

Artist statement

My work begins with a personal relationship with Chamak Patti and the world. I was born in Peshawar and later moved to Hyderabad, where I grew up around the visual culture of decorated trucks. From an early age, I worked as a mechanic. Next to the place where I worked was a truck decoration shop, and I became fascinated by the way trucks were transformed through colour, paint, Chamak Patti, patterns and small decorative details. I was not a truck painter, and I did not know how to paint at the time, but I was deeply interested in learning how these decorations were made and how the trucks were given their visual identity. I gradually learned the craft and began working with Chamak Patti out of curiosity and personal interest. Overtime the material started resonating with my life, the places I lived, the work I did, people I learned from, and the experience of labour. This relationship with material stayed with me and eventually became an important part of my art practice. In this body of work, I revisit those memories through my own imagination. The trees, mountains, flowers, leaves, landscapes, circles, lines, sun and moon that appear in the work come from the visual vocabulary of truck decoration. But I do not reproduce them as traditional truck art. I take these familiar motifs apart and rebuild them through abstraction, allowing them to become something new while retaining a connection to where they came from. Chamak Patti remains central to this process, alongside paint, crystals and other materials associated with truck decoration. I am interested in what happens when these materials are taken from their familiar context and used on a different scale and contemporary surfaces. Some works are large, reflecting the physical presence and visual impact of trucks themselves, while smaller works allow me to explore individual motifs, colours and patterns more intimately. The physical process of making is most important to me. I do not begin with a completely fixed image of what the final work will look like. I work directly with the material, placing line after line and dot after dot, allowing the image to develop through the process. There is always an element of surprise when the work is finished, because the final result often becomes different from what I had imagined. For me, this labour is part of the meaning of the work. The finished surface may appear bright, decorative and effortless, but behind that beauty are countless small gestures, thoughts, Ideas and Feelings. My early experience of labour continues to inform this process.

Profile

Yaseen Khan is a visual artist currently based in Lahore, Pakistan. He completed his BFA in Fine Arts from the National College of Arts (NCA), Lahore, in 2018, graduating with Distinction, with Painting as his major and Photography and Calligraphy as his minors.

Khan has participated in numerous exhibitions and group shows in Pakistan and internationally. His exhibition history includes the Alhamra Annual Exhibition of Young Artists, the Zahoor ul Akhlaq Gallery, O Art Space, Sanat Art Gallery, Canvas Gallery, Lahore Biennale, and the Embassy of France in Islamabad.

In 2018, Khan participated in The Real and Its Double, held at the Embassy of France in Islamabad, where he received the First Prize and subsequently had the opportunity to travel to Paris. He has also participated in international exhibitions and projects in the Netherlands, the United States, and online platforms.

His practice has been presented through exhibitions including The Kind of Nature, Transcending Traditions, Power of Art, Oxytocin, Sensibility/Serenity, Past in Bloom, Heaven, Edifice, and Preserving the Lost Era.

Khan has also been involved in residency and public art projects, including Power of Art and Articulate Residencies in collaboration with HQ Art Foundation, Lahore, as well as a public art project under the Lahore Biennale Foundation. Selected works from his practice are held in the permanent collection of Ambiance Boutique Art Hotels.

Education

2015 - 18	B.F.A. in Fine Arts National College of Arts (NCA), Lahore, Pakistan - Graduated with Distinction
2011	Ideal Project High School, Hyderabad Matriculation in Science

Awards & Honors

2021	Top 10 Best Artwork Award, Beyond the Threshold of Time, Alhamra Annual Exhibition of Arts for Young Artists
2021, 19, 18	Best Artwork Award, Alhamra Annual Exhibition of Arts for Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council 3
2019	Best Artwork Award, Alhamra Annual Exhibition of Arts for Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore
2018	Distinction in Painting (Fine Arts), NCA, Lahore
2018	First Prize Winner, The Real and Its Double, Exhibition of the Embassy of France in Islamabad, Pakistan
2015 - 18	Merit Scholarship throughout academic session, NCA, Lahore

