

Aziz Hazara: Coming Home

Sep 19–Dec 28, 2026

SculptureCenter

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During the US-led NATO occupation of Afghanistan from 2001–21, the American military established a complex multinational supply chain to sustain what resembled a suburban enclave around Bagram Airfield, near Kabul. The compound was complete with fast-food franchises, recreation centers, a boardwalk, swimming pools, and tax-free retail stores stocked with consumer goods. *Aziz Hazara: Coming Home* seeks to return material discarded in Afghanistan following the American military's abrupt withdrawal.

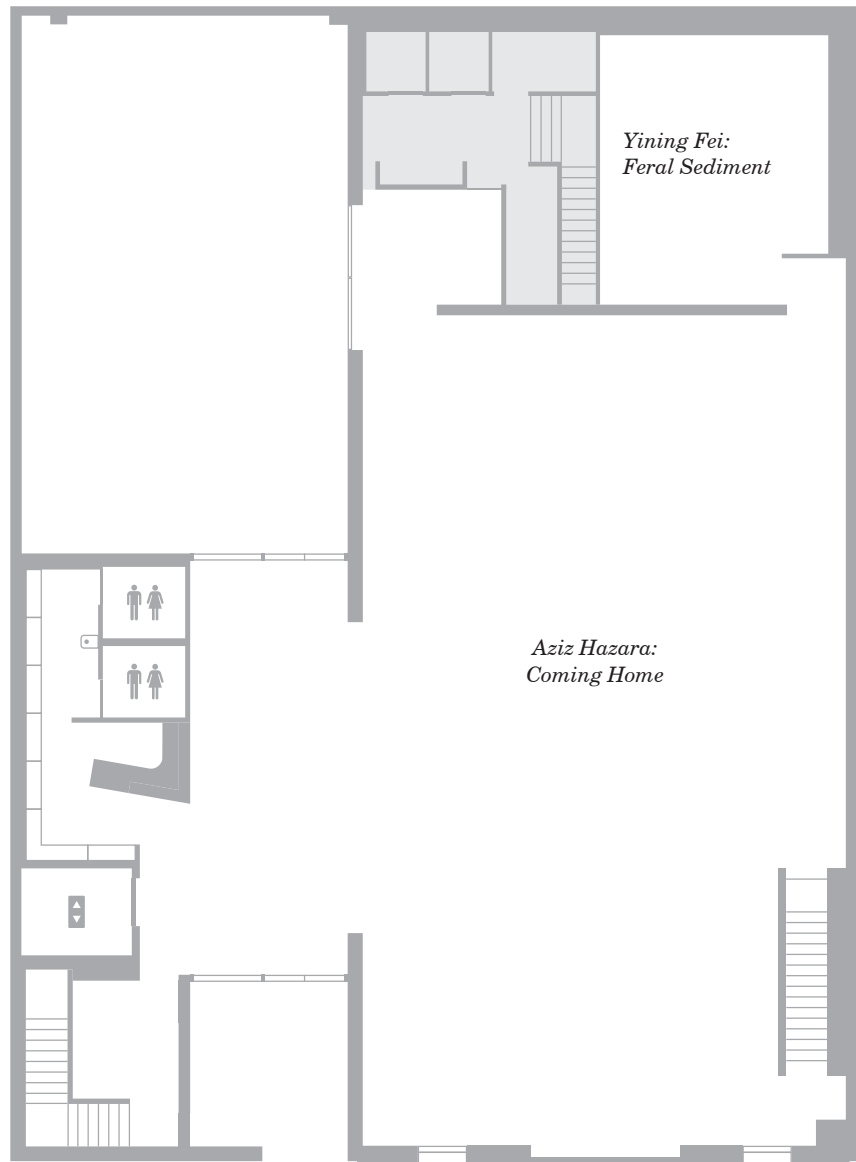
Working with networks of local brokers, scrap dealers, and intermediaries who had long operated around the airfield's waste economy, Aziz Hazara gathered electronics and broken computer parts, and other equipment; household and recreational items; transport boxes and cases; various bags and containers; hardware; and other sundries of indeterminate value. The task required navigating bureaucratic ambiguities, political instability, and shifting regimes of surveillance, all while assembling and cataloging the material. While most of the discarded items were absorbed into local markets or appropriated by the new government, Hazara preserved a small portion of objects to return to their place of origin, reversing the logistical route that brought them to Afghanistan.

Unable to install in the United States due to travel restrictions, the artist shared images and instructions that served as a loose guide for the works' layout at SculptureCenter. Gathered in idiosyncratic groups, their arrangement is somewhat reminiscent of the ad hoc markets through which leftover materials have historically circulated.

Hazara's work is an archaeology of what is left behind after war ends. At SculptureCenter, the items comprising *Coming Home* offer a glimpse into the material remnants of a twenty-year war. The objects bear witness to everyday life in a military outpost, bringing into focus the massive human, environmental, and material dimensions of a conflict that, outside of Afghanistan, was primarily experienced through images. Although the exhibition consists of debris—discarded objects from a specific site—it serves as an active and durational engagement with the simple gesture of return, complicated by the infrastructure and legacies of US intervention.

The presentation at SculptureCenter marks the first time this body of collected material has been shown. In a moment when the war in Afghanistan is once again being reassessed in light of subsequent conflicts, *Coming Home* brings its legacy into the public view.

Works in the Exhibition



Ground Floor Plan

Ground Floor

Coming Home, 2021–26
Multiple compositions, mixed media
Dimensions variable
Courtesy the artist and Experimenter

Public Programs

Off-Site Program: War Waste at Vera List Center
Sat, Dec 12, 3–5:30pm

On View Concurrently

Cevdet Ereğ: Americas
Sep 19–Dec 28, 2026

Yining Fei: Feral Sediment
Sep 19–Dec 28, 2026

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Aziz Hazara: Coming Home is curated by Sohrab Mohebbi, Director.

Sponsors

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