

David Alesworth Profile

David Alesworth is a sculptor, photographer and researcher of garden histories, working between Pakistan and the United Kingdom. He is former Head of Sculpture, IVSAA (1991-2002), and Professor, BFA + MAADS at SVAD, BNU, Lahore (2006-2015). Over the past decade his work has been organised around an expanded vision of the garden as 'global forest' of which we are all part. The garden is his key metaphor with which to question humanity's culturally specific relationships with the natural world and to better understand the notion of nature as a social problem. His own hybrid identity as a Pakistani National of white British ethnicity informs many aspects of his practice. He is a member of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, and a Stanley Picker Fellowship award holder. In 2016, he was shortlisted for the V&A Jameel Prize.

Alesworth's recent exhibitions include "Patterns of the Past: Weaving and heritage in Pakistani Art", Grosvenor, London, Sept. 2021, Asia Triennial Manchester (Postcard project) Oct. 2021, "Flight" (2021) collaboration with Tim Southall, Koel Gallery, Karachi, "The Carless Mapping", Canvas Gallery, Karachi (2020) 'In Free Fall' (2020) collaboration with Huma Mulji, Sarah Rhys, Carol Laidler, Eilis Kirby, COG, Bristol, 'Artistic Innovation and Collective Practice: Karachi in the 1990's and Beyond' (2019) Sharjah Art Foundation (Very Very Sweet Madina, Karachi in the 90's) "Lie of the Land" the inaugural show at the MK Gallery, Milton Keynes (Feb. 2019) and "The Glory of the Garden" (Jan. 2019) solo showing at Koel Gallery, Karachi. The Lahore Biennale (2018), Karachi Biennale (2017), Jameel Prize exhibition/s at the Pera Museum, Istanbul, (2016) the Asia Culture Centre, Gwangju, Korea (2017) and the A. Kasteyev State Museum of Arts, Almaty, Kazakhstan (2018). Other shows include Taqseem, Koel Gallery, Karachi (2017); The Missing One, OCA, Oslo (2016), How We Mark the Land, Gandhara-Art-Space, Karachi (2016); Hopes of Paradise, Grosvenor Gallery, London (2016); The Architecture of Life, BAMPFA, Berkeley University, California (2016); Dhaka Art Summit (2016); 8th Berlin Biennale, Berlin (2014) and "The Garden of Ideas" Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, inaugural show, curated by Sharmini Pereira (2014-15).

David currently lives in Bristol and is a studio holder at Spike Island

www.davidalesworth.com

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Alesworth

<https://www.britishartstudies.ac.uk/issues/issue-index/issue-10/gardening-archive>

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EDUCATION

2010 MFA New Media Arts, Transart Institute, Berlin, Germany
1981 Picker Fellowship Sculpture, Kingston University, London
1980 BA(Hons.) Sculpture Wimbledon School of Art, London

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

2023-24 'Entangled Histories: South Asian miniatures and their influence' Hammad Nasar Curator, MK Gallery, UK

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2020 The Carless Mapping, Canvas Gallery, Karachi
2020 The Museum of Miscellaneous Things, St.Annes, BRICKS, Bristol
2020 Sewyourself with Eleyana Knops COG, Bristol
2019 The Glory of the Garden Koel Gallery, Karachi
2019 Very Very Sweet Madina, Karachi in the 90's, Sharjah Art Foundation, UAE
2011 The Garden of Babel, Rhotas-2 Gallery, Lahore

SELECTED RECENT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 Patterns of the Past: Weaving and Heritage in Pakistani Art, Grosvenor, London, Sept.
2021 Flight collaboration with Tim Southall, Koel Gallery, Karachi
2020 In Free Fall collaboration with Huma Mulji, Sarah Rhys, Carol Laidler, Eilis Kirby, COG, Bristol
2019 Artistic Innovation and Collective Practice: Karachi in the 1990's and Beyond Sharjah Art Foundation
2019 The Lie of the Land MK Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK
2018 The Lahore Biennale, with Carol Laidler, Lahore, Pakistan
2017 Witness, Karachi Biennale, Karachi, Pakistan
2016 Jameel Prize Exhibition, Pera Museum, Istanbul,
2017 Histories Lost Ganges Gallery, Kolkata, India
2017 Asia Culture Centre, Gwangju, Korea
2018 Jameel Prize Exhibition A. Kastejev State Museum of Arts, Almaty, Kazakhstan
2017 Taqseem Koel Gallery, Karachi
2016 The Missing One OCA, Oslo
2016 How We Mark the Land Gandhara-Art-Space, Karachi
2016 Hopes of Paradise Grosvenor Gallery, London
2016 The Architecture of Life BAMPFA, Berkeley University, California, USA

