

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



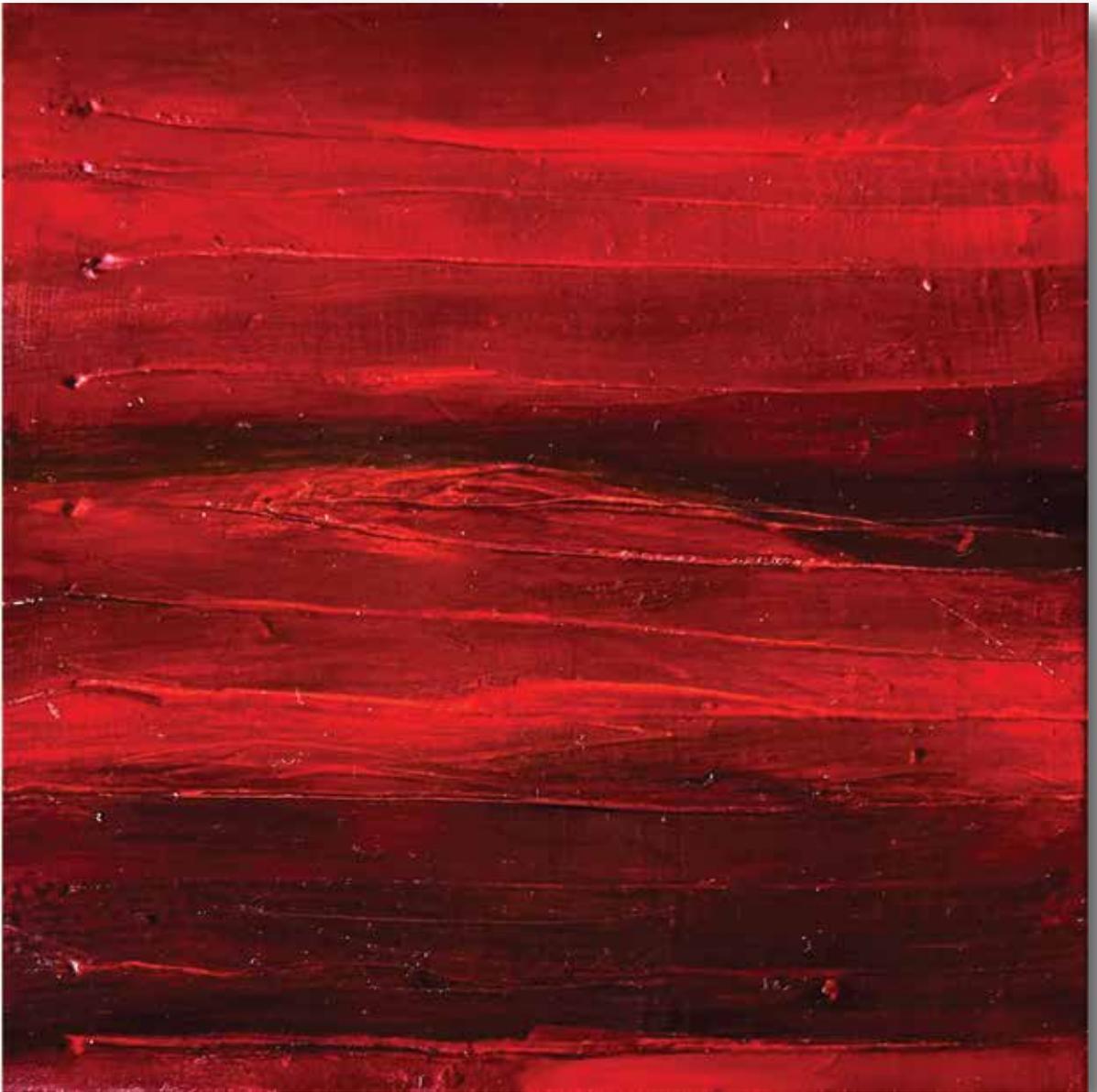
Title: The Red Erasure III  
Medium: Print on Half-Baked Ceramic Tile  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



