



*Always,
from the heart*

A VM Art Residency Exhibition

*Ahwar Nasir
Asjad Madni
Mariyam Rehman
Nazish Bano*

Opening:
Saturday, July 20th,
5pm - 8pm

Exhibition continues till Aug 20th
Gallery hours: Mon-Sat, 11am to 7pm



VM ART GALLERY

VM Art Gallery is pleased to present *Always, from the heart*, an exhibition that celebrates love and hope through captivating installations created by Ahwar Nasir, Asjad Madni, Mariyam Rehman, and Nazish Bano during an 8-week residency at VM Art Gallery.

In this residency program, artists were entrusted with the profound task of creating on-site installations that embody their personal interpretations of love and hope. Through a diverse range of mediums and artistic forms, they intricately wove unique narratives, offering visitors profound, transformative, reflective, and uplifting experiences.

Always, from the heart invites viewers to delve into this immersive exposition, where each artwork whispers a tale of emotions and possibilities, inviting them to embark on a journey of introspection and transcendence, enveloped in the soft embrace of art's enduring messages.

Always, from the heart



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ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE



Asjad Madni




ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Asjad Madni

Asjad Madni born in Talhar, Sindh, Pakistan is a distinguished sculptor known for his innovative approach and compelling creations. He earned his BFA from the Shaheed Allah Bux Soomro University of Art, Design, and Heritage (formerly known as CEAD) in Jamshoro.

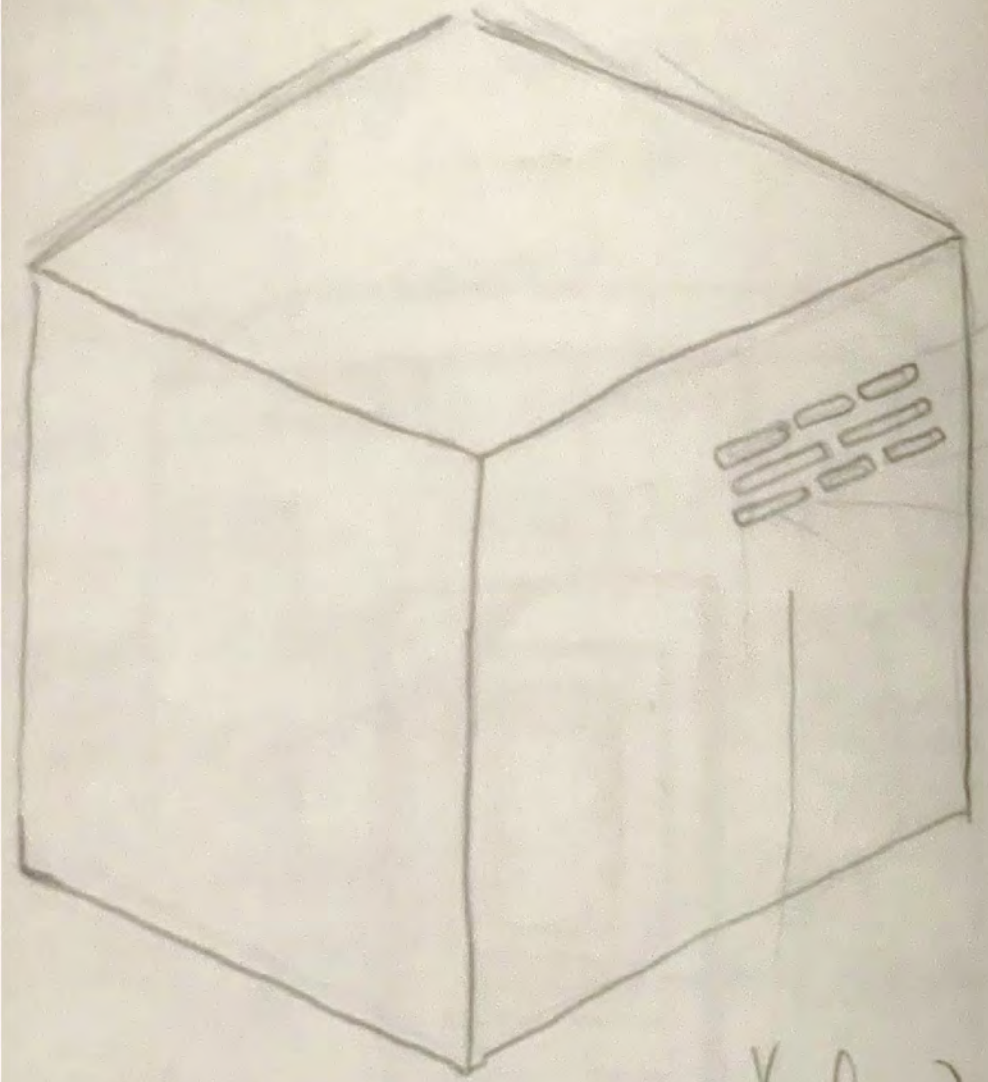
His work has been exhibited in various shows including Design Summit Lahore 01, Sculpture Exhibition at Lahore Museum, Emerging Talent 19 at VM Art Gallery Karachi. Additionally, his work was featured in Arriving at Al-Hamra Art Council Lahore, Virtual Art Vol.1 Online Exhibition, Let's Resume Life at Sindh Museum Hyderabad, and Tarash at Sambara Art Gallery Karachi.

