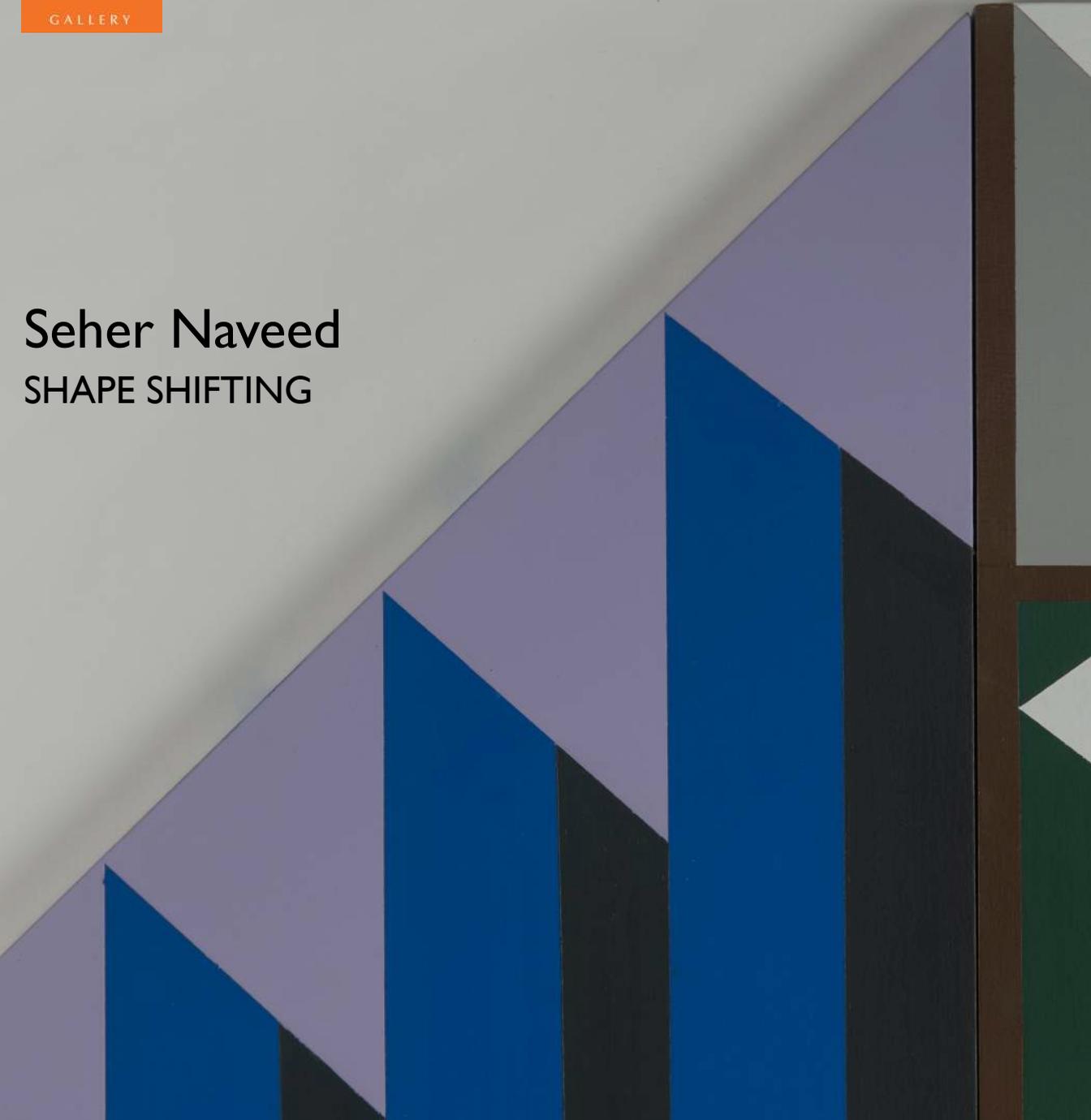


CANVAS

GALLERY

Seher Naveed  
SHAPE SHIFTING



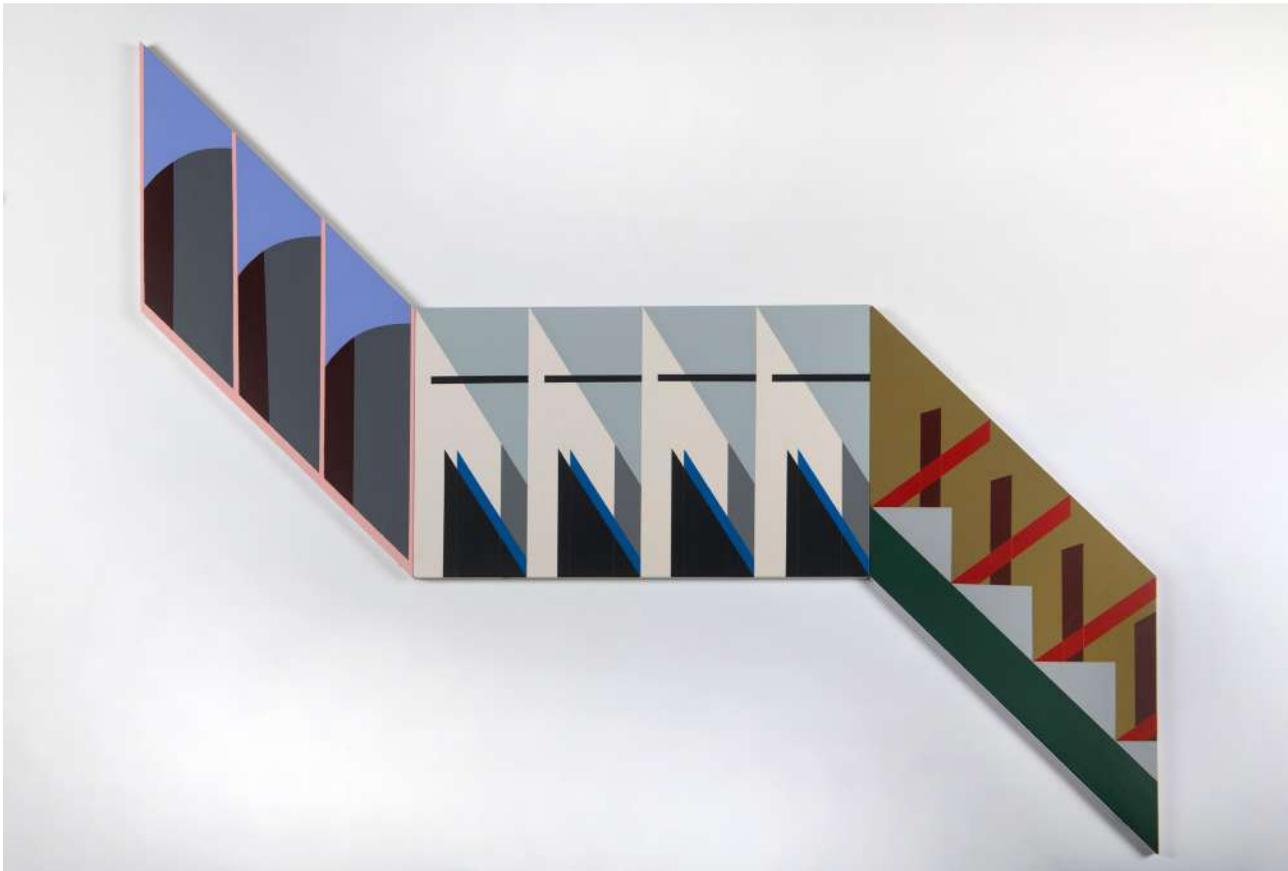
26 December 2023 - 4 January 2024

## Artist Statement

Seher Naveed's exhibition titled, Shape Shifting, continues to investigate the conceptual considerations around perimeter fencing and gates in our environment. Boundary walls, high gates and metal grills have encroached upon public spaces, establishing clear boundaries between protecting private entities such as residential compounds of influential families, government offices, private corporations and gated neighbourhoods. As they intersect with the dynamics of militarisation, fragmentation of urban space and mobility, these barriers have become a permanent reality in our cities taking away from lived public spaces. This foray extends beyond their structural physical presence, delving into the nuanced ways they regulate passage, influencing the movements of people—both leaving and entering. Many communities adopting these features also tend to privatise what should be public responsibility such as police protection, parks and recreation - encouraging a growth in 'fortress mentality'.<sup>1-</sup>

Seher's paintings, functioning as visual annotations, document the deployment of these architectural features and addresses the constantly shifting patterns around us, disrupting and adding simultaneously to ideas of perceived mobility stunted by the political economy of control. They offer an exploration of how these elements, both physically and symbolically, exert control over human activity and perspectives. The works are purposefully assembled to create an ambiguous and uncertain endpoint, mirroring the ever-changing dynamics of urban life, migration, and the pursuit of a utopian vision. The artist perceives these through forms of abstraction that are devoid of emotion, allowing for instability and multiplicity of meanings to emerge.

