

# مد و جزر

Hamza Zaki

Hassaan Gondal

Maazin Kamal

Saad Choudhry

# Hamza Zaki



Hamza Zaki is an artist based in Karachi, Pakistan. Starting photography out of mere curiosity, through experimentation he found himself discovering it as a profound means of visual communication. It encouraged him to make sense of the city by documenting his surroundings and exploring his inner dialogue in a visual way - one photograph at a time. The themes that often surface from his work are loss, social isolation, disparity, captivity, fragility and hope. His work has previously been featured in group exhibitions, publications and collectives nationally and internationally.

# ARTIST STATEMENT

This series of photographs explores the state of the human experience in the city and the self-imposed disunity between Man and the natural environment.

By the symbolism of imprisonment and captivity brought by using manmade structures such as bars, cages and walls, it questions the point of urban progress, whether the result of it all is going to be urban isolation and the deprivation of basic needs in the end. It further sheds light on the treatment of animals in an urban setting, whether it means confining an elephant into a cage for the purpose of entertainment or the exposure of animals to a toxic habitat.

It reminds us of the need for a better, natural social structure that values the natural environment and encourages coexistence. These photographs can be seen as a confirmation of the common need for freedom and retreat, from a life of urban isolation or estrangement and dejection to one that is more understanding, unifying and meaningful.



**Vantage**

2019

Digital inkjet print  
on Schoeller Paper  
22 x 22 inches



**Overtaken**

2021

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

16 x 24 inches



**Second-Class**

2021

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

16 x 24 inches



**Base**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

16 x 24 inches



**Rise**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

16 x 24 inches





**Habitat**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

16 x 24 inches



**Out of Place**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

12 x 18 inches

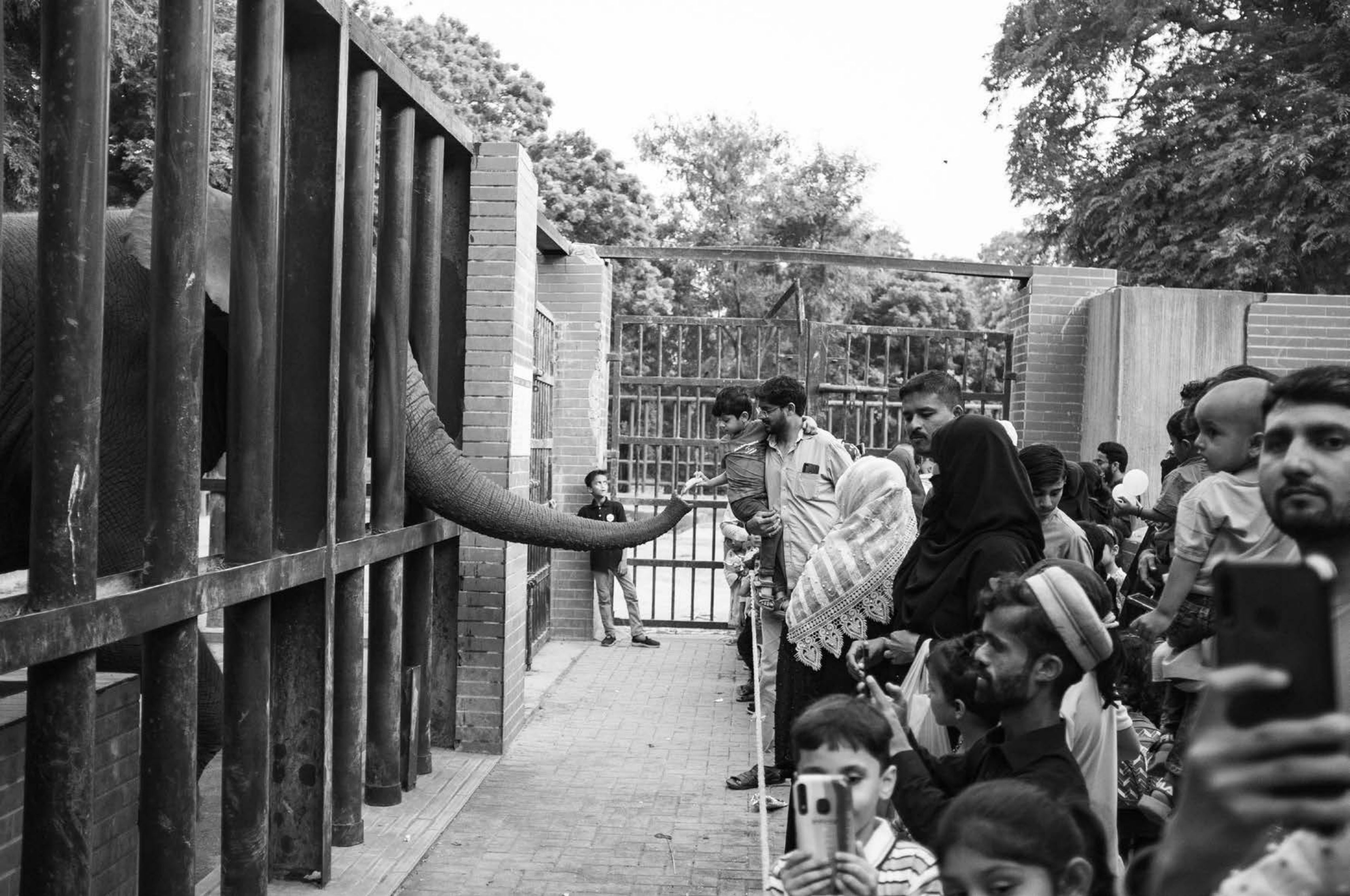
**Base II**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