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



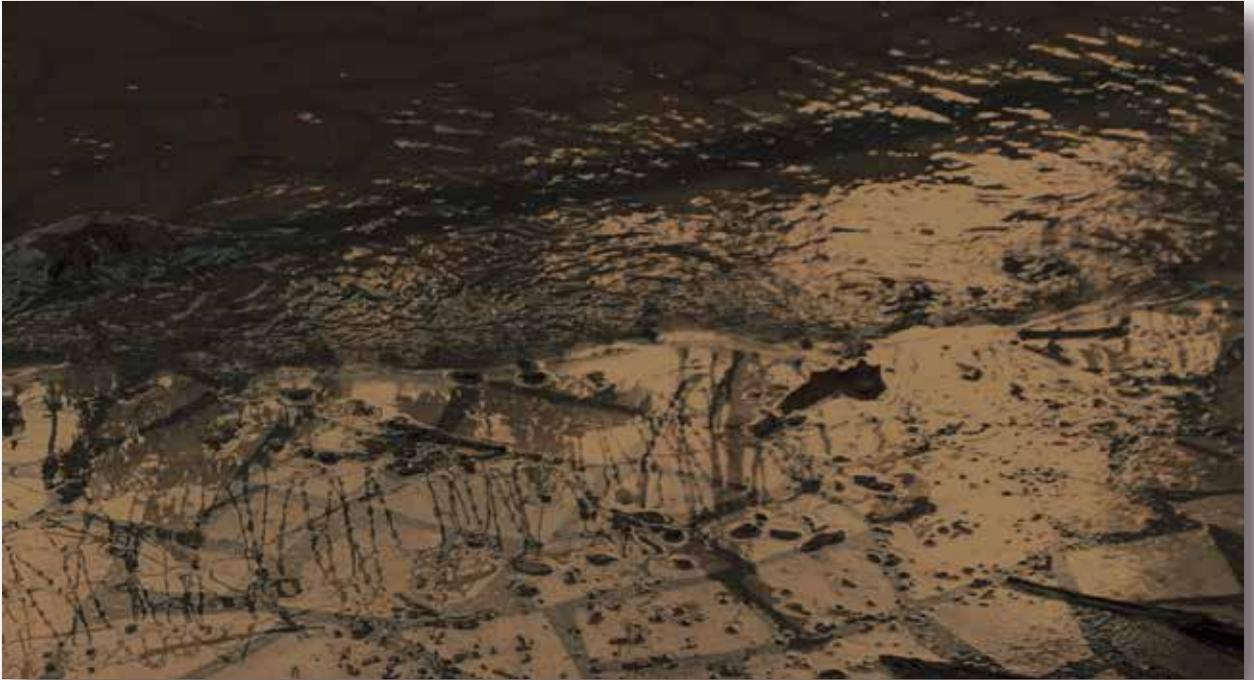
Title: The Erasure VI  
Medium: Graphite on Archival Print  
Size: 6 x 6 Inches  
Year: 2023



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



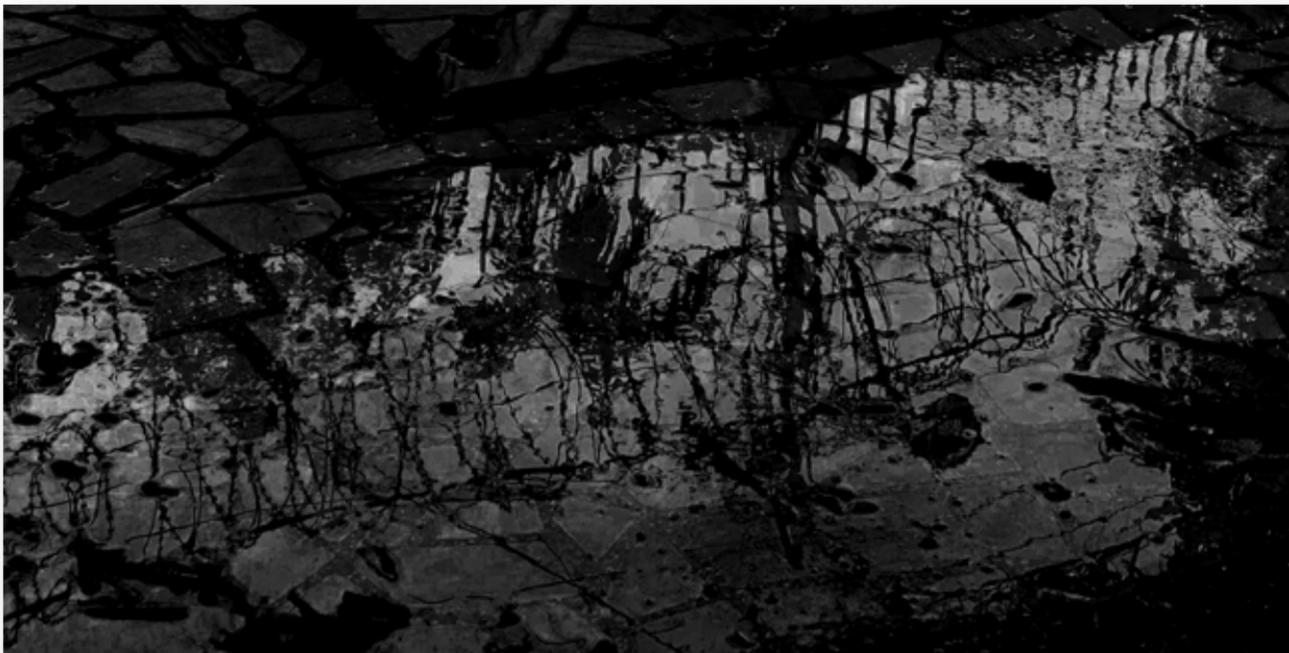
Title: Undulated Hues I  
Edition: 1/7 + 1AP  
Medium: Print on Glass  
Size: 18 x 18 Inches  
Year: 2023