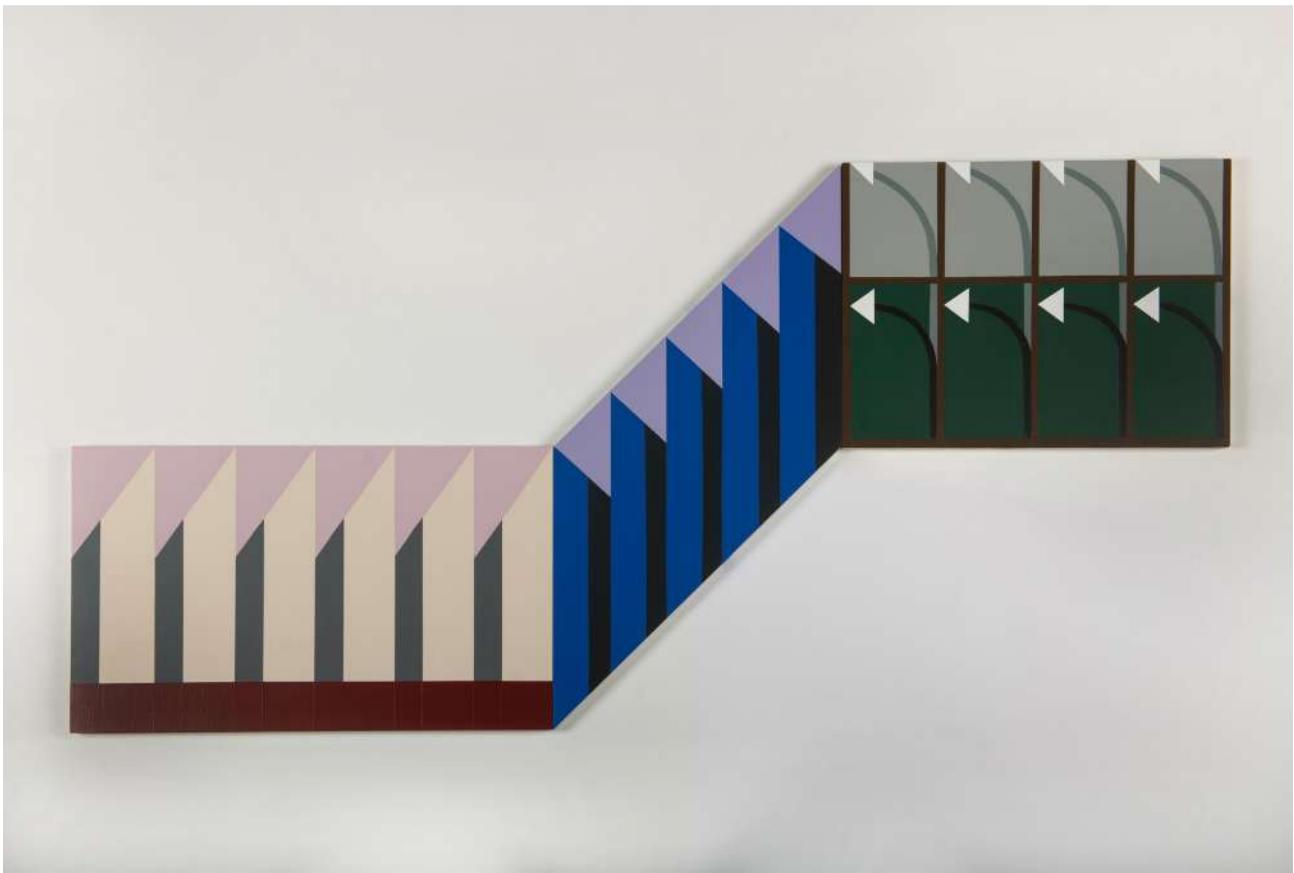
<sup>1</sup> Blakely, E.J., and M.G. Snyder. (1998). "Separate places: Crime and security in gated communities." p 16



Title: Untitled I  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 35 X 45 inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



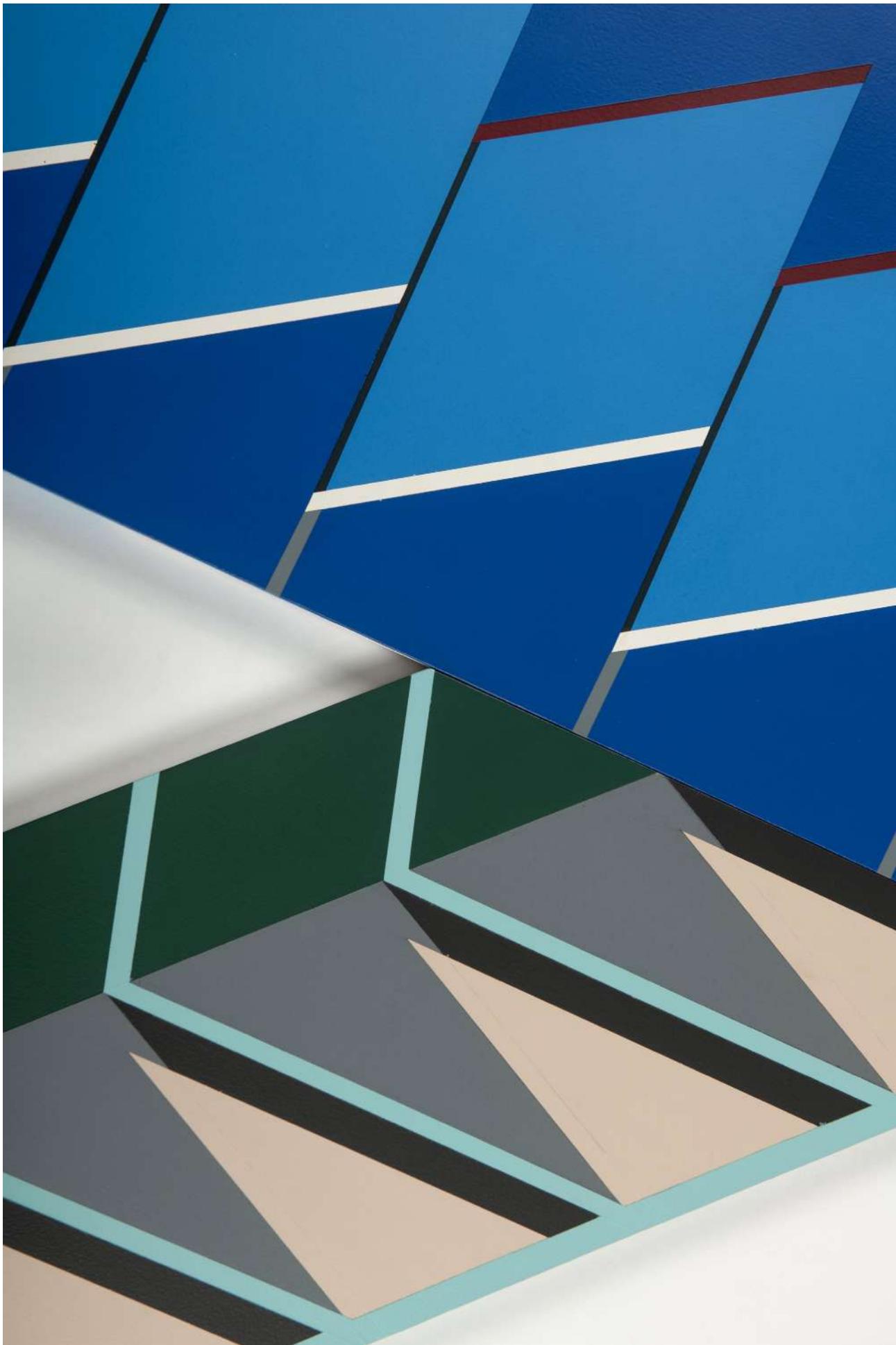
Title: Untitled II  
Medium: Paint on MDF  
Size: 22 x 48 inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Untitled III  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 24 x 37 inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Untitled IV  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 24 x 37 inches  
Year: 2023



