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Carbon12 (Dubai)showed the provocative, found-object work of Sara Rahbar at Expo Chicago 2018 (Navy Pier, September 28-30).

Rahbar was born in Tehran but now lives and works in New York City. She fled her homeland as a youngster in a time of incredible upheaval; these were the early days of the Islamic Revolution and the Iran-Iraq War. This history is the backdrop of her art. These experiences color her work decades later. Initially her art was more personal history but she has moved into a broader examination of the human condition.

These works are, as you may note, built on putting together found objects as sculpture or wall sculpture (she is also a photographer but there were no examples here). The objects used here are the refuse of war and call to mind how war has become integrated into our society--decades of war, the military-industrial complex.

Yet there is something else; these pieces are, by existing, an example of beating swords into plowshares and the world could do with more of that.