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



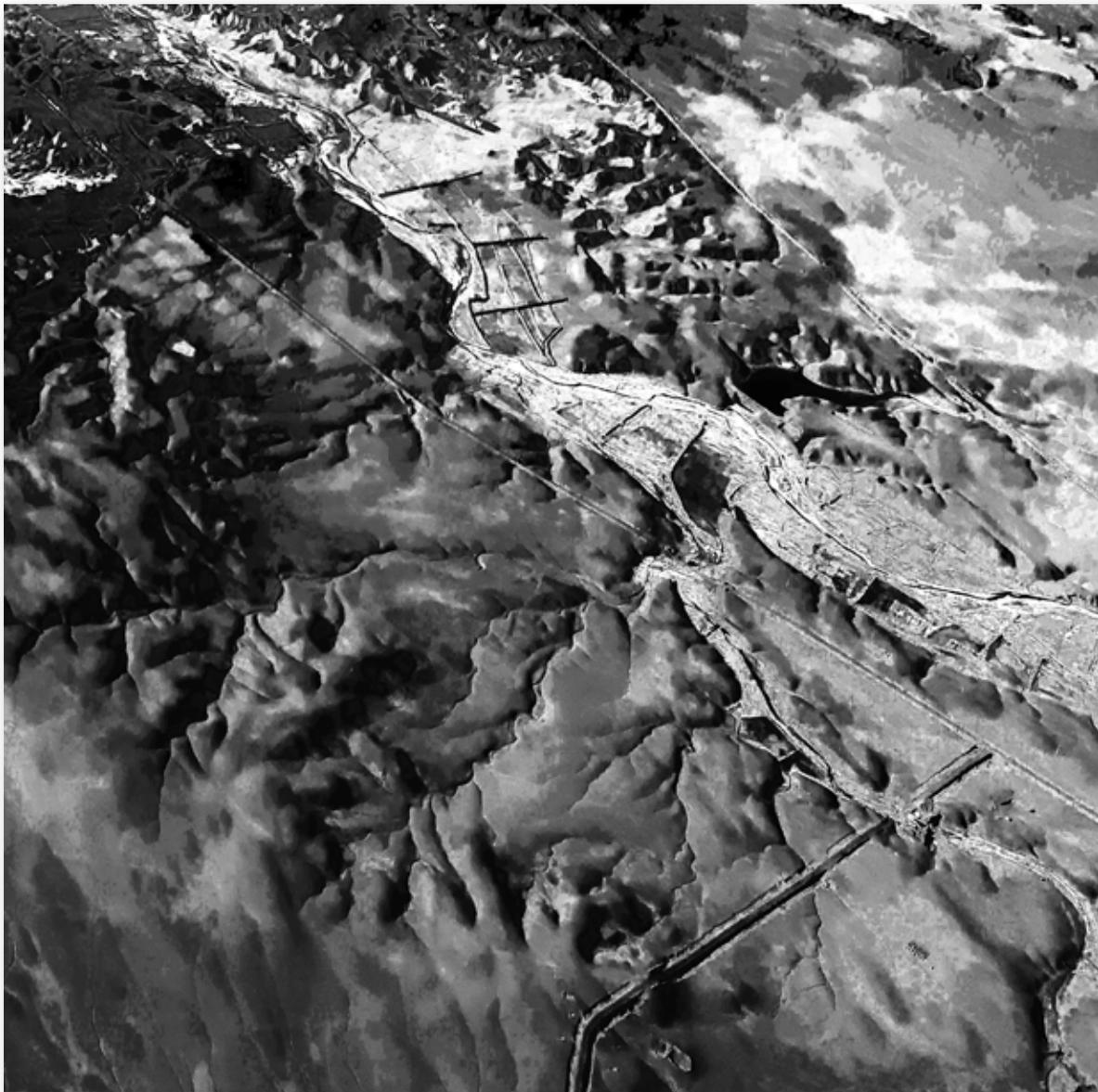
Title: Black Hued Monsoon II