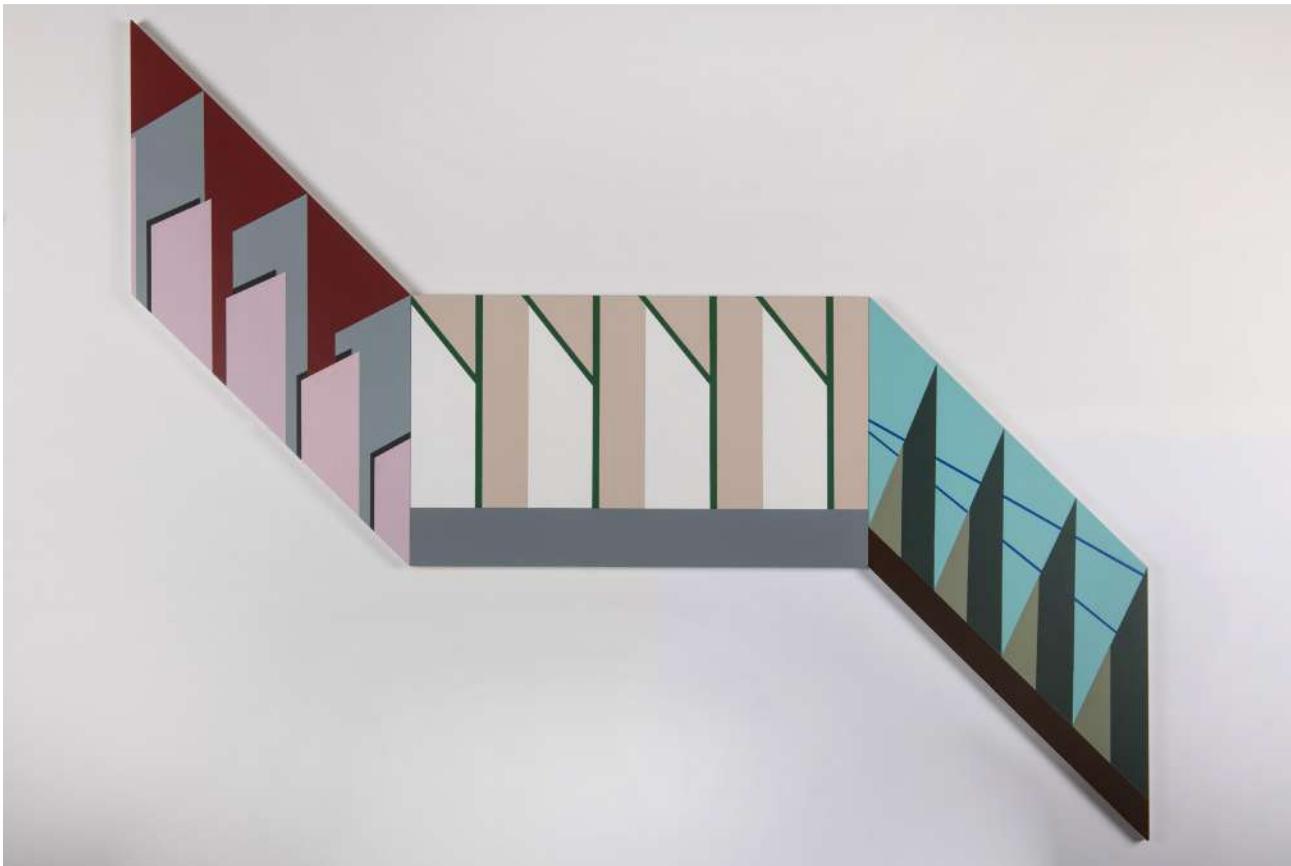
Detail



Title: Untitled V  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 24 x 34 inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Untitled VI  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 35 x 45 inches  
Year: 2023



