

## MAHA AHMED

Maha Ahmed (b. 1989, lives & works in Dubai) is a trained miniature artist who is interested in the de-construction of identity, the self-positioning within a cultural context and society's reactions to the individual. Ahmed draws inspiration from Persian and Mughal manuscripts and from the tradition of Japanese landscape painting with its contemplative, meditative compositions of water, plants, rocks and animals. In her works, Ahmed places hybrid creatures into imagined utopian landscapes. Her subjects subtly inhabit spaces that are not dominated by humans but reserved instead for the unfolding of dreams, for imaginings and for emotions. Her paintings can be read as documents of identity construction, cross-cultural experiences and transformative events that occurred in the artists' personal life.



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## EDUCATION

2013 MA Fine Art with Honours, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London  
2012 BFA Miniature Painting, National College of Arts, Lahore

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Where Worlds Meet*, Leighton House Museum, London, UK  
*Of Holding On & Letting Go*, Galerie ISA 9, Mumbai, India  
2022 *The Spaces Between*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London  
2020 *A Place that Cannot Be*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London  
2019 *An Island of Truths*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Berlin  
2016 *A Mute Land*, Display Gallery, London  
*A Seed Once Planted*, Asia House, London

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 *I See Myself In You*, curated by Jamila Adeli & Tanya Lakahani, Galerie ISA, Mumbai  
2023 *Art Dubai*, with Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
2021 *Facing the Sun*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Schloss Gorne, Germany  
*10 Year Anniversary Exhibition*, Galerie ISA 9, Mumbai, India  
*Maha Ahmed and David Brian Smith*, Galerie ISA, Mumbai  
2019 *Microcosm III*, AAN Gandhara Art Space, Karachi  
*Art Dubai*, with Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Dubai  
2018 *River in an Ocean*, Lahore Biennale 01, Lahore  
*I, too, am a Part of History*, Fakir Khana Museum, Lahore  
2017 *BODY*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London  
*Istanbul Contemporary*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Istanbul  
*And the Horizon is Dying over the Tourist*, Republic Gallery, London  
*One Summer Night*, Crypt Gallery, London  
*Dentons Art Prize Shortlist Exhibition*, Denton Offices, London  
2016 *Asia House Benefit Auction*, Asia House, London 2015 Aestivation, Central Saint Martins Annex, London  
*GRAN-faloon*, Lethaby Gallery, London  
*BIG SPACE IV*, Central Saint Martins, London 2014 A-visible, Satrang Gallery, Islamabad  
*Out of the box*, Fringe Art Fair, Bath  
2013 *Group Show*, Chawkandi Art Gallery, Karachi  
*Not Everyone Talks*, Satrang Gallery, Islamabad  
*Tomorrow:Today*, Bargehouse, OXO Tower, London  
*Blackout*, The Drawing Room, Lahore  
*Three is not a Crowd*, Rohtas II, Islamabad 2012 Divergence, The Drawing Room, Lahore  
*Labrintour*, Satrang Gallery, Islamabad 000 Boxes, No Format Gallery, London  
*Out of the box*, Ink Spot Press, Brighton Emerging Talent, VM Art Gallery, Karachi  
*Undergraduate Degree Show*, National College of Art, Lahore 2010 Young Artists Exhibition, Alhamra Arts Council, Lahore  
2008 *Transformation*, Zahoor-ul-ikhlaq Gallery, Lahore

## **AWARDS**

Nominated for Sovereign Asian Art Prize

Dentons Art Prize – Special Commendation COLLECTIONS

David Roberts Art Foundation (DRAF), London

## **SELECTED COLLECTIONS**

Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi, IN

A.R.M holding art collection, Dubai, UAE

David Roberts Art Foundation Collection