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2) Dove Soap:-

اتنا خالی تھا اندرون میں کچھ دنوں
تو خدا ریا مجھ میں۔ "جون"



∨
window

عنوان :- "جن جن جی گولا تو کریں
آهو ئی پاٹ تون آھیں"

"انہی نے"

سی پی کی میں تر چٹجان،

چاندنی تو سوا نہ تیندی۔ "شیخ ایاز"

Myhe aise lagta hai ke wo sakht
bhi khud ko keh raha hai or pi
bhi jab mai khud khud se milunga
to kehna ke mere bagair chand
nabin hai -

5) I Realize that I am not defined
by my physical body or any specific
identity. when we close our eye
we see complete darkness and em
ness but I Believe that space cont

Dear Visitor,

In this residency I sought to transform the entire space into a living poem, where every element invites viewers to immerse themselves in a contemplative journey. The darkness of the space serves as a metaphor for the internal void that both conceals and reveals the profound depths of human emotion and experience.

Reflecting on the poetry of Jaun Elia,

“ اتنا خالي تھا اندرون ميں کچھ دنوں تو خدا رہا اس ميں ”
 (“My inner self was so empty that God stayed there for a few days.”)


Elia speaks to the idea that within our profound emptiness, there lies the potential for divine presence and realization, this concept forms the foundation of my work. By confronting and exploring this darkness, we are offered a chance to glimpse the light of hope and the potential for its renewal.

In this immersive experience of the art space, viewers encounter the interplay between light and shadow, revealing the universe and the possibilities contained within our inner voids. One piece invites viewers to walk around a dark room with only two small windows, encouraging them to confront the emptiness and reflect on their search for love and hope. Another work casts the shadows of viewers on an empty canvas, symbolizing the idea that within each person lies an entire universe of experiences and emotions. Lastly, the installation of the recorded sound of the universe from NASA serves as a reminder that our ideas and inspirations are born from the darkness of our inner worlds and that the universe itself exists within us.

It is here, that I seek to create a dialogue between the viewer and their inner darkness, encouraging them to find hope and love within themselves and to recognize the vast, uncharted potential that lies within the emptiness of their hearts.

