

CANVAS

GALLERY

**Wayfarers of The Last Night**  
آخر شب کے ہمسفر

Farida Batool  
Masooma Syed

21st - 30th March 2023

## 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.

Farida Batool  
Masooma Syed



Farida Batool



Title: The Red Erasure I  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Red Erasure II  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023

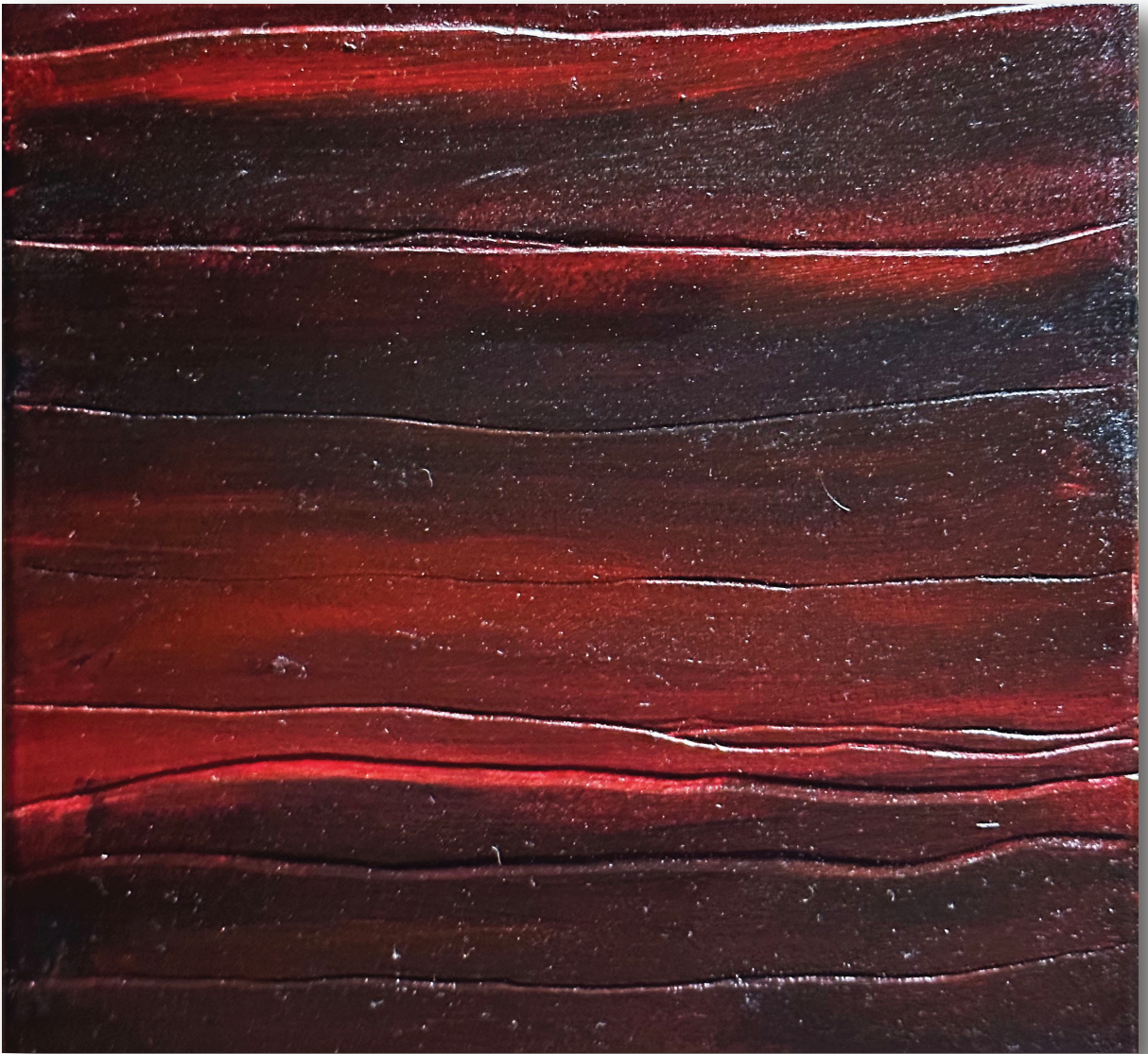


Title: The Red Erasure III  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Red Erasure IV  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023





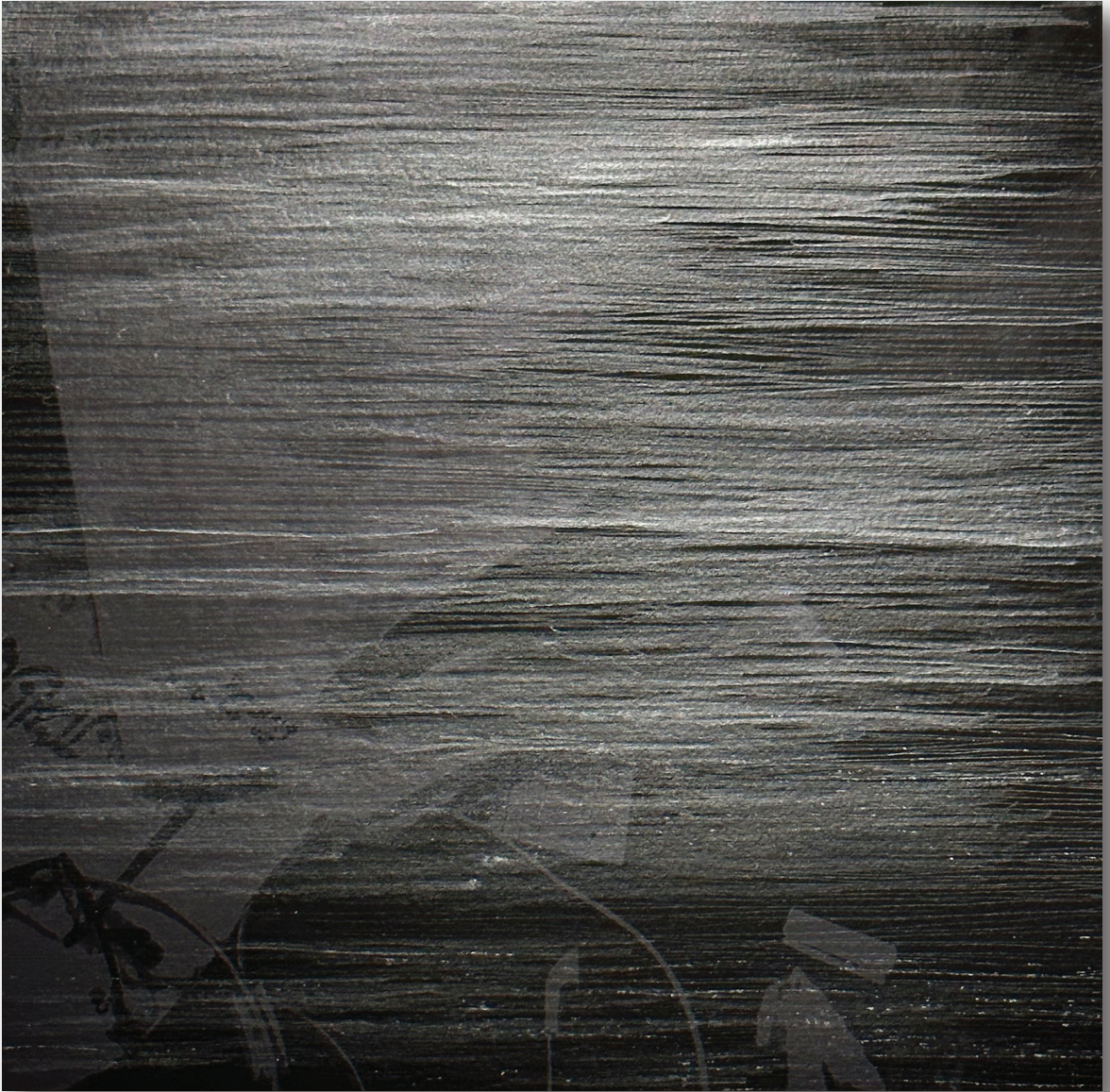
Title: The Red Erasure V  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Red Erasure VI  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Red Erasure VII  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Erasure I  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Erasure II  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Erasure III  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Erasure IV  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Erasure V  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023





