

# Aamir Habib

## Artist Statement and Biography

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### Artist Statement

My work is a reflection upon Pakistan's political misgivings. I satirically draw attention to the mass myopia that prevents us from even questioning the cosmetic democracy with the key message being the 'inaction' of the elite and masses alike, that makes anything possible and even the ludicrous acceptable.

Apart from having to tolerate disagreeable everyday lives, another challenge conditioned in us is to endure with 'one-blast-a-day'. Kohat, a small town that is also a common battlefield for killings based on trivial rivalries between religious sects, has also become a playground for political games, where both the innocent and guilt are treated alike. It is not the weapons that will distinguish between the right and wrong but the beholder who remains a puppet stringed in the hands of democratic players.

News channels are directed by those in power. Innocent blood flows on a daily basis and they call it collateral damage, a case of being at the wrong place at the wrong time, resulting in the need to pay an unavoidable price. The headlines mostly state that no civilians were hurt, that it is 'fortunate' that there were few fatalities, while others mourn in private. Most remain unsung martyrs or are forever traumatized like the one-eyed Khalfan, the subject of this piece.

Those who are targeted end up living a life anyone fears to live, a living nightmare. Scarred body with amputated limbs, life with no hope, shattered dreams all blown away with those of several unfortunate others. We have been conditioned: it is just the weapons that are to be blamed now...

## **Artist Biography**

### **Aamir Habib Pakistan**

b. 1976

An Installation artist, Aamir Habib escaped from His prescribed destiny of being a car mechanic to pursue art. Originally from Kohat, a small tribal area in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan, He arrived in Karachi and enrolled at the Indus Valley School Of Art And Architecture graduating in the disciplines of Sculpture and Photography with Honors in 2003. Having experimented with various mediums over the years including fiberglass, acrylic, wood and mixed mediums, Aamir Prefers to play with transparencies and Light In his work.

His work is aimed to give expression to controversial socio-political themes including cultural misnomers, social contradictions, political chaos, the order of the 'Gun' and more recently his perspective on the war on terror.

### **Education**

2003 Bachelors in Fine Arts from Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture Karachi.  
(Distinction in Thesis).

### **Selected Exhibition**

Sindh Art Fest I 2014

Mad in Karachi I 2014 I Art Chowk Gallery I Karachi

Extra Ordinary 37 Artists I 2013 I Canvas Gallery I Karachi

Drawn Attack [two-person show] I 2013 I Canvas Gallery I Karachi

STOP-LOOK-LISTEN I 2013 I Canvas Gallery I Karachi

New Positions I 2013 JAB Gallery I Luzern Switzerland

Miniature matters [two-person show] I 2013J VM Art Gallery I Karachi

Cast Rituals 3D Box Portfolio I Indus Gallery I Karachi (2012)

When the land escapes [two-person show] 12012 I Koel Gallery I Karachi

Mad in Karachi I 2011 I Art Chow Gallery! Karachi

Division by Zero 120111 Carbon 12 I Dubai UAE

And nothing but the truth | 2011 | IVS Gallery | Karachi

Encounters | 2011 | Rohtas 2 | Lahore

Tea House | 2011 | Poppy Seed | Karachi

Anything Goes ... [Solo Show] | 2010 | Art Chowk Gallery | Karachi

Voices | 2005 | World Bank | Islamabad

American Club | 2004 | Karachi

Quartet Expressions | 2004 | VM Art Gallery | Karachi

### **Art Fairs**

Abu Dhabi Art Fair | 2013 | AB Gallery | Switzerland

SCOPE | 2013 | Basel

### **Press**

- Artistic Awakening: Ten Contemporary Pakistani Artists | The Culture Trip | 2014  
[<http://theculturetrip.com/asia/pakistan/articles/artistic-awakening-tencontemporary-pakistani-artists-/> ]
- Eclectic Influences: Miniature Matters | Art Now Pakistan | 2013  
[http://www.artnowpakistan.com/profile\\_detail.php?id=279#.UaStUuBekk8](http://www.artnowpakistan.com/profile_detail.php?id=279#.UaStUuBekk8)
- Land's end | Friday Times | 2013  
[http://www.thefridaytimes.com/beta3/tftlarticle.php?issue=20\\_130517\\_&page=16](http://www.thefridaytimes.com/beta3/tftlarticle.php?issue=20_130517_&page=16)
- Miniature: Alternate expressions | Dawn images | 2013  
<http://dawn.com/2013/04/28/miniature-alternate-expressions/>
- The juxtaposition of the opposites | Dawn.com | 2013  
<http://dawn.com/2013/04/13/the-juxtaposition-of-the-opposites/>