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

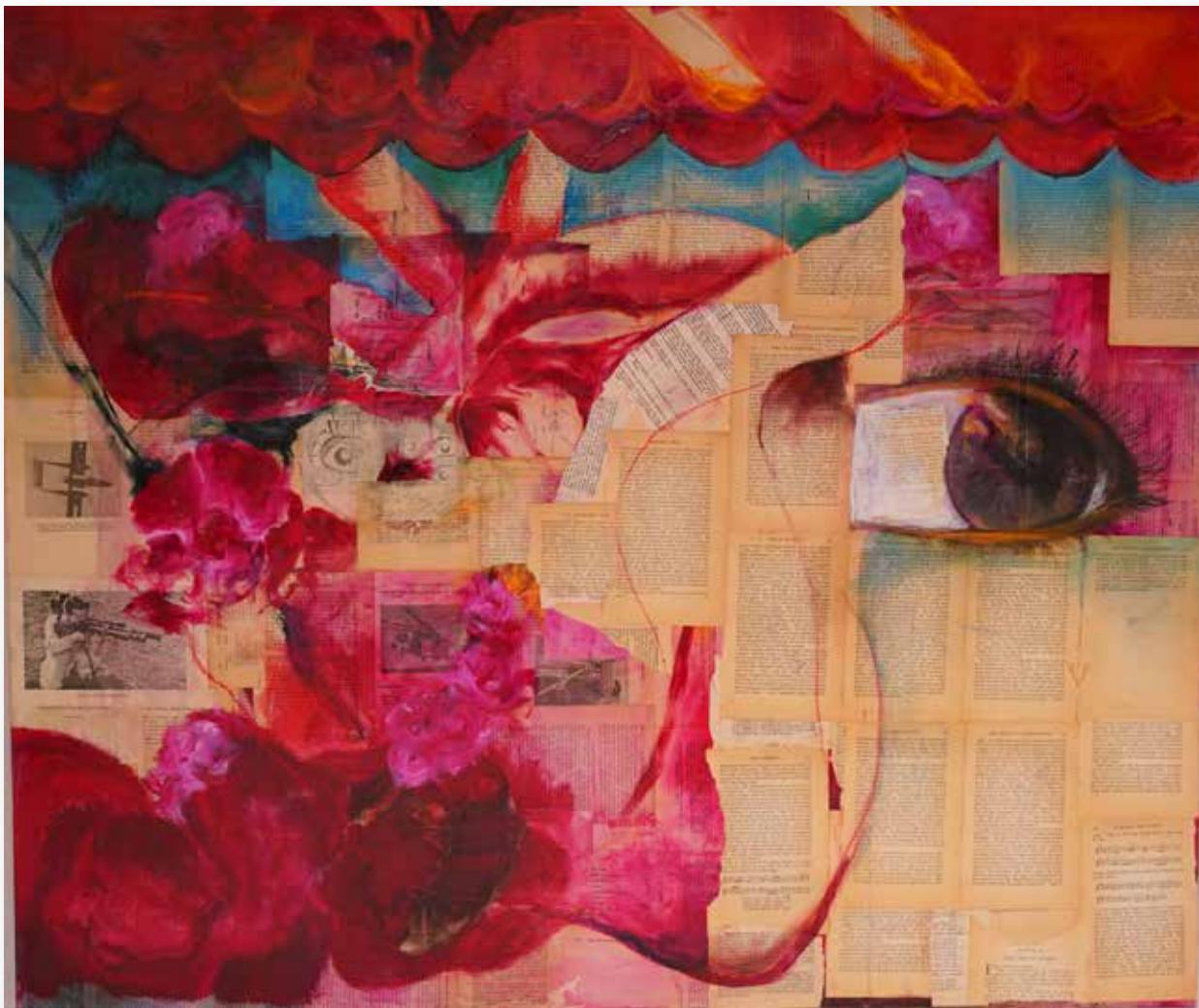
Medium: Handcrafted Sterling Silver Flowers in a Glass Bottle