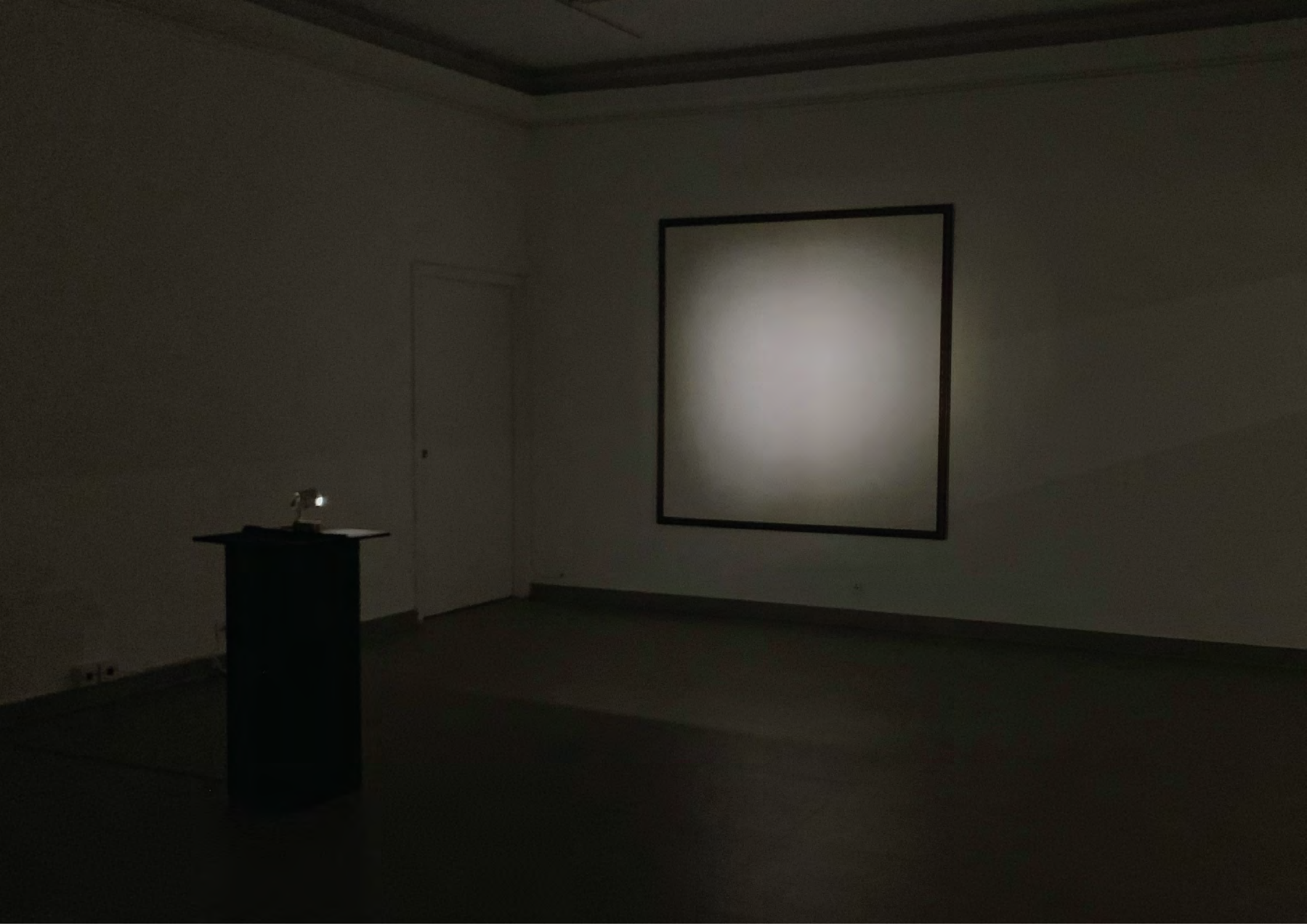
Always, from the heart

Asjad Madni

 *Always,
from the heart*







Ahwar Nasir




ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

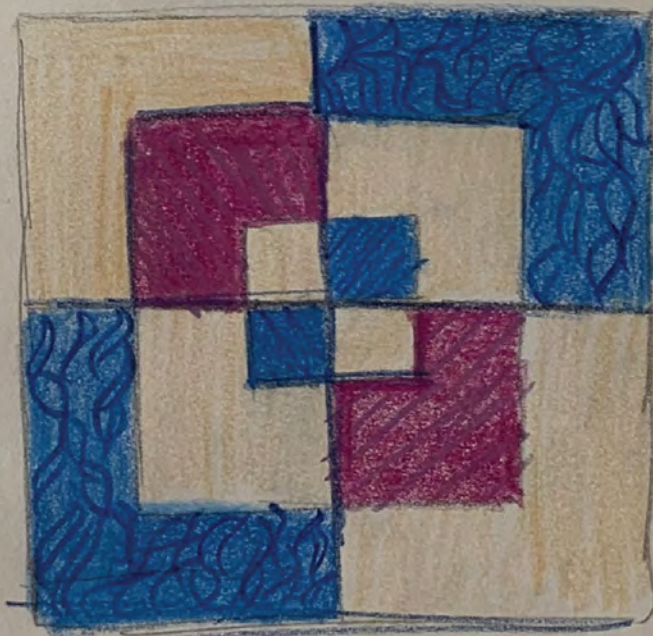
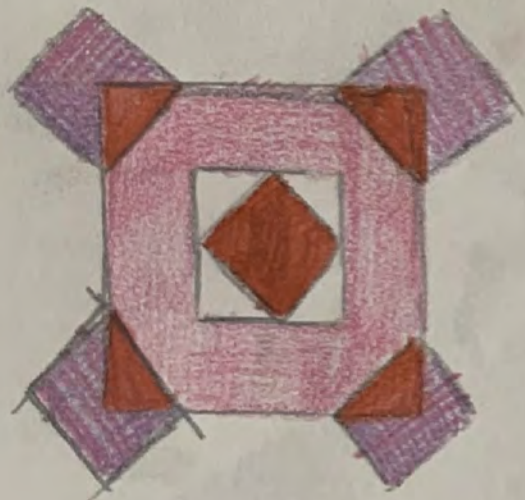
Ahwar Nasir

Ahwar Nasir is a multidisciplinary artist and a recent graduate from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture with a Bachelor's in Fine Arts. Her practice weaves seamlessly across painting, drawing, and embroidery, exploring themes of impermanence and transient emotions experienced while shifting homes.

Drawing from her own nomadic life, Ahwar transforms her memories into tactile and visual narratives. She skillfully uses embroidery and drawings to create a visual mosaic, reflecting the domestic chaos and fleeting moments that shape her sense of belonging.

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Dear Visitor,

As you step into this space, I want to share a piece of my heart with you. Growing up in a family constantly on the move, I often felt a sense of rootlessness and lack of belonging. Yet, amidst this transient lifestyle, I found solace and connection in the most unexpected places: among strangers. It is through these chance encounters and fleeting connections that I have come to understand the true essence of community.

My art is a celebration of the intricate tapestry of life, woven from the scraps of experiences and connections we gather along our journey. Inspired by the resilience of both rural and urban communities and the transformative power of collective effort, I have constructed an immersive installation using fabric and embroidery—mediums rich in texture and symbolism. I will let you in on a secret! Each piece began with a "katran," a fabric scrap collected over time from family, friends, and textile markets.

These fabric scraps seem insignificant when detached from their original surfaces, but once held by someone who cares for them, they find new purpose. I see these scraps in my Nano's kitchen, where she ties her garam masalas in a potli. I find them on a suitcase, lending it a unique identity. These small pieces of cloth, holding memories of their past lives, become invaluable when carried with warmth and love.