12 x 18 inches





**Linkage**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

12 x 18 inches

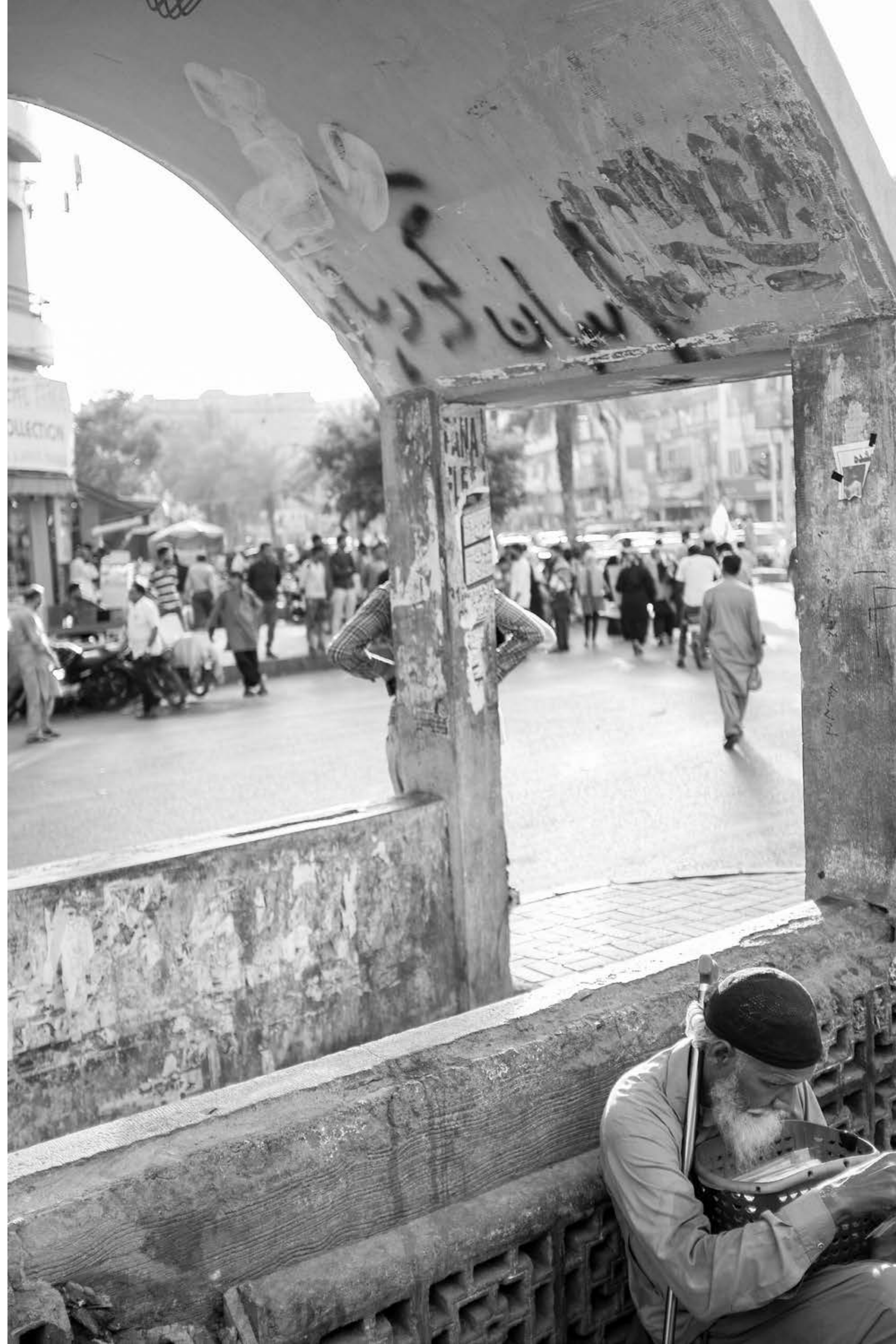


**Rise II**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

12 x 18 inches



**Current State**

2021

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

12 x 18 inches



**The Free**

2021

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

12 x 18 inches

**The New**

2022

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

8 x 12 inches







**The Obscure**

2021

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

8 x 12 inches



**The Dream**

2020

Digital inkjet print on Schoeller Paper

8 x 12 inches

# Hassaan Gondal



Hassaan is a Karachi based photographer interested in landscape and documentary photography. He is a participant of Pakistan Photo Festival Fellowship program and has previously worked with Azad film Company on numerous TVCs, documentaries, and film projects. Through his work, Hassaan seeks to understand and highlight issues around class identity and barriers to social mobility. Hassaan's recent work on devastation caused by floods in Sindh was published in Time Magazine.

# ARTIST STATEMENT

In 2020, there were massive monsoon rains in Karachi and most of the city was inundated. However, this was for the first time some of the elite areas were also impacted. Afterwards, there was widespread clamor over both mainstream and social media and this sense of urgency to rehabilitation efforts. It made me wonder why the reaction is different - more prominent - this time around. There had been rains before and people in more densely populated areas of the city had faced similar situations earlier as well - perhaps their suffering doesn't merit sustained attention.

I visited 5 districts of Sindh during peak flooding and more recently when the water levels had relatively receded. While the cities were abuzz with relief activities, the rural population had been left at the mercy of nature. These people, who could be seen camped along the highways / river embankments, used to live in mud houses which have been swept away along with their belongings / livestock.

Neither the state nor the society seems to have a plan. Unless waiting for the water to recede could be called one. What happens to these communities when they return? Will they go back and rebuild the same mud houses in the irregular settlements, which will be just as vulnerable when the next floods come?

For some people even a catastrophe doesn't change much. They were and remain neglected. Content with the bare minimum?

I hope these photographs make us question our privilege.



**1121**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**1190**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches

**1199**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches





1288

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**1289**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**1354**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches





**1383**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**1397**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**1577**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**1696**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



1711

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**1734**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches





**1749**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**1832**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2140**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2271**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2318**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2336**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2389**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2486**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