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

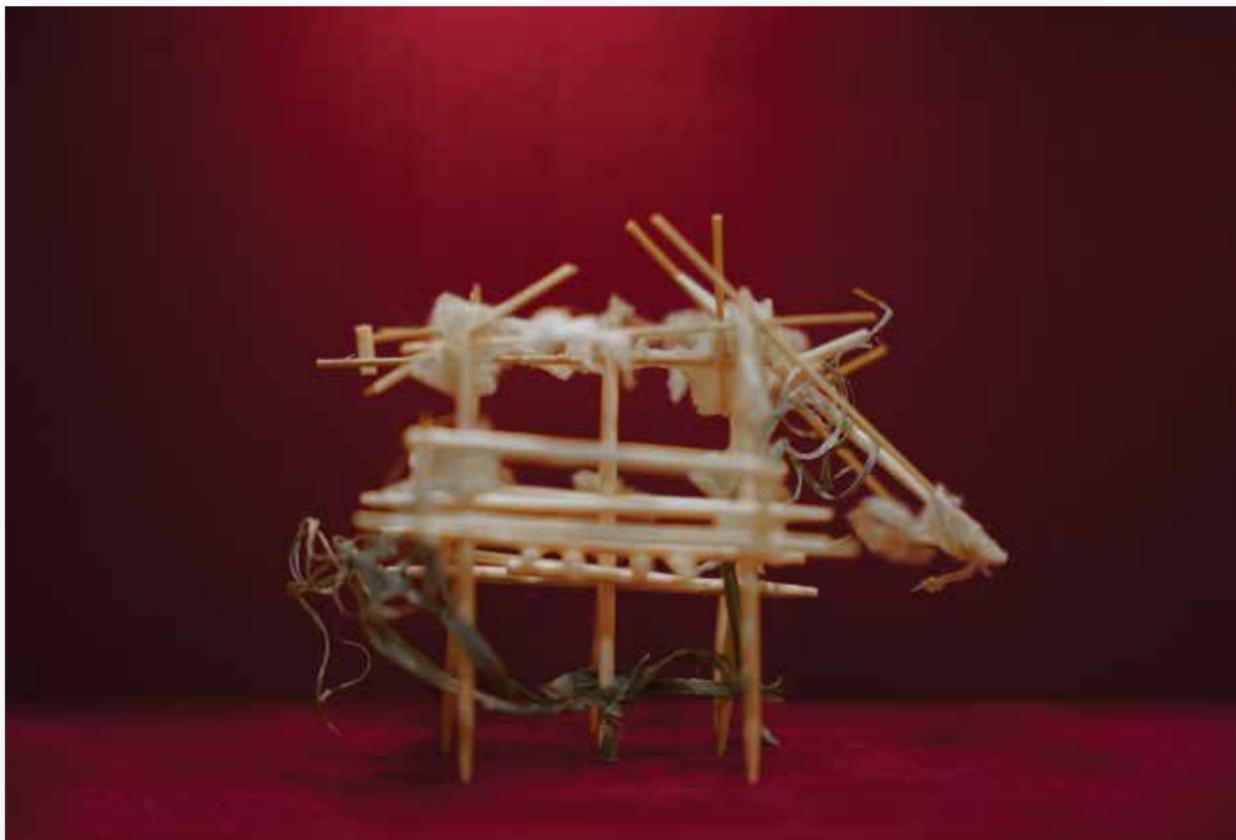


Title: Stilt House and Sunflowers

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.

## Education

- 2015 Doctorate in Media and Film from SOAS, University of London.  
2003 MA Art History and Theory (Research): College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales, Australia.  
1993 Bachelor of Fine Arts from National College of Arts, Lahore.

## Teaching and Work Experience

- 2017 - present Professor and Head of Department of Cultural Studies, National College of Arts, Lahore.
- 2013 - present Academic Coordinator of Centre for Cultural Heritage Conservation & Management. Responsible for managing two Ph.D. and an MPhil dissertation as well as conducting activities under the UNESCO Chair in Cultural Heritage.
- 2017 Developed a consultancy report on initiating comprehensive tourism from an intangible and tangible cultural Heritage perspective for the World Bank.
- 2007- 17 Assistant Professor, in the Department of Cultural Studies, National College of Arts, Lahore.
- 2003 Assistant Professor: Coordinated and taught Art and Society class to Foundation Year BFA, and South Asian Art Seminar to 2nd Year, in School of Visual Arts, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore.
- 2002 Lecture: discussed the construction of the 'difference' in postcolonial society specifically Pakistani art and visual culture, in Dr. Diane Losche's class Culture and Difference, COFA, UNSW
- 2001-2002 Tutor: Since July 2001, have been responsible to take tutorials for 'Mapping the Postmodern' and 'Mapping the Modern', for three classes/week at the College of Fine Arts, UNSW. This course aims to cover the history and theoretical discourse over the period of 1850-present times respectively.
- 2001 Lectured in Research Seminar at the National College of Arts, Lahore, on emerging issues surrounding the identity of contemporary Pakistani culture.
- 2000 Lecture: Delivered a lecture 'Postcolonial 2' for Mapping the Post Modern at COFA, UNSW.
- 2000 Tutor: Responsible for conducting two tutorials/week for Mapping the Post Modern at COFA, UNSW.
- 2000 Gave a talk with Dr. David McNeil in the class 'Peripheral Vision' on how artists from Islamic and Other cultures are negotiating their identities with mainstream art practice, COFA, UNSW.
- 1997 - 99 Research Scholar: National College of Arts, Lahore  
This research was designed to document contemporary art (paintings and sculpture) of Pakistan in audio/visual form to develop an inventory at NCA Library. The collected and documented material has become part of Pakistani section in the library and is in use for MA Visual Arts students as well as undergraduate students.
- 1998 Co-coordinator: As coordinator of the Research Seminar for Fourth Year Fine Arts at the National College of Arts Pakistan, for one session, I was responsible to conduct discussions on contemporary issues in art, like feminism, State and artist, traditional and western painting styles, by inviting guest speakers and later generating discussions among students. Also responsible for evaluating their research papers, training them in research methodologies, etc.
- 1998 Conducted a seminar and a workshop with 22 art students at NCA. The theme of the seminar was 'why museums make us sad?', to explore how nationalism and national identity are reconstructed through museum culture; and for the workshop, the concept of 'Hero' was explored with socio-political context and Pakistani cinema board painters as inspiration.
- 1996 - 7 Teaching Assistant: Assisted for three terms in Western Art History and for Third Year Design and Fine Arts at the National College of Arts, Lahore. I was mainly responsible for preparing material (slides and reference notes etc.) for lectures, students' record keeping and evaluation of their exam papers.
- 1995-97 Project Officer: Hawwa Associates, Lahore.  
Responsible for promoting women in business and supervised training for new rural projects including block printing, handloom weaving and implementing business-training program for approximately 320 women. Conducted a project in rural areas of Pakistan under United Nations Fund for Women and Development and also delegated Global Credit Conference for Women in Developing Nations in Amman, Jordan, sponsored by UNDP.
- 1995-97 Conducted several community projects within rural and urban localities of Sind and Punjab as well as Bangladesh and India. These projects included series of art and visual workshops for disseminating women empowerment and awareness program. UNESCAP, Women Institute, Lahore and Dastak (women's shelter home) sponsored these projects.
- 1995-97 Researched and documented several historical buildings and visual culture of India and Pakistan in slide forms.