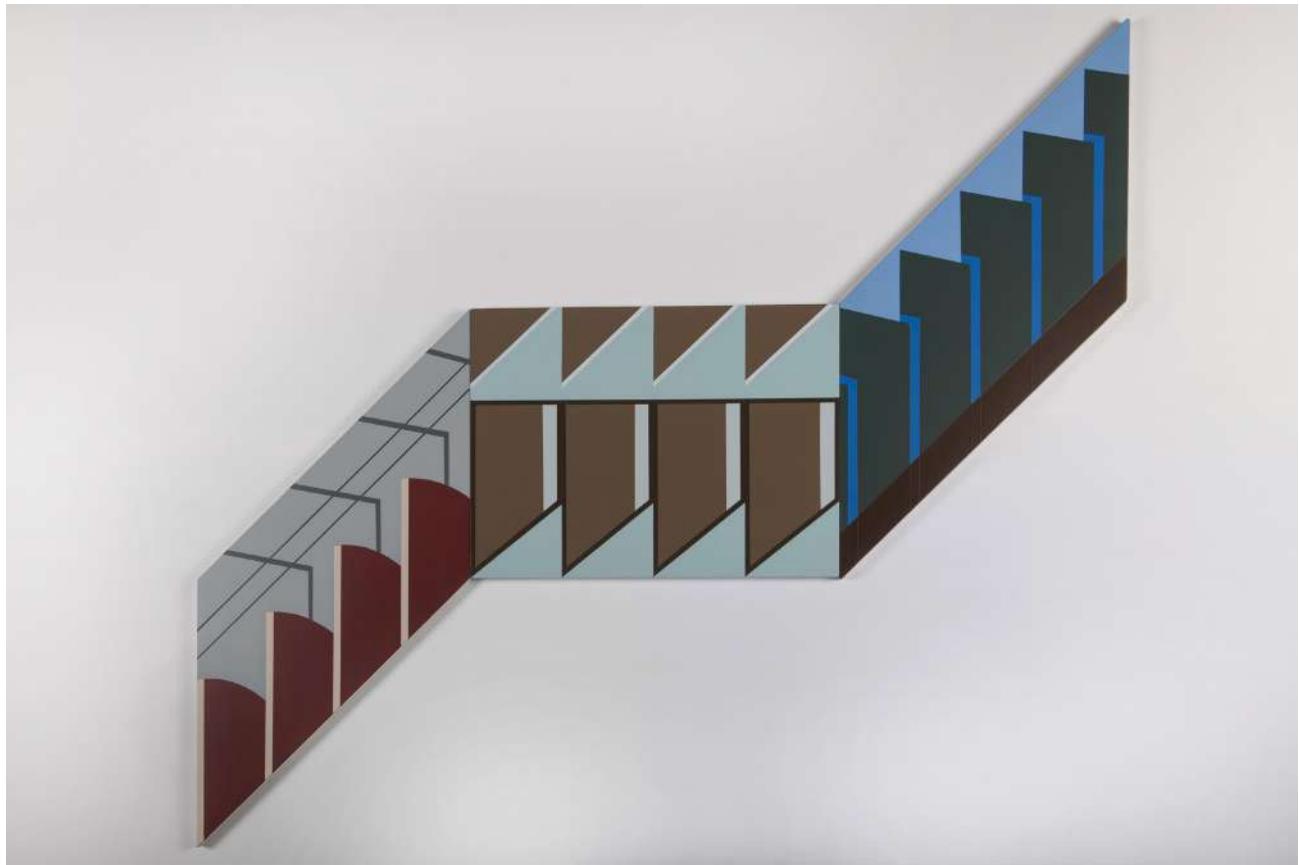
Detail



Title: Untitled VII  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 22 x 48 inches  
Year: 2023



