

MAHA AHMED, Pakistan

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

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Where Worlds Meet*, Leighton House Museum, London, UK
2022 *Of Holding On & Letting Go*, Galerie ISA 9, Mumbai, India
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

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *Growth Of The Soil*, Kristin Hjellegjerde gallery, London, UK
What the Eye Brought Back, P420, Bologna
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