# Contemporary Satire

Farrah Mahmood Gulcin Anmac Hammad Malik Syed A. Irfan

30 September 2021









# **ARTCITI**

Invites you to an exclusive exhibition of miniature paintings,

# **CONTEMPORARY SATIRE**

Ву

Gülçin Anmaç | Farrah Mahmood Syed A Irfan | Hammad Malik

30th September - 4th October 2021

Exhibition Opening 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 6pm - 8pm

Please visit our gallery on the 30th September 2021, to view the amazing work.

All SOPs must be strictly followed.

You can also visit our website to view the paintings online.

www.artciti.com



### **ARTCITI Gallery**

2nd Floor, Plot # 36-C, Bukhari Commercial Lane-13, Khayaban-e-Shujaat, Phase-VI, DHA, Karachi.

Location Map: <u>goo.gl/Fs2gtm</u>
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Whatsapp: +923362700975

# **CONTEMPORARY SATIRE**

The traditional style of miniature, honed and kept alive over several centuries and generations of artists is a pivotal component of the Pakistani art world today. The genre itself has undergone several transformations, springing new versions like neo miniaturism, but all remaining obedient to the beautifully laborious and detailed output of miniature art. In Art Citi's new exhibition, Contemporary Satire, a wide array of works from some of the most skilled miniature artists of this time is on display, each artist's line of work differing in theme and composition, prompting a contextually and visually diverse exhibition, all portraying their own take on the said genre. The line up includes works from Pakistani artists Hammad Malik, Syed A Irfan, Farrah Mahmood, and Turkish artist GÜLÇİN ANMAÇ. Hammad Malik, hailing from Lahore's National College of Arts, features a contemporary approach to miniature art which are not bound to one concept. His work gives room to boundless interpretation as he manipulates several elements including faces, limbs, animals, and objects, contrasting them to striking plain white backgrounds, paving an intricate and minimalistic composition. Another Pakistani artist, Farrah Mahmood, also takes on a more contemporary note in her miniature art trajectory as she aims to portray socio-political narratives mainly shedding light to systematic injustices and structural prejudices in our society, especially towards women and the issues they face. Farrah pushes on what she terms "Peace and Humanity" through her work, incorporating several varying symbols like the lotus flower to portray beauty and purity, and on the other hand a veiled woman holding up a turban which puts forward a visually striking context of womanhood in conservative societies such as our own. The show also includes

works of Syed A Irfan, an artist who needs no introduction and is undoubtedly a master in his field of work. His current body of work follows a traditional route in composition and context as it portrays several members of the Mughal family. Executed beautifully on Wasli Paper using water-colours, tea wash and gold, his works embody immeasurable precision and intricate detail on small and visually compelling compositions, undeniably a testament to his masterful talent and traditional origins for miniature art. The show also goes on to include an artist based in Turkey, another place that has deep roots in the history of miniature art. GÜLÇİN ANMAÇ, having participated in hundreds of exhibitions all over the world and endorsed as an Intangible Cultural Heritage Representative by Turkey's Ministry of Culture and Tourism, she brings an unlimited talent to the Pakistani art scene. Her powerfully evocative compositions coupled with an intensely graceful and technically sound approach to miniature art arrests any viewers gaze. As she has previously stated, "I am always happy when I work in miniature, I start breathing the moment I take my brush in my hand", it reflects the liveliness and high spirited quality of her work. All in all, the show sparks a promising view of diverse miniature art and has a reassuring element to the ongoing livelihood and timelessness of miniature art. It opens on September 30th, 2021, at Art Citi gallery, and is aiming to serve as a truly remarkable show for this collective of artists.

Maheen Aziz Art Critic





# Gülçin Anmaç

She was born in Germany. She graduated from The Department of Anthropology of Istanbul University, Turkey. She completed her Master's in Preservation of Cultural Heritage at Kadir Has University, Turkey. During her undergraduate years, she took art history and painting courses and

started her studies in illumination art and miniature painting under Cahide Keskiner. She successfully completed, the Traditional Turkish Handicrafts Course that was organized by The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Republic of Turkey. She then continued her studies in miniature painting with Nusret Colpan. Over the years, she briefly worked on traditional jewelry techniques with Mehmet Kabas. She received from The Ministry of Culture and Tourism the title "Traditional Turkish Handicraft Artist and Intangible Cultural Heritage Representative" by virtue of her accomplishments in illumination art and miniature painting.

She attended multiple international art festivals and more than hundred exhibitions held in various cities throughout the world. Ms. Anmac has had her artwork printed in more than fifty publications. She has designed numerous miniature paintings in the past and continues to design for documentaries, magazines, books, charters, brochures, awards, tiles, jewelries and animation studies. She gave art trainings in different

organizations and served as a jury. Her original miniature paintings are presented in private and public collections worldwide.

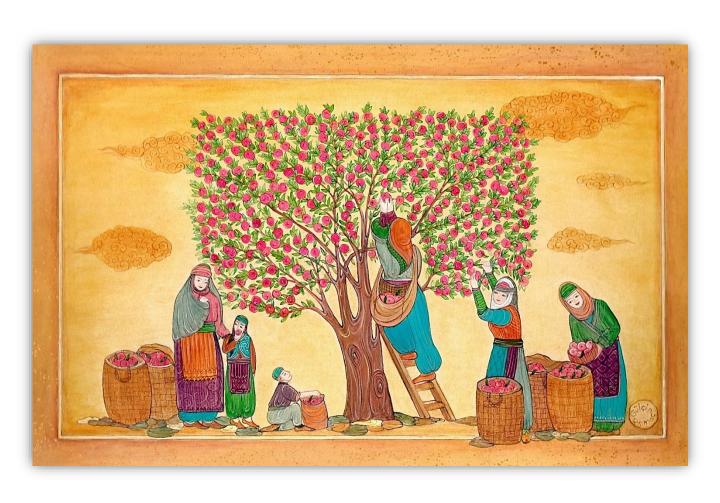
Currently, she works as an instructor at Bahariye Mevlevihanesi's Art Studios, Üsküdar Municipality Balaban Tekkesi Cultural Center, Albaraka Academy of Art and continues her personal art works in her studio in Istanbul.

#### **Artist Statement**

The miniatures, which add color to the manuscripts with their engraved lines, magical colors, fine detailed drawings, and the story they tell, have become paintings that are hung on the walls by preserving the craftsmanship and philosophy of art, but in larger sizes.

For miniature in our previous resources; for those who make embroidery, picture art and miniatures; For the place where this art is practiced, the words nakkaşhane etc. are included.

In our Turkish miniature art, we see works based on observation and documentation, everything is drawn correctly but avoiding drawing exactly, abstraction is used in great harmony, the use of perspective is limited, every object is wrapped with nuanced tahrir, colors are clear and vivid. With these features, miniature art makes it possible to describe a subject fully and realistically.



Gülçin Anmaç Mother earth and fertility 12 x 8 Inch, Watercolor, tea and gouache on cardboard AC-GUAN-001 Rs. 140,000 (\$838.32)

www.artciti.com





Gülçin Anmaç
Queen

9.5 x 5.5 Inch, Watercolor, gouache, ink & gold on cardboard
AC-GUAN-002

Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)

www.artciti.com





Gülçin Anmaç
Portrait of a woman

12 x 8 Inch, Watercolor, gouache, ink & gold on cardboard
AC-GUAN-003

Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)

www.artciti.com



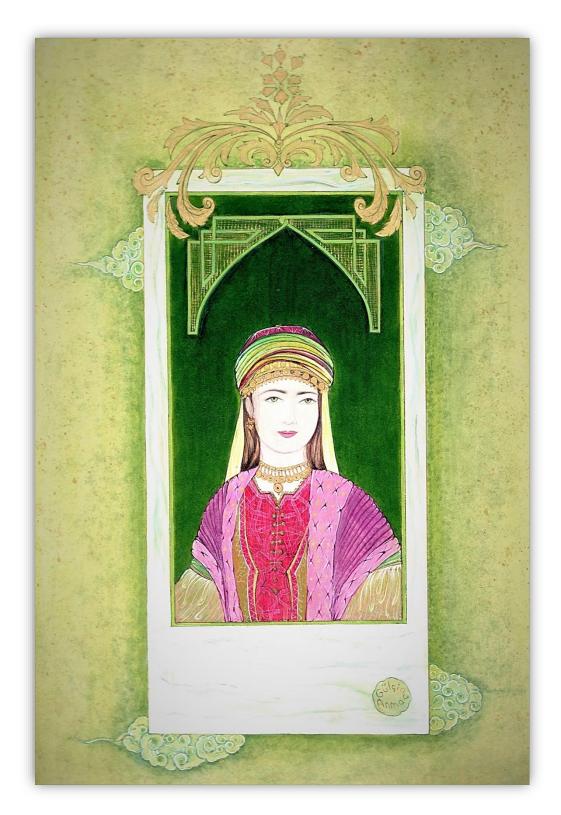


Gülçin Anmaç Migration

7.5 x 5.5 lnch, Opaque watercolor, ink and gouache on cardboard AC-GUAN-004

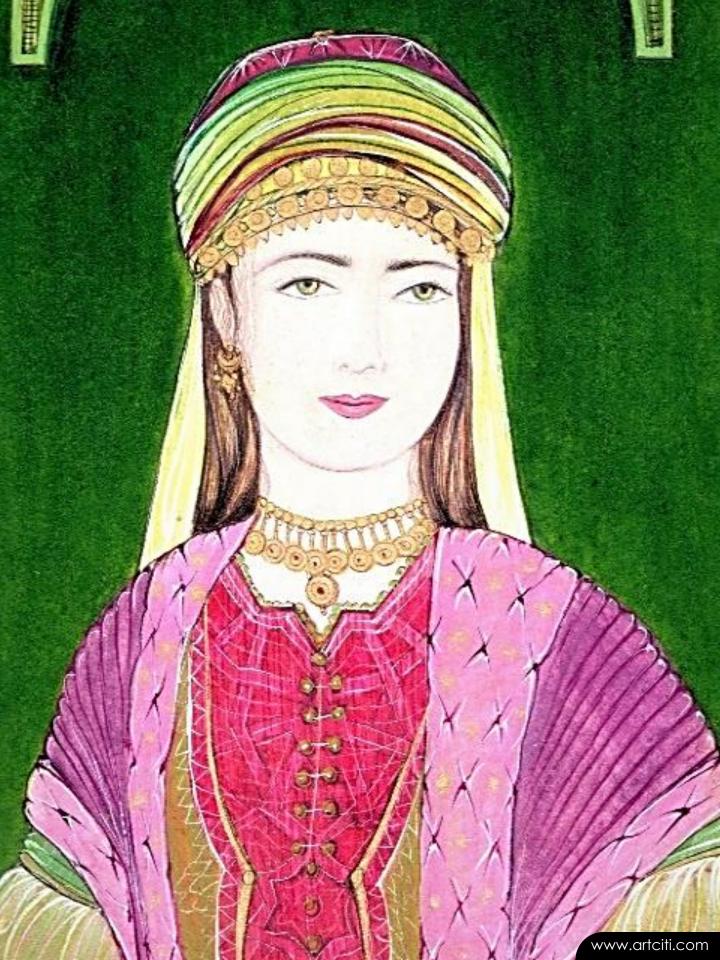
Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)





Gülçin Anmaç Portrait of a young girl 12 x 8 Inch, Watercolor, gouache, ink & gold on cardboard AC-GUAN-005 Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)

www.artciti.com







## Farrah Mahmood

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

Farrah is a graduate of the prestigious 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) in 2016.

She has delivered many lectures and conducted workshops at several well-known colleges, universities and arts institutions nationally and internationally i.e., U.K, U.S.A, Austria, France and China on various subjects related to visual arts. Currently, Farrah is continuing her art practice from her studio and conducting workshops on Traditional Miniature Painting at Tumair (Farm-area zone) Islamabad. Her work focuses on socio-political issues. In most of her work, the attention is drawn to the abuse of power in all aspects, which is the root cause of a corrupt and unjust system. The emphasis of her work is on Peace and Humanity. In her work, she combined contemporary art with traditional miniature painting.

She is a Chairperson/Associate Professor at the Department of Art and Design, COMSATS University (CUI), Islamabad Campus. At CUI, Farrah has also established the COMSATS Art Gallery (CAG) in 2011. The gallery has a great standing in the art circle and institutes. She has curetted many exhibitions at CAG and has thus promoted many local, national and international artists and in this regard, she recently received an award from the President of Pakistan, Honorable Mamnoon Hussain.

Besides 3 solo shows, Farrah has participated in more than 140 National and International group exhibitions including those held in U.S.A, Canada, U.K, Austria, France, Hong Kong, China, Baku (Azerbaijan), Tehran, Jeddah, India, Bangladesh, U.A.E, Bahrain and Greece.

She has received the prestigious Charles Wallace Visiting Fellowship Award (UK) for the excellence in the field of Traditional Miniature Art. Ms. Mahmood has conducted several workshops in the UK as well. The Art House in Wakefield, (U.K) awarded her the Artist in Residence in 2009. She has also been awarded Residency by the Austrian Federal Chancellery in 2006. She was nominated for the Sovereign Art Competition in 2015. In 2016 she was awarded a gold medal by Markaz Group International Magazine (MGM).

Farrah is one of the "Winner of Imagining our Future Together" organized by the World Bank. Her work has been included in the World Bank permanent collection at the Headquarters in Washington. D.C. Additionally, her work is also included in the permanent collections of The National Art Gallery, The Parliament House of Pakistan, Ministry of Science and Technology in Islamabad, Austrian Embassy, Secretary Charles Wallace Trust, The Embassy of People Republic of China and the U.S Embassy in Pakistan.

#### **Artist Statement**

Surroundings fascinate me as an artist. We are part of a society which is a combination of different emotions such as pain, happiness and joy. I use symbols like the lotus flower, which represents the purity of a female, the rebirth, and self-regeneration, in many eastern religions. My work conveys messages through symbols, colors and connections. I also like to give importance to individual feelings and emotions. Through my artwork, I want to give women confidence and strength to live their life the way they want without societal pressure without having to feel unsafe. Most of my work focuses on the abuse of power in all aspects which is the root cause of a corrupt and unjust system. In simple words, my work promotes peace and humanity.



Farrah Mahmood
In the name of Honor- IV

16 x 16 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli

AC-FRMH-001

Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)





Farrah Mahmood
In the name of Honor- V
13 x 13 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli
AC-FRMH-002
Rs. 75,000 (\$449.10)





Farrah Mahmood
Innocence's Journey – V

13 x 13 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli

AC-FRMH-003

Rs. 75,000 (\$449.10)

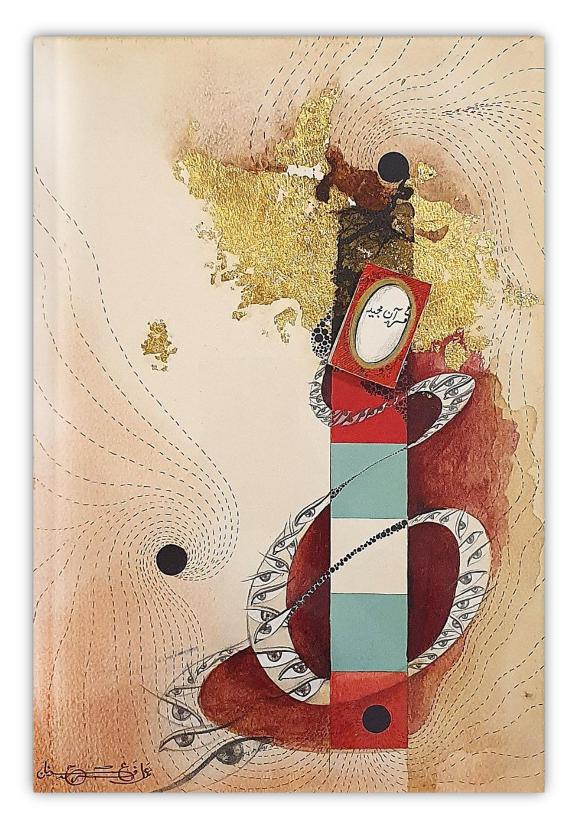




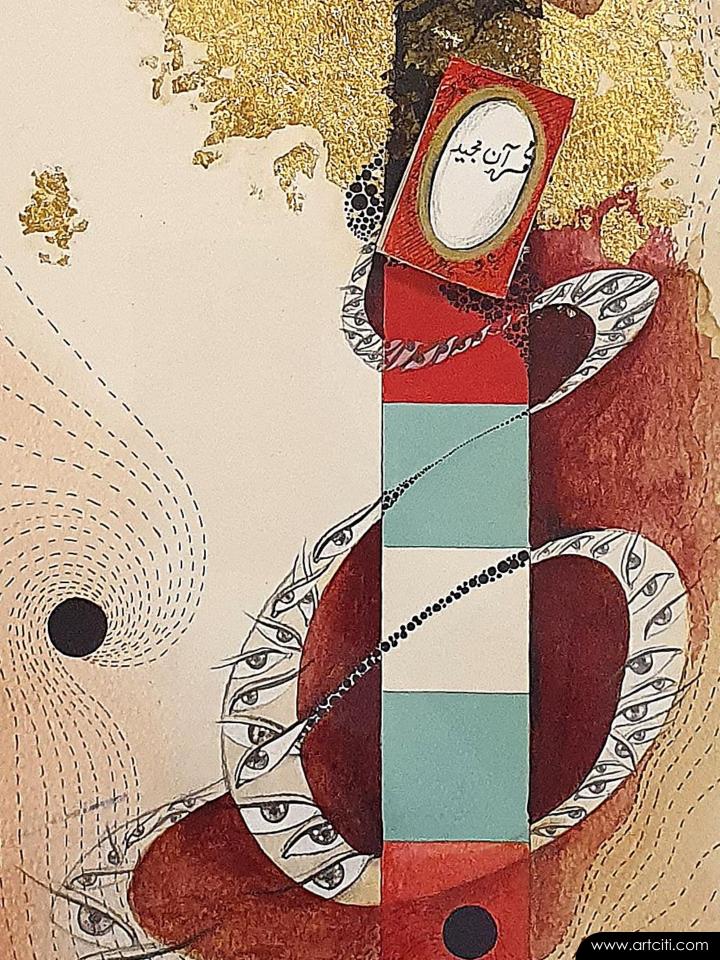
Farrah Mahmood
Persian School

16 x 16 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli
AC-FRMH-004
Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)



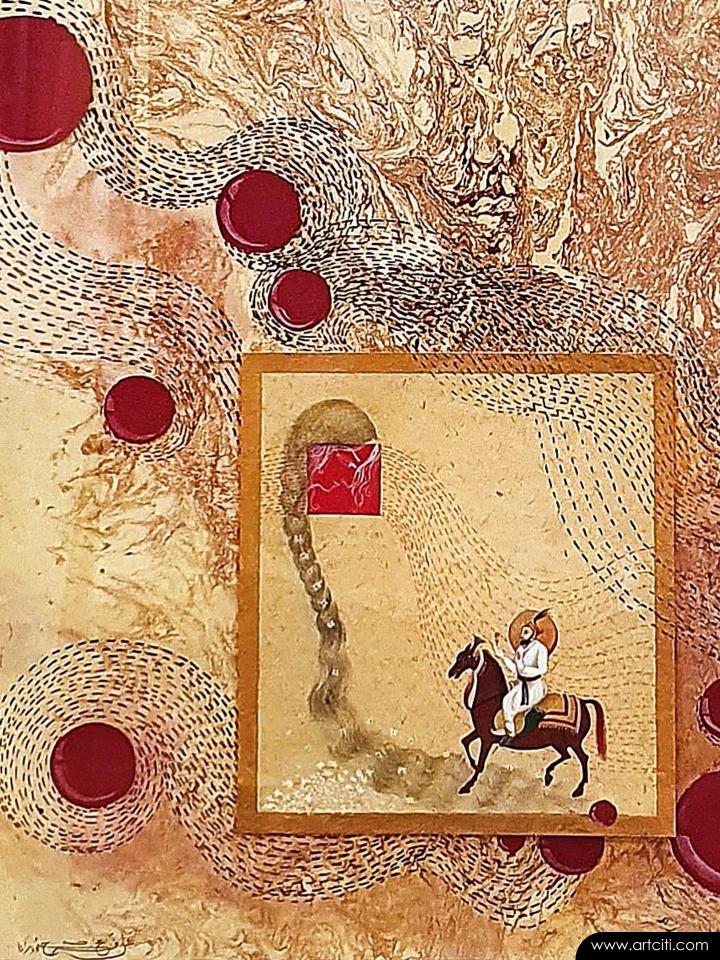


Farrah Mahmood
In the name of Honor- VI
10 x 15 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli
AC-FRMH-005
Rs. 80,000 (\$479.04)



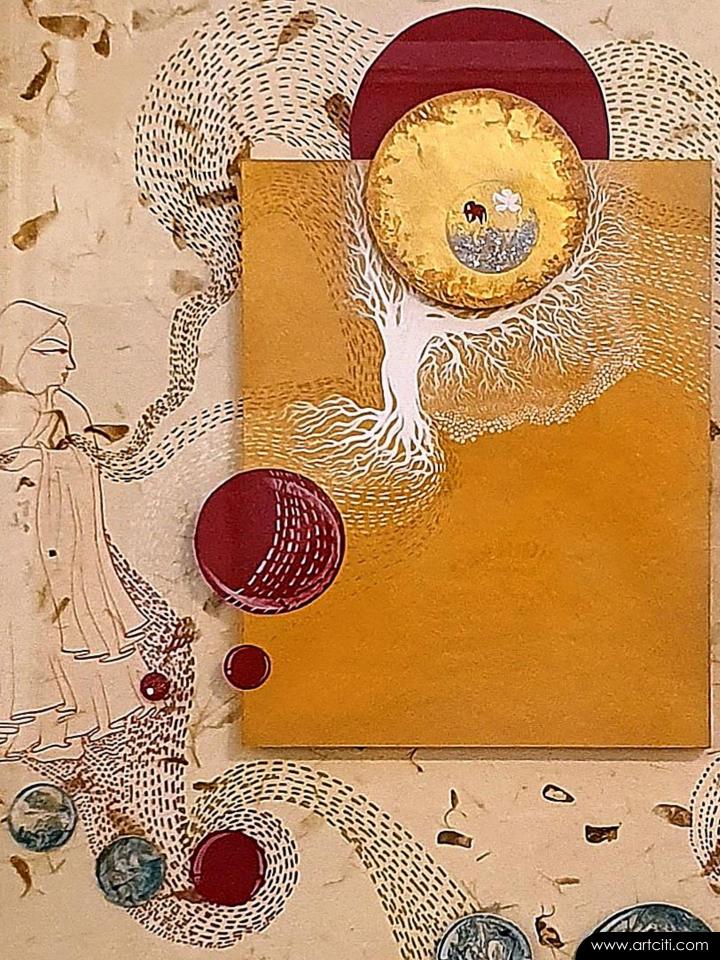


Farrah Mahmood
In the name of Honor- VI
18 x 22 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli
AC-FRMH-006
Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)





Farrah Mahmood Metamorphosis of life-II 18 x 22 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli AC-FRMH-007 Rs. 85,000 (\$508.98)

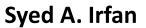




Farrah Mahmood Landscape 18 x 22 Inch, Gouache, collage and gold leaf on Wasli AC-FRMH-008 Rs. 75,000 (\$449.10)









# Rich Ideas with Colorful Future Written by Abida Goher

A name that hardly needs any more recognition in concern with Miniature Art of Pakistan. An artist whose scales are small but scopes are certainly very big. Syed A. Irfan is undoubtedly a modern master

and a true identity of Pakistan. Syed A Irfan is a self-taught artist. He was born on 26th May, 1985 in Karachi. He developed the passion of miniature painting, when he visited the Lahore Museum in 1997. There he saw miniature paintings and started trying miniature art with the help of miniature art books and the internet.

At the age of 17, he for the very first time showed his art piece to the owner of Zenaini Art Gallery, Ms. Saira Khan. She couldn't believe her eyes. She was really impressed by his work and included him in the group exhibition in the year 2003 which was his first exhibition in Zenaini Art Gallery with other senior miniaturists.

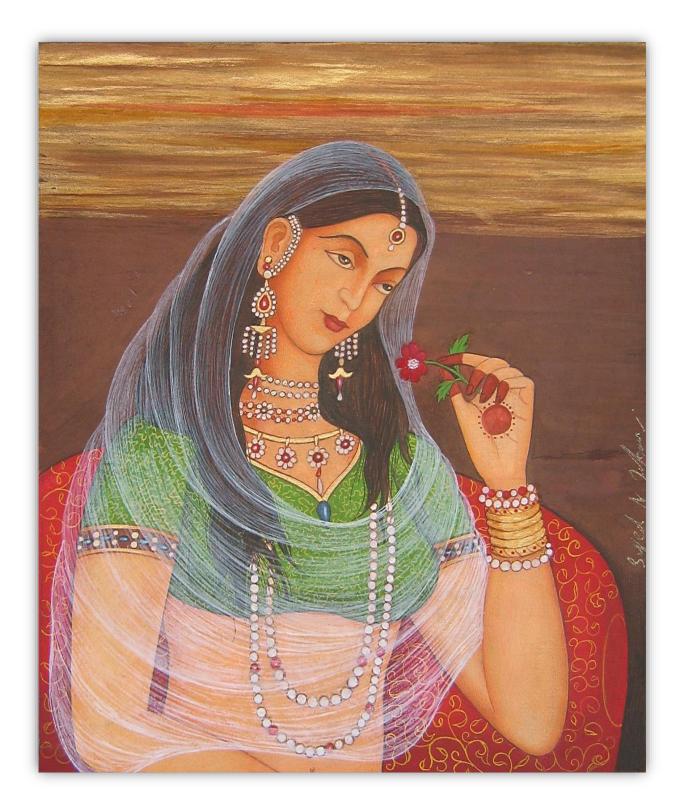
Irfan has arranged many group and solo exhibitions in different countries of the world such as Pakistan, USA, Dubai, Turkey, Canada, London, Saudi Arab and India, etc. He has done three solo and above 50 group exhibitions in different countries. Mughal Traditional Miniature has actually become his identity. Furthermore, he has also done Orientalism and Contemporary style miniature work.

Seeing his great talent he was awarded the Best Performance Award in 2007 by PTV. He won a Special Prize in Sadequain Award Exhibition in 2006, and in 2001 he got first prize in All Degree College Art Exhibition.

His family is very supportive and his parents are so proud of him. His work has been displayed permanently in some of the countries worldwide. List is below with years:

- 2020 Display at Abraj Al Mansi Hotel, Dubai.
- 2020 Display at St Margaret's Church, Halliwell, Manchester England.
- 2019 Display at CF Toronto Eaton Center, Canada.
- 2019 Display at Coca Cola Head Office, Dubai.
- 2019 Display at iTextile Head Office, Karachi.
- 2017 Display at History Museum Bursa Turkey.
- 2012 Display in Pakistan Embassy in Delhi India.
- 2007 Displayed Work (Golf Club, Dubai ).
- 2007 Display in Efroze Chemicals Industries Pvt. Ltd. Karachi.
- 2004 Displayed Work (London).

Syed A. Irfan has truly revolutionized miniature art and has succeeded in creating the most authentic fusion of Miniature Art and Calligraphy Art. He has taken a bold step and entered a phase where 'isms' take birth, where artists dare enter in a whole lifetime. I personally feel that artists like Syed Abdul Irfan are not born in centuries and hope that the greatness of his personality which has now started to erupt on the surface paper is recorded in time as a golden chapter in itself.



Syed A Irfan Mughal Lady 10 x 8 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli AC-SAI-032 Rs. 55,000 (\$329.34)





Syed A Irfan

Mughal Emperor Jahangir

10 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli

AC-SAI-033

Rs. 55,000 (\$329.34)