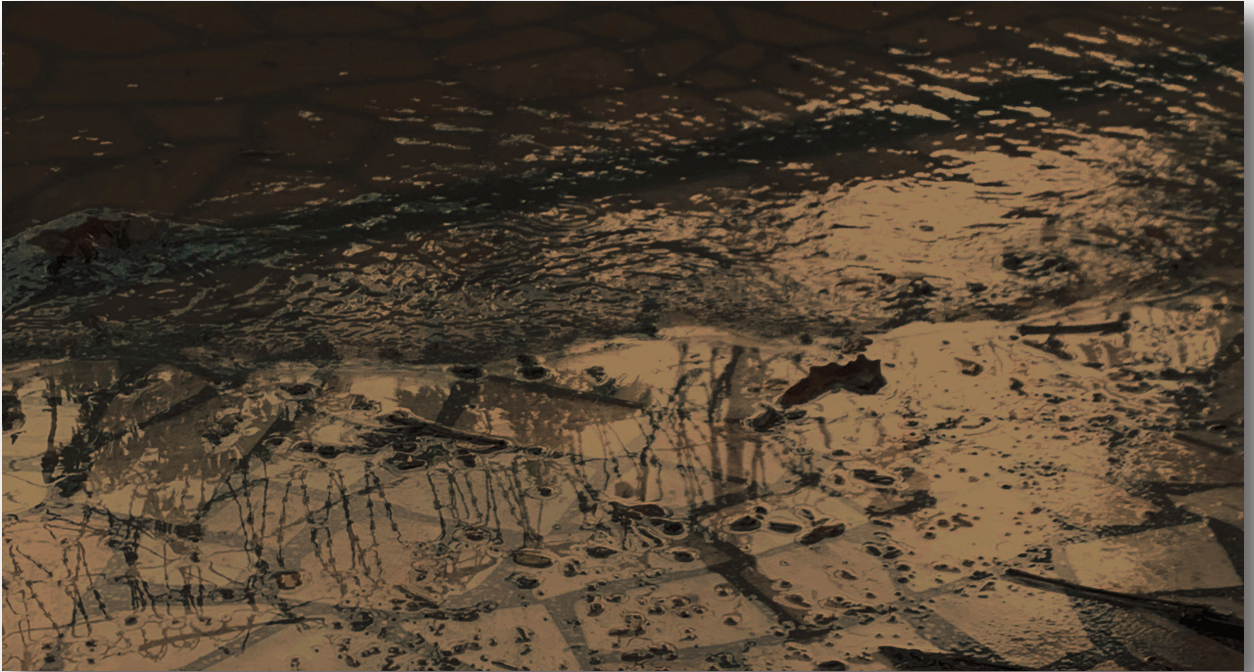
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Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: The Erasure VII  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



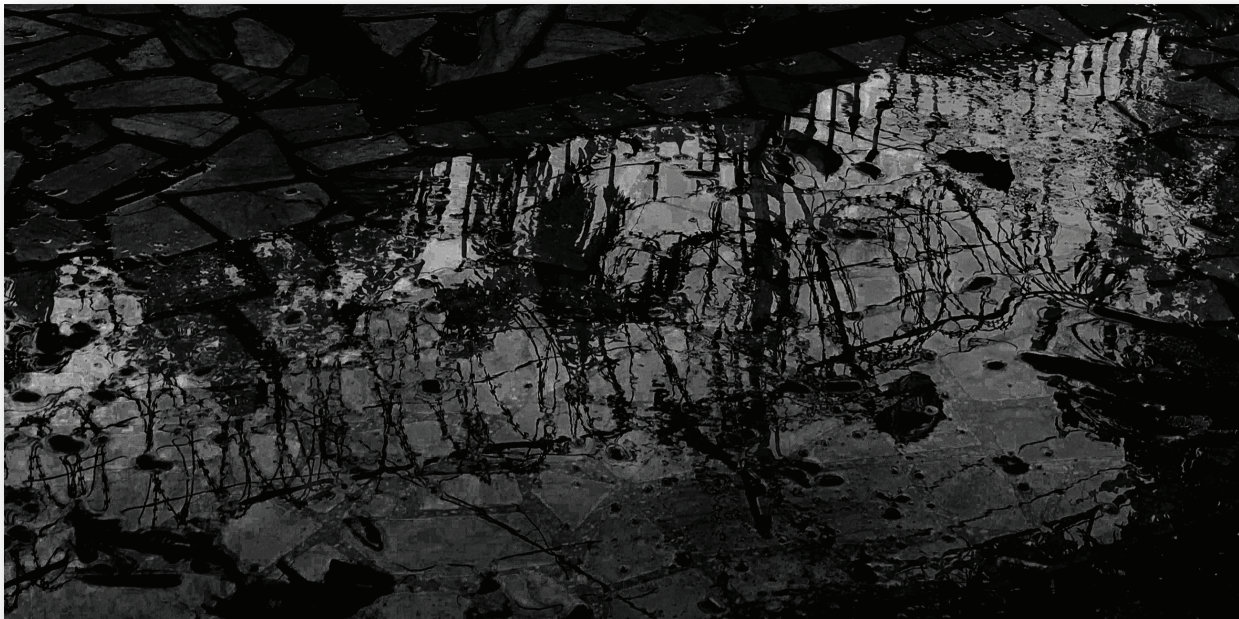
Title: Undulated Hues I  
Edition: 1/7 + 1AP  
Medium: Print on Glass  
Size: 18 x 18 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: Undulated Hues II  
Edition: 1/7 + 1AP  
Medium: Print on Glass  
Size: 24 x 18 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: Undulated Hues III  
Edition: 1/7 + 1AP  
Medium: Print on Glass  
Size: 24 x 18 Inches  
Year: 2023



