

MAHA AHMED, UAE

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

- 2024 *Salon Show*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, FL, USA
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

- 2026 *Drawing Biennial 2026*, Drawing Room, London
2025 *Symposium*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, FL, USA
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
A Gentle Breeze, Galerie ISA, Mumbai
Microcosm III, AAN Gandhara Art Space, Karachi
2019 *Art Dubai*, with Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Dubai
River in an Ocean, Lahore Biennale 01, Lahore
2018 *I, too, am a Part of History*, Fakir Khana Museum, Lahore
BODY, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London
2017 *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
Asia House Benefit Auction, Asia House, London 2015 *Aestivation*, Central Saint Martins Annex, London
2016 *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

GALERIE ISA

- 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