

PAST

Curated By R.M. Naeem
& Nurayah Sheikh Nabi

PRESENT

FUTURE

Opens
March 29, 2021
3 — 7 pm
at Koel Gallery

Adeel uz Zafar
Agha Jandan
Ahsan Memon
Akram Dost Baloch
Ali Abbas Syed
Ali Azmat
Ali Hammad
Aqeel Solangi
Ayaz Jokhio
Cyra Ali
Eesha Suhail
Fazal Ellahi Khan
Haider Ali Naqvi
Hamid Ali Hanbhi
Irfan Gul Dahri

Kiran Waseem
Masooma Syed
Meher Afroz
Muhammad Ali
Mudassar Manzoor
Mussarat Mirza
Nazia Gull
Rabia S. Akhtar
Risham Syed
Sadia Salim
Sameen Agha
Sana Arjumand
Shaukat Ali Khokhar
Sobia Ahmed
Veera Rustomji

CURATORS' NOTE

Past Present Future is the inaugural show that marks the beginning of Koel Gallery & O Art Space's collaborative venture.

The significance of this new alliance through experienced moments; connecting and building bridges between what is assumed to be our **past**, conversations about a **present** and the need to envision a renewed **future**. In the current virtual world, the accessibility and the experience of viewing an art work in smaller formats through our gadgets is a constant. The show looks at two sizes to bridge the gap between experiencing a work of art physically and seeing it on a digital platform. The significance of the distinct sizes stipulated for the show are of relevance to both the artist and the viewer, in terms of the actual experience, movability and accessibility. The selected artists from across Pakistan were requested to work within these two sizes.

The Square

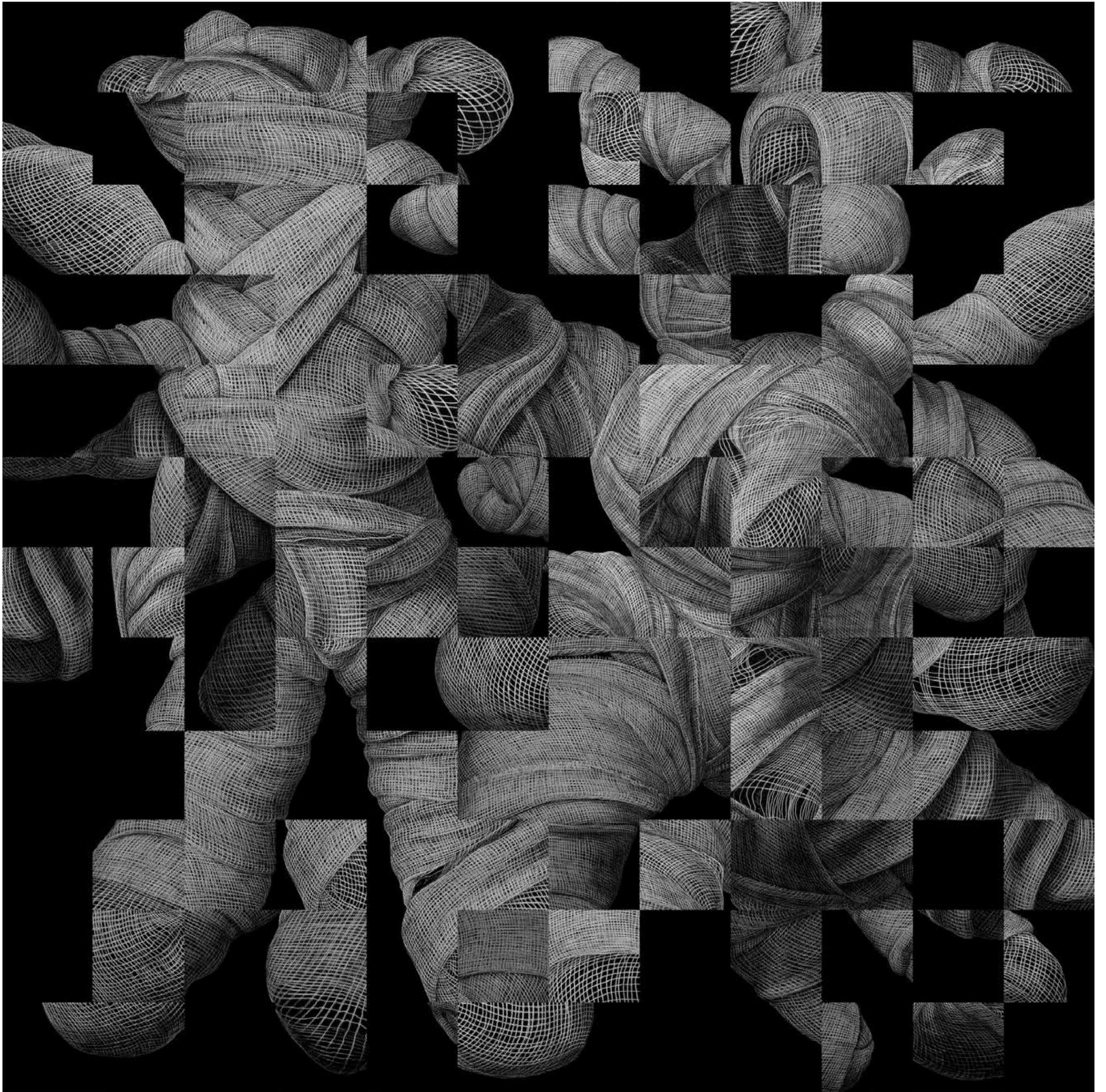
The perfect square is constructed on an unseen circle, which is representational of allowing the impossible. The artist works with a certain given size, yet the viewer experiences this actual artwork, rapidly through the smaller virtual image instantly changing the experience. An artwork's size is an essential component of interpreting a work of art. The 2x2 area is where the artist archives his story and this becomes a means by which the viewer can relate more viscerally to the digital representation.

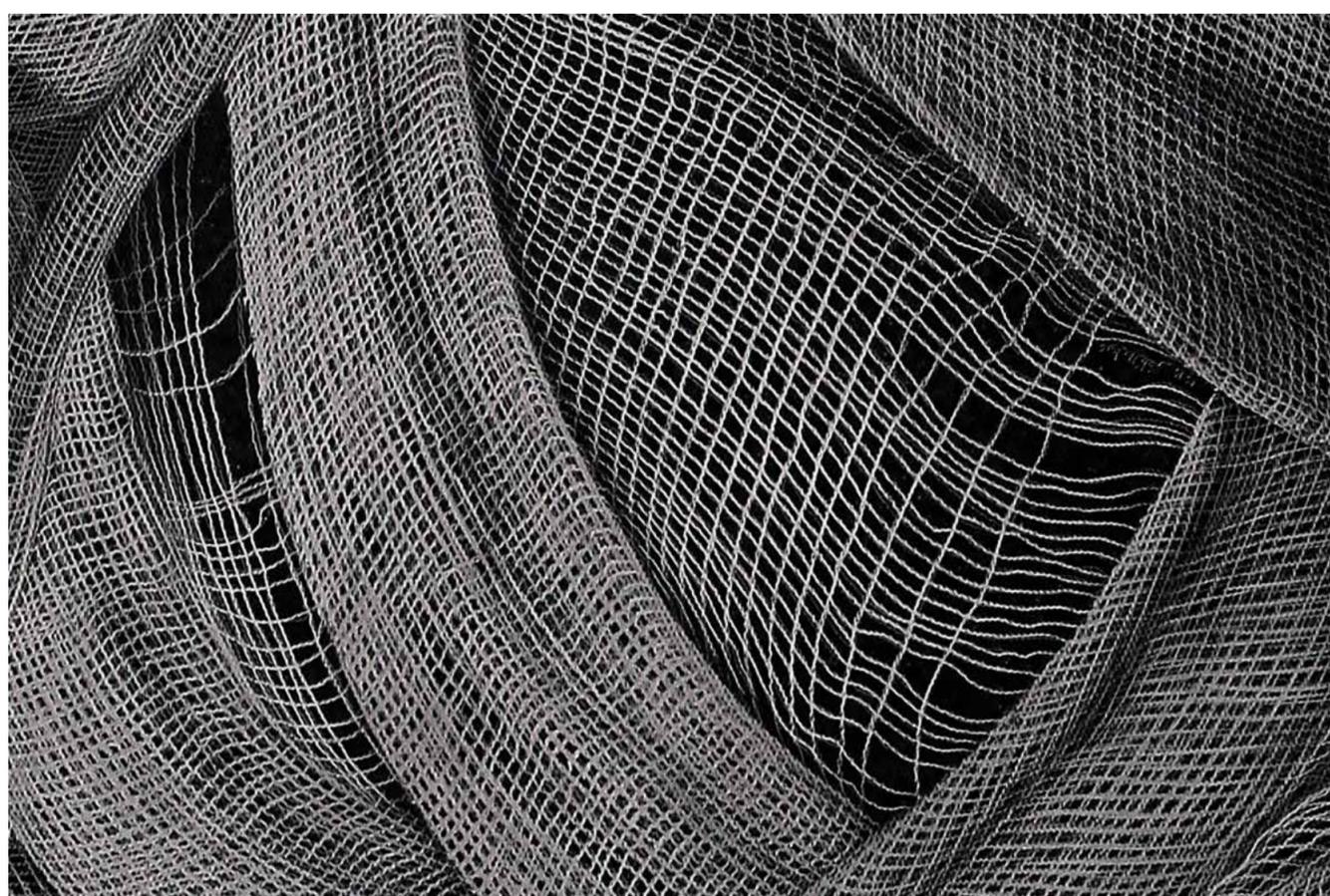
The Postcard

Since they were invented in the 1800's, Postcards were designed to withstand processing without difficulties. A travelling keepsake encompassing movability and accessibility with a message from the sender to the receiver. A means to share your adventures with another who was not present. Always personalized yet shared with everyone that it comes in contact with during its travel.

We hope you enjoy the experience.

- Nurayah Sheikh and R.M. Naeem





ADEEL UZ ZAFAR

Adeel uz Zafar is an internationally acclaimed artist and art educator. He holds a BFA with distinction from the prestigious National College of Arts, Lahore. Zafar is currently Permanent Faculty at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, and has previously held the post of Instructor at the Karachi School of Arts.

After concluding his studies Zafar spent time working as an illustrator, with his work being featured in a myriad of academic textbooks, resulting in him being sought after by the most reputable publishing houses across Pakistan. During this time, he served as National Illustration Consultant for the Northern Areas Education Project – an experience that greatly influenced his practice. At work in the remote mountains of Gilgit, with limited access to traditional art materials but with zest for creativity aplenty, Zafar developed his unique and now characteristic engraving technique using the only tools at his disposal: an exposed photographic sheet, a paper cutter, and his signature imagery with a graphic sensibility.

While the form of his signature work has since evolved to a haunting depiction of monochromatic, gauzed and bandaged stuffed toys, painstakingly revealed as imagery through etching translated by Zafar onto a combination of emulsion, acrylic and vinyl, his latest show, Paradise lost (AAN Gandhara Art Space, Karachi, 2020) pushes his medium and practice towards newer and more violent connotations.

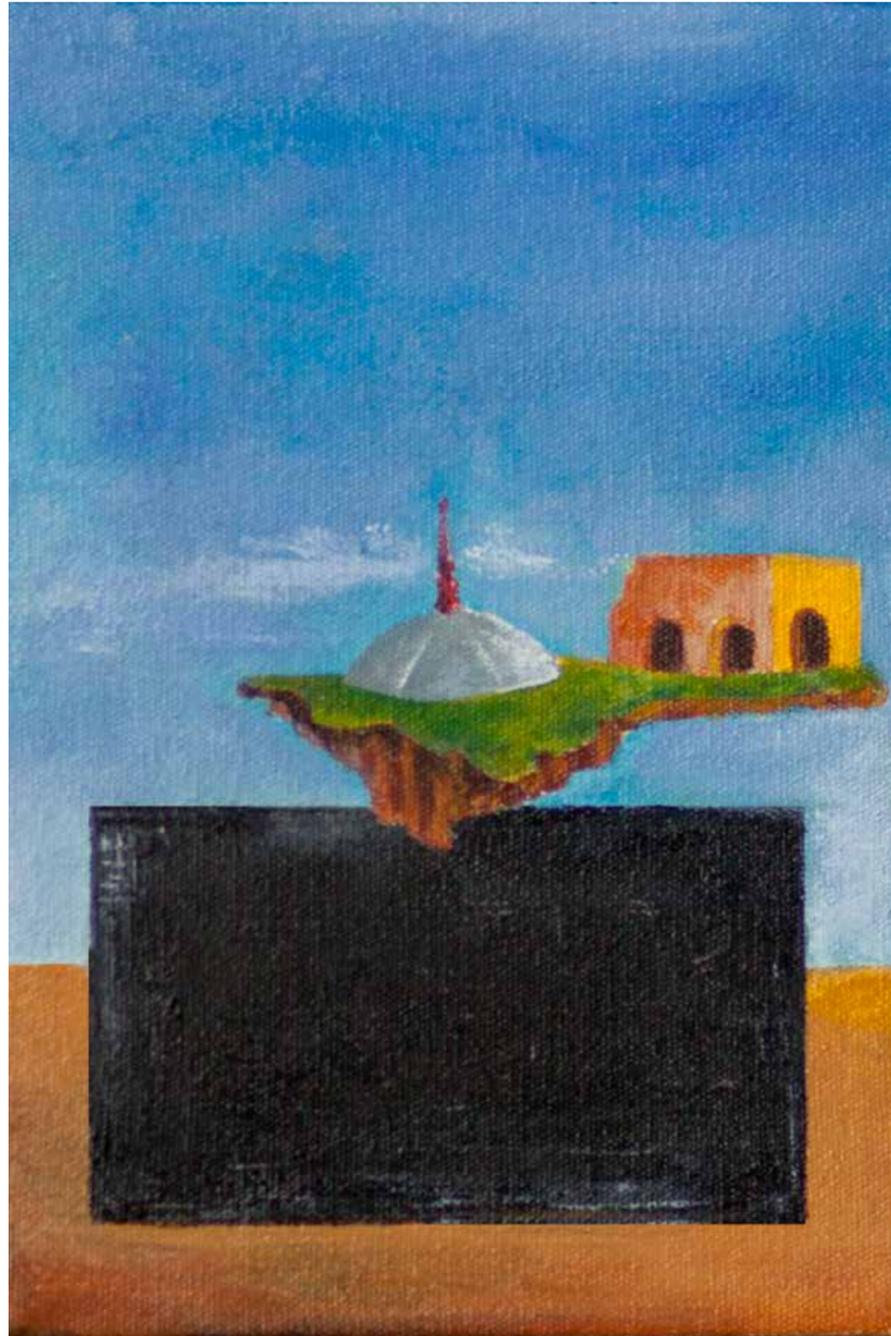
Zafar has participated in many national and international exhibitions, including solo presentations. He has presented at international art fairs, festivals, and Biennales, including Art Stage Singapore, Art Fair Philippines, Art Dubai, Art Abu Dhabi, Art Basel Hong Kong, Pulse Art Fair New York, India Art Fair and the 2nd Kathmandu International Art Festival. He has participated in both national and international residencies including the Studio R.M Residency, Lahore, Paramatta Artists' Studios and Cicada Press COFA UNSW, Creative Fusion International Artists Residency, Cleveland Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio, USA and at C3A – Center of contemporary art, Cordoba, Spain in collaboration with the AAN Foundation. He is represented by FOST Gallery, Singapore, and AAN Gandhara-art Space, Karachi-Hong Kong.





Agha Jandan

Untitled, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Agha Jandan

Untitled, Acrylic on canvas, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

AGHA JANDAN

Agha Jandan studied Fine Arts with a focused major in painting, at the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts, Arts Council Karachi. Since his graduation he has worked with various institutions as an art instructor. Jandan is currently working as Drawing Master at FGEI(C/G), Rawalpindi and is posted to Attock Punjab.

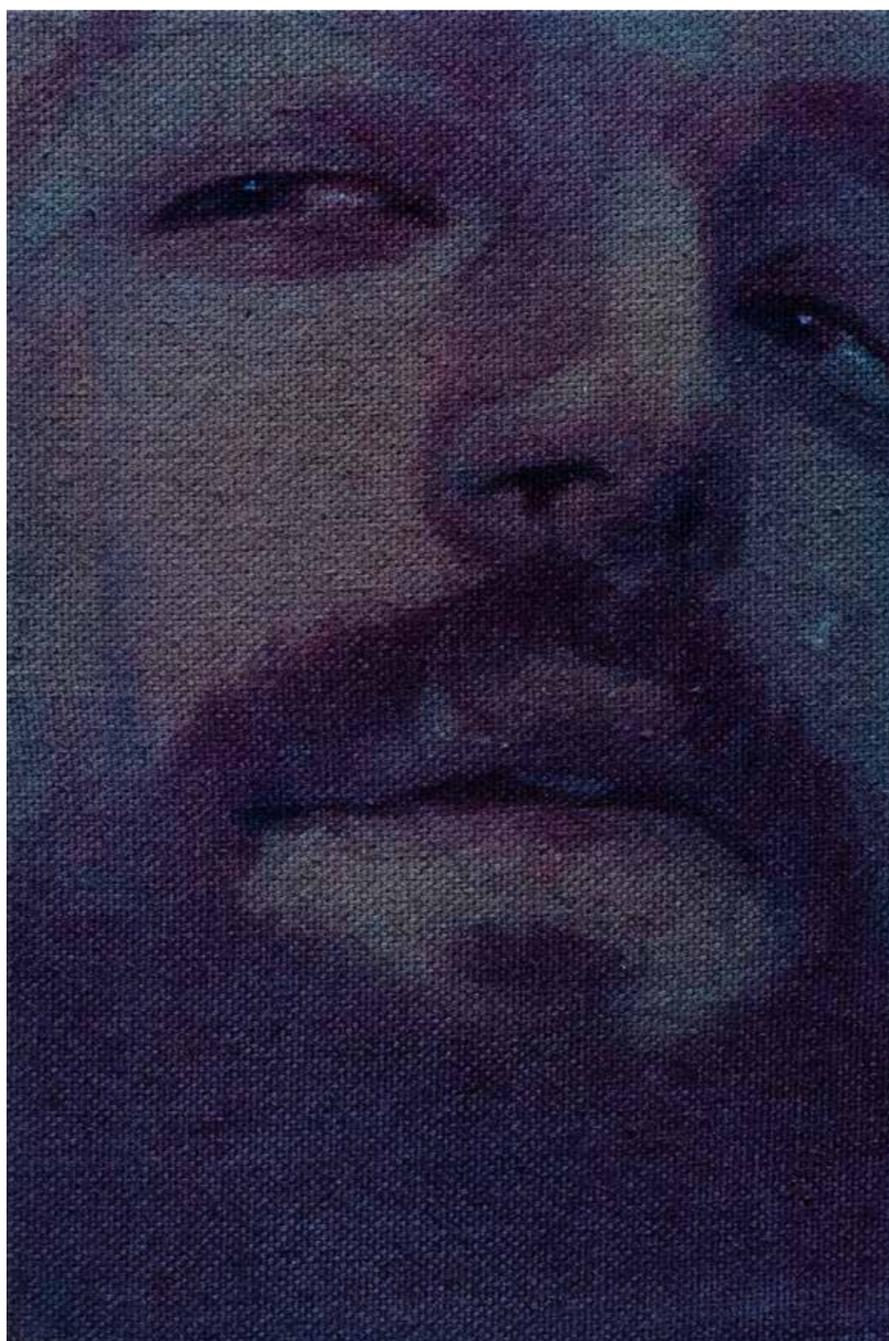
Jandan has participated in several group shows nationally. The 'Highway Group Show' at VM Art Gallery Karachi 2016, 'Ibtidaa' at Studio Seven Karachi 2016, 'Witness to History A contemporary Art Exhibition' at Frere Hall 2016, 'Jamaa, Zarb, Taqseem (Gather, Hit, Split)' Two Person Show, at Satrang Art Gallery Islamabad 2015, "IN SILENCE, SOUND", Four Person show At Koel Gallery, Karachi 2015, 'Aaghaz-E-Safar' Frere Hall, Karachi. 2015, SCB 'The Artists vision: Seeing is believing', Karachi 2015, 'Sindh Show' at Koel Gallery, Karachi 2014, 'Aihad Karo' a group show at Koel Gallery, Karachi 2013, 'Awaaz', Baldia Inferno group show 2012, 'International Exhibition', Sindh University Jamshoro 2007, Calligraphy Group Show at Gulmohr Art Gallery, Karachi 2005 and a group exhibition at Alliance Frances, Karachi 2005.





Ahsan Memon

Monologue, Oil on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Ahsan Memon

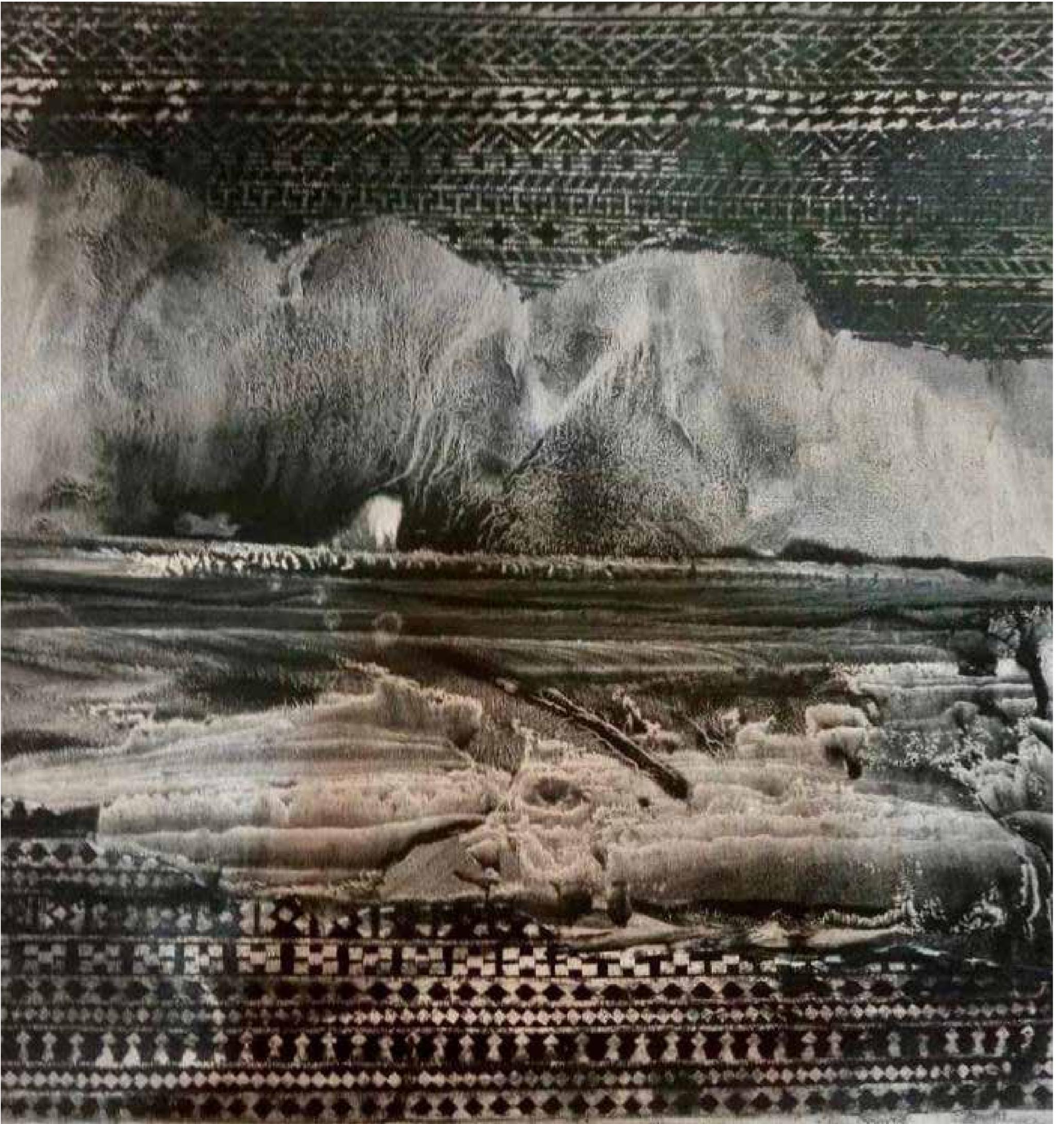
Untitled, Oil on canvas, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

AHSAN MEMON

Born in Larkana, Sindh, Ahsan Memon completed his BFA from National College of Arts, Lahore in 2015 and MFA in 2019. In his works Memon explores the complexity of materials and textures through highly detailed oil painting and enjoys playing with illusions through exploring new objects.

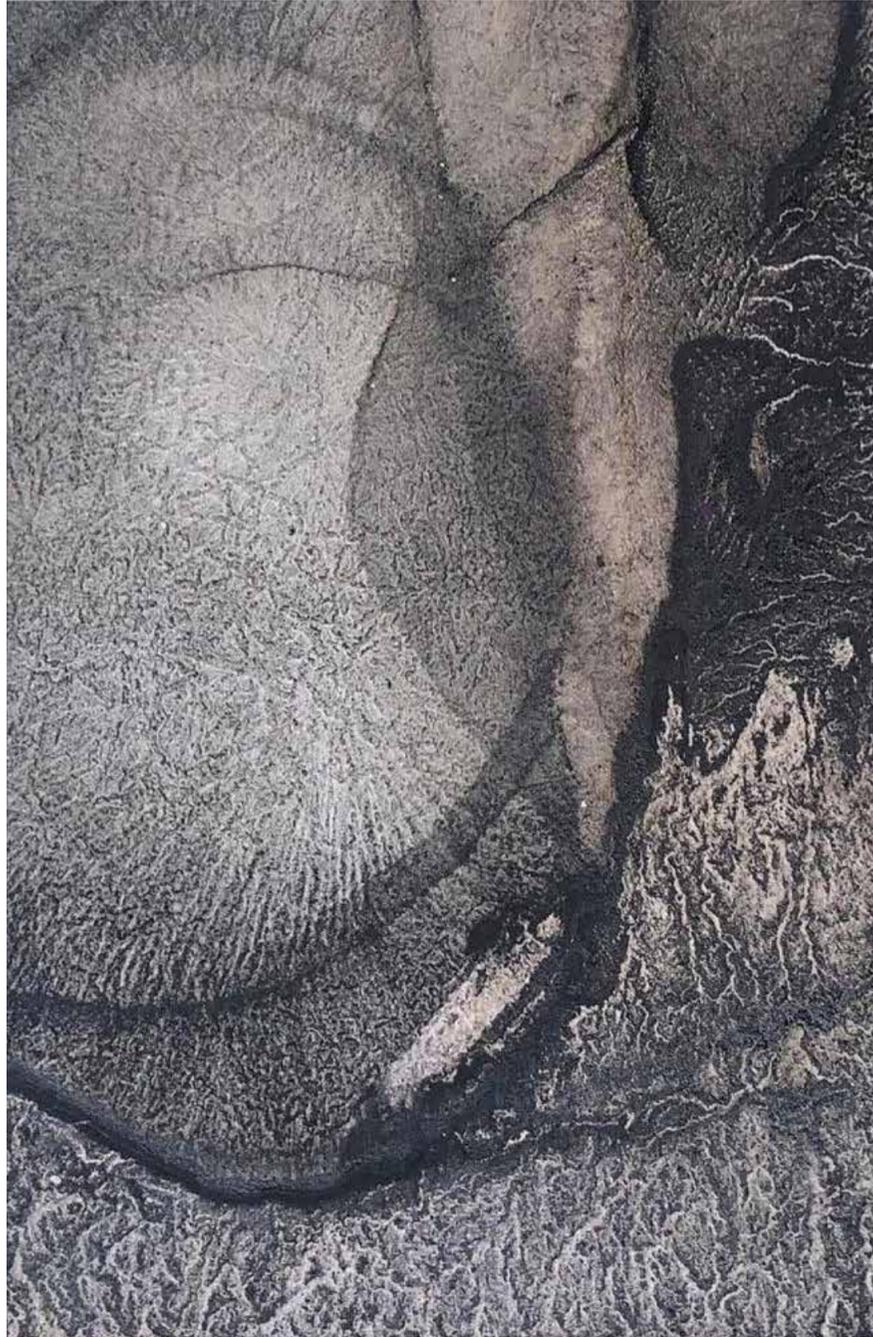
He has exhibited at the Karachi Literature Festival, Canvas Gallery, Alhambra Art Gallery and IVS Gallery.





Akram Dost Baloch

Identity, Mixed media on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021

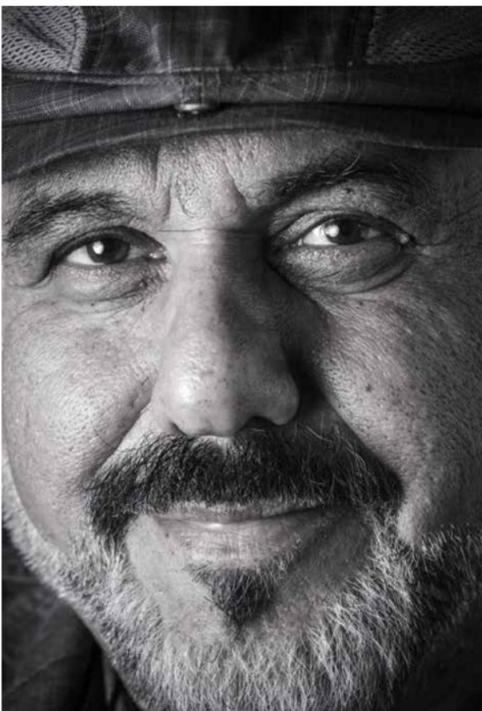


AKRAM DOST BALOCH

Akram Dost Baloch hails from Nushki, a border town in the south-west of Baluchistan. He graduated with a BFA from National College of Arts, Lahore, and is among the founding faculty of The Department of Fine Arts, University of Baluchistan. He is currently based in Quetta where he runs his studio and chairs The Institute of Fine Arts at University of Baluchistan.

Baloch paints and sculpts, and the themes of his work are wide ranging, with a heavy focus on human rights. The dominant aesthetics of his work are inspired by the traditional motifs of his region in Pakistan, an area to which he has contributed much himself. His PhD dissertation documented the traditional patterns of embroidery and handicrafts, and has contributed invaluable items to the collection on Baluchistan at the Mohatta Palace Museum in Karachi.

Baloch has received wide acclaim, both at home and abroad, he is also the recipient of Pakistan's President's Pride of Performance award in 2004.





Ali Abbas Syed

Gard Baad 1, Watercolor on Arches, 300 grm acid free paper,
24 x 24 inches, 2021



Ali Abbas Syed

Gard Baad 2, Watercolor on Arches, 300 gm, acid free paper,
6 x 4 inches, 2021

ALI ABBAS SYED

Ali Abbas Syed received his BFA and MFA in Painting from the University of Sindh, Jamshoro. He has had a long career as an artist and educator and is currently working as a senior faculty member in Fine Arts department, at Shaheed AllahBuksh Soomro University of Art, Design and Heritages formerly known as CEAD, Jamshoro, Sindh, Pakistan.

Abbas is the President of the International Water Color Society (IWC) in Pakistan and the founder of the Pakistan Water Color Society (PWC). His sculptural monuments installed at public places in Hyderabad, have become an identity of the city he resides in. His work addresses the Sufi lifestyle of Sindh and the Thar Desert. Recognized as a master watercolor artist of the region, globally, through a multitude of accolades received in Spain, U.K., Italy, Czech Republic, Malaysia, Serbia, Bulgaria, India, China and many other countries. In 2019, he was awarded the prestigious Tamgha-i-Imtiaz by the State of Pakistan.

Abbas curated the first ever International Watercolor Biennale in Pakistan 'Pearls of Peace' 2016 and subsequent ones in 2018, 2020. This led to the acknowledgement of Pakistani watercolor artists in the world. He was instrumental in compiling thirteen books to safeguard and document the medium for future generations. Abbas has earned the admiration of a global audience through extensively showing his works in national and international exhibitions. Some of the noteworthy shows are; 2021 The dialogue between yesterday and tomorrow, Osaka, Japan, 2020 7th Lushan watercolor art festival, China, 2020 International visual art exhibition, Aligarh Muslim University, India, 2020 Brushstrokes of Harmony, IWS California, USA, 2017 b11 Galerie, Salzburg, Austria, 2015 Gallery A, Belgrade, Serbia, 2014 Sindh, Reverberating Sounds, echo through the desert, Koel Gallery, Karachi, 2012 Pakistan Painting Exhibition at House of Commons, 2012 UK, 2012 Bend in the SCAPES, at Satrang Art Gallery, Serena hotel, Islamabad, 2012 'The Colors of Democracy' Group Show at Pakistan Parliament House, Islamabad and 2009 Chowkandi Art Gallery, Karachi.





Ali Azmat

Dialogue 1, Acrylics on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Ali Azmat

Dialogue 2, Acrylics on canvas, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

ALI AZMAT

Ali Azmat studied painting at the Department of Fine Arts, University of the Punjab, where he also started his teaching career. Currently, he teaches at his Almamatar as Assistant Professor. In 1999 Azmat completed his MFA with a gold medal to his credit.

Azmat has made a long journey of exploring life and its philosophy through an array of images that he shares with his viewers, through his prolific body of work.

Azmat had his first solo exhibition in Lahore in 1999, and has since participated in numerous group exhibitions and several one-man shows locally and internationally. They include 'This is not untitled', 'Moorat Series', 'Let a thousand flowers bloom', 'Sirat-e Mustaqeem', 'Dialogue series' and 'Dangal'.