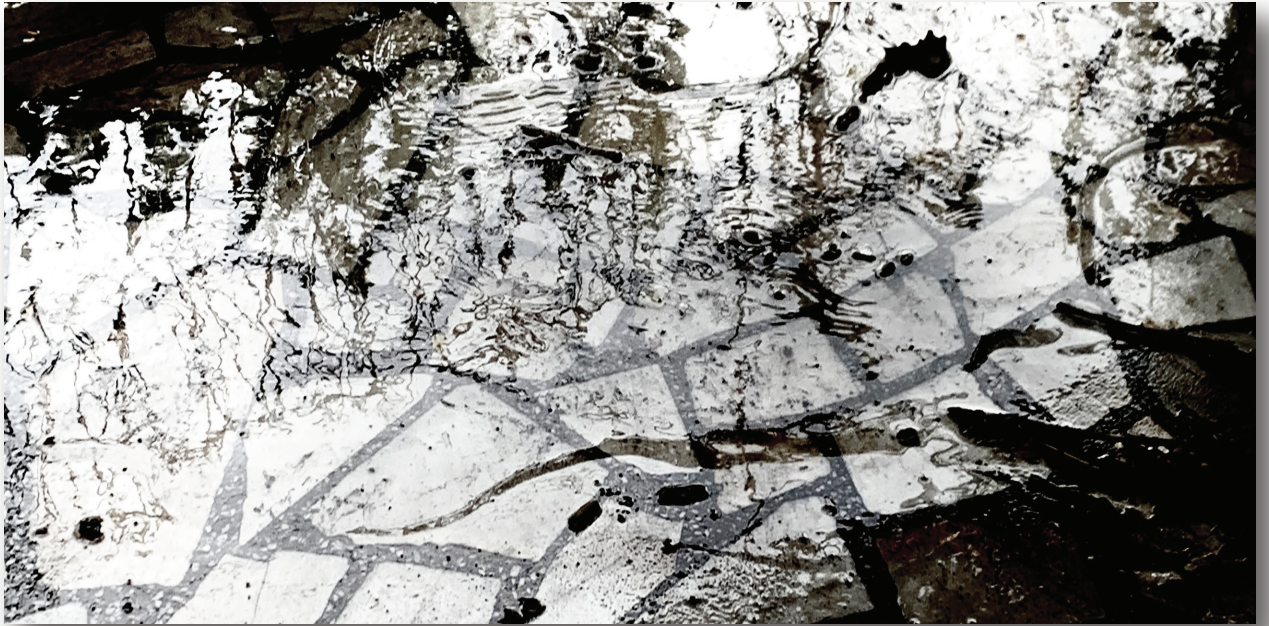
Title: Black Hued Monsoon I

Edition: 1/7 + 1AP

Medium: Print on Glass

Size: 36 x 18 Inches

Year: 2023



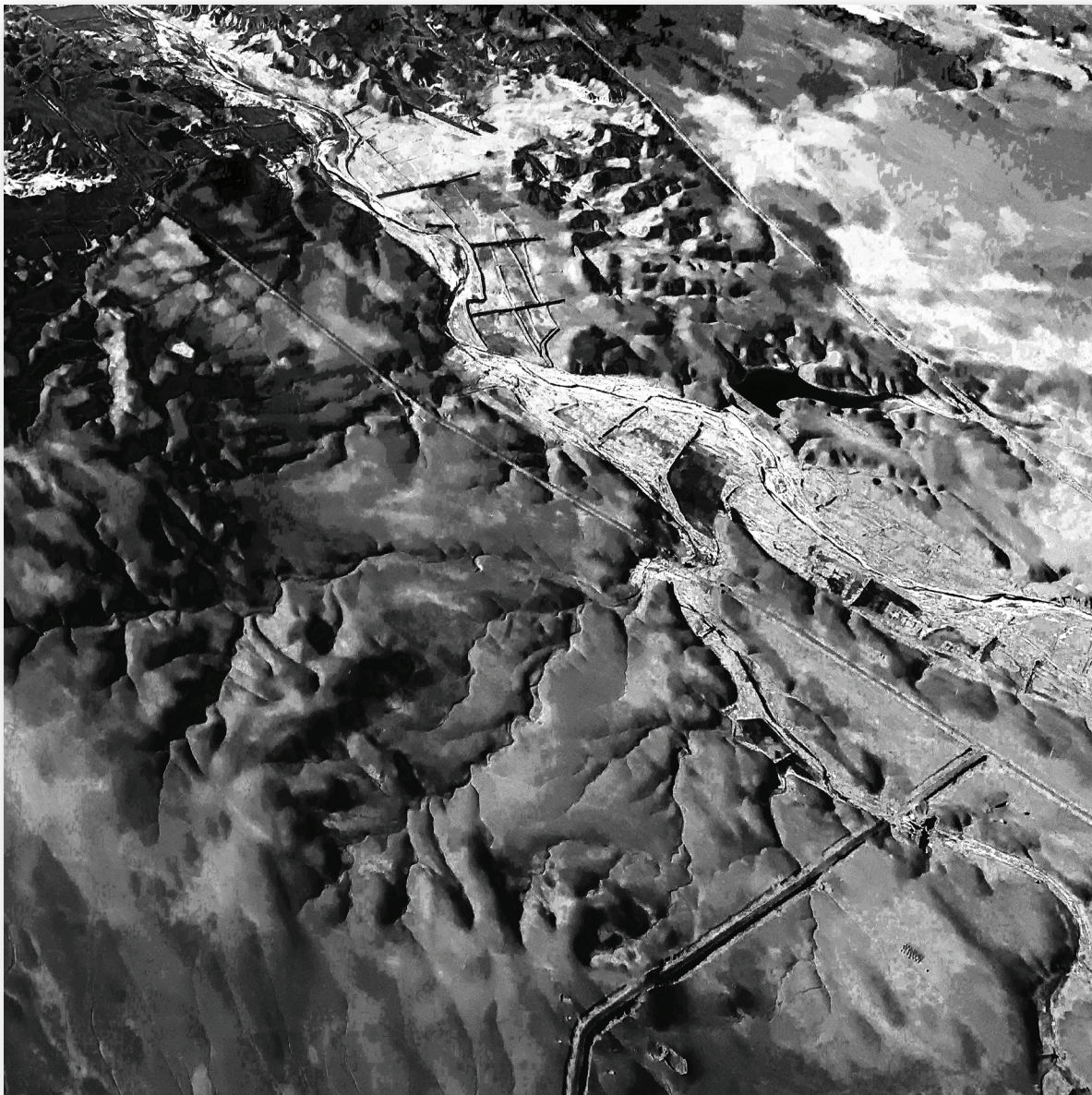
Title: Black Hued Monsoon II

Edition: 1/7 + 1AP

Medium: Print on Glass

Size: 36 x 18 Inches

Year: 2023



Title: The Landscape of the Last Night I

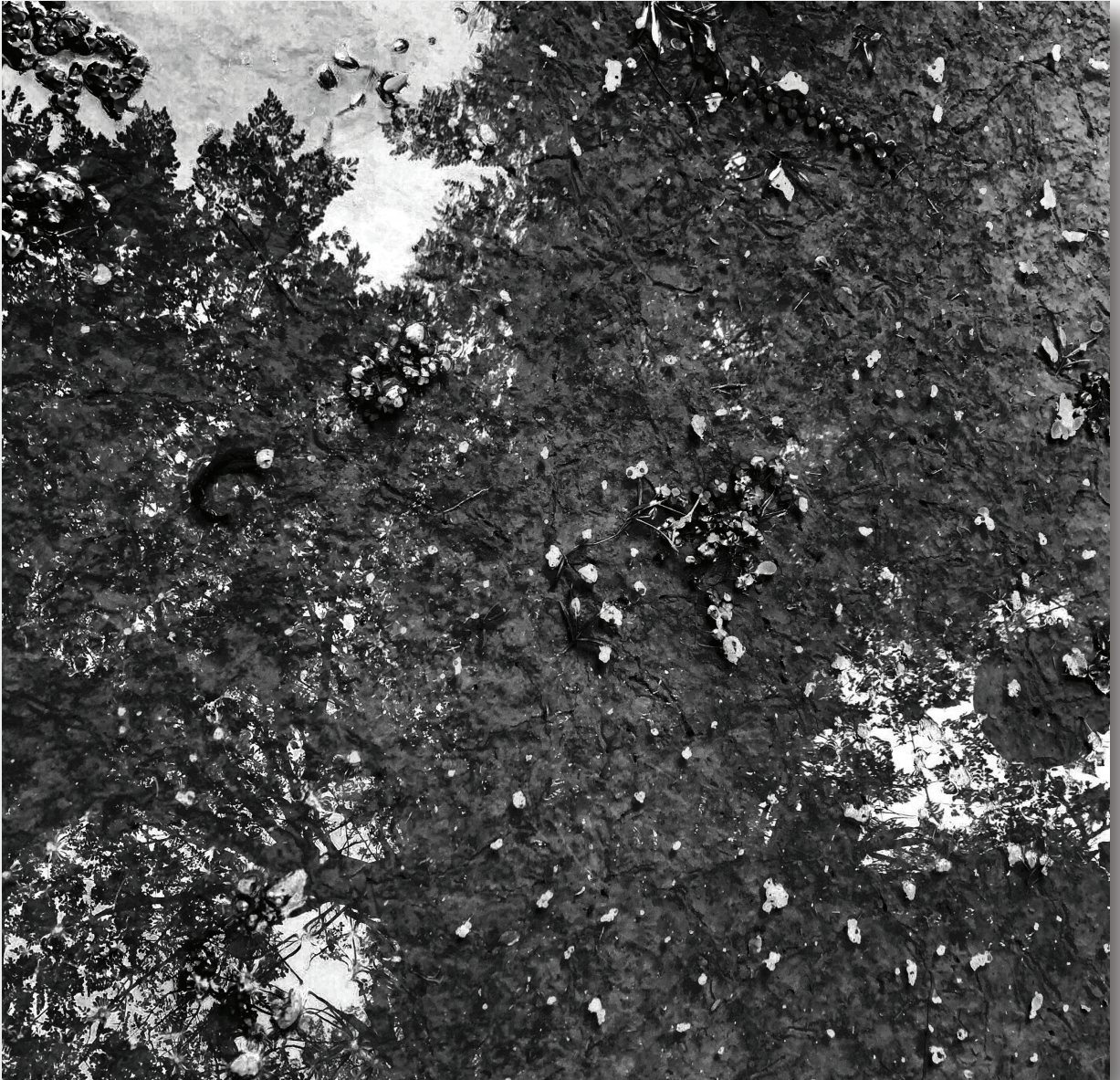
Edition: 1/7 + 1AP

Medium: Print on Glass

Size: 48 x 48 Inches

Year: 2023





Title: The Landscape of the LastNight II

Edition: 1/7 + 1AP

Medium: Print on Glass

Size: 48 x 48 Inches

Year: 2023



Masooma Syed



Title: Black ' Syiah '  
Medium: Oil on Canvas  
Size: 96 x 80 Inches  
Year: 2023



Title: Red ' Surkh '

Medium: Oil Painting with Wings

Size: 168 x 84 Approx ( Wings are flexiable to move and change angle )

Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Sandro ' Man with a Silk Heart '  
Medium: Pure Silk  
Size: 7.5 x 5.5 x 11.5 Inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: From The Library of a Gypsy Lover - 1