As you walk through this installation, I invite you to feel a sense of shared ownership and participation. The act of stitching a variety of fabrics together mirrors the communal effort needed to cultivate love and hope amidst adversity. The tactile nature of the work encourages you to engage on a sensory level, allowing you to feel and connect with the artwork.

You will also find intimate spaces filled with trinkets I have collected over the years—each one a token of a memory, a story, a fragment of my journey that I am sharing with you. Through this experience, I hope you find moments of connection, reflection, and perhaps even a bit of your own story woven into the fabric of this installation.

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Ahwar Nasir

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Mariyam Rehman




ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Mariyam Rehman

Mariyam Rehman, a visual and performing artist based in Karachi, graduated from NCA Lahore with a major in Painting. She began her artistic journey with a focus on design, movement, form, and color, exploring the boundless possibilities of paint as a medium.

Evolving beyond traditional boundaries, Mariyam now delves into various mediums including sculptures and performance art, using her body as a canvas. Embracing abstraction, her work serves as a blank canvas for viewers to project their own interpretations, inviting contemplation and reflection.

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Dear Visitor,

Welcome to my art installation, where materials take center stage in exploring the themes of love and hope. Each piece represents a distinct stage of experiencing love, from initial encounters to profound emotional depths.

As you walk through the installation, you'll trace the evolution from the early stages to the final forms. Each sculpture embodies different facets of love and its complexities. The fourth form, viewed from various angles, reveals a spectrum of emotions—euphoria, the sensation of losing oneself in love, and more.