He was the recipient of the National Excellence Award by the PNCA in 2003.





Ali Hammad

Tang Horse, Oil on canvas, 23 x 21 inches, 2020



Ali Hammad

Grapes and onion, Oil on paper, 4 x 6 inches, 2021

ALI HAMMAD

Ali Hammad graduated in 2006, magna cum laude from National College of Arts, Lahore. He currently resides in the United Arab Emirates, where teaching and studio practice keeps him busy.

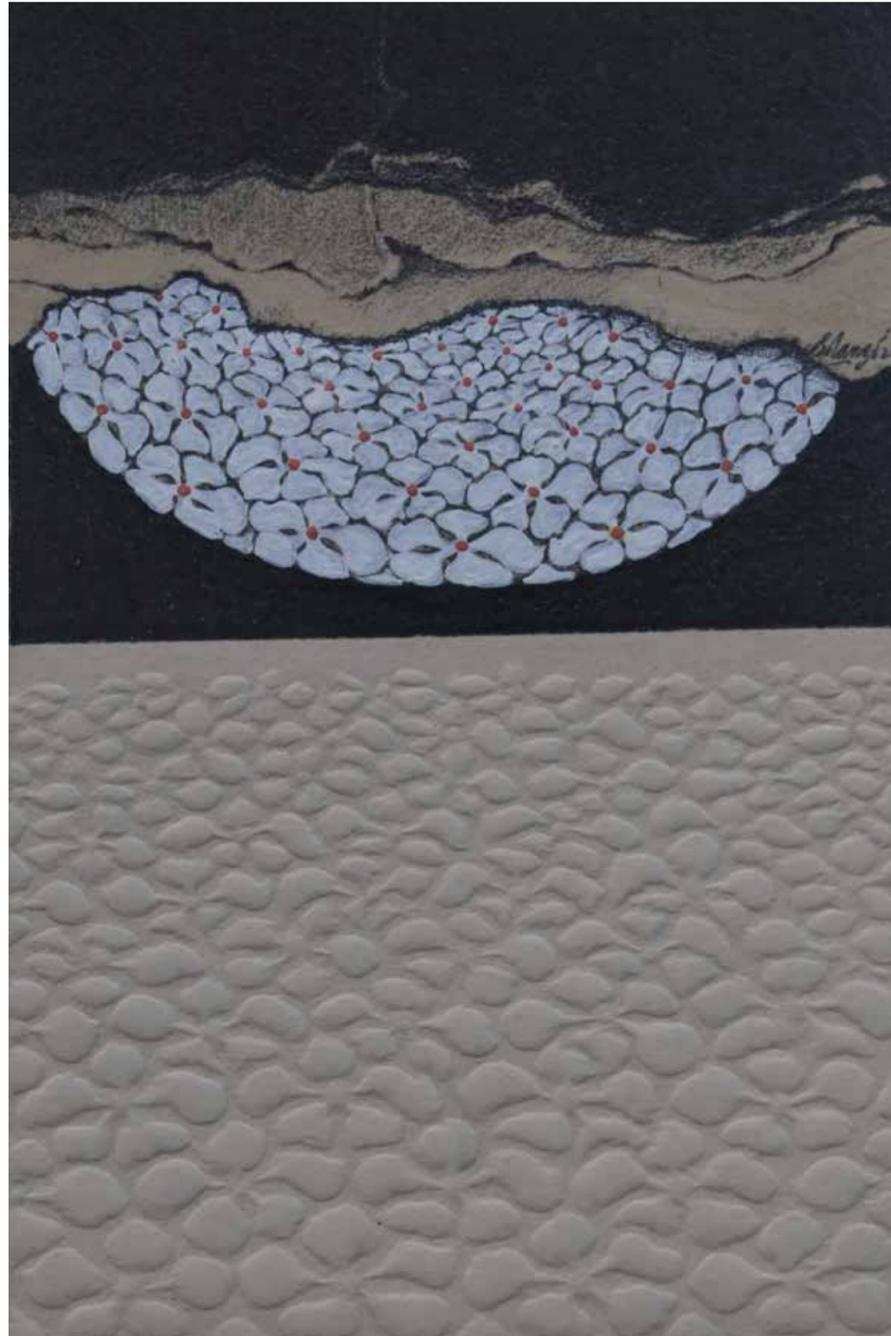
Hammad's father (an English Professor) gave him an early introduction to art and literature. His passion for drawing and painting grew, and he was able to secure a scholarship to the renowned National College of Arts, Lahore. At college, he explored different disciplines like sculpture, drawing, art history and design. A place where modern art was taught and practiced, Hammad had great interest in realism, which was diametrically opposite to what was the existing vogue. His aim has always been to explore the possibilities of paint, to make beautiful brushstrokes, to explore different tactile qualities and to seek the truth. Works of the masters such as Rembrandt, Solomon J. Solomon, Ilya Repin have always fascinated him. Constantly learning and evolving his technique to paint on the principles set by these masters within the realm of oils. A focus on the delicate play of light and shade called 'Chiaroscuro' remained his passion. He believes that learning is universal and making any kind of art without learning is limited. Hammad has participated in numerous shows both in Pakistan and abroad.





Aqeel Solangi

When Time Stood Still, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



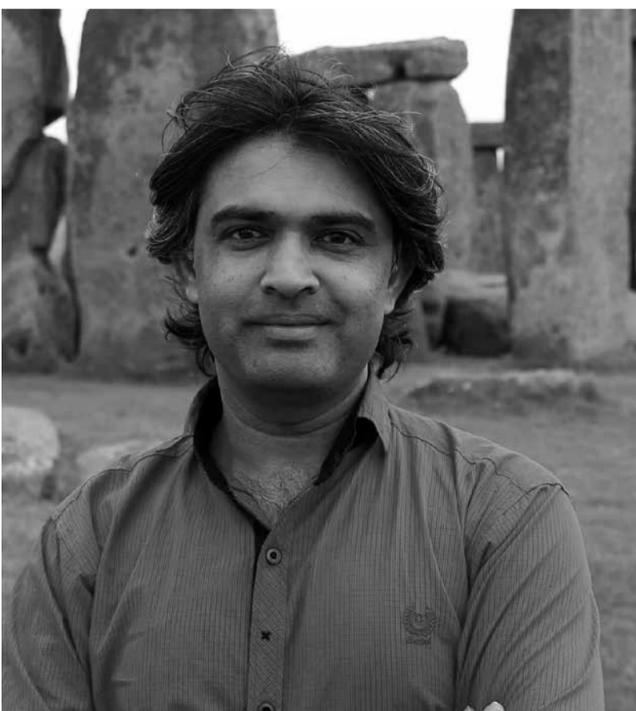
Aqeel Solangi

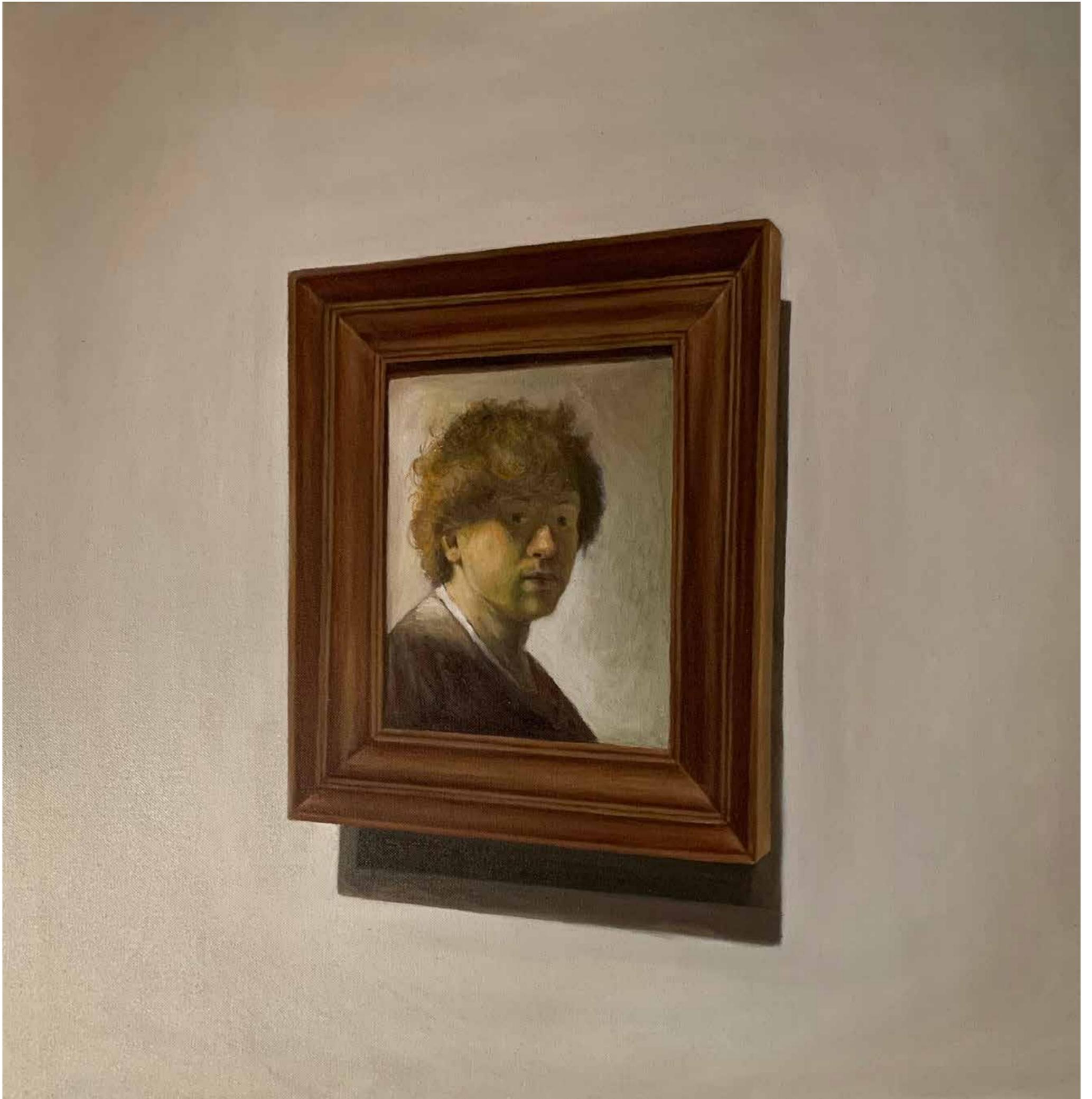
When Time Stood Still II, Acrylic, embossing and graphite on paper,
6 x 4 inches, 2021

AQEEL SOLANGI

Aqeel Solangi graduated with Honours from the prestigious National College of Arts, Lahore in 2003, followed by his first Master's degree MA (Hons.) Visual Art in 2005. He received his second Master's degree MA Fine Art (with merit) from the Bath School of Art and Design - Bath Spa University, UK in 2016. He was the recipient of the renowned international Charles Wallace Pakistan Trust Visiting Artist Fellowship for the Prince's School of Traditional Arts, London in 2006. Since then, he has been teaching at the National College of Arts, Rawalpindi as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Fine Arts. He is also promoting art through art education at Studio Aqeel Solangi.

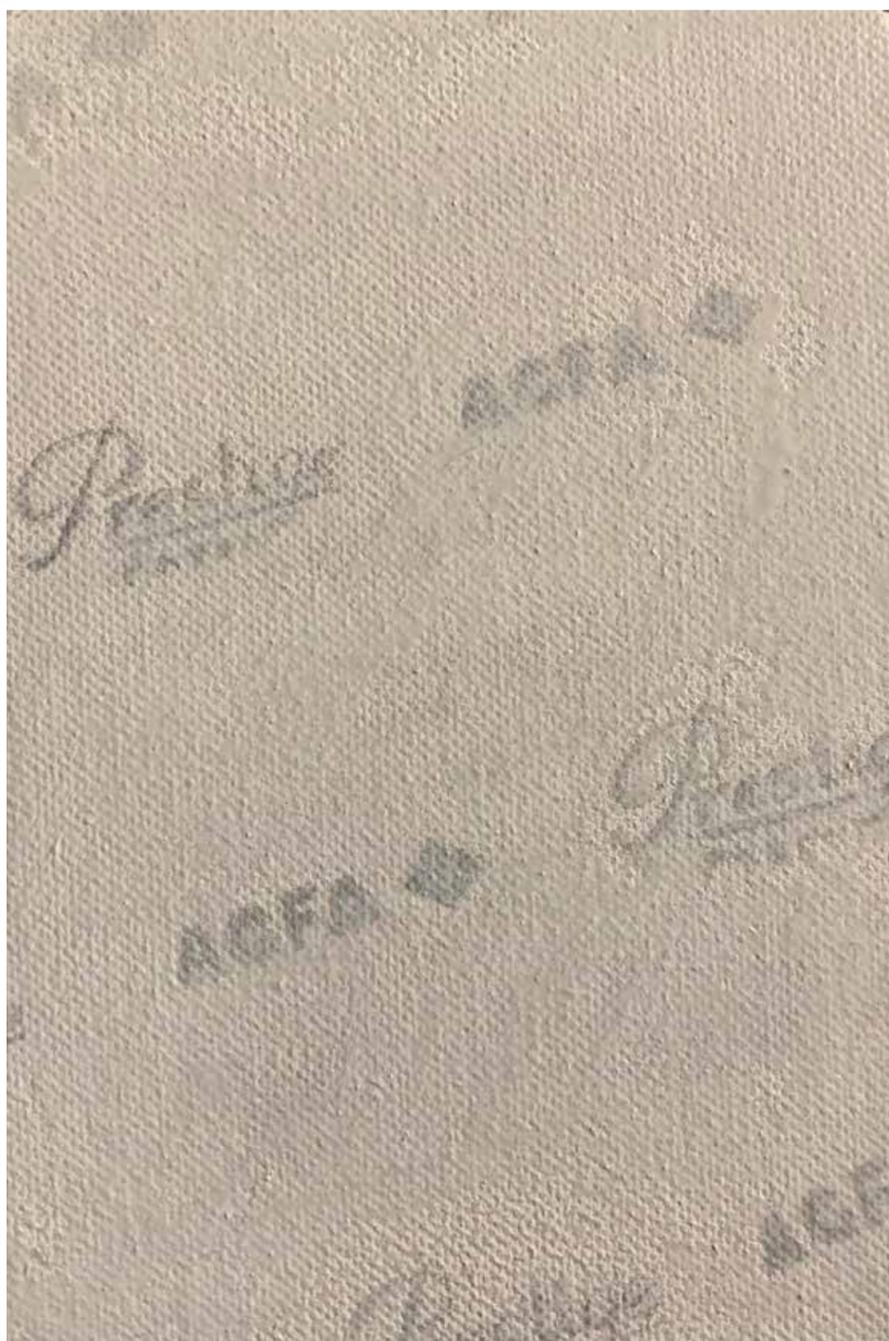
Solangi's work has been showcased in Pakistan and internationally. He was part of the 2013 Pakistani Artists' Workshop in China. Solangi has received 'A Vision of the Future 2006' Young Artists Award by the Lahore Arts Council in 2006. His work has been reviewed by Dr. Michele Whiting, Dr. Akbar Naqvi, Aasim Akhtar, Marjorie Hussain, Nafisa Rizvi, Salwat Ali, Noor Jehan Mecklai and Sally Bennett. Early on in his life he worked as a sign and cinema board painter at Mehboob Painters in Khairpur (Mir's), and also attended extensive art courses at this stage with renowned artist Mussarat Mirza in her studio in Sukkur, Sindh.





Ayaz Jokhio

Untitled I, Oil on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



AYAZ JOKHIO

Ayaz Jokhio received his BFA in Painting from the National College of Arts Lahore, Pakistan and an MA in Art Education from the Beaconhouse National University, School of Visual Arts and Design, Lahore. He has been teaching at BNU-SVAD since 2006, and has been a permanent faculty member there since 2009.

Jokhio has shown extensively in major national and international exhibitions through solo, two persons and group shows. This Is Not Magritte's Painting.' Canvas Gallery Karachi 2019, 'Half Paintings – Ayaz Jokhio' Canvas Gallery Karachi 2017, 'Portraits' Canvas Gallery Karachi at Art Dubai 2015, 'Crossing Over' Gallery Latitude 28, Delhi 2013, 'Past Perfect' Zahoor ul Akhlaq Art gallery, NCA, Lahore 2013, 'Art and Peace' HD Centre, Geneva 2012, 'Band, Baja, Baraat' Indus Valley School Gallery, Karachi 2012, 'A Poet's Country: His Eyes' Green Cardamom, London 2012, 'Ayaz Jokhio Drawings' Grey Noise in collaboration with VM Art Gallery, Karachi 2008, '99 Self-portraits 2005' Arcus Studio, Moriya, Japan 2005 and 'Titled' Hirshgang - Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany April 2005.