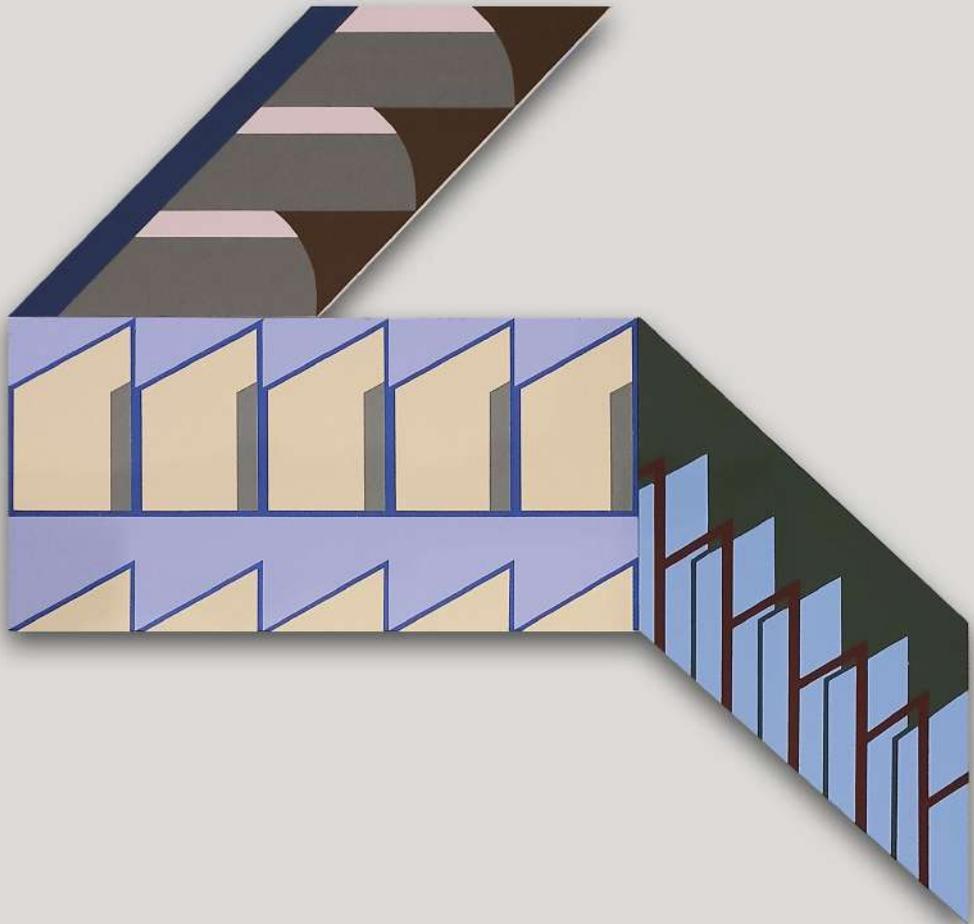
Detail



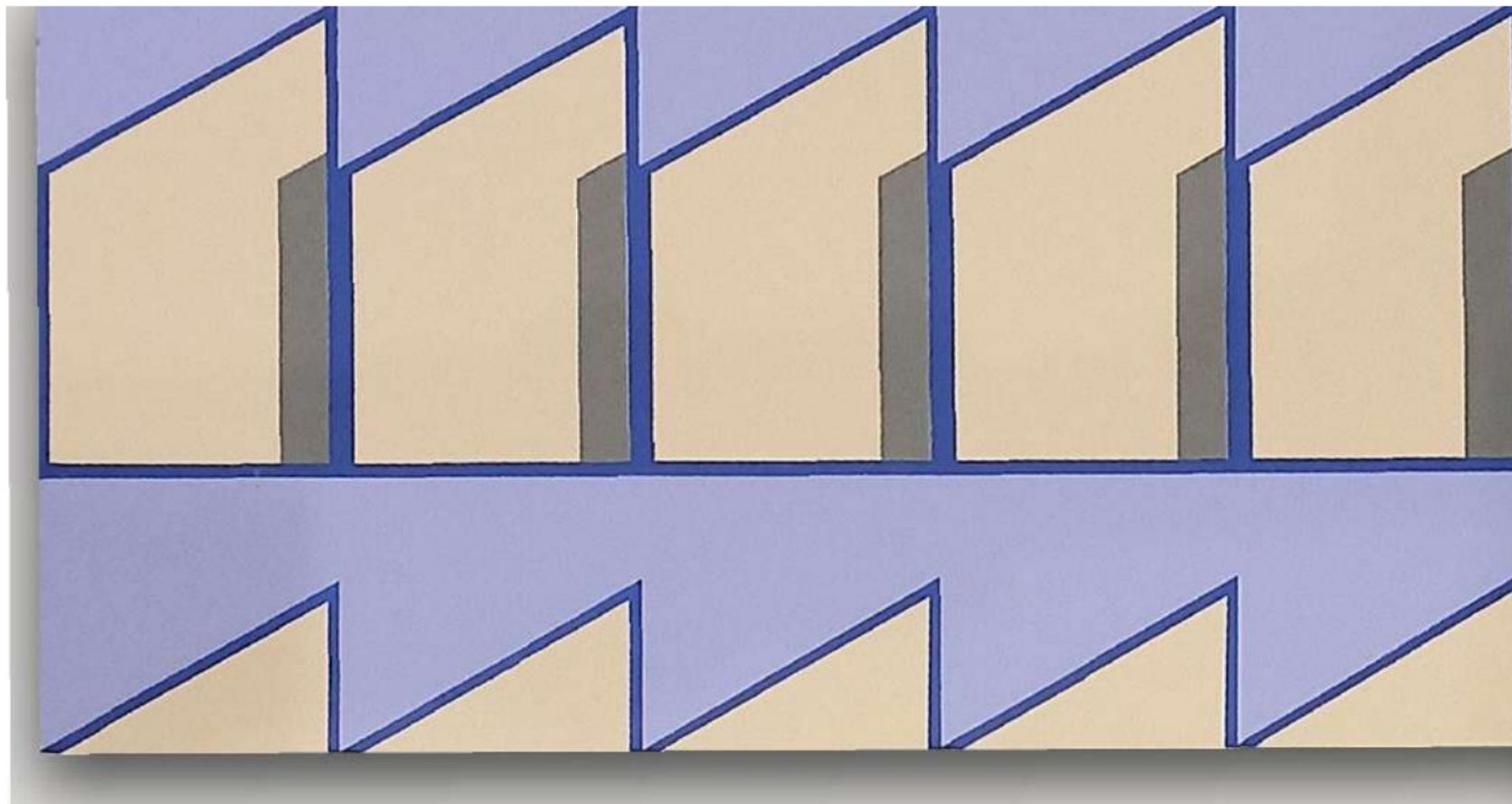
Title: Untitled VIII  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 40 x 42 inches  
Year: 2023



Detail



Title: Untitled IX  
Medium: Paint on HDF  
Size: 36 x 35 inches  
Year: 2023



Detail

## Profile

Seher Naveed's practice draws from the socio-political development of Karachi and how it affects the way people live there. Using drawing as a primary method, she investigates space around her by taking inspiration from repetitive geometric patterns in urban settings in Karachi. Recognising that architecture can serve as a meaningful indicator of a future that a society aspires to, her practice over the years has evolved to incorporate architectural details from a complex city whose topography has been significantly shaped by political instability.

She was awarded a BFA from the Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, Karachi in 2007 and an MA in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design, London in 2009. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Fine Art at the Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, where she teaches courses on drawing and painting. She has exhibited her work in various local and international galleries. Her work was recently acquired by the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Delhi for their permanent collection. In 2015 Seher initiated and curated a research project called 'Drawing Documents' a series of publications that looked at various drawing practices in Pakistan.