Material treatment is crucial here: each form is crafted through a unique process, emphasizing textures, shapes, and the interplay of light and shadow. Shadows are integral, creating an immersive environment where space itself becomes part of the emotional narrative. This installation is an experiential journey, where the arrangement of forms and the spatial dynamics evoke the stages of love visually. Its abstract nature encourages personal interpretation, inviting you to reflect on your own experiences and emotions.

Join us in exploring the profound expressions of love and hope through the tactile and visual language of materials. Your unique perspective adds depth to the narrative, making this artistic exploration a shared journey of reflection and discovery.

Always, from the heart

Mariyam Rehman

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Nazish Bano




ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Nazish Bano

Nazish Bano is a distinguished visual artist and mosaicist with over 20 years of dedicated experience in the field of handicrafts and arts education. Her expertise and passion for mosaic art have established her as a master trainer, certified by both UNIDO and PASDEC.

Nazish's professional journey is marked by collaborations with renowned organizations. Notable collaborations include working with Alkaram, Mobilink GSM, the Agha Khan Foundation under the "Mera Hunar Meri Pehchan" initiative, the College of Home Economics, and The Crafter's Guild by Firefly.

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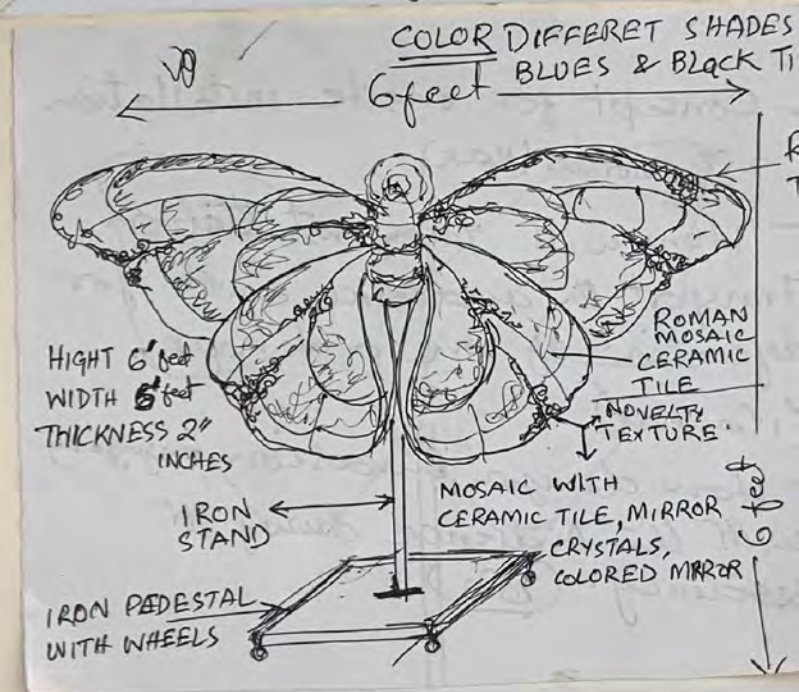


FUNDAMENTO (FLOW CHART)

BASIC CONCEPT



Basic Concept of Installation



Dear Visitor,

*Like a caterpillar, become a butterfly.
Step up. Transform, evolve, and embrace the beauty of change.*

I weave a tapestry of emotions, where each fragment symbolizes a moment, a feeling, a story, and sings in its own reflections. Inspired by the ethereal beauty of the Blue Morpho Butterfly, I seek to capture its essence as a beacon of love and hope. Similar to the butterfly's transformative journey from a caterpillar to a breathtaking winged marvel, my mosaics reflect the resilience and beauty found in life's metamorphosis. My work features 26,196 hand-cut tesserae, 40 hand-made clay tiles, almost 2000 crystal beads, and countless other embellishments. Each piece is a testament to the power of love, a reminder that even in the darkest of times, hope can emerge, vibrant and enduring.

I invite you to stand before the Blue Morpho Butterfly and feel the freedom of its wings. As you immerse yourselves in the artwork, you become part of its narrative, experiencing a moment of transcendence where art and emotion intertwine. The shimmering blues of the butterfly's wings mirror the depths of human emotions, evoking a sense of wonder and serenity.

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Nazish Bano

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