2016 Dhaka Art Summit, Bangladesh
2015 The Garden of Ideas, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, Canada
2015 The Age of Wonder, Lahore Literature Festival, Pakistan
2014 Sir Harry Bartle Frere's Mausoleum, garden intervention with Adeela Suleman, Frere Hall, Karachi
2014 8th Berlin Biennale Berlin, Germany
2013 Objects as Locus of Hybridity and Hybrid Making V.C.U. Doha, Qatar
2013 A Beautiful Life Sining Makiling Gallery, University of the Philippines, Los Banos
2013 Crossing Over Gallery Latitude-28, New Delhi, India
2012 A Beautiful Life, travelling show The Pier-2 Art District, Taiwan, (2012) Creative
2011 Hinkley, South Hill Park. Bracknell (2011)
2012 The Divided Self Sought Foundation, Philadelphia, USA
2011 Lines of Control British Council, London, UK
2010 Turbulent Waters: Critical Portraits of a Shifting Identity Cairo Video Festival

SELECTED TEACHING AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

VL MA Curatorial Program, Goldsmiths College, London, UK
VL BFA Portsmouth University
VL BFA Bristol school Art
VL BFA Plymouth College of Art
Mentor, Rising Arts Agency, Bristol, UK
Adjunct Faculty, SVAD, BNU, Lahore
Associate Professor, School of Visual Art and Design, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan (2006-2015)
Member, Academic Council and Board of Studies, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018 Residency, Pioneer Cement Factory, Khushaab, Pakistan
2017 Whitechapel Art Gallery Public Programme participation, London, UK
2017 Landscape Now Conference, Paul Mellon Centre, London, UK
2017 Paul Mellon Centre, London Public Lectures Programme
2016 Invasive Species, ongoing walking collaboration with Dr. Adnan Madani
2015 Earth Walking, Devon coastal path with artists and Earth Systems Scientists from Exeter University, UK
2009 Horticultural Consultant to Aga Khan Cultural Services, Pakistan

SELECTED WORKS IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

United Kingdoms, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto
Hyde Park Kashan, 1862 Fundación AMA, Santiago, Chile

Garden Palimpsest, collection of HH Sh. Zayed bin Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, Abu Dhabi
Very Very Sweet Medina Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
Various works, Pakistan National Council of the Arts Collection, Islamabad
Art Caravan Karachi Metropolitan Council, Karachi
Heart Mahal, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan
Aviation Fuel Tanker collaboration, Fukuoka, Japan

SELECTED RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHY

2021 The Architectural Review, Feb. - on Gardens "Lawrence Gardens" featured
The Carless Mapping, Art Now, Pakistan
2021 Nature as Archive, Dawn, Jovina Alvares, Dec. 27th
2020 The Garden of Archives , The News on Sunday, Quddus Mirza
2019 A walk in the fictional Garden, Jan. The News, Karachi, Quddus Mirza
Glory of the Garden, Art Now, Nimra Khan
Kingdom Class order The Friday Times, Dr Adnan Madani
The Lie of the Land exhibition catalogue, Fay Blanchard, Gerrie van Noord and
Anthony Spira. MK Gallery
2018 Landscape Now, British Art Studies: -10, Paul Mellon Centre, in conversation
with Hammad Nasar
The Garden of Delight, Dawn, Jan. Salwat Ali
Eastern Carpets in David Chalmers Alesworth's Art, Ekin Kakan
International Journal of Art and Art History, Vol. 6, No. 1, pp. 46-58 ISSN:
2374-2321 (Print) Lahore Biennale Catalogue, LBF-01, Ayesha Jatoi, Lahore
Biennale Foundation
2017 Karachi Biennale Catalogue, Niilofer Farrukh, KBF
2016 The Architecture of Life, catalogue, University of California, Berkeley Art
Museum and Pacific Film Archive Jameel Prize-4, exhibition catalogue. Pera
Museum, Hamad Nasar. Ed. Tim Stanley and Salma Tuqan
2015 The Eye Still Seeks: Pakistani Contemporary Art. Hashmi, Salima, Khosla,
Martand (Authors) David Alesworth Textile Interventions on Carpets: Dr Virgin
ia Whiles, Bengal Foundation
2014 8th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, exhibition Catalogue, Juan A. Gaitán