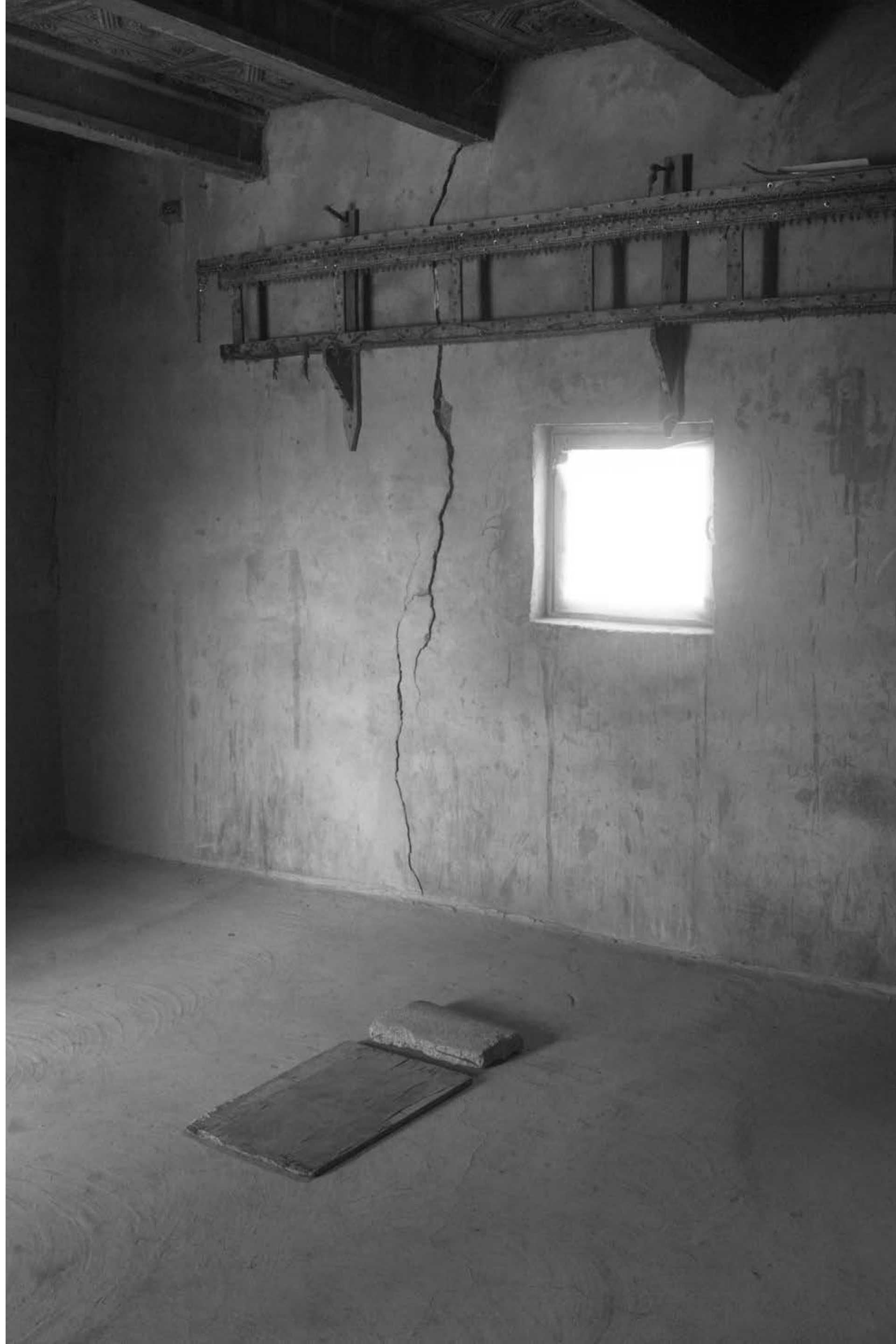


**2498**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches

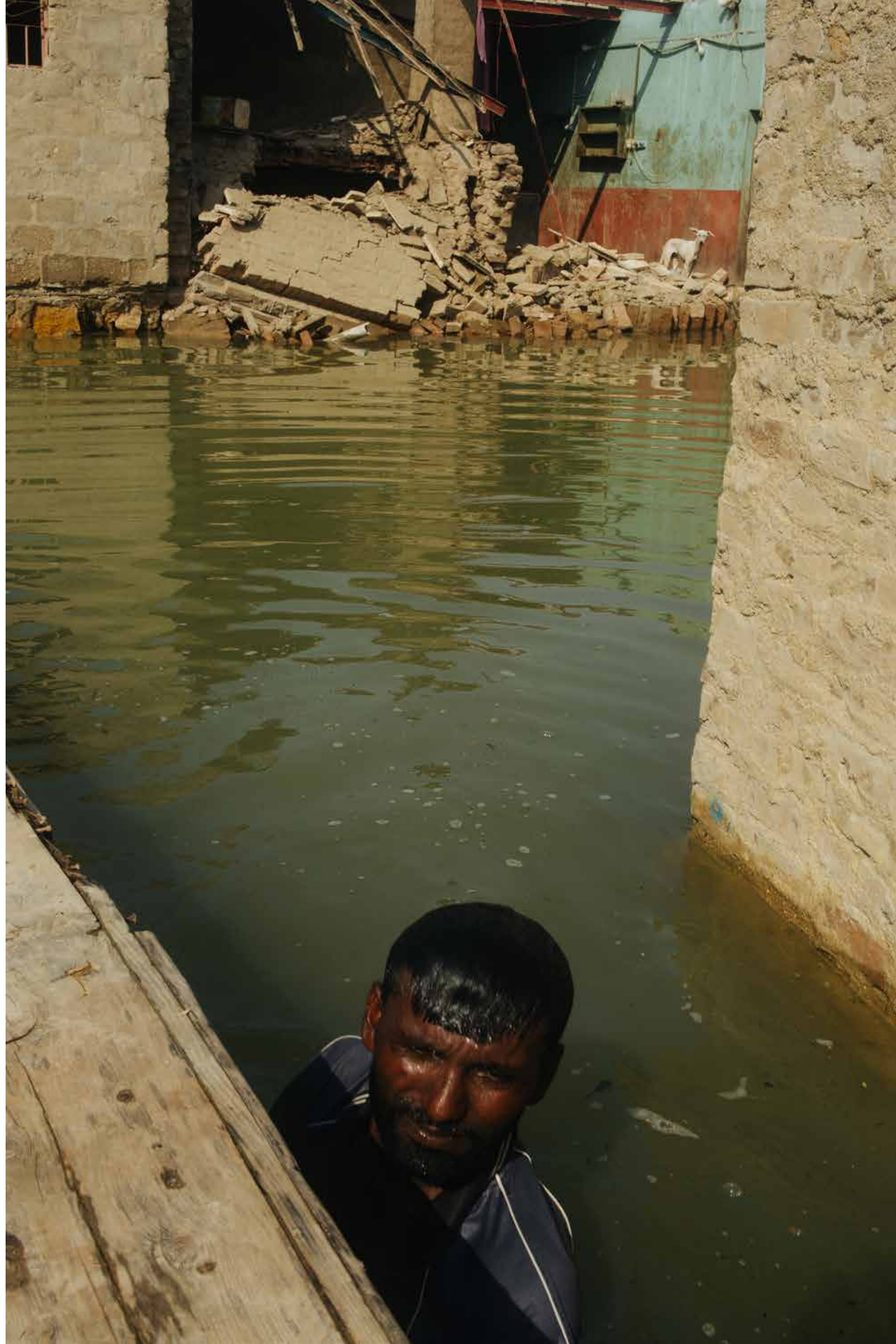


**2550**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2600**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2613**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**2632**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**3090**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**3097**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches

**3122**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches





**3147**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches





**3488**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**3490**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**3496**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**4238**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches



**4274**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

15 x 10 inches

# Maazin Kamal



Maazin Kamal is a photographer, screenwriter and director from Karachi with an MFA in Screenwriting from the American Film Institute Conservatory. In 2022, Maazin's photographic work was exhibited at Vantage Point Sharjah 10, an annual group show hosted by Sharjah Art Foundation. In 2021, his selected works was featured in volume 3 of Far-Near, a curated cross-cultural book series that broadens perspectives of Asia. In 2019, he was awarded the 'Street Discovery of the Year' prize at the Monochrome Awards. His first feature-length screenplay was optioned earlier this year. Maazin is currently hard at work on a first draft of a new screenplay that he intends to direct while simultaneously improving and widening his photographic practice.