Medium: Handcrafted Sterling Silver Flowers in a Glass Bottle

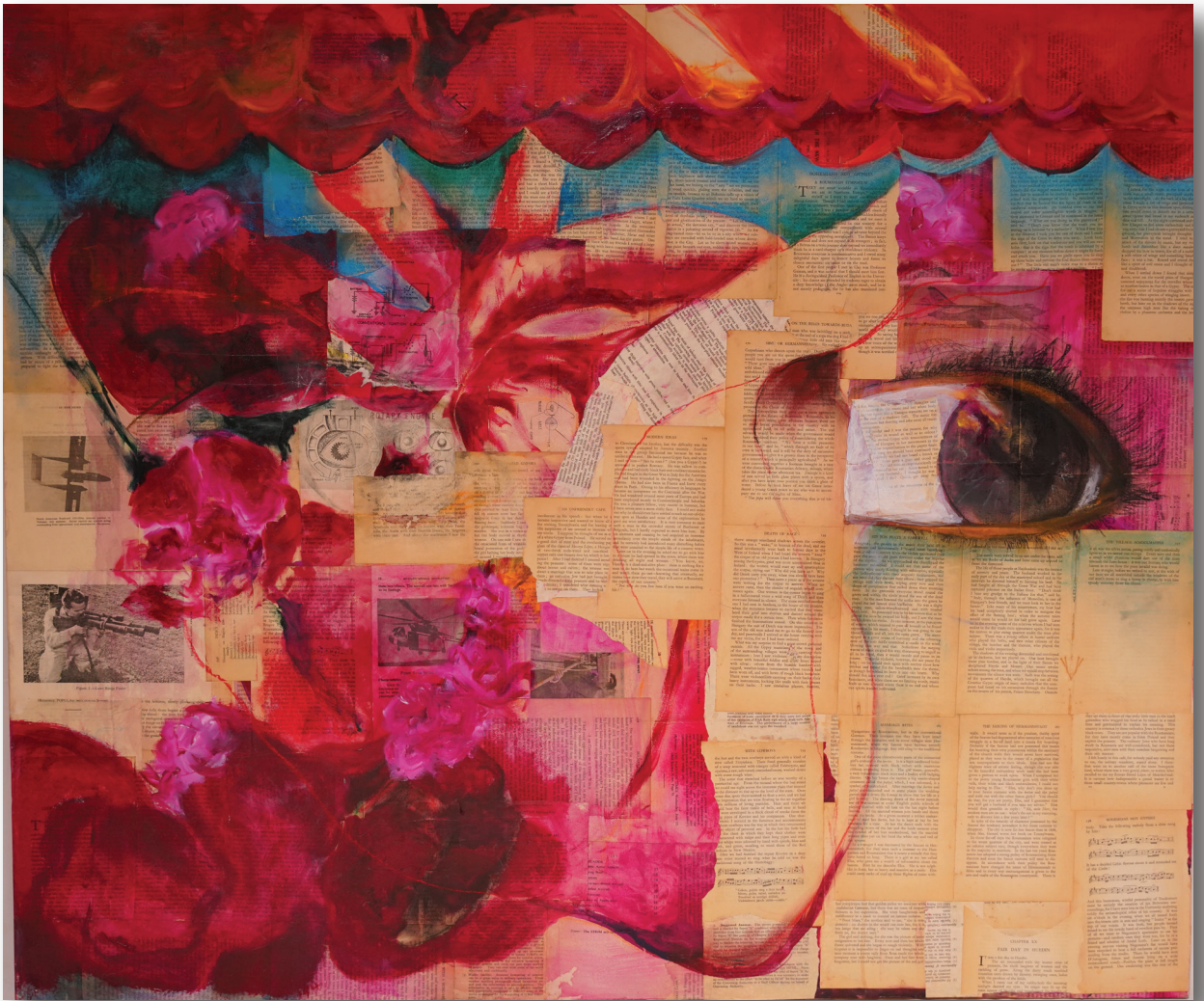
Size: 11.5 x 5.2 x 7.4

Year: 2023





Detail



Title: From The Library of a Gypsy Lover - 2  
Medium: Mixed Media on Canvas  
Size: 55 x 46 Inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: From The Library of a Gypsy Lover - 3  
Medium: Mixed Media on Canvas  
Size: 55 x 46 Inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: From The Library of a Gypsy Lover - 4

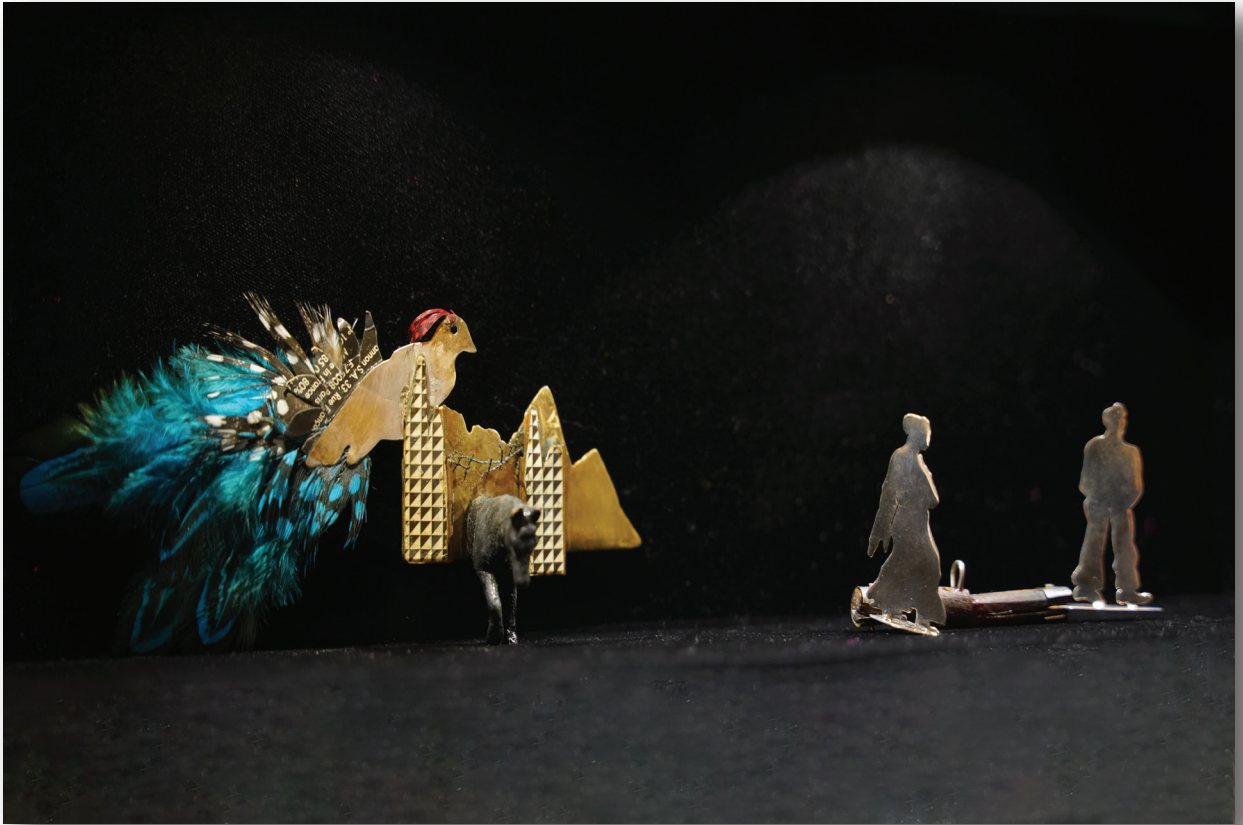
Medium: Sterling Silver, Silk, Glasss Bottles, Painted Finger Nails

Size: 16.5 x 5.5 x 7.5

Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Mayur Vihar 'Peacocks Abode '

Medium: Sterling Silver, Brass, Paper, Feathers, Moveable Fake Knife that Shift Positions of Figures

Size: 16.5 x 6.5 x 7.5 Inches

Year: 2023





Detail: Movable Fake Knife



Title: The Light House

Medium: Handcrafted Sterling Silver Flowers Soaked in Wine, Sterling Silver and Upcycled Cardboard.

