

Ayesha Sultana

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

Over the last three years there has been a gradual shift in my practice that has encompassed drawing, painting, object and sound. What does art-making constitute of? This has become a bigger question in my work, especially around the discourse of drawing that has acted as a catalyst to tap into other visual approaches of 'making'. The work is often process-oriented as an attempt to negotiate and translate notions of space, which is inseparably connected with perceptions of time as a way of looking.

The *Amnesia* series presents my work in this context tracing particular environments of spatial constructions of architectural drawings. The work is not directly about architecture but has implications of space, whether real, tangible or psychological. Time, memory and erasure play an important role in the work.

There has been an interest in the relationship of the two-dimensional and three-dimensional work that could function as one, in relation to depth and flatness, of layering, fragmenting and making an image whole again.

Overlaid and embedded in thick graphite the inter-crossing of hard, delineated lines form subtle lattices. Sometimes the invisible structures in this series also refer to ideas of the 'window', of the outward projecting visual reality in painting.

Artist Biography

Ayesha Sultana **Bangladesh**

b. 1984 Jessore, Bangladesh
Lives and works in Dhaka

Education

- 2007 - 08 Post-Graduate Diploma, Art Education, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore
2003 - 07 BFA Visual Arts, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore

Exhibitions

- 2014 B/Desh, curated by Deepak Ananth, Dhaka Art Summit, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka Samdani Art Award, Group show, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka Listen Up! Delhi- a public sound art exhibition, co-curated by Diana Campbell Betancourt and Tim Goossens, across Delhi Cross-Casting, curated by Mahbubur Rahman, BRITTO SPACE a contemporary art hub, Dhaka
- 2013 India Art Fair 2013, Samdani Art Foundation booth, New Delhi
- 2012 Senses 7, Dhaka Art Center, Dhaka 'INexactly THIS' Kunstvlaai: Festival of Independents 2012, Amsterdam Adda through Art, Gallery Chittrak, Dhaka Freefa/1, curated by Hon. Giorgio Guglielmino, Bengal Art Lounge, Dhaka Dhaka Art Summit 2012, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka SPACE, curated by Mahbubur Rahman, BRITTO SPACE a contemporary art hub, Dhaka
- 2011 Longitude Latitude 4, curated by Shehzad Chowdhury, Beauty Boarding, Dhaka Hear Me Roar! curated by Atteqa Ali, thejamjar, Dubai FemLink Video-Col/age, screenings, Eindhoven, Netherlands; Fitchburg USA; Nicosi, Cyprus The Venetian Window of Bangladesh, Ambasciata d' Italia, Dhaka
- 2010 Britto International Artists' Workshop Open Day, Panam Nagar, Sonargaon, Narayanganj Dhaka Safe and Sound, Dhaka Art Center, Dhaka Sanjh, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore Rise to Ruin, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore Strange Days: the uncanny in contemporary Pakistani art, curated by Atteqa Ali, Drawing Room, Lahore
- 2009 1 mile2 Dhaka, Bulbul Lalitkala Academy, Dhaka Self as Other, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore
- 2008 Processing, Post-Graduate show, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore Group Show, Unicorn Art Gallery, Karachi Taaza Tareen III Open Studio Day, Indus Valley

School of Art and Architecture, Karachi

2007 Degree Show, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore

Residencies | Workshops

2014 Upcoming, Artist-in-Residence, Delfina Foundation, London

2013 Curatorial Research Residency, Knowledge and Skills Sharing Programme, Gasworks, London Surface, Workshop conducted by Mohammad Hasanur Rahman, Rimakri, Bandarban

2012 Cultural Journalism, by Andreas Schlaegel, Goethe-Institut Bangladesh Adda through Art, Floating Studio Workshop, Sitalakkhya River

2011 Prothom Ala Bomo Me/a, Womens' Sports Complex, Dhaka Bookmaking Workshop, Britto Studio, Dhaka

2010 Britto International/ Artists' Workshop, Sonargaon, Narayanganj The Body: 5th Video Art Workshop, Britto Studio, Dhaka

2009 Gilding Workshop, Britto Studio, Dhaka 1mile2 Dhaka, Green Nature and Ethnic Culture, Modhupur Forest

2008 Media as a Medium, Exchange Workshop, Goethe-Institut, Lahore – Berlin Puppet-making Workshop, ABSA, Karachi Taaza Tareen III, Students' Residency Program, VASL Artists' Collective, Karachi

Awards

2014 Samdani Art Award, Dhaka Art Summit, Dhaka

2007 Distinction awarded for Degree Show, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore

2003 - 08 Madanjeet Singh Scholarship Award, South Asia Foundation (100% merit scholarship for four years of Bachelors and one year of Post Graduate degree)

Other Professional Experiences

2010 - current Member, Britto Arts Trust, Dhaka facilitating art events and exhibitions; coordinating Pixelation 2 workshop; editing various Britto publications; assistant curator for SPACE inaugural show with Mahbubur Rahman

- May 2011 - Aug 2012 Artwork Production and Research, Studio Paolo W. Tamburella, Rome realizing the artist's work through drawing, painting and model constructions. Assisted in specific projects: World Languages. The Great Opening, Rome. Opera per Cantalupo, Piazza Plebiscita, Naples
- Jan 2010 - May 2010 Visualizer, Aarong Centre, BRAG, Dhaka coordinated Aarong Artisan Campaign with photographers from DRIK; assisted in festival fashion shoots
- Aug 2007 - June 2009 Lecturer, School of Visual Arts Beaconhouse National University, Lahore