In addition to his visual practice, he has been involved in film making, art direction and cinematography adding to his creative repertoire. He was shortlisted for 'Asian Art Prize 2009' Sovereign Art Foundation, Hong Kong and had a solo booth at Art Dubai in 2015 represented by Canvas Gallery Karachi. Jokhio has been artist in residence at institutions in Pakistan, Switzerland, Japan and Germany and has contributed to various local and international publications.





Cyra Ali

Am I Right Side Up or Upside Down?, Acrylic and needlepoint on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Cyra Ali

Am I Right Side Up or Upside Down?, Acrylic and needlepoint on canvas, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

CYRA ALI

Cyra Ali completed her BFA from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture in 2010. She was awarded a distinction in her final thesis project and written dissertation.

Mixing paint and classical *Aari* (hand embroidery), that is specifically produced by male craftsmen, Ali's work is often playful and tongue-in-cheek. Although her delivery is quirky, almost feigning light-heartedness, Ali's concerns are embedded in a historical discursive analysis revolving around gender roles and the constitution of female sexual identity.

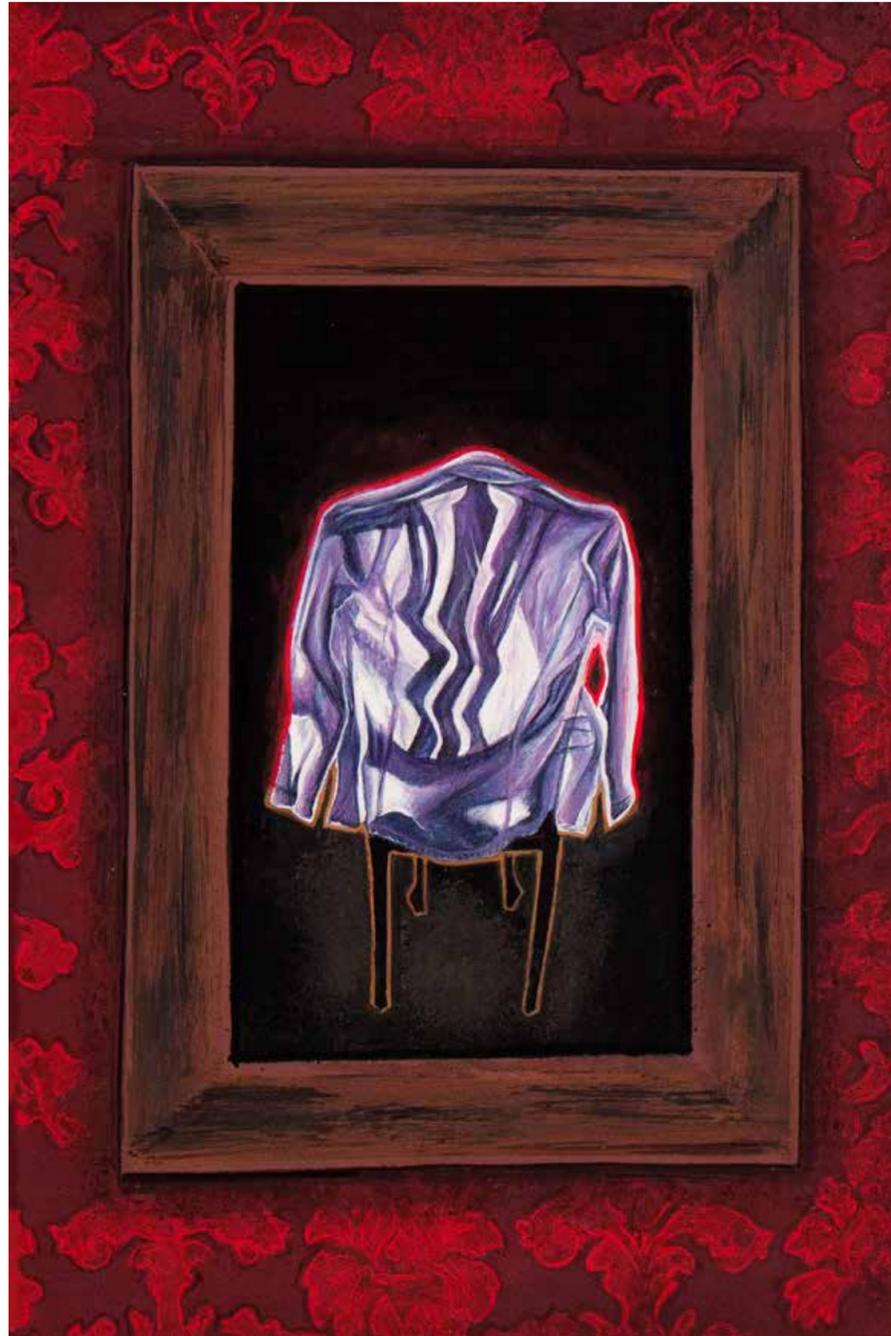
Ali has showcased her work through participation in a number of exhibitions, both locally as well as internationally.





Eesha Suhail

Self Combustion I, Gouache on Wasli, 18 x 18 inches (unframed),
2021



Eesha Suhail

Self Combustion II, Gouache on Wasli, 6 x 4 inches (unframed), 2021

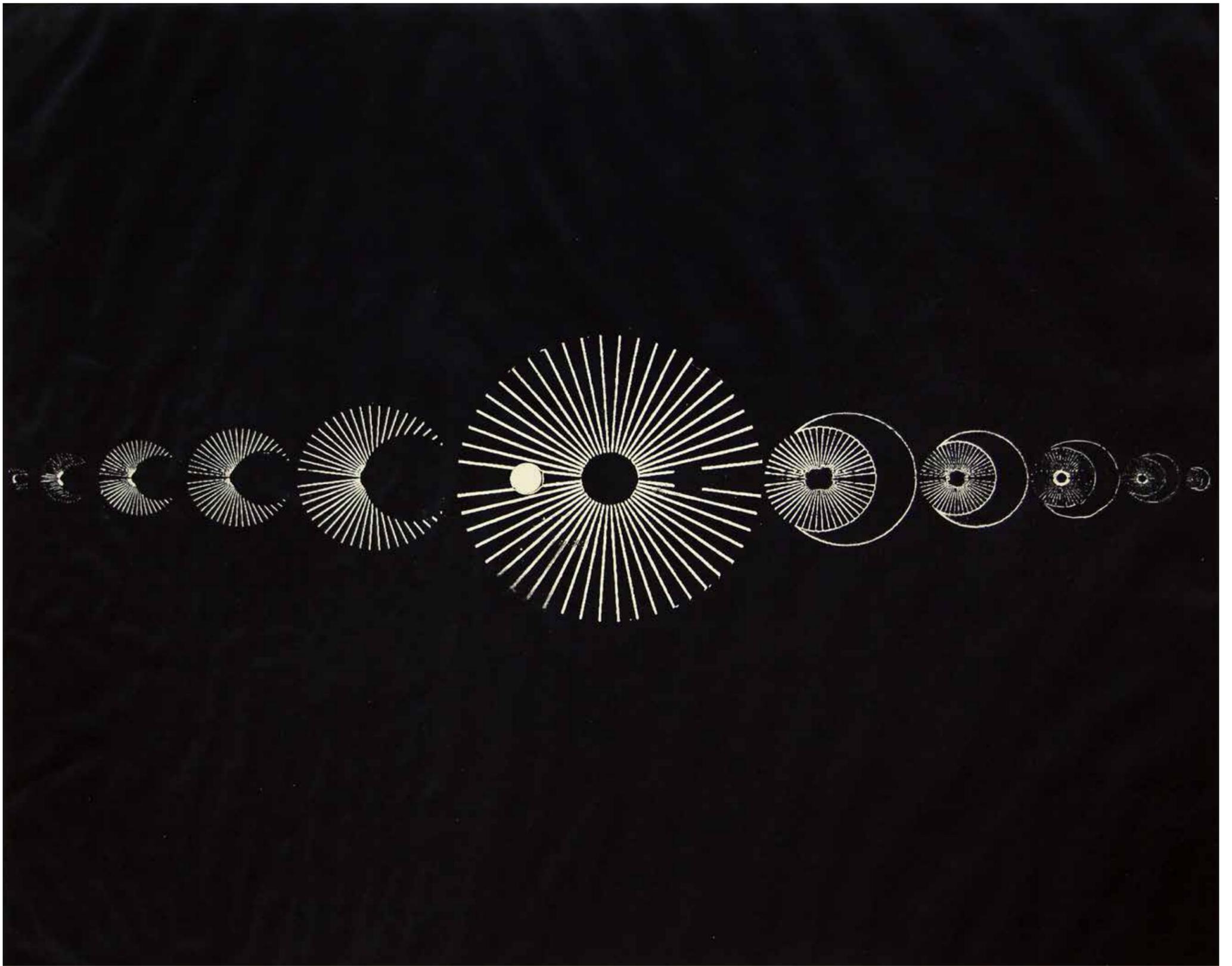
EESHA SUHAIL

Eesha Suhail completed her bachelor's degree from NCA with Honors in January 2018 in contemporary miniature painting and is now working in the field as an artist. Her work revolves around a continuous process of trying to create her own visually determined aesthetic in the medium. Through her practice she aspires to tackle the strong and rather strict historic legacy that is associated with Miniature Painting in the Sub-continent, in order to develop her own sense of the art.

Since her debut in 2018, Suhail has taken part extensively in shows and projects both on a national as well as international level exhibiting her works in Lahore, Karachi, Zurich, New York, England and Vancouver, with her most recent works currently available on Artsy. Her works have been reviewed in notable publications.

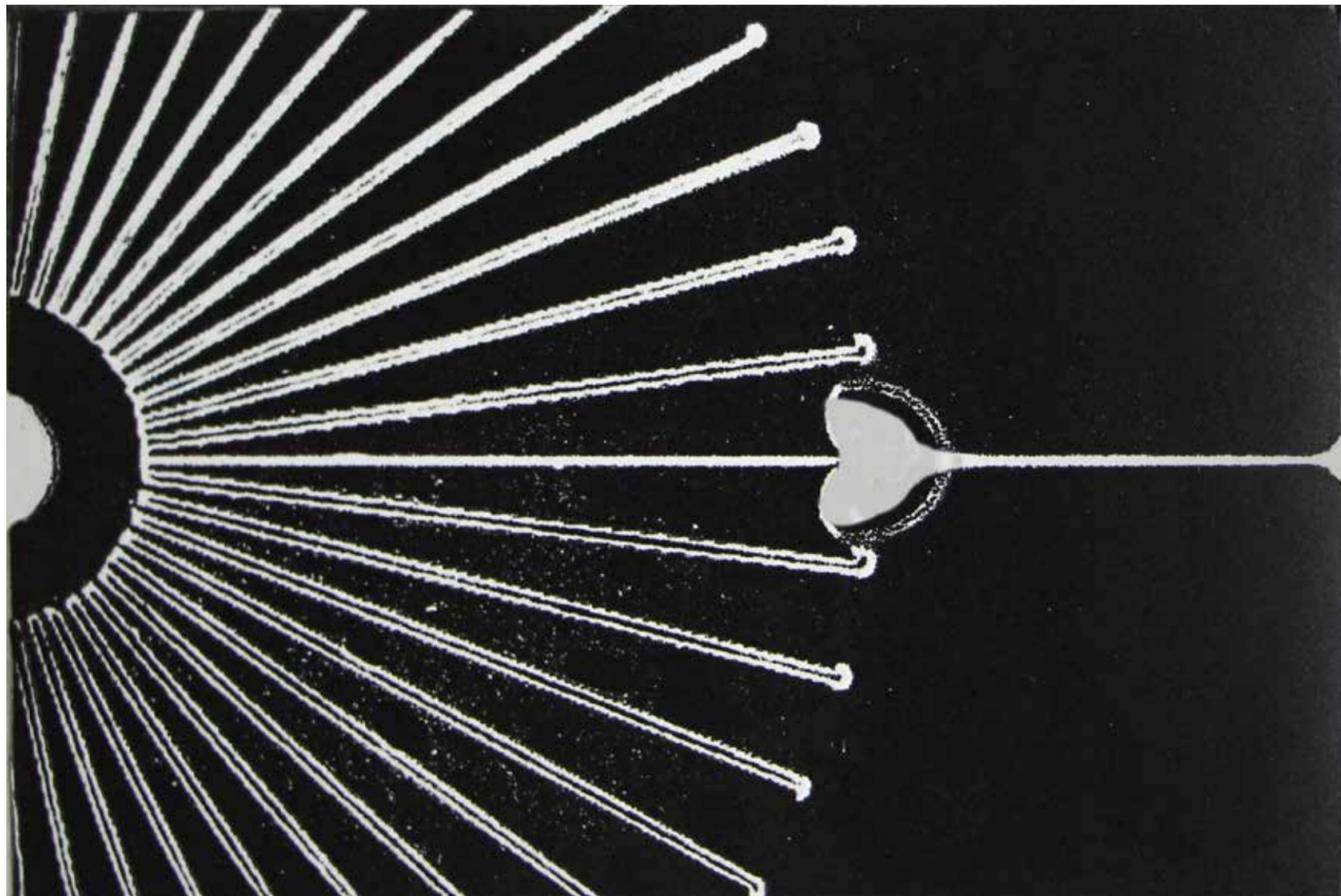
Suhail has been part of the Maktab Painting School (LBF 01) and the Maktab 2 (Quad Gallery, UK) under the curation and mentorship of renowned artist Imran Qureshi. In 2021, she was nominated for the prestigious Sovereign South Asian Art Prize.





Fazal Ellahi Khan

Life Cycle I, Etching and open bite on Mountwall 350 g,
19.5 x 24 inches, 2021



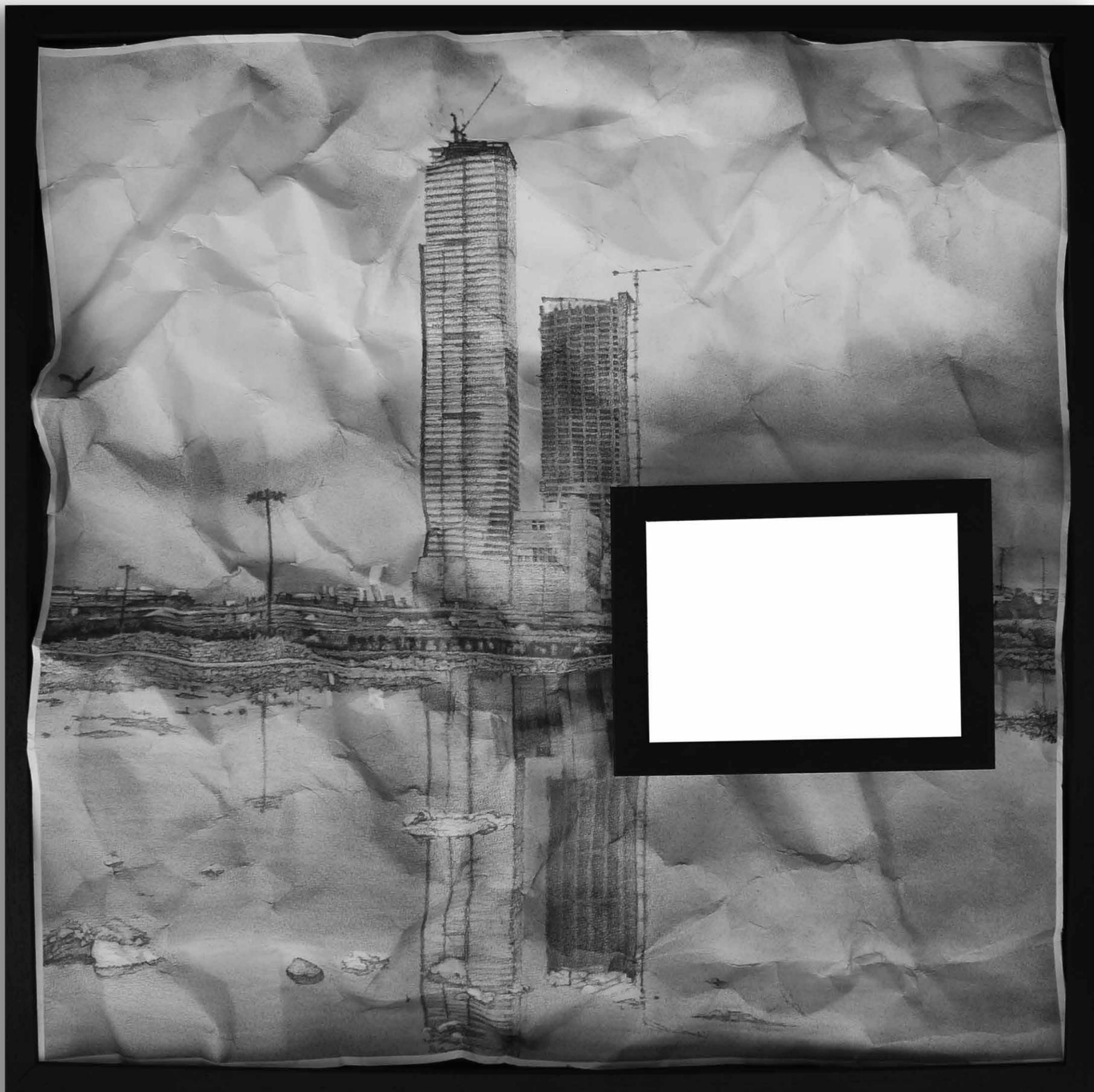
FAZAL ELLAHI KHAN

Fazal Ellahi Khan is a visual practitioner who hails from the city of Quetta in Pakistan. He graduated with a BFA from the University of Baluchistan in 2003. The same year he received a certificate in Printmaking from the National College of Arts, Lahore. Presently he is enrolled in the MFA Visual Communication program at the King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi Bangkok Thailand.