Size: 16.5 x 5.5 x 7.5 Inches

Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Subarnarekha ' Streak of Gold '

Medium: Handcrafted Rose Gold Plated Flowers, Sterling Silver, Glass Bottles, Agate, Gin, Honey and Attar

Size: 16.4" x 5.2" x 7.4"

Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Red on Red

Medium: Handcrafted Sterling Silver Flowers, Flowers Out of Finger Nails and Glass Bottles

Size: 16.5 x 5.5 x 7.5 Inche

Year: 2023



Detail



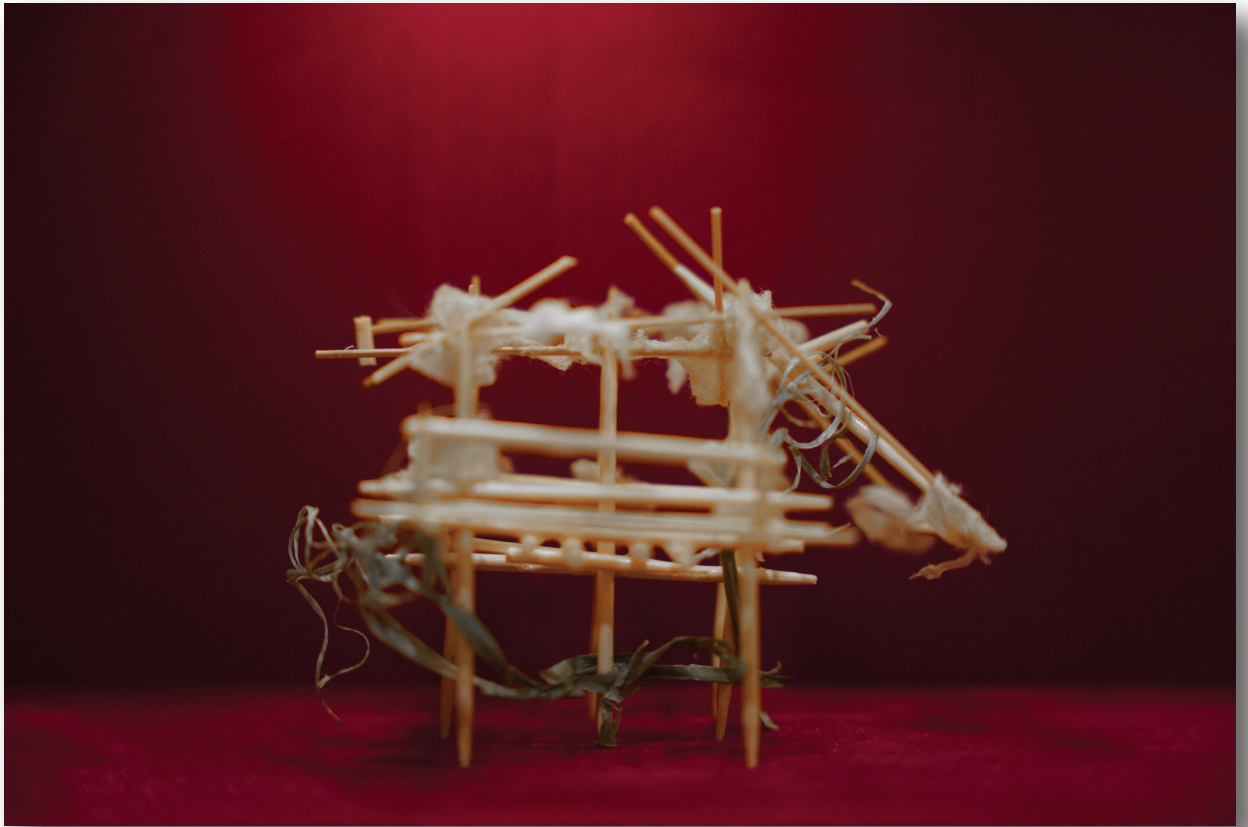
Title: Stilt House and Sunflowers

Medium: Handcrafted Sterling Silver Flowers Soaked in Whisky, Glass Bottle and Bamboo Sticks, Dry Plant and Rice Paper

Size: 16.5 x 5.5 x 7.5 Inches

Year: 2023





Detail



Title: Harbour

Medium: Hollow Shafts of Feathers, Cotton Thread and Silk

Size: 16.5 x 6.5 x 7.5 Inches

Year: 2023



Detail

# Farida Batool

## Profile

Farida Batool is an independent artist who explores Pakistan's political upheavals and tumultuous history. Farida received her BA in Fine Arts from the National College of Arts, Lahore, her MA in Art History and Theory from the College of Fine Arts at the University of New South Wales, and her Ph.D. from the Centre for Media Studies at The School of Oriental and African Studies, London. She has been teaching since 1997 and currently serves as Dean of Humanities at the National College of Arts, Lahore. She has published on art and visual culture along with authoring the book, "Figure: the Popular and the Political in Pakistan" and an article titled "Representing the Figure: Popular Culture of Pakistan".

She was involved in many art projects and community workshops for raising awareness among women communities in several urban and rural areas of Pakistan as well as conducted cultural and political dialogue among different communities. Batool is interested in developing a comprehensive cultural critique of everyday life, which is also reflected in her short film for the BBC online called "The Clash of Masculinities".

She presented papers and presentations at international conferences and workshops including Yale University, USA; Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Montreal, Canada; Oxford University; St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, and many more.

She has exhibited extensively in many international and local solo and prestigious group shows. She is an active member of Awami Art Collective which aims to use art in public spaces to generate a discourse of peaceful co-existence.



# Masooma Syed

## Profile

Masooma Syed is a visual artist who worked and taught for many years in different countries of South Asia e.g. at the National College of Arts, Pakistan, School Of Culture and Creative Expressions, Ambedkar University, India, Kathmandu University, Nepal, Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetics, and the University of Batticaloa, Sri Lanka. Her personal history shapes the aesthetics and politics of her art practice, which involves intricate processes, materials, layered ideas of reality, society, fiction, and multiple narratives of human life in conflict. Her visuals are a conundrum where kitsch is celebrated, convention is flouted and slickness is derided. There is dismissal and protest, in the use of thrown away, discarded, inexpensive, and leftover materials. She is the recipient of the Commonwealth Fellowship of Art and Craft, University of New South Wales, Australia, Here and There, Art and Craft Fellowship, Manchester University, and several other international Artist Residencies. Her works are exhibited widely at Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Delhi, Lahore, Devi Art Foundation, Delhi, Fukuoka Asian Art Triennial, Japan, Harris Museum, Black Burn Museum, England, Metropolitan Museum Tokyo, Apex Art, New York, Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany, Dubai Art Fair, NGMA, Mumbai, Gallery Ske, Delhi/ Bangalore, Vadehra Art Gallery Delhi, and Red Dot in Colombo.