## Publications

- Co-Authored a chapter titled: Reframing the Contexts for Contemporary Art of Pakistan, in the book, 'Intersections of Contemporary Art, Anthropology and Art History in South Asia-Decoding Visual Worlds', edited by Sasanka Perera and Dev Nath Pathak, Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.
- A Stroll Through the Contemporary and the Public, a chapter in a forthcoming publication LBF 01 Reader, ed, Iftikhar Dadi, Lahore Biennale Foundation.  
<https://www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/596503-fear-and-creative-expression>
- In Conversation with Salima Hashmi, Interview in 2021  
<http://www.artnowpakistan.com/articles.php?article=In-Conversation-with-Salima-Hashmi>
- City as Art - Art as a City - City in Protest - Art of Resistance, online article  
<http://www.artnowpakistan.com/articles.php?article=City-as-Art--Art-in-a-City---City-in-Protest---Art-of-Resistance>
- Rethinking Art Schools, online article  
<http://www.artnowpakistan.com/articles.php?article=Rethinking-Art-Schools>
- The Tapestry from Pakistan is Red, an article published in The News, 31/10/2004
- FIGURE: The Popular and the Political in Pakistan, a book published by ASR Publications, Lahore, in 2004.  
<http://www.faridabatool.blogspot.com>
- Book review published in The Nation, 12/09/2004
- Representing the Figure: Popular Culture of Pakistan, TAASA Review,
- The Journal of the Asian Arts Society of Australia, vol.9, No.2, June 2000
- That's Not Aboriginal Art?, www.artmonthly.org.au/review, 27/09/2000
- Last Word, Uniken, UNSW Community Magazine, No. 9, November 2001

## Publication on Farida Batool

- MMTalks: Arts, Culture, Heritage, Farida Batool, 2022  
[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cad=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwigqIGal5X9AhVdi\\_0HHe8DAaEQwqsBegQIPxAF&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DHS8mqJfXDF8&usg=AOvVaw0mowpiBzdb6pNvcL\\_ryjE](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cad=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwigqIGal5X9AhVdi_0HHe8DAaEQwqsBegQIPxAF&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DHS8mqJfXDF8&usg=AOvVaw0mowpiBzdb6pNvcL_ryjE)

- And She Wandered, a publication monograph on the 30 years of art practice of Farida Batool, 2020  
[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cad=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwigqIGal5X9AhVdi\\_0HHe8DAaEQFnoECDwQAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fkhamsart.com%2Fartwork%2Ffoos-shehr-ka-aik-choraha%2F&usg=AOvVaw1RlaO7W4TIVLev83nLNjU-](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cad=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwigqIGal5X9AhVdi_0HHe8DAaEQFnoECDwQAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fkhamsart.com%2Fartwork%2Ffoos-shehr-ka-aik-choraha%2F&usg=AOvVaw1RlaO7W4TIVLev83nLNjU-)

- Art Divy Conversations with Farida Batool, 2022  
[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwigqIGal5X9AhVdi\\_0HHe8DAaEQwqsBegQIPhAF&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D3gHOTbyQjUs&usg=AOvVaw2PcWJl7iW1mfniFFXAK4Q](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwigqIGal5X9AhVdi_0HHe8DAaEQwqsBegQIPhAF&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D3gHOTbyQjUs&usg=AOvVaw2PcWJl7iW1mfniFFXAK4Q)

- An Artist Response to Lahore, Farida Batool on TEDx Talks, 2019  
<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=video&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwipqICNmZX9AhVK8LsIHw7EABOQtWJ6BAGHEAI&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DWTs-qnF8lrk&usg=AOvVaw22rONfnljwWR YWKxqURJuX>