Khan has served as the Director Administration at the Pearl Institute of Management & IT Quetta for seven years. Currently he is Assistant Professor in Faculty of Fine Art at SABAS University of Art, Design and Heritages (former CEAD) Jamshoro Sindh and head of the Printmaking Department since 2019. He established, Pakistan's largest and most well-equipped printmaking studio space at SABAS in 2011. Furthermore, he is busy working on his project with regards to inculcating Safe Methods in printmaking studio practices. The development of his ongoing research is to be introduced on a national and international levels for a sustainable, economical, and ecologically safe practice of the medium within studios in Pakistan.

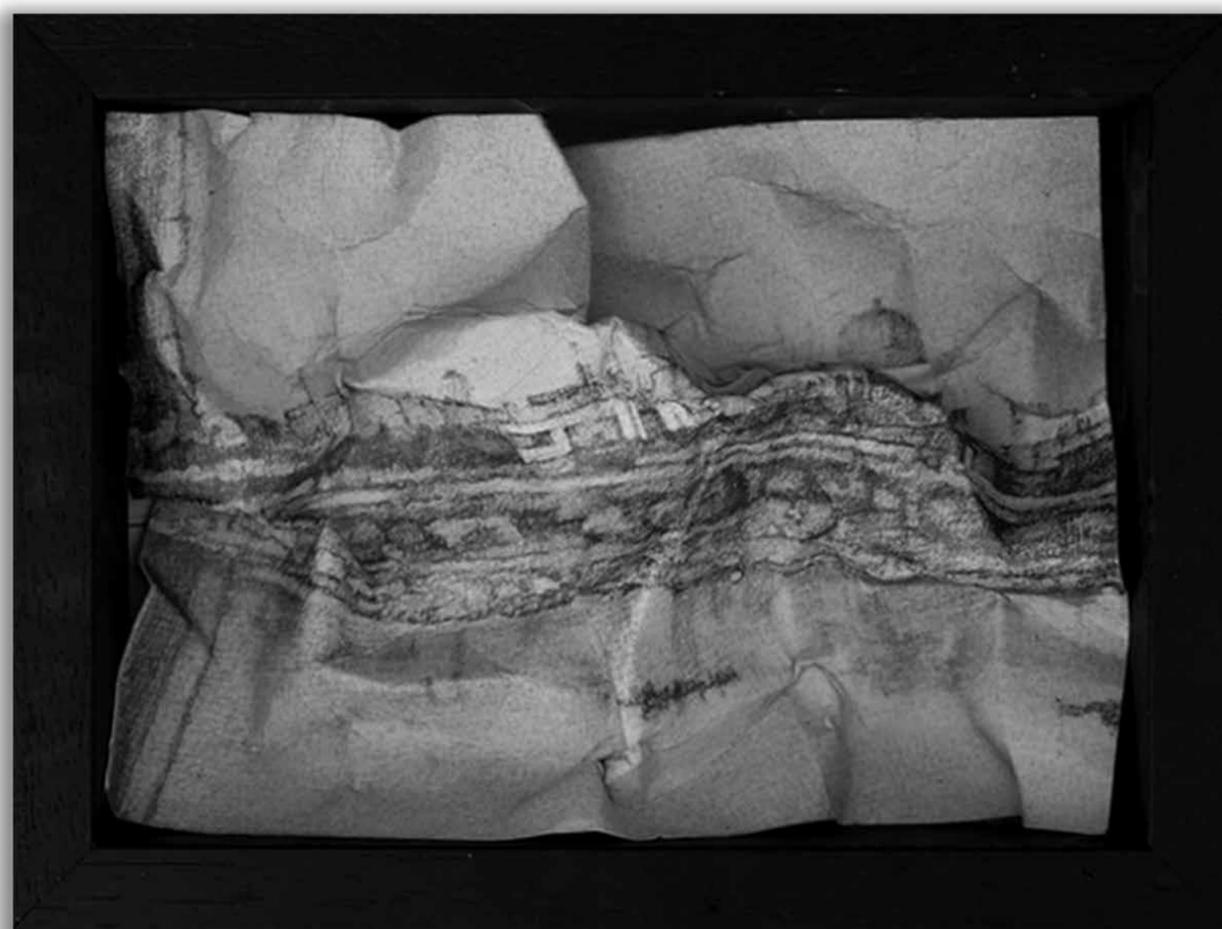
Khan has participated in many national and international projects and exhibitions. He received an International award for the Best Theme Creation at the International Pashtu Conference in 2018. He has participated in two International research workshops at Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan and King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi Bangkok Thailand in 2020. He was selected as a representative artist of Pakistan, for an Art project of Belt and road win-win cooperation at International Printmaking base Guanlan Shenzhen China. From 2017 to 2019 under this project he participated in a two-month group residency of traditional printmaking that included 25 countries. His works have been shown in 6th Guanlan International Print Biennial at the China Printmaking Museum in 2017 and 7th Guanlan International Print Biennial in Shenzhen China in 2019.





Haider Ali Naqvi

Heaven gives it glimpses only to those, not in a position to look too close I. Graphite on paper and box frame, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Haider Ali Naqvi

Heaven gives it glimpses only to those, not in a position to look too close II. Graphite on paper and box frame, 4 x 6 inches, 2021

HAIDER ALI NAQVI

Haider Ali Naqvi completed his BFA with a distinction in 2015 from the National College of Arts Lahore where he was awarded the Sir Percy Brown award for excellence in Art History. In 2019, he was awarded Imran Mir art prize for emerging artist from Pakistan. In 2019, he was also a resident artist from Pakistan at the Gasworks programme for emerging international artists in London.

Naqvi's work is informed by experiences of his immediate surroundings, particularly the built environment and how we move through and interact with it. His work brings together graphite drawings and found objects such as archival documents, photographs and maps to reveal an intersection between architecture, culture, tradition and history. Since graduation he has shown extensively in major national and international exhibitions.

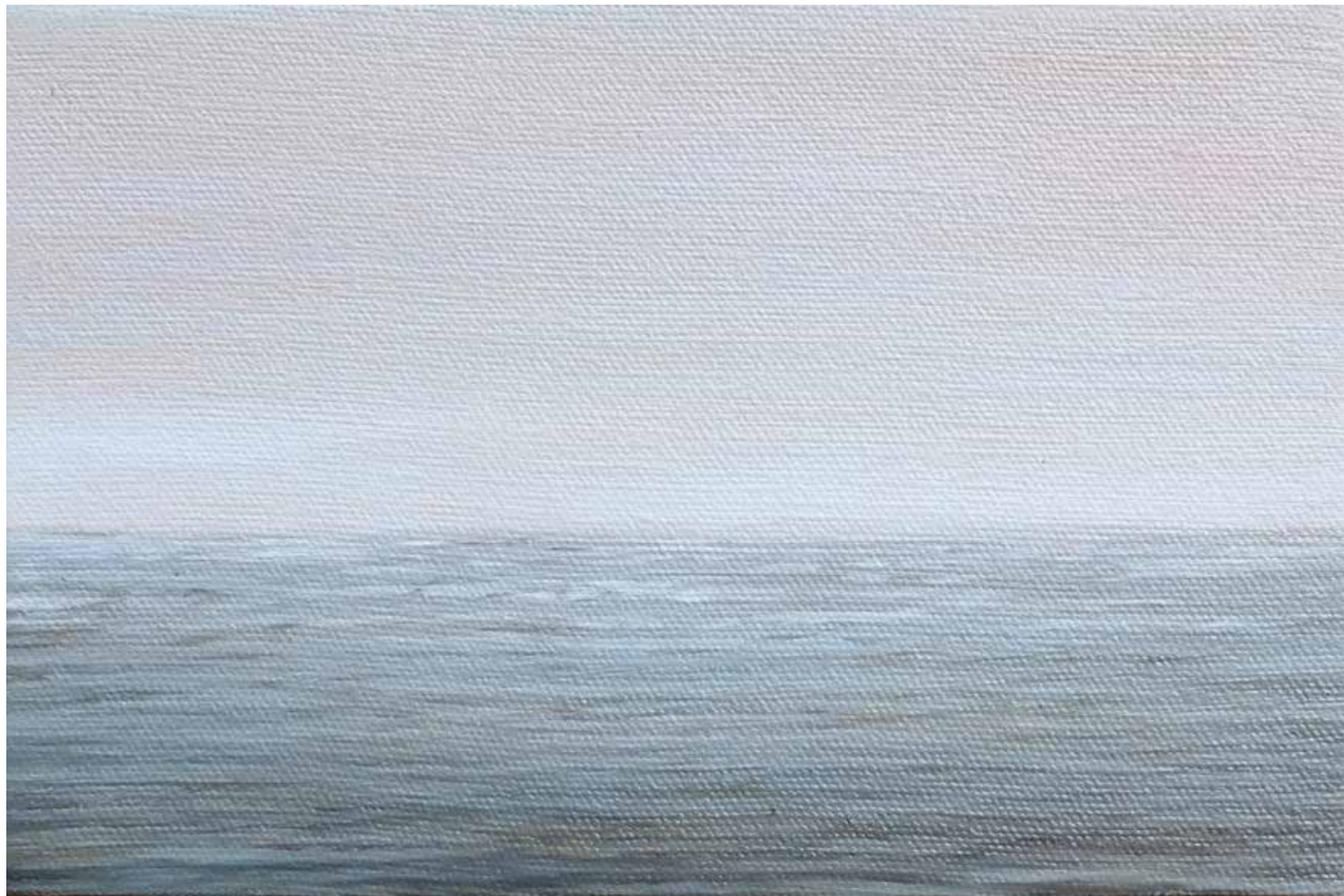
Naqvi lives and works in Karachi. He is permanent faculty in the department of Fine Art at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture.





Hamid Ali Hanbhi

Untitled, Oil on Canvas, 24 x 24 Inches, 2021



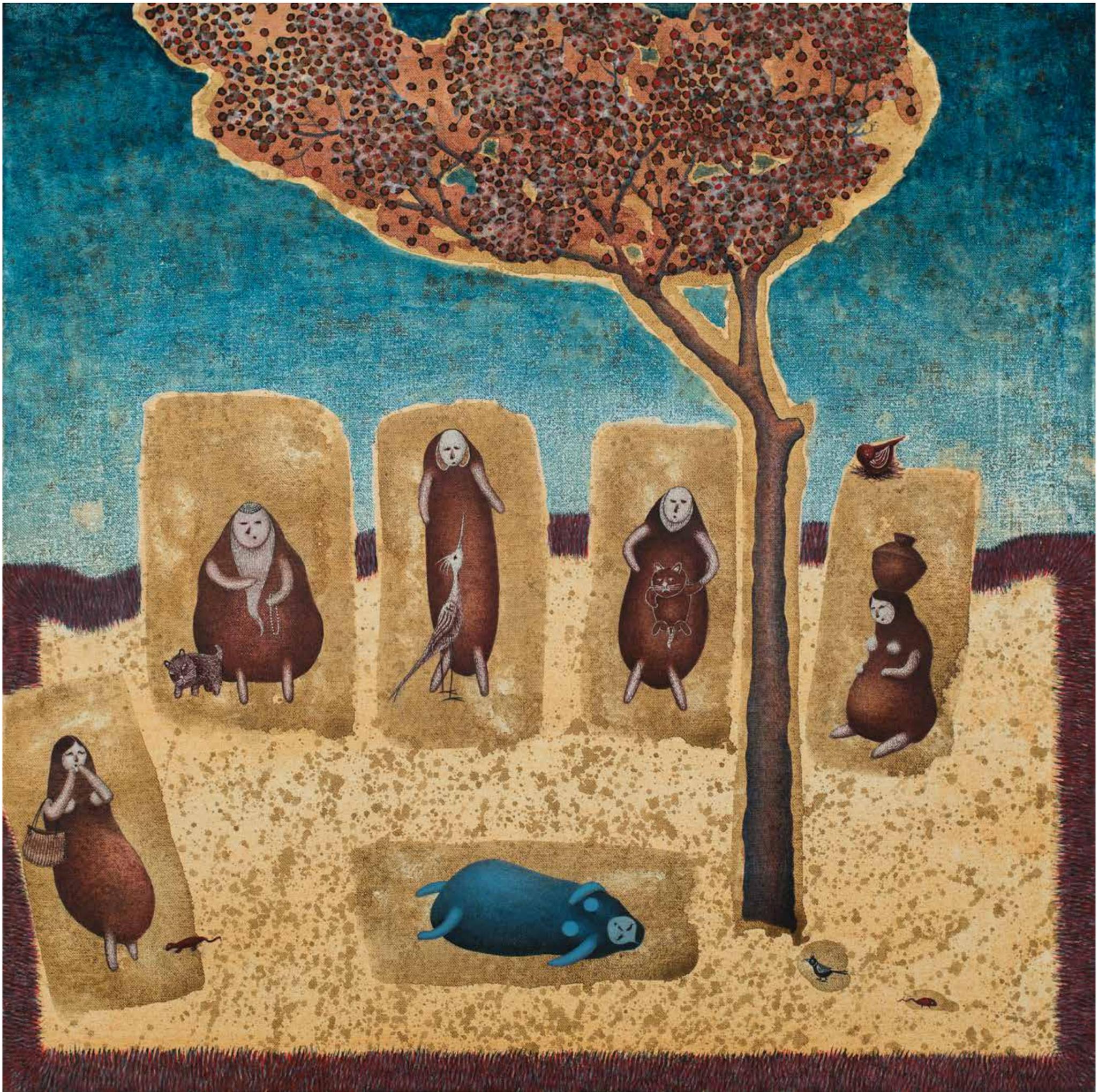
HAMID ALI HANBHI

Hamid Ali Hanbhi is a multidisciplinary visual artist originally from Jacobabad, Sindh. His love for art started by painting billboards/truck art at Ideal Arts in his hometown. In 2016, he completed his BFA with a distinction, from the National College of Arts.

Hanbhi's explorations through his art practice has led to his participation in numerous exhibitions since his graduation. Most notable being at Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Imago Mundi Publication, Taseer Art Gallery, O Art Space, Lahore and at the Karachi Biennale. In addition to the above he has conducted workshops for the Lahore Biennale.

Hanbhi currently residing in Lahore, Pakistan where he pursues his visual practice and engages with learners through teaching at the R.M Naeem studio.





Irfan Gul Dahri

Love Story 6, Acrylic on Canvas, 22 x 22 inches, 2021



Irfan Gul Dahri

Love Story 5, Acrylic on Paper, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

IRFAN GUL DAHRI

Born in 1979 in Shahdadpur a small town in Sindh, Irfan Gul Dahri holds a Master's degree in Visual Art from National College of Arts. In 2013/14, he was awarded with Charles Wallace Visiting Artist Fellowship to study at the Prince's School of Traditional Arts, London. He received the Arjumand Painting Award in 2017 as well as the Chughtai Award and Principal's Honors Award in 2003 for academic excellence in B. Design from NCA, where he has been teaching as permanent faculty since 2006. He remains an active participant in various community projects regarding student counseling and training through lectures, seminars, discussions and formal art classes at NCA, UOG, PU, NTU, BNU, Studio RM and other institutions. From its inception in 2017 till 2020 he worked as the curator for the O Art Space gallery and continues to remain on their advisory board. He also curates' as an independent curator.

Dahri has had five solo shows along with numerous group exhibitions in Pakistan, Dubai, Singapore, England, America and India. He participated in Karachi Biennale 2019 with his sculptural installation for public in Karachi Zoo, and Lahore Biennale 2020 collateral event "It's About Body" – a project of Studio RM at O Art Space, Art for Climate Change art residency Naran in 2018, Climate Change and Art – A Practitioners' Retreat, art residency Swat in 2016 and Vasl residency Karachi in 2007.

Dahri is a prolific visual practitioner who lives and works in Lahore, Pakistan.





Kiran Waseem

Yearning II, Oil on Aluminium Sheet, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



KIRAN WASEEM

Kiran Wasseem completed her BFA with a major focus on painting from the National College of Arts Lahore in 2017. Since her graduation she has pursued her creative practice as an independent visual artist. She has taken part in a number of shows within Pakistan exhibiting her works at O Art Space, Taseer Art Gallery, Ejaz Art Gallery, Art scene Gallery, Canvas Gallery, Royaat Art Gallery, Zulfi Art Gallery and My Art World. In addition, she has collaborated with interior design showrooms on projects for Marina Homes and White by Mehr through the Paint Bucket Gallery.