# ARTIST STATEMENT

## Photography Series - The Fountain

This series comprises of photographs made between 2019 and 2022 along various shorelines of Karachi and its neighbouring seaside villages. From plundered to unspoiled coasts and those bursting with life, the imagery speaks to our manifold relationship with the sea and the changing realities of the city.

By interrupting the linear march of time, photography conjures a new reality where the past and future is implied but remains fundamentally unknown. The sequencing of this series uses this inherent interpretive quality to construct a symbolic narrative about time itself; a creation myth about how the world began and how we came to inhabit and exploit it.





## **Wellspring**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**First Light**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Natural Selection**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Arcadia I**

2020

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Arcadia II**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Arcadia III**

2019

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Curiosity**

2020

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



## **Knowledge**

2019

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3





**Conference**

2019

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Undertow**

2019

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Survey**

2019

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Tools**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



## Exodus

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**New Land**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3



**Harbinger**

2022

35mm film transferred to digital, Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.5 x 22 inches | Ed. of 3

# ARTIST STATEMENT

## Short Film - *Subhe be nur*

Socialization into rigid masculinity underlies the silences in '*Subhe be nur*'. The film quietly observes the cost of learned patriarchal norms during the morning routine of a small Pakistani family, and in so doing hopes to undercut the hard, emotionally inexpressive man as the seemingly ideal model of South Asian masculinity.

Written, Directed, Shot and Edited by Maazin Kamal  
Starring Sunil Shanker, Erum Bashir and Hadi Rahman  
Original Music composed and performed by Rakae Jamil





