

Artist statement

“We are caught up in the world and we do not succeed in detaching ourselves from it in order to achieve consciousness of it.”

- Maurice Merleau - Ponty, Phenomenology of Perception

Art is a lens through which I perceive and process the wonder and the chaos of the world around me. This act of questioning, of moving toward a kind of truth or understanding, becomes the very objective of the work itself. *Borderlands* is the distance travelled between those questions and their resolutions. It is the space ‘in-between’ - stillness and motion, faith and doubt, belonging and displacement.

This body of work considers how thresholds, between the tangible and the intangible, faith and doubt, shape not only perception but identity as well. These paintings inhabit that threshold where light dissolves into shadow. They speak of nuanced fragility, of borders that breathe rather than divide, and deliberate on the notion of ownership versus belonging. Through this liminality, of subdued horizons and tonal shifts, I seek to evoke that moment of pause where the seen and the unseen converge. Meaning emerges within these spaces of transition, where territory, memory, and identity intersect.

Borderlands is an exploration of the human spirit and its intricate relationship with the shifting landscapes of our lives. The notion that we are made of stardust, that the universe gathers within us to observe itself, reminds me that the border between inner and outer worlds is porous. In Eastern philosophy, enlightenment is not an emergence into light but a journey inward. My practice serves as a stained-glass window, an intricate mosaic that reflects the human experience through the interplay of light and shadow. The viewer is invited to engage with the transformative power of colour and the profound connections it forges across all boundaries.

*Nazia Ejaz
2025*

Profile

Nazia Ejaz was born in Lahore, Pakistan, where she first studied Fine Art at the National College of Arts. She went on to complete her Master's in Visual Arts from the Slade School of Art, University College London, and later studied Indian Art History at SOAS and Sotheby's Institute of Art in London. In 2015, she earned a second Master's in Visual Art and Creative Practice from the University of South Australia. Her practice spans printmaking, painting, and teaching, with experience across the UK, Australia, and Pakistan.

“Art is the lens through which I perceive and process the wonder and the chaos of the world around us. The act of asking a question — and moving toward a kind of truth or understanding — becomes the very essence of the work. Borderlands is the breath between the two: those in-between spaces between stillness and motion, faith and doubt, belonging and displacement.”

After fourteen years in Australia, she now lives and works in Karachi.

Art Training

- 2016 University of South Australia
Master of Visual Art and Creative Practice - Adelaide, Australia
- 1996 SOAS - University of London
Graduate Diploma, Indian Art History - London, UK
- 1993 - 96 Slade School of Fine Art, University College London
Master of Fine Art - London, UK
- 1988 - 92 National College of Arts
Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) - Lahore, Pakistan

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 Tanzara Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 2023 Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2022 Tanzara Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 2021 Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2019 Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2018 Tanzara Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 2018 O Art Space Lahore, Pakistan
- 2017 Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2016 Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre (SALA Residency), Adelaide
- 2015 Rohtas 2 Gallery, Lahore Pakistan
- 2015 Kerry Packer Civic Gallery, Adelaide, Australia
- 2014 Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2013 Tanzara Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 2003 Chawkandi Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan

Group Exhibitions

- 2022 Tanzara Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 2022 Sadequain Gallery, Frerre Hall, Karachi Pakistan
- 2021 O Art Space Lahore, Pakistan, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2020 IIAF Arts Council of Pakistan, Islamabad
- 2018 Ejaz Gallery in collaboration with Lahore Biennale, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2017 Tanzara Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 2016 SALA Exhibition, Baha'i Centre Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia
- 2015 Art Walk, Fenn Place, Adelaide Australia
- 2015 SALA Exhibition, Baha'i Centre Art Gallery, Adelaide, Australia
- 2014 Liverpool Street Gallery, Adelaide, Australia
- 2014 SALA Exhibition, Adelaide, Australia
- 2013 SALA Exhibition, Adelaide, Australia
- 2012 SALA Exhibition, Adelaide, Australia
- 2004 Kara Film Festival, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2002 VM Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 1998 V&A Museum, London, UK
- 1996 Clifford Chance, London, UK
- 1996 Graduate Show Slade UCL, London, UK
- 1996 Oxford University, Oxford, UK
- 1992 Rohtas Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 1992 Nairang Art Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan