



Ahmed Anver, 8 x 11.5 inch, Watercolor on paper

# Five Statements

A group show of five artists recently unveiled at Artkaam Art Gallery in Karachi showcasing the works of Ahmed Anver, Farrah Mahmood, Kausar Iqbal, Sumaira Amin and Syed A. Irfan.

Ahmed Anver qualified from Central Institute of Arts and Crafts Karachi in 1980 and took a solo show to Jodhpur, India the same year. Then in 1983, 84 and 85 consecutively he held solo exhibitions at Punjab Art Council, Lahore, Multan Arts Council and India House, Karachi. From 1996 onward, he participated in international exhibitions.

After qualifying from CIAC, Karachi, Ahmed Anver took a Diploma in Textile



Designing Sang Meeart Institute Singapur, 1985. He attended National Museum of Pakistan Karachi Artist Modeler 1977 to 1978 and Tawakkal Screen Printing and Textile designer 1970 to 1982. Ahmed Anver's palette makes him distinctive as he picks a wide range of colors, bright and dark to fill the geometrical presentations of Kufic inscriptions. He is no doubt



Syed A. Irfan, Meeting before Waar, 11 x 15 inch, Watercolor, Teawash & Gold on wasli



Sumaira Amin, Fantasy of life (Series), 17 x 12 inch,  
Gouache on wasli

has a firm grip on colors rendering. He has acquired mastery over his colors and shapes. Arches, domes and minarets on his canvas remind us grandeur of Islamic architecture. Kufic script keeps abreast of Islamic motifs fascinates the spectators.

Farrah Mahmood is a graduate of the National College of Arts (NCA) Lahore. She specialized in Asian Miniature Painting specifically in the style of Mughal Miniatures of the Subcontinent. She has received her degree of MA in Art Education from the Beacon House National University (BNU, Lahore). She has delivered many lectures at several colleges, universities and arts institutions at National and international level i.e. U.K, U.S.A, Austria, France and China on a variety of subjects related visual art Currently, Farrah is continuing her art practice from her studio and conducting workshops as well on Traditional Miniature Painting at Tumair (Farm area) Islamabad. Her work deals with a range of socio political issues. In most of her work in fact, the attention is drawn to the abuse of power in all its senses, which is the root cause of a corrupt and unjust system,



Farrah Mahmood, Wajood e Zan-V, 14 x 14 Inch, Gouache, Gold Leaf &  
Mix Medium on Wasli



Kausar Iqbal, Elephant Series, 9x12 inch, Gouache on wasli

distressing our personal judgment of human values. The emphasis of her work is on Peace and Humanity. Her works connect her interests with contemporary experimenting by combining them with traditional miniature painting. She is Associate Professor at the Department of Architecture and Design, COMSATS University (CUI), Islamabad Campus. At CUI, Farrah has also established the COMSATS Art Gallery (CAG).

Hailing from a rather conservative area of Malakand Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Pakistan, Kausar Iqbal emerges as a very fine artist. Discovering his love for art at a very young age, Iqbal acquired his degree in Miniature Painting from NCA. He has exhibited his work nationally and internationally. Kausar Iqbal has also worked in collaboration with several artists. Being a sensitive and observant artist, he has the ability to create art that represents the cultural mechanism of the society. A great deal of the said potential can be seen in his work on The Elephant Series. The series visualizes and highlights certain aspects of human nature. The character of elephant is rendering multiple shades of human behavior, by not only becoming an embodiment of power but also symbolizing peace and love. The symbol is incorporating the cultural aspect of the Artist's background where it represents power while simultaneously has exuberant humbleness



Syed A. Irfan, Zaheer ul din Baber, 10 x 13 inch, Watercolor, Teawash & Gold on wasli

Sumaira Amin, a ' traditional miniature painter ' by her temperament and professionally an Art Educationist, is the resident of Lahore. She graduated in 'Miniature Painting' from the National College of Arts in 2006. She has also completed her one-year diploma in 'Calligraphy' from the NCA in 2007. She is a well known for reviving and retaining the Islamic heritage, culture, values and its traditions through the art of painting. She is the ambassador of globally protecting conservative means, modes, methods and approaches in the art of painting. Her excellent art-work was exhibited in the National Museum of Algeria in 2009 and it was also displayed at the National Museum of Oriental Art, Rome in 2016. Her work has been featured in the book titled ' The Lahore Fort Images in Miniature ' published by UNESCO in 2006. She also participated in the Miniature Painting Competition in Algeria in 2009 & Iran in 2010 at an International Calligraphy Competition. She is winner of the third-world Miniature Painting Competition held in 2009 and she acquitted herself very well, indeed, in group shows at home and abroad, too, including those organized in 2016 in Islamabad, Viz. 'Ancient Pakistan ' ; ' The Calligraphy Group Show ' of 2015 ; ' The Miniature Painting Group Show ' of 2014 and 2015 in Istanbul and also ' The Calligraphy Painting Group Show ' in Canada in 2017.

Syed A. Irfan's work focuses on traditional Mughal Miniature relevant for Mughal era connecting past with the present. His work as an artist is centered on historical iconographic elements within the cultural context of Mughal history. Irfan has explored and construct the hermeneutics of period histories, its contemporary representation of sociopolitical inquiry within my art practice. He interconnect art, design, critical theories and collaborate with mughal era giving his own interpretation in a visual form. Working with various media and excavating from history, Irfan's art define mughal life style.