Syed A Irfan

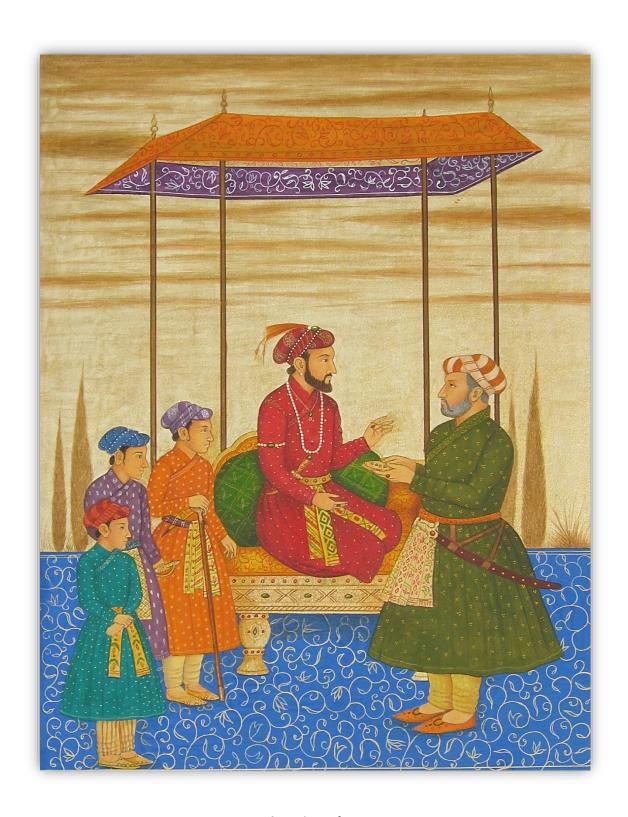
Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan

10 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli

AC-SAI-034

Rs. 55,000 (\$329.34)





Syed A Irfan
Shah Jahan with Three Sons
10 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli
AC-SAI-035
Rs. 65,000 (\$389.22)





Syed A Irfan
Shah Jahan and son Dara Shikuh
10 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli
AC-SAI-036
Rs. 65,000 (\$389.22)





Syed A Irfan
Prince Hunting Lion
10 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli
AC-SAI-037
Rs. 65,000 (\$389.22)





Syed A Irfan
Hunting Tiger

10 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli
AC-SAI-038
Rs. 65,000 (\$389.22)





Syed A Irfan
Prince on Elephant
18 x 14 Inch, Watercolor, Teawash& Gold on Wasli
AC-SAI-039
Rs. 55,000 (\$329.34)







## **Hammad Malik**

My work revolves around the common practice of exaggeration in our society. The act of manipulating stories or events tend to make the visual appear larger than the actual length hence, takes it away from reality.

Historically speaking, this case is no different. The history as well as the present day narratives are very much a piece of fiction. This seems like a general human behavior which has been normalized. I do not bound my work into a single concept. There are multiple myths and stories that inspire my work, which could either be social, political or related to media.



Hammad Malik Untitled 9 x 11 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-003 Rs. 38,000 (\$227.54)





Hammad Malik Untitled 10 x 14 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-004 Rs. 45,000 (\$269.46)





Hammad Malik Untitled 12 x 12 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-005 Rs. 45,000 (\$269.46)





Hammad Malik Untitled 20 x 26 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-006 Rs. 60,000 (\$359.28)





Hammad Malik Untitled 12 x 14 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-007 Rs. 45,000 (\$269.46)





Hammad Malik Untitled 12 x 12 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-008 Rs. 45,000 (\$269.46)





Hammad Malik Untitled 20 x 26 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-009 Rs. 60,000 (\$359.28)





Hammad Malik Untitled 20 x 26 Inch, Gouache on Wasli AC-HDM-010 Rs. 60,000 (\$359.28)



## **About ARTCITI**

ARTCITI Gallery opened its doors in January of 2014 and have never looked back!!

We are an online art gallery that has grown exponentially in the last few years! We are making strides to open a window to the world for talent possessed by very gifted artists of Pakistan. We have a wide collection of more than 2,900 art pieces from over 390 artists from all over Pakistan. No other gallery in Pakistan carries such a comprehensive collection. We deliver art pieces across the world, both framed and unframed. Through hosting a vast array of original artwork and providing a choice between various styles and artists, we are proud to cater to all palates and preferences.



Plot # 36-C, 2nd Floor, Bukhari Commercial Lane-13, Main Khayaban-e-Shujaat, Phase VI, DHA, Karachi. 021-35250495-6, 0301-3354954

www.artciti.com