Wasseem currently works and lives in Lahore, Pakistan.





Masooma Syed

Wish, Oil on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Masooma Syed

Tender Touch Woman, Silver, whisky and glass bottle inside acrylic box, 5 x 5 x 7.25 inches 2021

MASOOMA SYED

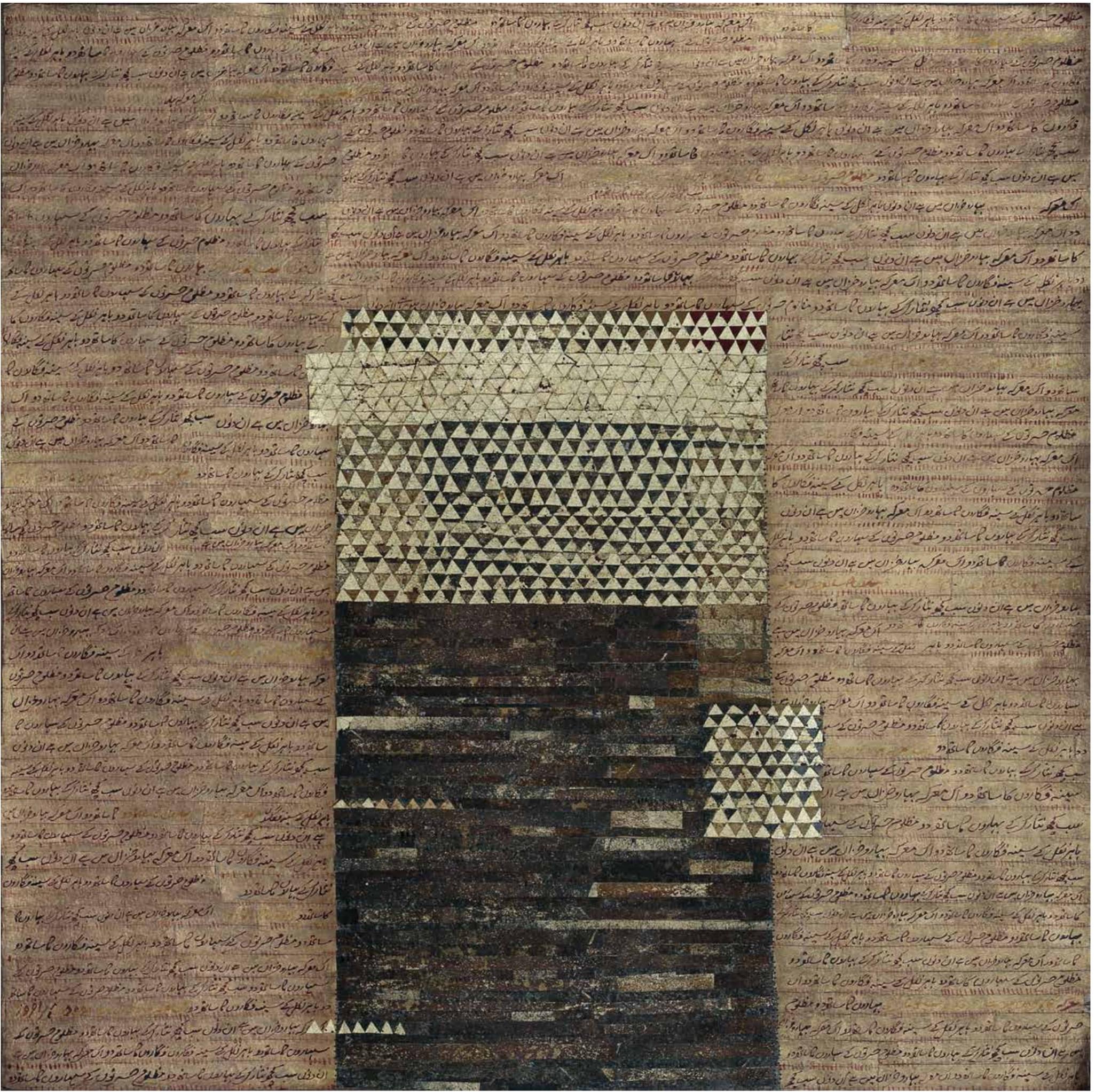
Born in Pakistan, and having worked and lived across South Asia, Masooma Syed's art trajectory has been unusual as an artist and art academic. She has practiced and taught art in several universities and art schools across South Asia including the National Collage of Arts, Lahore, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, School of Culture and Creative Expressions, Ambedkar University, Delhi, Kathmandu University, Theertha School of Art, Colombo and Swami Vipula Anand School of Aesthetic, Batticaloa in Sri Lanka.

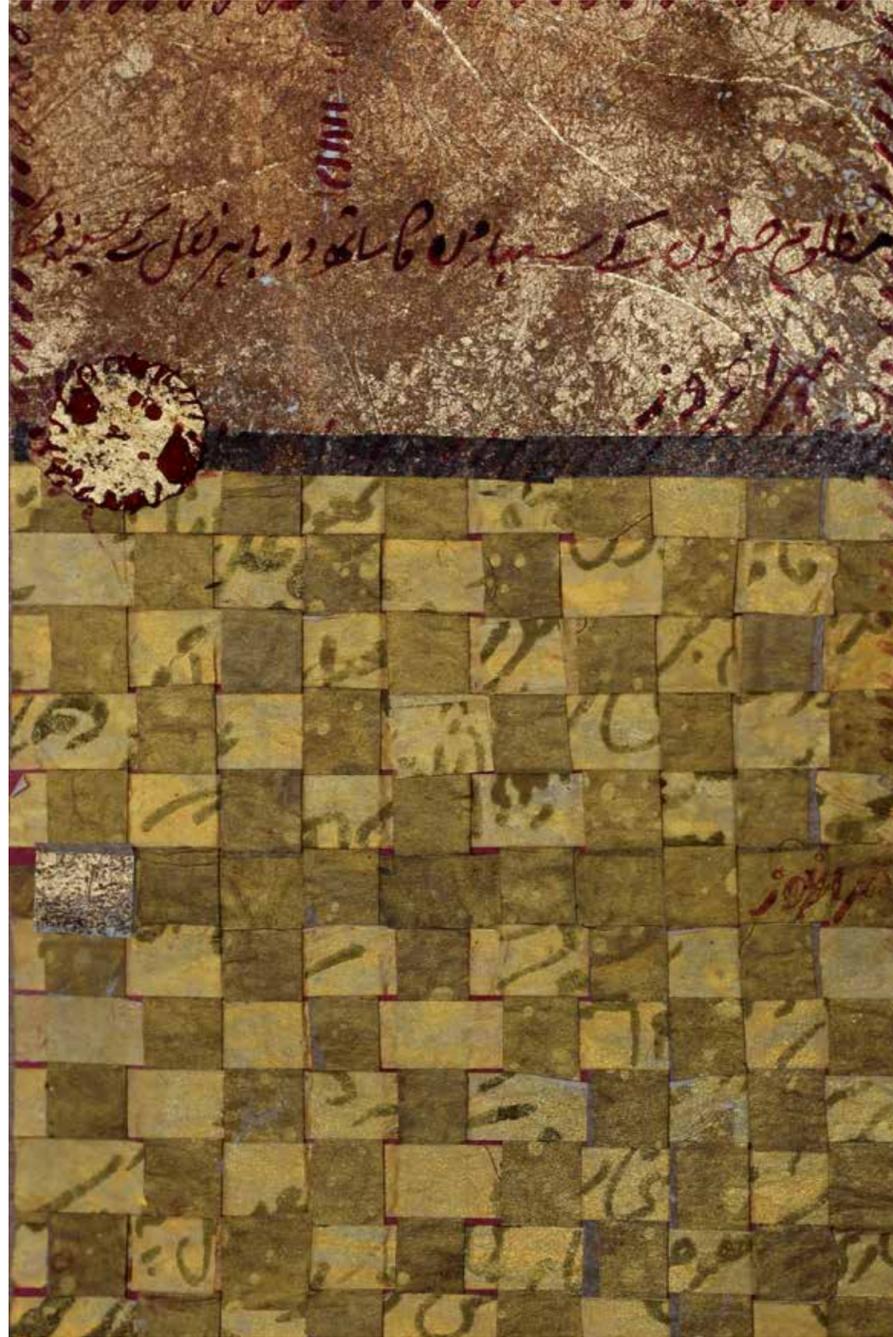
Syed's art practice involves intricate processes, layered ideas of duality, reality and fiction in nation theories, culture propagandas, personal history and history as battleground. Visuals are a conundrum, kitsch is celebrated, convention is flouted and slickness is derided. There is flippant dismissal and protest in the use of "ephemeral "over" the permanent "

Her works have been exhibited locally and internationally, at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Delhi, Devi Art Foundation, New Delhi, Fukuoka Asian Art Triennial, Japan; Harris Museum, Black Burn Museum, England, Metropolitan Museum Tokyo, Apex Art, New York and Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany, and NGMA, Mumbai. She has also showed her works at Rohtas Art Gallery, Lahore, Gallery Ske, Delhi/ Bangalore, Vadehra Art Gallery Delhi and Red Dot in Colombo.

Syed is the recipient of Commonwealth Fellowship of Art and Craft, Australia, HAT, Here and There, art and craft fellowship, Manchester University and most recently a research fellowship at Post Graduate Institute of Archeology, Kelaniya University, Sri Lanka.







Meher Afroz

معرکہ (Muarka), Acrylic, golden leaf on hand made paper, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

MEHER AFROZ

Meher Afroz graduated with Honors in Fine Arts from Government College of Arts and Crafts, Lucknow, India, in 1971. She has taught as a professor at Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi and is a member of Pakistan Arts Council, Karachi.

Afroz's work has been featured in notable publications, *50 years of Visual Arts in Pakistan* 1997 by Prof. Quddus Mirza, *Pioneering Prospective* 1998 by Nilofer Farrukh and *Image and Identity* 1999 by Dr. Akbar Naqvi. She has been showing her works in several solo and group exhibitions in Pakistan, UK, Sri Lanka, Canada, Iraq, India, Hong Kong, UAE, France, Nepal, USA, Bangladesh, Australia and Italy. Afroz has been a part of many national and international workshops and residencies including Studio RM Residency (International) in 2010; workshop in Toulouse, France in 1996; Painter workshop at Alliance Francaise, Islamabad in 1995; Painter workshop at Goethe Institute, Lahore in 1993; Printmaking Workshop with Walter Crump at American Centre, Karachi in 1993 and Woodcut Techniques Workshop at Kala Institute, San Francisco, USA in 1991.

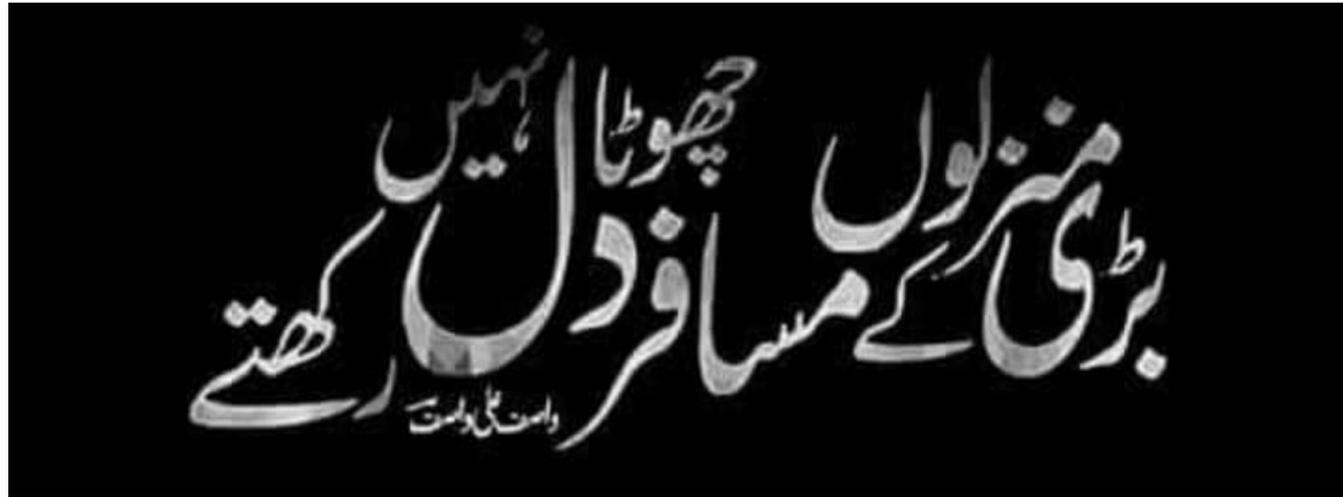
Meher Afroz is the recipient of numerous awards including the Pride of Performance Award by the Government of Pakistan in 2014, and Honorable Mention at the 6th Asian Biennale in 1993, Bangladesh.





Muhammad Ali

Gul Phenkein Hain Auron Ki Taraf Balke Samar Bhi, Ae Khaana Bar Andaz e Chaman Kuch Tau Idhar Bhi, Oil on Canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



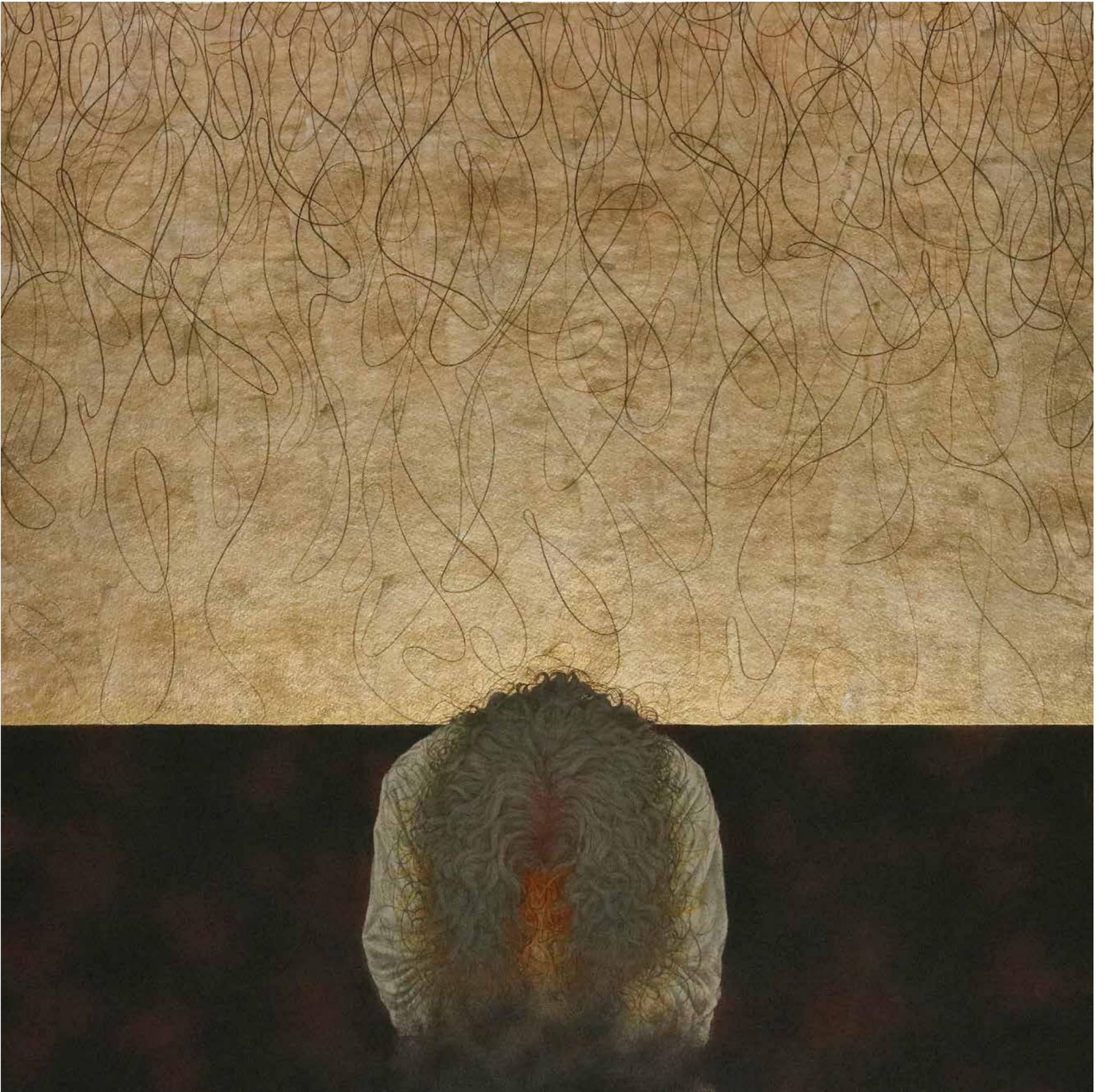
MUHAMMAD ALI

Muhammad Ali is a multidisciplinary visual and performance artist who graduated in 2010 from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture (IVS) with a BFA.