Exhibitions

2026	NCA x UCAD , Ranai-e-Khayal-o-Khat, an exhibition presented by the National College of Arts (NCA)
2026	Chitthi Aayi Hai, Group Show, O Art Space, Lahore 5
2026	Checking In Art Residency - Ambiance Resort, Hunza, 2026 In partnership with Alliance Française de Lahore, Ambassade de France au Pakistan & Bank of Punjab
2025	For You with Love, Group Show, ArtSoch Contemporary, Lahore
2025	Objects, Layers, Illusions, 3 - Person Show, Kaleido Contemporary, Lahore
2025	Conversation 2, O Art Space, Lahore
2025	Preserving the Lost Era, ArtSoch Contemporary
2025	The Summer Show, Canvas Gallery, Karachi
2025	Set In Motion, Group Show, ArtSoch Gallery, Lahore
2025	4 Voices , 4 person show, Canvas Gallery Karachi
2025	Rooted, Group show, O Art Space, Lahore
2024	Transcending Traditions, 583 Park Avenue, New York, NY
2024	Power of Art, Articulate Residencies, in collaboration with HQ Art Foundation, Lahore
2024	Oxytocin, Group Show of Contemporary Artists from Pakistan, ArtSoch Contemporary Gallery
2024	Huntenkunst, Netherlands - Group Show: Art from Pakistan
2024	Sensibility / Serenity, 3 - Person Show, Canvas Gallery, Karachi
2024	Past in Bloom, Collateral Event to Lahore Biennale 03, curated by ArtSoch
2024	Heaven, Group Show, Gallery 6, Islamabad
2024	Edifice, 2-Person Show, O Art Space, Lahore
2023	Taaza Tareen 15: Nirala Sheher (Peculiar City), Vasl Artists' Association Residency, Karachi
2023	The Kind of Nature, Canvas Gallery, Karachi
2022 - 23	PakArt, Embassy of Pakistan, The Hague, Netherlands. Curated by H.E. Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar
2022	Patterns, Canvas Gallery, Karachi
2022	Art for Humanity, O Art Space - Online Exhibition 4
2022	Gustavino's, New York, in collaboration with Shaukat Khanum and ArtSoch Gallery
2021	Beyond the Threshold of Time, 17th Annual Exhibition of Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore
2021	NIC: New in City, O Art Space, Lahore
2021	Khat-o-Kitabat: Connecting to Past-Present-Future, O Art Space and Koel Gallery
2021	Dar-Amad, O Art Space, Lahore
2020	A Site for Sight, Collateral Event, Lahore Biennial (LBF)
2020	Empowering Pakistan, World Bank, Islamabad
2020	Talk to Me, O Art Space in collaboration with KL City Art Gallery, Malaysia, and Art Voice Seven Gallery, Indonesia - Online Exhibition
2019	15th Annual Exhibition of Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore
2019	Eclectic Mix, Sanat Art Gallery, Karachi
2019	Traces, O Art Space, Lahore
2019	The Skin We Live In, Canvas Gallery, Karachi
2018	14th Annual Exhibition of Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore
2018	The Real and Its Double, Exhibition of the Embassy of France, Islamabad, Pakistan
2017	13th Annual Exhibition of Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore
2016	Second Year Fine Arts Exhibition, Zahoor ul Akhlaq Gallery, NCA, Lahore
2016	12th Annual Exhibition of Young Artists, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore

Selected Articles

2026	Sensibility and art, Peerzada Salman, Dawn
2025	Exhibition: Heavenly Bodies, Cosima Jane Brand, Dawn
2024	The Perpetual Power of Art, Quddus Mirza, Artnow
2024	Conceptual art on show, Sehrish Mustafa, The News International
2023	Tradition and transformation, Quddus Mirza, The News International
2023	The Kind of Nature: Group Show, India Art Fair - The Kind of Nature
2022	Art and patterns, Peerzada Salman, Dawn
2019	Exhibition: Masking The Present, Jovita Alvares, Dawn
2019	The Skin We Live In, Mubeen Arif, Artnow
2019	Eclectic mix, Sanat Gallery, Artnow
2019	Over 100 pieces displayed at Young Artists exhibition, The News International
2019	Expressions of inner selves through 'The Skin We Live In' socio - cultural perspectives, Nadeem Zuberi, The News International