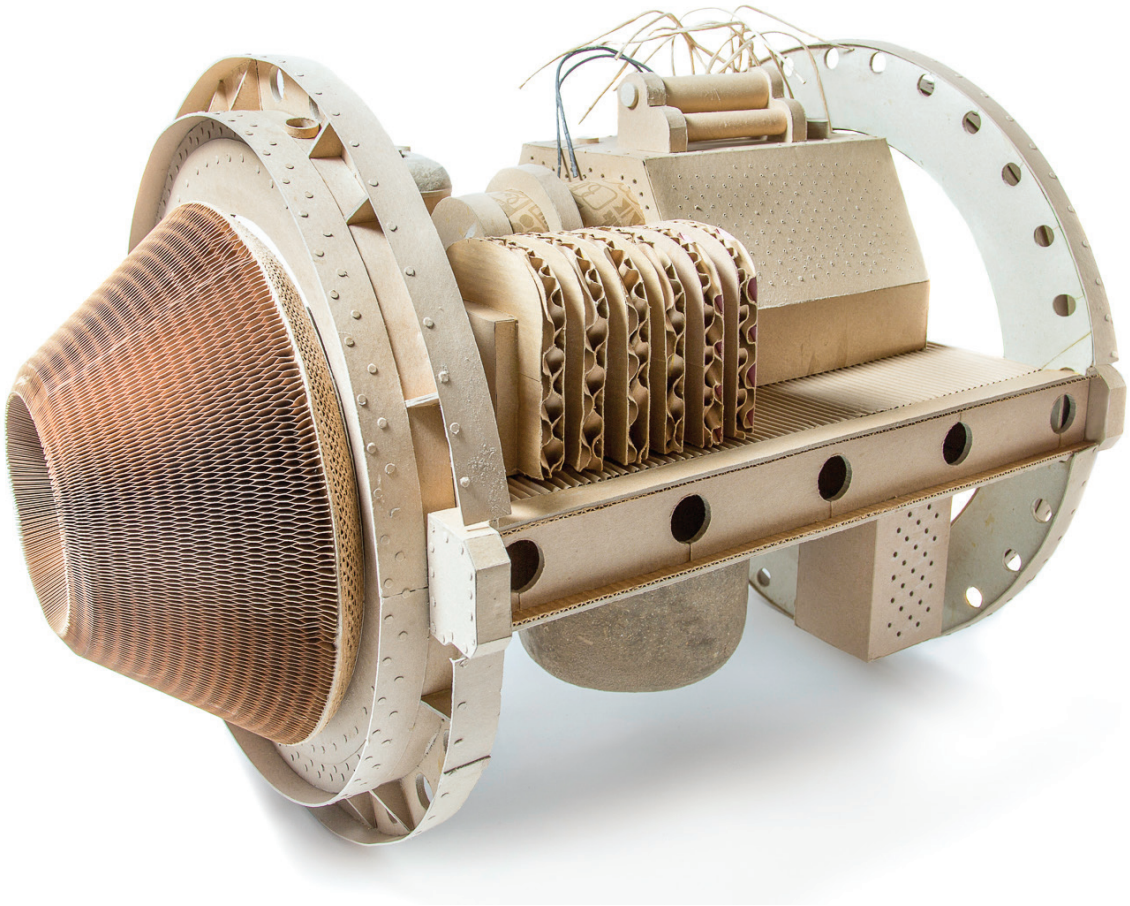
ASIF FAROOQ

Balalaika / MiG-21

PRESS KIT

...for the Miami based artist, and his Soviet era jet fighter constructed entirely from paper...

DEBUTING / WINTER OF 2016-17



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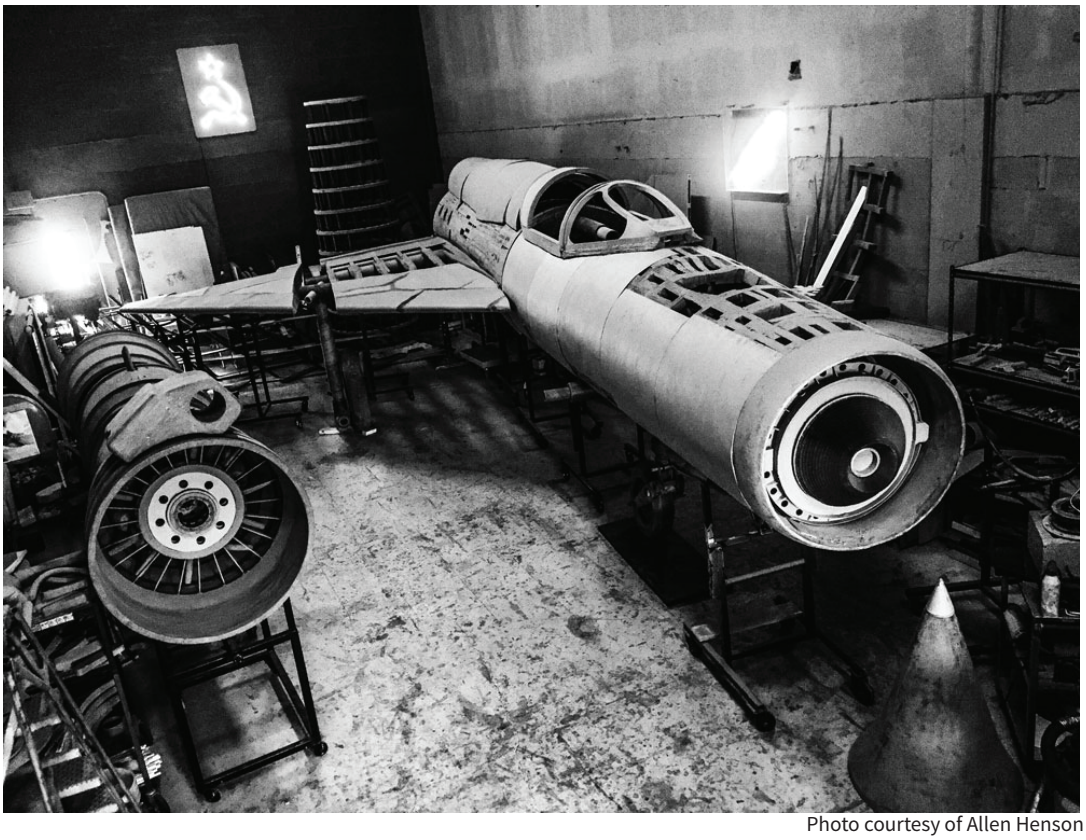

Photo courtesy of Allen Henson

THE PROJECT

A conceptual sculpture measuring 52' long, by 28.5' wide, by 18.5' tall, and weighing 3200 pounds, Asif Farooq's *Balalaika* / MiG-21 is constructed entirely from paper. This five year project is the culmination of a childhood dream and countless hours reverse engineering the original object, while becoming fluent in the technical and historical material surrounding it. Without compromising scale or detail, this 1.0588 times life size and 100% complete airframe embraces the same engineering brilliance as its counterpart from the Cold War era. Although being a sleek, sexy and lightning fast jet fighter, the MiG-21 has its limitations as to distance, sustainability, and ultimate usefulness. Like the original, Farooq's *Balalaika* / MiG-21 exists within the same story line, and works as metaphor for the artist's personal life and experience.

Ultimately, Farooq would like to see his sculpture displayed inside New York's United Nations building. Still flown today by 28 of the Member States, his artwork could bring about honest contemplation and discourse among its representatives.

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ASIF FAROOQ

Balalaika / MiG-21

BIO & STATEMENT

Asif Farooq lives and works in Miami, Florida where he was born in 1979. His art traffics in the complexities of impermanence, verisimilitude and cultural memory, while examining its place between the anti-formal postmodern and rigidly traditional.

An expert craftsman, Farooq approaches our common environment by joining standard art-making practices with technical innovation. He combines aspects of the world around him as he experiences it, and gives the resulting artifact of his experience back to the viewer to contemplate.

Photo courtesy of Monica McGivern

CV

EDUCATION

2002-2009	Florida International University
1997-2001	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
1995	Miami Dade Community College
1994	Robert Morgan Educational Center

EXHIBITIONS

2015	Official Art Basel Miami Beach Artist Studio Tour, Miami, FL
2014	Solo Exhibit, Painkillers, Anne Kittrell Gallery, University of Arkansas, AR
2012	Solo Exhibit, Asif's Guns, Primary Projects Pop-up Gallery, Miami, FL
2012	Champion, Primary Projects, Miami, FL

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ASIF FAROOQ

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RECENT PRESS & AWARDS

Wavemaker Grantee / 2016
Cannonball announces Wavemaker Art Grant recipients

www.wavemakergrants.org/2016-wavemaker-grantees/#itemId=56d5d1901d07c092944516c1

Clocktower Radio Interview / 2016
Asif Farooq's Paper Weapons hosted by Jill Spalding

www.clocktower.org/show/asif-farooq-paper-weapons

Interview Magazine / 2015
Asif Farooq's Paper Plane by Rob Goyanes

www.interviewmagazine.com/art/asif-farooq#_

Miami Herald / 2015
Art Basel 2015 Sketch Book: 8 Artists to Watch by Galena Mosovich

www.miami.com/art-basel-2015-sketch-book-8-artists-watch-article

ARTLURKER / 2015
ASIF FAROOQ: "I AM A STEALTH HUMAN" by David Rodriguez

www.artlurker.com/2015/09/asif-farooq-i-am-a-stealth-human/

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