<b>Education</b>	
2008-09	MA Fine Art, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London, UK
2003-07	BFA in Painting, 2007, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>WORK EXPERIENCE (Including teaching and professional)</b>	
<b>Teaching</b>	
2023	Current Assistant Professor, Department of Fine Art Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2020-23	Head, Department of Fine Art, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2017-20	Assistant Professor, Department of Fine Art Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2012-16	Senior Lecturer, Department of Fine Art Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2010-12	Adjunct Faculty, Department of Fine Art Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>Professional</b>	
2023	Current Editorial Board - Hybrid Research Journal Department of Visual Studies Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan
2022	Thesis evaluator Department of Fine Art National College of Art, Lahore, Pakistan
2021	Thesis evaluator Department of Visual Studies Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan
2020	Editorial Board - Hybrid Research Journal Department of Visual Studies Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan
2020	External Advisor for Dissertation, BNU MA Art Education Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan
2019	Thesis evaluator Department of Visual Studies Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan
2019	Advisor for resident artist Minha Arham Vasl Artists' Association Summer Residency Programme
2019	Second Reader Final Research Paper Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2019	Member, Research Committee Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2019	Member, Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2018	Second Reader – Final Research Paper, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2017	Thesis evaluator NCA Rawalpindi Campus, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
2016-18	Member, Curriculum Coordination Committee Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2016-18	Curator - IVS Gallery Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2013-18	Set Design Khaadi, Various cities in Pakistan
2009-10	Guide, Hayward Gallery, London UK Shows: Ed Ruscha: Fifty Years of Painting. Annette Messager: The Messenger. Mark Wallinger: The Russian Linesman.
2008	Teaching Assistant (Spring Semester) Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>Professional Membership and Affiliations</b>	
2023	Current Executive Committee Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2017-21	Board Member, T2F / Peace Niche, Karachi, Pakistan
2016-19	Advisory Committee, Murree Museum Artist Residency, Murree, Pakistan
2011-13	Advisory Committee, Vasl Artist's Collective, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>Research and Publications</b>	
2020	A Brief Overview of Public Art in Karachi (Commissioned Essay) for the second IPAF publication - Karachi Ki Khoj   Redefining the Metropolis
2019	Contemporary Anxieties – The Body and its Politics Art in Pursuit: Exploring Social and Political Issues in Public and Other Spaces
2018	Are Images the Real Story? Materializing Memory and Problems with Archiving Hybrid – Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture
2017	Art/Work – A Survey of Labour in Art Optics of Labour – Omer Wasim & Saira Sheikh (exhibition publication)
2017	See View – 'The Landscape is Already There' Drawing Documents 01 – See View   Suleman Aqeel Khilji
2017	Are photographs drawings – An essay on Saba Khan's Image Archives Drawing Documents 04 - Are photographs drawings   Saba Khan
2016	Working Drawings – An Introduction Drawing Documents 02 – Other Selves   Moeen Faruqi
2016	Drawing Documents A publication project researching the expanded field of drawing in Pakistan
2016	In the Mountains - Murree Museum Artist Residency 2016, Published in Art Now Pakistan
2016	A History Interrupted: 'The 70s – Pakistan's Radioactive Decade', Review of The 70s – Pakistan's Radioactive Decade at Amin Gulgee Gallery, Published in Art Now Pakistan
2016	A Line of Thought- A review of New Urban Constructions at Koel Gallery, Published in Art Now
2015	Painting the Hill-Town Red, An overview of the Murree Museum Residency 2015, Published in The Friday Times
2014	Rebel Angel, Book review of Rebel Angel, Published in DAWN
2014	Still Painting, Review of Inaam Zafar's exhibition at Sanath Gallery, Published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	Kashmir Colony, Gali No. 5- A Visit to Adeela Suleman's Studio, Published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	The Night Machine- A Visit to Mohammed Zeeshan's Studio, Published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	But is it Site-Specific Art?, Review of 'Stop, Look, Listen at Canvas Gallery, Published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	Naiza Khan Monograph, Book review published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	Labyrinth of Reflection – The Art of Rashid Rana, Book review published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	Chance- Documents of Contemporary Art, Book review published in Art Now Pakistan
2013	Painting – Documents of Contemporary Art, Book review published in Art Now Pakistan
<b>Curatorial Projects</b>	
2022	Asim Butt   Rediscovered Works IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2019	Contemporary Anxieties Co-curated with Omer Wasim. IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2018	Drawing Documents 06 with Inaam Zafar, IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2017	Publication Launch IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2018	Future Debris Zuhoor ul Akhlaq Gallery, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan
2017	Karachi Biennale – Project Title – New Urban Gate NJV, Karachi, Pakistan
2017	Fine Print – Etching and Aquatint IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2017	Taqseem Koel Galley, Karachi, Pakistan
2016	Murree Museum Artist Residency Murree Resource Centre, Murree, Pakistan
2015	And nothing but the Truth: PARRHESIA II', Koel Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2015	The Science of Taking a Walk, with Seema Nusrat Gandhara Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2015	The Wall, Solo Show IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2014	Taaza Tareen, Vasl Full Circle Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2013	Right to the City- A Travel Guide to Karachi, by Shahana Rajani, Karachi, Pakistan