Ali thinks of himself as an artist of the senses who likes to manipulate, coax, create and render whole metaphysical and literal worlds of fantasy. By profession, he is a creator, an inventor and an artist, but more importantly it is his skill with emotion and what he calls his “desire radar” that allows him to flesh out ideas and engage in meaningful dialogues.

In the last decade Ali has exhibited extensively, both at local and international venues, with several solo and multi-persons shows to his credit. These include displays at the Bruckenthal Museum of Contemporary Art in Romania and a seminal group show at Dubai’s leading Lawrie Shabibi Gallery in 2012. He was selected as a finalist for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2013. Ali’s work has also been shown in Hong Kong and South Korea and he was nominated and selected to represent Karachi Biennale 2017 (KB17) at a performance art intensive in Leeds.





Mudassar Manzoor

Experiencing the Nowness, Silver, Gouache & Pigment on Wasli
Paper, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Mudassar Manzoor

Submission, Silver, Gouache & Pigment on Wasli Paper, 7 x 5 inches,
2021

MUDASSAR MANZOOR

Mudassar Manzoor was born in 1979 in Lahore, Pakistan. He graduated from the National College of Arts, Lahore with a BFA in miniature painting in 2005. He taught at his alma mater from 2007 and 2010 as a visiting lecturer. He received numerous scholarships and awards including Best Young Painter Award by Lahore Arts Council, 2006; Distinction in thesis project, 2005; Merit Scholarship, NCA, 2005.

Manzoor has had numerous solo and group shows and has shown extensively in major national and international exhibitions spaces some of which are (2020) 'Lock Down' a collaborative online exhibition of Pakistani & Malaysian Artists, at O Art Space Lahore, Pakistan & KL City Art Gallery, Malaysia; (2019) 'It's About Body' curated by Studio R.M. at O Art Space; (2019) 'Awakening' at O Art Space, Lahore, Pakistan; (2018) 'Shahnama—A Journey Towards the Self' at Chawkandi Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan; (2018-19) 'Art for Education—Contemporary Artists from Pakistan' curated by Salima Hashmi & Rosa Maria Falvo at Museo Diocesano Carlo Maria Martini, Milan, Italy; (2016-17) 'Narcissus Reborn' curated by Aasim Akhtar, Sanat Gallery, Karachi; 'Kaleidoscope: A new perspective on contemporary Pakistani Art' at Asia House London, U.K; (2015) "Silsila" curated by Studio R.M. at Sanat Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan; (2016) "Recent Works" Emerge Gallery, Paris, France; (2015) "I washed the dust of the eyes with blood" Koel Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan; (2014) "Once we were in Heaven" Artscene Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan; (2013) "Indo-Pak Masters" International Creative Arts Center, Mumbai; (2012) "Main" Koel Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan; (2011) "Contemporary Pakistani Art" Buenos Aires, Argentina; (2010) "Contemporary Shahnama Exhibition" Prince's Foundation Gallery, London - Slick Art Fair, Paris, France - Art Expo, Malaysia; (2008-9) Hong Kong Art Fair; (2011) "The River Runs Dry" Rohtas II, Lahore, Pakistan; (2009) "Fallen" Gandhara Art Space, Karachi; (2009) "Contemporary Miniature Paintings" Frey Norris Gallery, San Francisco; (2008) "Surreal Narratives" Experimental Gallery, Hong Kong Art Center, Hong Kong; (2008) Gandhara Art Space; (2009) "Different Drummer" IVG, Karachi; (2008) Galery Artes, Paris; (2008) East-West Center Galery, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA; (2007) Pyeongtaek Art Festival, Korea. - "From Lahore to Montmartre" Paris-Nice. - Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore; (2006) National Exhibition, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore; (2005-6) ITC Mourya Shereton, Delhi.

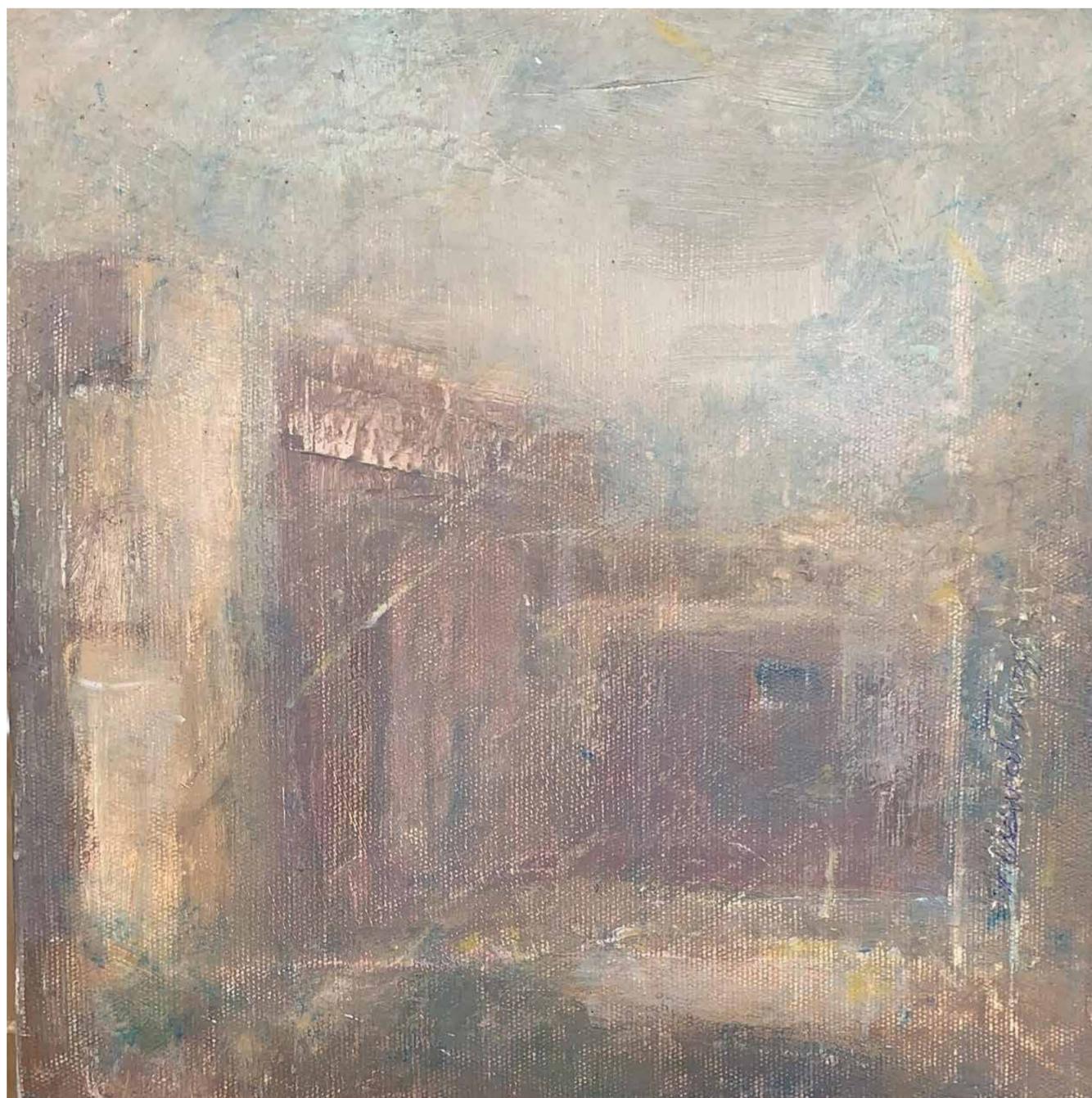


Manzoor currently lives and works in Lahore, Pakistan.



Mussarat Mirza

Can spring be far behind I, Oil on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Mussarat Mirza

Can spring be far behind II, Oil on canvas, 8 x 8 inches, 2021

MUSSARAT MIRZA

Mussarat Mirza, a Pakistani painter of great repute was born in Sukkur. She started painting at an early age, a time when hardly any women were seen outdoors in the area. She owed her artistic sensibilities to her father. She did her Masters in Fine Art from Punjab University, Lahore. A pioneering art educator she served at the University of Sindh, Jamshoro as the head of the Fine Arts Department for several years.

For me painting is an absorbing reality. My earlier paintings reflected social problems but with the passage of time my paintings have become more solitary. Mud houses, pigeons, kites, shadowy lanes, light, half closed doors, windows and stairs. These doors and windows are dreams. Coming out of the great beyond, I see a glimmer of light, a ray of hope. I walk through the dark night shore footed leaving my prison vault far behind.

Mirza has held numerous solo exhibitions across Pakistan. Internationally she has exhibited in Canada, Iran, UAE, Korea, Bangladesh, France, China, Japan, India and East Africa.

Mirza was awarded the prestigious Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah Award in 2010. She was honored with the International Watercolor Shield in Osaka, Japan. In 2013, she was a recipient of the Tamgha-i-Imtiaz awarded by the Government of Pakistan and the Life Time Achievement Award that was presented to her at the Lahore Literary Festival in 2016.

Mirza lives and works in Sukkur, Sindh.





Nazia Gull

Golden Ratio, Acrylic and glitter on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Nazia Gull

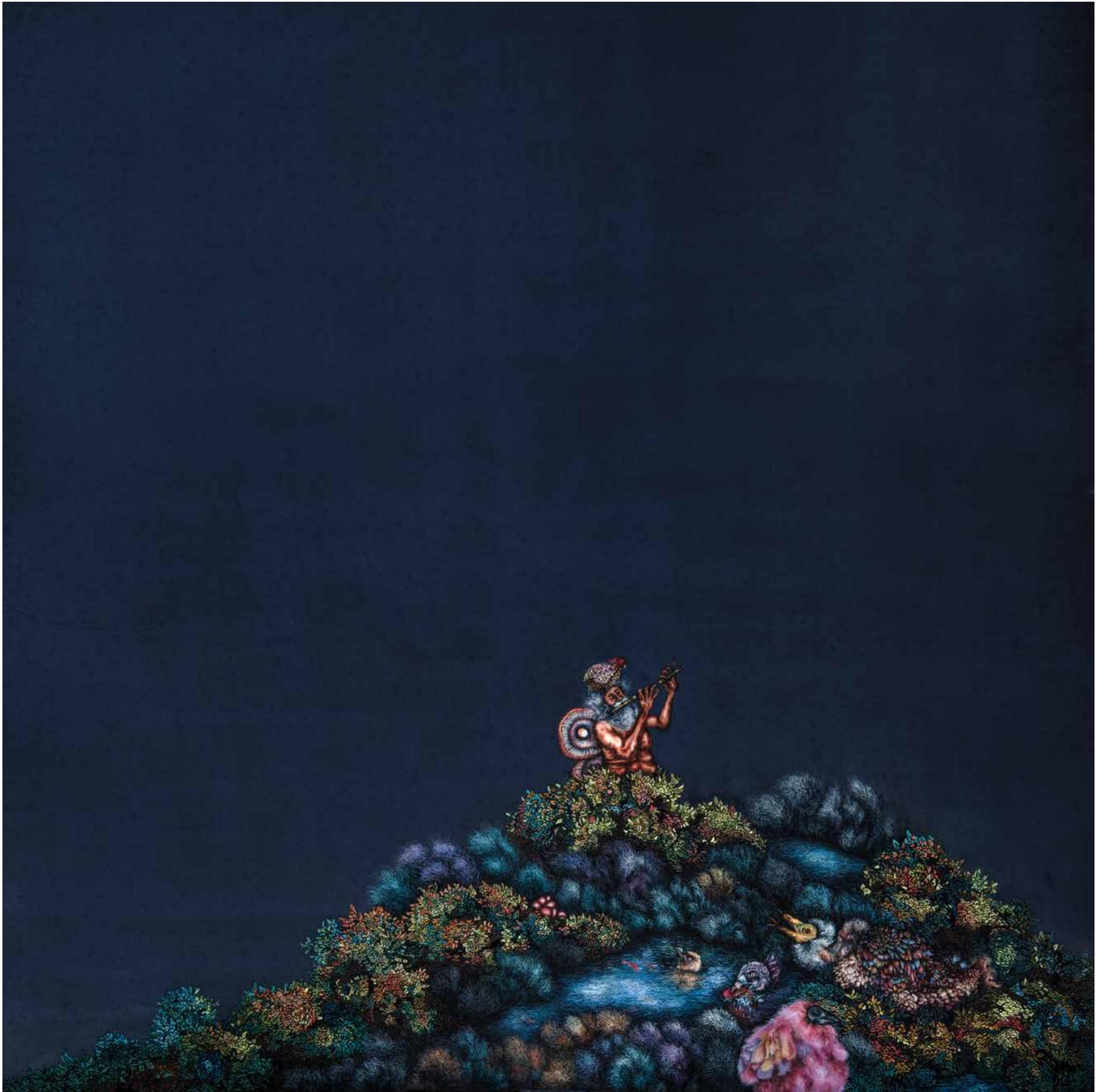
The Blue Pocket, Acrylic on paper, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

NAZIA GULL

Nazia Gull graduated with a BFA from the National College of Arts in 2006, with a major focus in the discipline of miniature painting.

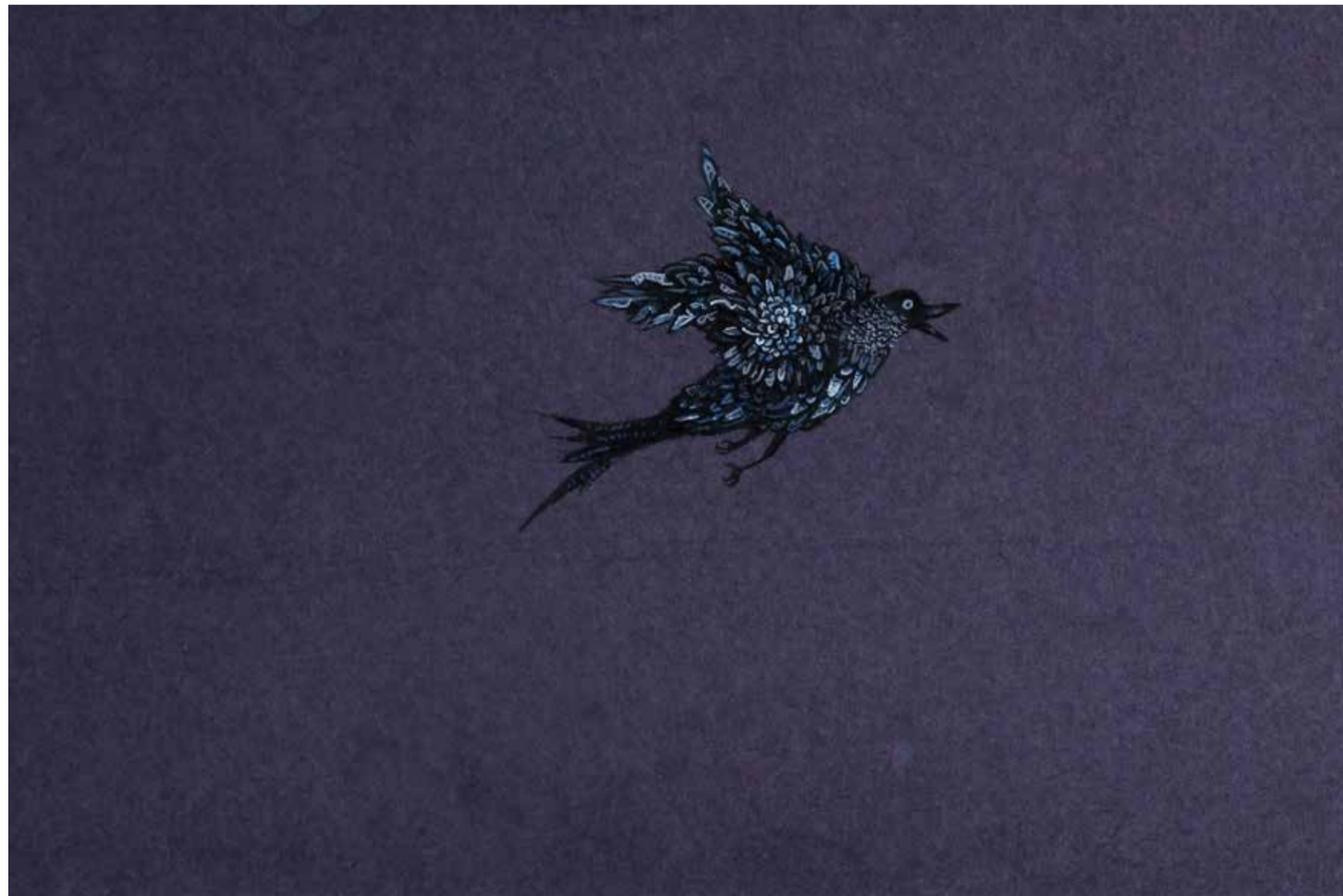
Gull's visual practice deviated her technique from a traditional approach towards content that captures contemporary issues. She draws inspiration through her own personal trajectory to navigate inquiries into her social and political surroundings. Through her works she questions both the harsh and pleasant realities in a surrealistic manner. Gull has shown extensively in national and international shows.