## Education

2000 - 2002 MA (hons) Visual Arts, National College of Arts, Lahore.  
1994 B.F.A (painting) National College of Arts, Lahore. Pakistan

## Research Fellowships & Awards

2017 Research Fellow 'Art and Craft', Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology, Kelaniya University, Sri Lanka  
2007 Here and There, International Research Fellowship, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, England  
1996 -1997 Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship Award, Art & Craft, for Australia: Artist in Residence at the College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

## Artist Residencies & Workshops

2016 Body And Adornment, Residency/Exhibition at Theertha International Artist Collective, Colombo.  
2013 International Artist workshop in Jutland, Denmark  
2011 Intimate Architecture/Materials at Play, Khoj International Associate Residency, Delhi.  
2010 Puducherry Blue, Saarc International Artists Camp at Puducherry, India Residency at Guild Gallery, Bombay  
2009 International Artist Residency, Vasl, Karachi.  
2008 The Guild Art USA INC, New York.  
2006 Vasl International Artist workshop, Karachi, Pakistan.  
2003 Khoj International Artist Residency, Delhi, India.

## Solo Shows/Projects

2022 Curating a virtual art project on South Asian hidden histories and decolonization for the virtual Museum of Lahore Art Biennale Foundation, Pakistan  
2020 The Art of Eye Contact, Jewelry Exhibition.  
2020 The Actress, Project at Sagar Theatre on Queens Road, Lahore  
2018 Last Name Isabella, Lahore Art Biennale 01, Lahore Museum's Indus Valley Gallery  
2018 SPRITS, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan  
2017 'Delhi, Lahore, Colombo and the Worn Object', Taseer Gallery, Lahore  
2014 Sublime West, Gallery Ske, Delhi, India  
2013 Black Label Kalyani, Rohtas Gallery, Lahore  
Everybody Must Get Stoned, Rohtas Gallery, Islamabad  
2000 Untitled, Rohtas Art Gallery, Islamabad  
1997 'Notes', Art Space, University of New South Wales, Sydney.  
1996 Untitled, Rohtas Art Gallery, Islamabad.

## Selected Group Shows

2020 Sundry Effect, Bikaner House, Delhi  
2016 Body And Adornment, Red Dot Gallery, Theertha, Colombo, Voices Breaking Boundaries, Houston, USA.  
2015 India Art Fair at the Gallery SKE, Dubai Art Fair at the Gallery SKE  
2014 -2015 Where Do I End and You Begin, Edinburgh Festival, Commonwealth. Construct and Constructions, Kiran Nadar Museum, Delhi  
2015 In other Rooms, Group Show, Gallery Ske, Bangalore.  
2013 Zones of Contact, Kiran Nadar Museum, Delhi  
2012 Tactile, Gallery Latitude 28, Delhi  
Moving Matter, Alliance Francaise, Delhi  
2011 Intimate Architecture/Materials at Play, Khoj Studios, Delhi  
Fragility, Art Alive Gallery, Delhi.  
2010 Fiction and Reality, 2-Person show at Canvas Gallery, Karachi.  
Strange Days, The Uncanny in Contemporary Pakistan Art, The Drawing Room Art Gallery, Lahore.  
The State of Things, Recent Art from Pakistan, Aicon Gallery, London.  
Resemble Reassemble, at Devi Art Foundation, Delhi.  
2009 Three Women Artists, Vadehra Art Gallery, Delhi  
Art against Terrorism, Emami Chisel, Calcutta  
2008 Six degrees of Separation, Khoj Project, Anant Gallery, Delhi.  
2007 Thread of Silk, Ars Ornata Europea, Manchester, England  
Skin, 2-Person show at Rohtas Gallery, Lahore.  
2005 Parallel Realities, Fukuoka Triennale 2005, Museum and Art Gallery, Third Asian Art Triennale, Japan, Sept 2005. Asian Art Now, a touring exhibition of work from the Third Fukuoka Triennale Japan to Blackburn Museum, UK.  
Beyond Borders, Contemporary Art in Pakistan at NGMA, Bombay, India  
2003 Darmiyaan, Nehar Ghar Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan.  
2002 'Threads, Dreams, Desires', Contemporary art from Pakistan, Harris Museum & Art Gallery, Preston, England  
'Playing with the Loaded Gun', exhibition at Apex Art in New York and in Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany  
2001 Darmian in view of 11th Sept at Rohtas Gallery 2, Lahore.  
2000 Another Vision, 50th Anniversary of Pakistan, Brunei Space, London.  
12th Afro-Asian, Latin-American Exhibition, Metropolitan Museum, Tokyo.  
1994 Traveling Exhibition of Pakistani Artists to Cairo, Damascus and Oman.

## Teaching experience

2011 -2021 Visiting faculty as Associate Professor, National College of Arts, Lahore  
2016-2017 Visiting Associate Professor, Theertha School Of Arts, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
2016-p. Visiting Associate Professor at Eastern University, Swami Vipula Ananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies, Batticalo, Sri Lanka.  
2016-p. Adjunct Faculty, Beaconhouse National University, School of Visual Arts and Design, Lahore  
2014 Visiting Faculty, School of Culture and Creative Expressions, Ambedkar University, Delhi  
2009 Visiting Faculty, Indus Valley School of Arts, Karachi  
2007-2008 Visiting Lecturer, Centre for Art & Design, Kathmandu University, Nepal  
2004-2006 Assistant Professor, Dept of Design and Visual Arts, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore  
2002 Designer Enterprise Development, Kashf Foundation, developing Craft unit.  
1996 -p. Visiting Lecturer, National College of Arts, Lahore.  
Taught Studio courses in Painting, Major Studio, Sculpture/3-D studio, Drawing as History, Jewelry as Sculpture, Jewelry as Concept, and Tool and Techniques

## Theory Course

Art from the Muslim World  
Hybrid Course  
Material Culture of South Asia in the Dept of Cultural Studies,  
Body and Adornment, City As A Mirror.

## Other Professional Qualification

2018 Researcher/Concept developer for the festival 'Guru Gedera' by Chitrasena Dance Company, Colombo.  
2016-2017 Developed/designed the course Curriculum for Theertha Artists Collective's Art and Design School, Colombo.  
2004-2006 Established Jewelry Design Department and designed Course Curriculum, School of Art and Design, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore.