## Conference/workshops and lectures

- 2015-present Lectured a number of times as a guest speaker at several universities across Pakistan.
- 2020-2022 Served as Interlocutor in the International Curators program for the 10th Asian Pacific Triennial (APT10) of Queensland Art Gallery and Australian Council for the Arts, Brisbane, to represent artist/researcher from South Asia.
- 2018 Participated in an international workshop, Karachi Seminar: Critical Perspective on Art and Education, hosted by Tate Research Center: Research and Habib University in Habib University, Karachi.
- 2018 Co-curated an exhibition; Envisioning Borders in Alhamra, Lahore.
- 2018 Moderated and designed a panel talk titled: Contesting Bodies and Shifting Borders, as part of Afkaar-e-taaza Think Fest by ITU, Lahore.
- 2018 Chaired a panel of Visual Arts & Design at 1st International Conference in Social Sciences and Humanities at Kinnaird College, Lahore.
- 2018 Panel talk on Education and Design, hosted by LUMS, Lahore.
- 2017 Presented in a conference exploring contemporary life in Pakistan after 70 years of its Independence with a special focus on Art, Gender, and Politics, hosted by The Nealis Program in Asian Studies, St. Joseph's University, USA.
- 2017 Presented a paper on contemporary art in Pakistan, at a conference Pakistan @70 hosted by LSE, UK.
- 2016 Presented the modern: Virtual Sexuality: Mujra Dance Videos on YouTube, in the paper titled South Asian Workshop 2016, South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, USA.
- 2016 Lectured at LUMS' Saida Waheed Gender Initiative's seminar series.
- 2016 Lectured at Civil Services Academy, Upper Mall Lahore on Cultural Heritage and Social Aspects.
- 2016 Lectured on Contemporary Art, Public Spaces and Politics of Resistance in Pakistan hosted by the Literature and Arts Society of the National School of Public Policy Lahore.
- 2016 Presented a paper on presentation in the International Heritage and Museums Conference on Black Spring: Integrating Intangible Heritage, organized by the British Council in collaboration with the Walled City of Lahore Authority.
- 2016 Presented paper on the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Lahore, hosted by Lahore International Conference on Culture, hosted and organized by Youth Revolution Clan in collaboration with Urban Unit Government of Punjab and Cultural Infusion Australia, at Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore.
- 2015 Presented paper titled: Obscenity Discourse in Pakistan: A Case study of Mujra Dance Videos and Male Desire, in a conference hosted by Society of Cinema and Media Studies, Montreal, 2015.
- 2014 Lahore Museum Educational kits workshops: Developed a research program in curriculum to develop an awareness of culture and heritage of Pakistan by training students to research and develop educational kits for school children visiting Lahore Museum, to make the museum visit of school children educational, creative and productive and to create a deeper understanding of cultural heritage of Pakistan among university students and public school children.
- 2012 Art and aesthetics in the Globalizing World conducted by Association of Social Anthropologists of UK and Common World and JNU New Delhi. Paper titled: The Mujra Dance Video Cds: Its Production, Content and Masculine Desire in Present Day Pakistani Popular Culture.
- 2010 Freedom of Expression and Islamic Law, Monroe Price Moot at Oxford University: presented a paper on artistic practice.
- 2010 V Antidoto International Seminary Cultural Actions in Conflict Zones, Itau cultural Sao Paulo, Brazil