Rabia S. Akhtar

I can make the Plants Laugh, Gouache on Wasli, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



RABIA S. AKHTAR

Rabia S. Akhtar is a Karachi based visual artist and writer. She received her BFA from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture in 2015, majoring in traditional miniature painting. Within her practice she cross-examines the psychic, nostalgic conditions around human-animal relationships. Bizarre universes are constructed, where zoomorphic beings and otherworldly beasts negotiate within an uneasy, symbolic coexistence. She has also produced content for various platforms, including ArtNow Pakistan and the Karachi Biennale Trust. To add to her repertoire, she has written a children's book which will be published through Oxford University Press, Pakistan, later this year.

Akhtar's works have been showcased both locally and internationally, at spaces including the Ministry for Gozo (Malta) and the Czong Institute of Contemporary Art Museum (South Korea). In 2020, her artist book 'Bogus Villa Buds' was displayed at Focal Point 2020, an art book fair arranged by the Sharjah Art Foundation. She has taken part in residencies including a collaborative AiR program initiated by the Valetta 2018 Foundation and Fondazzjoni Kreattività, as well as 'Locating Word' and 'Taaza Tareen 12', initiated by Vasl Artists' Collective.





Risham Syed

A Chronicle Punctuated Series, Acrylic on canvas on board
Vintage mahogany amp meter, Size Variable, Painting: 5 x 7 inches



Risham Syed

Lahore Series: DHA Phase VII, Acrylic on canvas on board,
4 x 6 inches, 2021

RISHAM SYED

Risham Syed is a visual artist who presently serves as the Head of the Visual Arts Department at the School of Visual Arts & Design, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan. She graduated from the National College of Arts, Lahore and has an MA from the Royal College of Art, London.

Syed's diverse art practice explores questions of history, sociology, and politics. Her native city of Lahore plays a pivotal role in her work, as living in the metropolis is a continuous experience of momentous 'urban transition', that has become potently tangible in the past few years. She explores related inquiries of colonial history in the context of the role they play in the region today. Syed uses her paintings as pieces of a greater, often global context through installation and engages objects, borders, margins, frames with social reference and connotation. Her use of fabric, embroidery, found objects, along with her painting speak about her connection with the personal as well as historical, weaving in history with the present moment.

Syed has shown extensively in major national and international exhibitions including the Manchester Art Gallery, ABRAAJ Capital Art Prize, Dubai, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, Asia Pacific Triennial Brisbane, Hangzhou Triennial of Fiber Art, China, Mohatta Palace Museum, Karachi, National Gallery of Art, Islamabad, National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai, Harris Museum, Preston, Barbican Center, London and the Fukuoka Triennial, Japan.







SADIA SALIM

Sadia Salim is a multidisciplinary artist, designer and educator. Her art practice is informed by the narratives of geographical spaces, lived experiences and everyday objects. She has investigated and worked with multiple mediums but ceramics remains her forte. Her practice has evolved into an intensive study of materials and techniques associated with the medium, to the extent that the study and research have become a focus, for the benefit of pedagogy and for the promotion of crafts, especially *Kashikari*, practiced in Sindh and Southern Punjab regions.

Salim is a recipient of the coveted Commonwealth Arts and Crafts Award and Fulbright Scholarship. She has participated in and presented at local and international conferences, residencies and exhibitions. She has extensive experience in teaching art and design to undergraduate students. Currently she is Associate Professor and Director Graduate Studies at the Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture. Salim received a B.Des. from IVS, and an Ed.M. in Art and Art Education from Columbia University.





Sameen Agha

Home is a terrible place to love IV, Graphite on Paper, 24 x 24 Inches
2021



Sameen Agha

Home is a terrible place to love III, Graphite on Paper, 6 x 4 Inches
2021

SAMEEN AGHA

A visual artist and an academic Sameen Agha graduated from the National College of Arts, Lahore in 2016. After completing her BFA Agha started her career teaching as a lecturer at the Institute of Art & Culture, simultaneously pursuing her own studio practice. During this period, she honed her academic growth and trained as an instructor for the International Baccalaureate for the Visual Arts Diploma Programme.

Currently she is Gallery Curator at O Art Space and continues her visual practice in Lahore.





Sana Arjumand

You be, You see I, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Sana Arjumand

You be, You see II, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 6 x 4 inches, 2021

SANA ARJUMAND

Sana Arjumand is a contemporary multidisciplinary visual artist who was born in Karachi in 1982. She received a High Achiever Award from Cambridge University in Advanced Level Art and Sociology. In 2005, she graduated from the prestigious National College of Arts, Lahore with a major in painting. In 2009, she was a resident artist at the prestigious Art OMI residency in New York.

Recognized for her extensive practice in painting, Arjumand has explored a variety of other mediums that include digital art, photography, film making and performance. Her current work features intricately layered paint, hypnotically drawn figures and birds using a luminously radiant colour palette that is now known to be uniquely hers. Through her imagery she explores mysticism and spirituality, where the bird has become a metaphoric symbol of energetic beings, suggestive of coexistence of higher dimensions and other realities.

Arjumand has shown extensively in major national and international exhibitions in museums across the world, including Museo Diocesano in Milan, Italy, Columbia Museum of Art, U.S.A and Nike Art Museum, Korea. She has also shown at United Nations Headquarters in New York and held solo shows in Aicon Gallery, New York, Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, and in major cities of Pakistan. She has participated in group shows in London, New York, Hawaii, Seoul, Amman, Delhi, Ahmedabad and Mumbai. Her work has been represented several times in Dubai Art Fair, Indian Art Fair, Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Art Basel Hong Kong, Flux Festival, London and University of Sunderland U.K. Her work has been mentioned in Blouin Artinfo as one of the "Top Ten Rising Stars In Pakistan and India". Other international publications that have reviewed her work include Time Magazine, Christian Science Monitor, Art Now, Asia Art Pacific, Huffington Post, Nat Brut, Indian Times, H.A. S magazine, Free Times and Art Quarterly (Christie's publication) to name a few. Her work has also been discussed in several international blogs and forums. Her work has been collected by Francis J. Greenburger Collection (New York), Devi Art Foundation (New Delhi), Pondsides Press (New York), Rangoonwala (Pakistan), DIL foundation (New York), Luciano Benetton Collection (Italy) and others.

Currently the artist works and resides at her studio in Lahore, Pakistan.





Shaukat Ali Khokhar

Untitled I, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



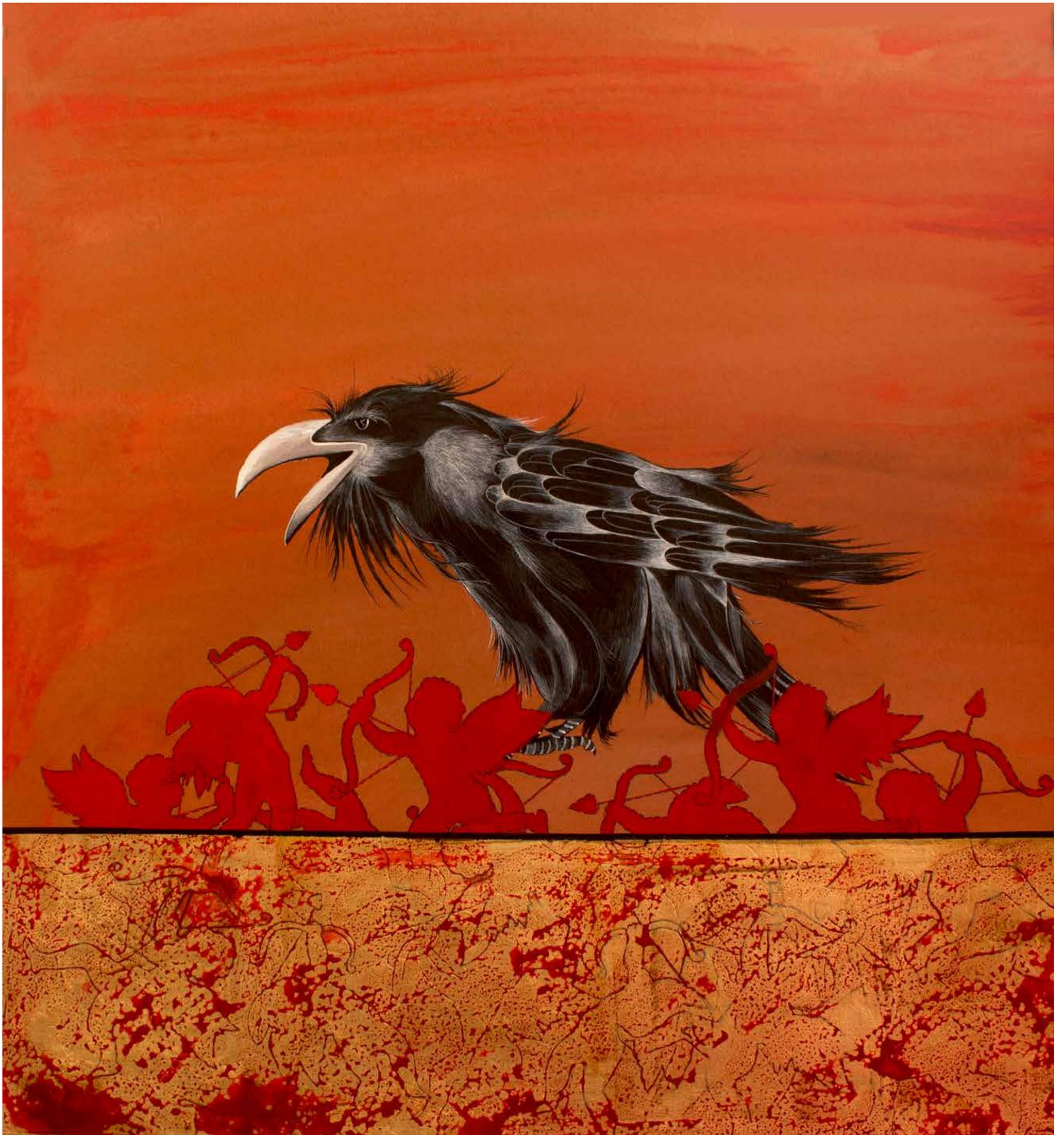
SHAUKAT ALI KHOKHAR

Shaukat Ali Khokhar was born in 1970 in the small village of Mithodero near Larkana, Sindh Pakistan. His early works depicted a love for the streets of his own village and paintings of pigeons, which originated from his childhood memories. After completing his MA (hons) in Visual Art at the National College of Art in Lahore his work evolved towards minimalism. Post his graduation, armed with a sound theoretical base, he created his paintings using simple dots.

“From the beginning to the finished work of art, the dot is an essential element in my work – I had always been a great admirer of the ‘dot’ used repetitively, just like Daedalus created the labyrinth for the King Minos. I remained involved in making intricate patterns based on my thought process. However, every work has a simple beginning but end in forming complex but beautiful labyrinths. These labyrinths also take me back to my childhood and I recall roaming around the streets of my village.

The Labyrinths, I create are monologues woven through my feelings and emotions. These monologues are formed with myriad dots that invite the viewers to lose themselves in the visuals, travel their own way, with varied options, to experience and interpret the journey as they want.”





Sobia Ahmed

Fall-out, Gouache and gold leaf on wasli, 19 x 19 inches (unframed), 2021



SOBIA AHMED

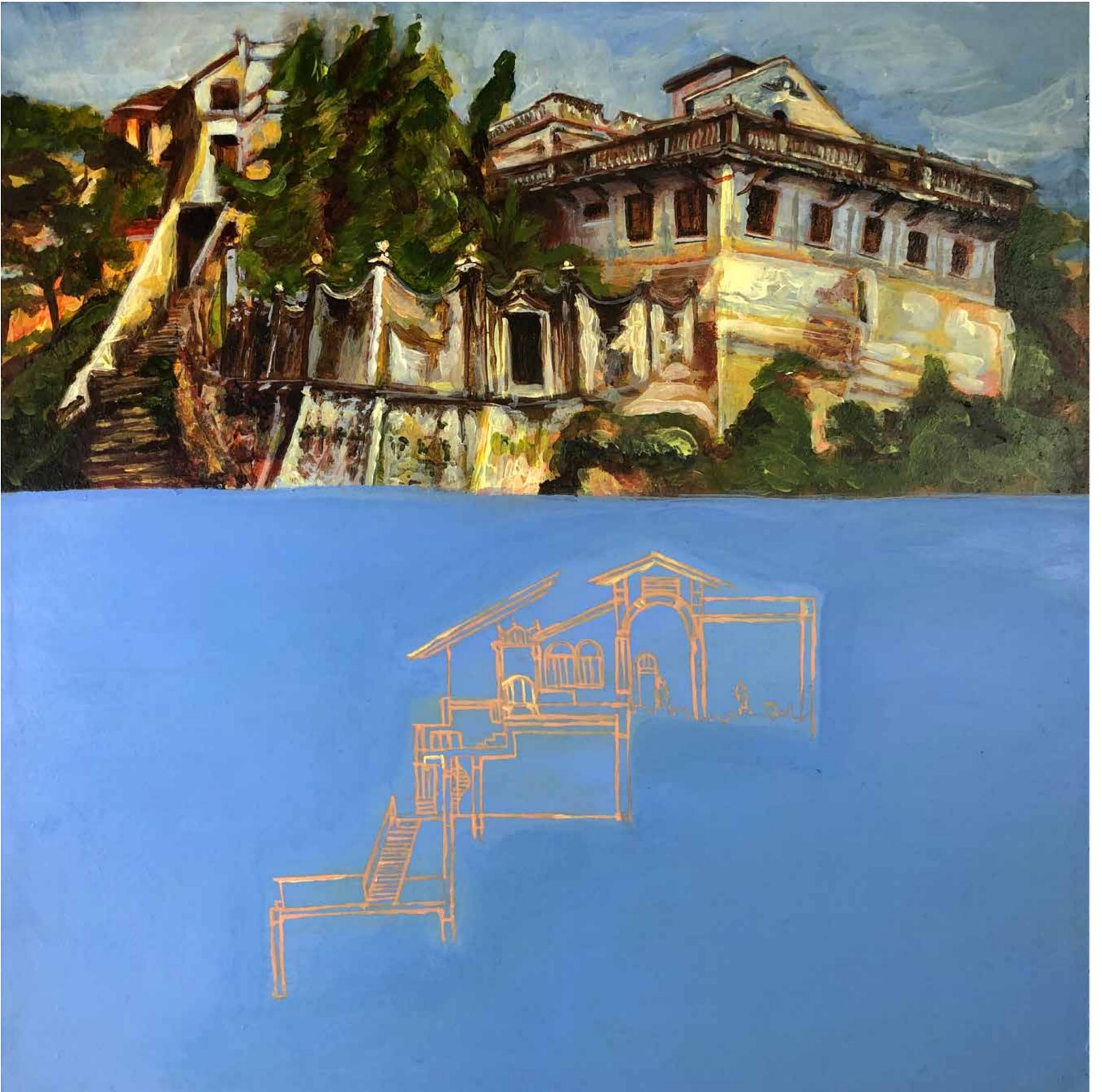
Sobia Ahmed graduated with a BFA in miniature painting and a Masters in Visual Arts, from the National college of Arts, Lahore.

Ahmed is a Lahore-based artist whose work addresses various socio-political predicament situations that define the boundaries of human interaction both on a national, as well as an international level. Through her work she aims to raise questions within the viewers mind regarding the circumstances that define political boundaries around the world.

She has shown her work within Pakistan and internationally in India, Dubai, Switzerland, Canada, Oman, London and Japan.

Ahmed currently holds the position of Lecturer and teaches at the National College of Arts, Lahore since 2013.





Veera Rustomji

Dar-i-Mihr in Bharuch, Oil and Acrylic on Lasani, 24 x 24 inches, 2021



Veera Rustomji

Surveying The Land, Oil and Acrylic on Lasani, 4 x 6 inches, 2021

VEERA RUSTOMJI

Veera Rustomji (b. 1992) is an artist from Karachi, Pakistan. She holds a BFA from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture (2015) and an MA in Fine Art from Chelsea College of Arts, UAL (2019).

In addition to pursuing her visual art practice, she has curated and managed residencies in Karachi with the Vasl Artists Association as a Project Coordinator. During her time in London she worked with the Learning & Collections Department at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Rustomji is a recipient of the UAL Postgraduate International Scholarship Award and is part of a Chelsea alumni collective named Portland. As an artist, she has displayed locally and internationally; some key highlights include Rossi & Rossi, London, Aicon Gallery NYC and the 2017 Karachi Biennale. Currently she teaches as visiting faculty, Fine Art at the Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, Karachi.



