

Artist Statement

The process of making an image is a very isolating yet intimate experience, entailing a challenging dichotomy of pain/pleasure, struggles/raptures, making / unmaking, and creation/erasures. They are part of a year-long dialogue generated during work for Wayfarers of the Last Night (Akhir-e-shab ke Hamsafar), a title borrowed from Quratulain Haider's novel. While tracing our individual experiences, art trajectory, and life around, we discussed certain core and common concerns and questions like; how are art and life intertwined? How do we still long to make art to arrive at various possibilities – the delight of exploring several media and challenges of its limitations, layered with indefinite arguments on focus, emotional state, and struggle to express and connect with oneself and the other? Though not intended for any resolution while discussing established exposition, various strategies of making art, preservation, and archival-ness, it furthered our conversations around other provocations. The periodical candid conversations were recorded, which elaborate on the need to embrace the simplicity of form, color, and erasure. But the question remained: how to let go while holding on to certain forms, materials, and content. The milieu's deep settled silence hovered over the conversation between the two of us while making sense of the absurdness, and un-layering the crumbling grim situation settled around us.

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