2013	Awaz- Baldia Factory Inferno, Arts Council Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan
2012	Drawing Mandalas curated by Muhammad Zeeshan, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2011	Encounters II, curated by Zarmeene Shah Indus Valley Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2011	Perception vs. Progression, Two person show. Khaas Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
2011	Encounters, curated by Zarmeene Shah Rohtas Gallery II, Lahore, Pakistan
2010	Home Page, Group show Art Chowk, Karachi, Pakistan
2008	Painting Group Show, Rohtas Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
2007	BA Degree show, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2006	Badin Charity painting exhibition, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>Workshops</b>	
2022	Guest Artist, Mondrian Fonds Amsterdam, Netherlands
2021	Instructor House of Kal, Karachi, Pakistan & Colombo, Sri Lanka
<b>Residencies</b>	
2016	Project Coordinator and Artist in Residence, Murree Museum Artist Residency, Murree, Pakistan
2015	Artist in Residence, Murree Museum Artist Residency, Murree, Pakistan
2015	Taaza Tareen, Writer in Residence, Vasl, Karachi, Pakistan
2013	Start Jordan, Artist and Teaching Residency in Palestinian refugee camps, Amman, Jordan
2008	Sutra, South Asian Fresh Graduate Artist Residency, Kathmandu, Nepal
<b>Participation in National Exhibitions</b>	
2020	Contraption, Solo Show Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2020	Karachi Ki Khoj   Redefining the Metropolis Abstract Developments – Project installed at NED, City Campus, Karachi
2019	2nd Karachi Biennale Lost at Sea – Project installed at Bagh Ibn-e-Qasim, Karachi
2019	Quantum City: Territory   Space   Place KPT Building, Karachi
2018	Future Debris Zuhoor ul Akhlaq Gallery, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan
2017	Karachi Biennale – Project Title – New Urban Gate NJV, Karachi, Pakistan
2017	Fine Print – Etching and Aquatint IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2017	Taqseem Koel Galley, Karachi, Pakistan
2016	Murree Museum Artist Residency Murree Resource Centre, Murree, Pakistan
2015	And nothing but the Truth: PARRHESIA II', Koel Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2015	The Science of Taking a Walk, with Seema Nusrat Gandhara Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2015	The Wall, Solo Show IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2014	Taaza Tareen, Vasl Full Circle Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2013	Right to the City- A Travel Guide to Karachi, by Shahana Rajani, Karachi, Pakistan
2013	Awaz- Baldia Factory Inferno, Arts Council Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan
2012	Drawing Mandalas curated by Muhammad Zeeshan, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2011	Encounters II, curated by Zarmeene Shah Indus Valley Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2011	Perception vs. Progression, Two person show. Khaas Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
2011	Encounters, curated by Zarmeene Shah Rohtas Gallery II, Lahore, Pakistan
2010	Home Page, Group show Art Chowk, Karachi, Pakistan
2008	Painting Group Show, Rohtas Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
2007	BA Degree show, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2006	Badin Charity painting exhibition, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>Participation in International Exhibitions</b>	
2022	'Pop South Asia – Explorations in the popular', Survey exhibition, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE
2021	'In and Around', Solo Presentation Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Aicon Contemporary Abu Dhabi, UAE
2021	'Contained', Solo Exhibition Aicon Contemporary, New York, USA
2018	Sweeping Back the Sea – New Contemporary Art from Pakistan Aicon Gallery, New York, USA
2018	Cultivating Wastelands Rossi & Rossi, London, United Kingdom
2014	At Intervals (Three Moving Image Works from Pakistan), Cooper Gallery University of Dundee, Scotland, United Kingdom
2012	Fact/Fission, Group Show exhibiting my paper cuts works Aicon Gallery, New York, USA
2012	Stop, Play, Pause, Repeat, curated by Nafisa Rizvi Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, Dubai, UAE.
2012	Mere Humd@um, Aicon Gallery, New York, USA
2009	MAFA Degree Show, Central Saint Martins College, London, United Kingdom
2009	Interim Show Central Saint Martins College, London, United Kingdom
2008	South Asian Fresh Graduate Artist Residency Show, Arts council, Katmandu, Nepal
2008	Painting Group Show, Rohtas Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
2007	BA Degree show, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan
2006	Badin Charity painting exhibition, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
<b>Bibliographical Citations and Reviews</b>	
2017	Conversations with Contemporary Pakistani Artists Vol 1. 86 Minutes with Seher Naveed – Vasl Artists Association
2017	Exhibition: A Flight of Fancy by Amra Ali. Review of We Ate the Birds Koel Gallery
2016	An Artist Retreat- On the Edge of Chaos by Saira Ansari, Libas International, Lahore, Pakistan
2016	Murree- Art Station by Rabeya Jalil, The Friday Times,
2016	Meeting at Murree by Quddus Mirza, The News on Sunday,
2016	Moeen Faruqi in Drawing Documents by Veera Rustomji, Art Now Pakistan
2015	Sign, Science and Space by Quddus Mirza, The News on Sunday
2015	And Nothing but the Truth by Osama Khalid, Art Now Pakistan
2015	The Science of Taking a Walk- A Walk to Remember by Shanzay Subzwari, Art Now Pakistan
2015	The Presence of Absence- on the Solo Show of Seher Naveed by Amna Iqbal, Art Now Pakistan
2015	Not for sale: Painter Seher Naveed refuses to compromise on self-expression, Express Tribune
2015	An Unfamiliar Space: Studio Visit to the 7th Taaza Tareen Residency by Hajra Haider, Art Now Pakistan
2013	Travel guide to Karachi: Going nowhere by Sanam Maher, Express Tribune
2013	Fighting Fire by Gemma Sharpe, The Friday Times
2012	Top Ten: Harry Hutchinson's Selects Ten Emerging Indian and Pakistani Artists, Blouin Artinfo
2012	Mere Humd@um Aicon Gallery by Saadia Salim, Art Now
2011	Perception vs Progression- works by Seher Naveed and Shireen Ikram by Momina Sibtain, The Express Tribune