***Subhe be nur***

2021

Narrative Video Short Digital, Black & White

Duration: 10 mins

5 limited edition boxsets



***Subhe be nur***

2021

Narrative Video Short Digital, Black & White

Duration: 10 mins

5 limited edition boxsets



***Subhe be nur***

2021

Narrative Video Short Digital, Black & White

Duration: 10 mins

5 limited edition boxsets

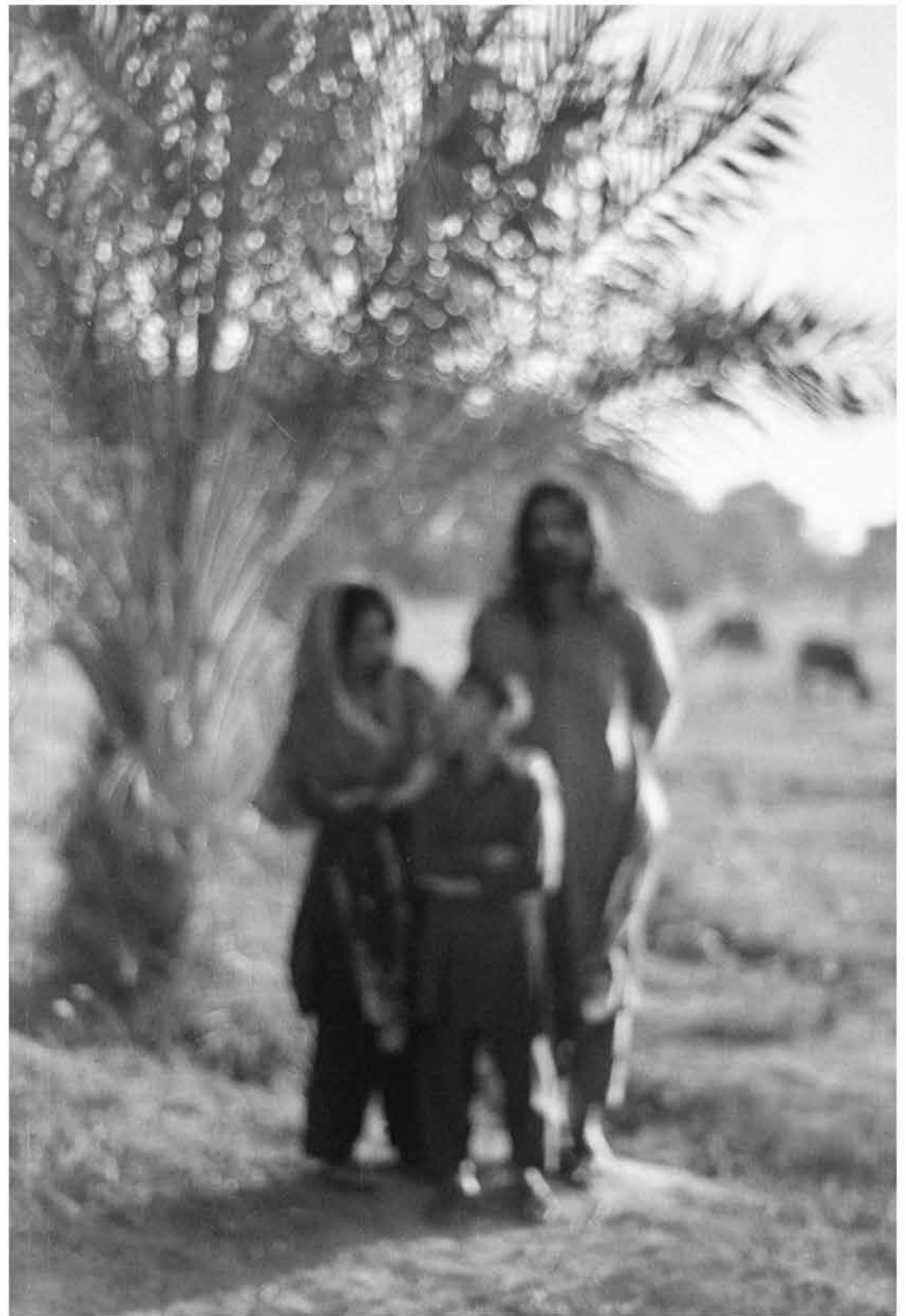
***Subhe be nur***

2021

Narrative Video Short Digital, Black & White

Duration: 10 mins

5 limited edition boxsets



صبح بے نور

MAINA FILMS PRESENTS SUBHE BE NUR - A FILM BY MAAZIN KAMAL  
STARRING SUNIL SHANKER + ERUM BASHIR + HADI RAHMAN  
FEATURING ORIGINAL MUSIC BY RAKAE JAMIL

# Saad Choudhry



Saad Choudhry is an independent photographer and visual researcher based in Karachi. The camera, a piece of technology that he flirted with throughout childhood did not take hold until five years ago, when in what seems like the deal of a lifetime now, he found in the camera he got a crutch and a life-long companion. Ever since then he has dreamt of producing bodies of work that not only touch viewers but also the subjects he works with. The art, for him, is his belief that by engaging with the camera, a deeper understanding can be had, not only of one's own self but also of the many worlds one finds themselves in. His photography practice has been ever evolving - from experimenting with different aesthetics to different methodologies. Apart from his regular forays into city streets, he is currently also working on his first long term documentary project. His work has been exhibited and published both locally and internationally.

# ARTIST STATEMENT

These photos, some vastly different than the others, have all been taken over the span of the last four years. They are tiny fragments, part of different series shot on various formats in various places as I work to build a larger archive of the country. Tying it all together is the eye that seeks to document the ever intricate and ever beautiful moments that simultaneously speak both to the uniqueness and sameness of experience in a specific place and community.

Photography often has people believe that they need to be away from home, or at least in a place they haven't been for them to take out their cameras. This series of photos turns that notion over its head. The photographer has chosen to walk close to home, most always on the same route, in search of history, beauty, truth and light.



## Breakfast Club

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Mother**

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches





## Travelling Salesman

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Stained Dawn**

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



## Road Prince

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



<3

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



**Business as Usual**

2020

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

11 x 14.6 inches



**Chota DHA**

2020

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Two and Two**

2020

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Pakistani Saffron**

2020

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches





## Entrance

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



**Exit**

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



**Outsider**

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



**Something about 5 PM**

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



US

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



***Pakistan ka Matlab***

2021

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

14.1 x 10.6 inches



## Dressed Up

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Rampart Row**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches





**Baithak**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Mother India**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**Nuclear Family (*aur Diwali key patakhay*)**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



**One Day**

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



## Slipping Away

2022

Inkjet print on cartridge paper

10 x 15 inches



[www.koelgallery.com](http://www.koelgallery.com)

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