

## **Artist Biography**

Ava Makenali is a Persian interdisciplinary artist from Iran, who identifies as a camel. She was inspired to become a camel by the Persian idiom *Kineh Shotori* meaning “to hold a grudge like a camel.” She uses her camel identity alongside animal symbolism to tell the story of her artworks and metaphorically plot revenge against those who have wronged her in her human form. Her artworks are installations that incorporate drawing, soft sculpture, video art, sound, and photography. She received her BA in Art and Architecture from Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch and her Contemporary Architecture certification from Polytechnic University of Milan. Ava completed her MFA in Fine Arts from Columbia College Chicago in Spring 2021. She is the recipient of a 2021 Albert P. Weisman award.