## Bibliography:

My works published in books:  
• Hashmi, S. (2005). Art and social change: Contemporary Art in Asia & the Pacific, Pandanus Books.  
• Hashmi, S. (2006). Memory, Metaphor, Mutations: The Contemporary Art of India and Pakistan, Oxford University Press.  
• Hashmi, S. (2015). The Eye Still Seeks: Pakistani Contemporary Art, Penguin, UK.  
• Whiles, V. (2010). Art and Polemic in Pakistan: Cultural Politics and Tradition in Contemporary Miniature Painting, I.B.Tauris.  
• Batool, F. (2020). Of Beginning and Boundaries (pp. 29). Le Topical, ' & She Wandered'.  
• A Celebration of Women: Essays & Abstracts (pp.247), The Women's Studies Conference (1995), ASR Publication.

## Newspapers & Blog

• Questioning hierarchies and constructed realms. Retrieved 25, 2020, from <http://www.artnowpakistan.com/questioning-hierarchies-and-constructed-realms/>  
• Hair & Nails, Talk & Touch: 4 Encounters with Women Artists in Mumbai. (N.d.). Retrieved February 27, 2020, from Art21 Magazine website: <http://magazine.art21.org/2010/01/05/hair-nails-talk-touch-4-encounters-with-women-artist-s-in-Mumbai/>  
• Images, Meanings and Representations within the Artist's Studio and the White Cube. <http://artintoartisansquare.blogspot.com/>  
• Spirits-<http://www.artnowpakistan.com/masooma-syeds-sprits-at-canvas-gallery/>  
• Flight or Fantasy. (2018). [newslinemagazine.com/magazine/flight-or-fantasy/](http://newslinemagazine.com/magazine/flight-or-fantasy/)  
• A Tryst with History. (2018). <https://www.dawn.com/news/1398478>  
• Spirits (2018) <https://images.dawn.com/news/1179421>  
• Other Locations -<https://www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/564919-locations>  
• "PROGRAMMES / Exhibitions." Mountains to Mosque and Other Details | [khojworkshop.org/programme/mountains-to-mosque-and-other-details-an-exhibition-by-masooma-syed/](http://khojworkshop.org/programme/mountains-to-mosque-and-other-details-an-exhibition-by-masooma-syed/)  
• "Intimate Architectures: Materials At Play - A Show Of Art Works By Gabi Schillig And Masooma Syed - New Delhi." MeraEvents.com, [www.meraevents.com/event/intimate-architectures-materials-at-play--a-show-of-art-works-by-gabi-schillig-and-masooma-syed](http://www.meraevents.com/event/intimate-architectures-materials-at-play--a-show-of-art-works-by-gabi-schillig-and-masooma-syed).  
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• Strains Of Love Across Pakistan-India Border. (N.d.). Retrieved February 27, 2020, from NPR.org website: <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/125419264?storyId=125419264&storyId=125419264>  
• The Indian Express- Bonding over Art. [<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/bonding-over-art/>]  
• And They Lived Happily Ever After: Object narratives from a land far away. (n.d.). Garland Magazine. <https://garlandmag.com/article/and-they-lived-happily-ever-after-object-narratives-from-a-land-far-away/>  
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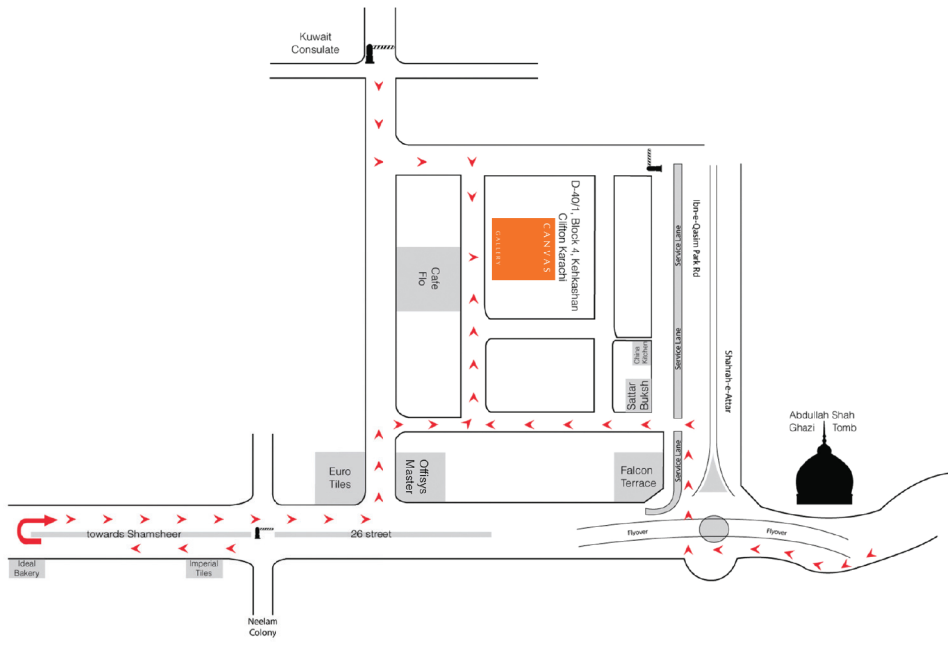
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• Parallel Realities: The 3rd Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale 2005 (pp.42-43), Japan.  
• Bhattacharya, A. (2009). This is Not a Fiction, Vadehra Art Gallery, India.  
• ArtAsiaPacific: Making Peace With Our Partitioned Selves. (2009, April), <http://artasiapacific.com/Magazine/62/MakingPeaceWithOurPartitionedSelves>  
• Arts Ornata Europea (2007), The Silk Road: Contemporary Responses Manchester.  
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• Hashmi, Salima, An international arts quarterly Dhaka, Bangladesh-Binimoy printers ltd. (Art magazine)  
• Contemporary Art from the Islamic world, (October 2003), 'playing with the loaded gun',  
• Contemporary art from Pakistan, issue 4, (Art magazine)  
• Art South Asia-Shisha initiated programme ,the first international programme of visual culture from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan & Sri Lanka, Cornerhouse Publications, Manchester, 2002, (Catalogue)

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• Syed, M. (n.d.). Remains and Ravages. Borderlines-Volume III, 14–17. <https://www.vbbarts.org/portfolio/borderlines-vol-iii/>  
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CANVAS  
GALLERY



D-40/I, Block 4, Kehkashan, Clifton, Karachi 75600 Pakistan  
P: +92 21 3586 1523

-  [canvasgallery2014@gmail.com](mailto:canvasgallery2014@gmail.com)
-  [www.canvasgallery.net](http://www.canvasgallery.net)
-  [canvasgallerykhi](#)
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