## Exhibitions

- 2022 Body and Beyond: Women Movement of Pakistan, a research based curated show for the Virtual Museum of Lahore Biennale Foundation, sponsored by British Council.
- 2022 Lahore ki eik Dastaan, research based site specific installations and community engagement public art project at Diyal Singh Mansion, Mall Road, curated by Tanvir Hassan, produced by Lahore Biennale Foundation and British Council, Lahore.
- 2021 Lumiere, a group show with three Pakistani and three French women artists, curated by Zara Sajid and Stephane Borsa at Pakistan National Council, Islamabad.
- 2020 Shehr e Tilism e Hoshrubra, two person show at Canvas Gallery, Karachi.
- 2017 Oos roz ki adhoori Kahani, solo at Rohtas 2, Lahore
- 2016 Look at the City from Here: By the High Walls and Closed Gates, Solo show at Gandhara Art-Space, curated by Hajra Karrar, Karachi
- 2014-2015 Signature prize exhibition at Singapore Art Museum, Singapore.
- 2012 Kahani eik shehr ki: solo show at Rohtas II, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2010 Where three dreams cross: 150 years of photography at Whitechapel Gallery, London.
- 2009 Love in the time of Cholera: Solo show at Canvas Gallery, Karachi.
- 2009 Wound: group show at Aicon Gallery, London
- 2009 Maa Tujhe Salaam: solo exhibition at Aicon Gallery NY.
- 2008 'Lahore My Love': solo exhibition of lenticular prints at Rohtas 2, Lahore Pakistan.
- 2006 The Blank, solo exhibition of lenticular prints at Rohtas 2, Lahore Pakistan.
- 2006 No Man's Land, a web based international exhibition, concerning the political divides and conflict present in every day life, will be uploaded at the end of May.
- 2005 Circanvalcao, a communitarian art project in Portugal, in which I designed and constructed a permanent sight specific artwork during the residency period of one month.
- 2005 Beyond Borders, a communitarian art project in Portugal, in which I designed and constructed a permanent sight specific artwork during the residency period of one month.
- 2004 Skin, two person show at Rohtas 2, Lahore, Pakistan.
- 2004 INTERSTATION, Artists Beyond Boundaries, a mixed media video installation at Kudos Gallery, Sydney, where eleven artists from nine countries participated.
- 2003-4 Memories, an ongoing art project for Argentinean artists from Tucuman City.
- 2003 Participated in Cairo Biennale.
- 1989- 2000 Exhibited in many group shows in Lahore and Islamabad.
- 1995-97 Exhibited in national exhibitions at Islamabad and Lahore.
- 1997 Scope'97, a faculty art exhibition at National Art College.
- 1997 Co-curated a drawing show at National College of Arts, Lahore,
- 1996 Designed and executed four murals (12 x 8ft) for Imam Bargah (devotional place for Shiites)
- 1996 Participated in an installation show at National College of Arts, Lahore.
- 1995 Curated and participated in women artists of Pakistan, Womenscape II, Alhamra art gallery, Lahore.
- 1994 Co-organized and participated in an exhibition of women artists of Pakistan, Womenscape, Alhamra art gallery, sponsored by ASR resource center.
- 1993 Designed and painted a mural (39 x 9ft) in ceramic tiles and glazes with sculptural forms attached on it. It is permanently installed at the National College of Arts, Lahore, as part of degree show.

## Awards

- 2009 Finalist for The Asian Sovereign Art Prize, The Sovereign Art Foundation, Hong Kong.
- 2000 - 2002 Senior Asian Artist: Recipient of Senior Asian Artist Scholarship, COFA, UNSW, which covers the entire tuition fees of the MA study.
- 1994 Jang Talent Award: Been selected for Talent Award leading Urdu Newspaper, Lahore.
- 1990-93 NCA Merit Scholarship: I have been the recipient of Merit scholarship at NCA during the entire course of undergraduate study.

## Board Membership

- Member of Academic Committee of Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture.
- Member Board of Studies of Graduate Program MPhil in Art and Design of Indus Valley School of Art and Design.
- Member Board of Studies of SLASS of Beaconhouse National University
- Advisory Board member of the Journal of Art Education.

## Film

- 2006 Mardangi tere kai roop  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/interactivity/blog/story/2006/10/061026\\_ss\\_mardangi\\_farida\\_ms.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/interactivity/blog/story/2006/10/061026_ss_mardangi_farida_ms.shtml)
- 2003 Belief and Reality: A short film on Moharram's mourning celebration of Mochi Gate. This film aims to look at the subtle cultural phenomenon originating within the sacred emotional economy. (10 min.)
- 2001 Against My Will: Researched, interviewed and translated a documentary film on runaway women in Pakistan, made by Amnesty International, Nederland. (50 min.)
- 1999 Art Teaching for Primary Children: as Assistant Director and researcher worked with Salima Hashmi, the director for an educational film for PTV, an Ilm Film Production, Karachi, Pakistan. (50 min.)
- 1999 Giddha: a documentary about women's traditional dance form, Giddha. (20 min.)

# 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, Colomobo.

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 Europeana, 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 Profesoor, 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.

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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://www.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).

• Pakistan – Sehba Sarwar. (N.d.) <http://sehbasarwar.com/tag/pakistan/>

• 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/](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/>

• Travelling Without Moving. (2014). <https://www.livemint.com> > Leisure > Lounge

• The News, 'Gross out aesthetics' by Akhtar.Asim, April 21st 2002 (Newspaper review)

• The News, 'Apotheosis of the ordinary' Sunday edition Lahore by Akhtar.Asim. 5th Jan

1996

(Newspaper review)

## Catalogues/Magazines

• Sumedh Rajendran and Masooma Syed: In Art and War. 2013, November 11.

• 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 Europeana (2007), The Silk Road: Contemporary Responses Manchester.

• Jamini, (November 2004), 'A wished for song' craft in the work of Pakistani women artists

by

• 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)

## Publication

• Syed, M. (n.d.). Remains and Ravages. Borderlines-Volume III, 14–17.

<https://www.vbbarts.org/portfolio/borderlines-vol-iii/>

• Sacred Art – Photo Essay, Art Now Pakistan <http://www.artnowpakistan.com/sacred-art/>

• Syed, M- Her last name was Isabella , pg. 121 and 101-Bano's Companion to Feminist

Art,

• Sadia Pasha Kamran, Ruman Art initiative, ISBN978-969-712-6004 -2021.

