

A new look, a new beginning!

Welcome to the 15th edition of the revamped VASL Newsletter *Online*. Changes have been made to the format of the newsletter, with a more comprehensive and user friendly layout, images, and hopefully, a richer reading experience for you.

At this time of change and my departure for further studies I am proud to be leaving this effort in good hands and even better shape. I would like to introduce you all to Ahmed Ansari who will be handling inhouse design and the newsletter for Vasl now onwards. Please send your news to him in the future.

It is unfortunate that the Pakistan Pavilion at the 53rd Venice Biennale has not come together due to financial and bureaucratic problems, which is a big opportunity lost. A word must also be said

for the unrest in the Northern Areas, and the pouring out of refugees from the beleaguered regions. However bleak the situation is, we must keep in mind that times of clamour are times of change, and it is in these times that we may look inwards, to reflect upon our progress, and use that as a catalyst for change.

So, with a view to change we at Vasl wish you a very productive summer from the VASL team!

Auj A. Khan, Mahreen Zuberi, Ahmed Ansari, Waiz A. Khan, Adeela Suleman, Seema Nusrat, Hassan Mustafa and Noaisa A. Khan.

Send your news and feedback at vasnewsletter@gmail.com

Opportunities

SALON '09 - Open Submission Art Prize - Call for Entries

London

Salon09 is an ambitious open submission exhibition, which creates a platform for international creative practitioners at all stages of their careers, to present their work to a range of influential and prominent art experts based in the UK. The exhibition will take place in September 2009 at a project space in the internationally renowned Vyner Street in East London.

Please visit www.mattroberts.org.uk/opportunities.html for more information on membership.

If you would like to apply please visit www.salon09.co.uk

Call for Art Historical Knowledge

New York

Artforum and e-flux are pleased to announce the launch of the Art & Education Papers archive, a global platform for sharing and distributing research and the knowledge of contemporary art.

In order to build the A&E Papers database, we are now calling for either new or already existing (published or unpublished, recent or older) scholarly articles from around the world. All submissions will be considered for publication on the website.

For more information please visit <http://www.artandeducation.net/announcements/view/752>

Play the Panorama - International call for artists to start a drawn 'relay travelogue'

Artists are called upon to contribute their interpretation of the world that surrounds them. When the artist completes his/her drawing, the instrument and the panorama must be passed to a next participant to continue the former drawing, blending the new landscape into one continuous panorama.

Deadline: 1st July 2009

For more information please visit <http://www.panographia.com/ptp-info-en.html>

"Transmediale Award 2010 | Vilém Flusser Theory Award 2010"

Berlin

Transmediale and CTM (club transmediale) are inviting submissions to the "Transmediale Award Competition 2010" and the "Vilém Flusser Theory Award 2010". Invited are art works, projects and positions that respond to the challenges of our rapidly changing digital, technological and networked cultures. Entries that exemplify new and critical forms of digital expression and interaction are encouraged, as are works from countries and regions in which digital art and culture are emergent. The submission deadline is July 31, 2009.

For more information please visit www.transmediale.de/en/call2010-main

Call for applications for the Balmoral Scholarships and the Foreign and Exchange Scholarships for 2010

Belgium

Balmoral awards six 6-month residential scholarships to international fine artists. Additionally, Balmoral awards one 6-month project grant to allow a selected national visual artist to realise a project elsewhere. In order to promote the dialogue between research and art, one 6-month curator scholarship will be awarded to a junior scholar of the humanities (preferably in the field of Art Theory).

Application period for 2010 scholarships: May 15 to July 18, 2009

For more information please visit <http://www.balmoral.de/english/balmoralscholarships/index.html>

HIAP Production Residencies - Call for Applications

Helsinki

HIAP - Helsinki International Artist-in-residence Programme invites international visual artists to submit applications for HIAP Production Residencies for the period of 2009/10.

Application Deadline: 1st July 2009

For more information please visit www.hiap.fi

Réunion Island Biennale Residency - Call for Applications

Austria

The Réunion Island biennale of A.D.C.N.I calls for applications for a 3-month art residency at the Ecole Supérieure des Beaux-Arts of the Reunion Island and become part of the "science and art" research group. This group studies the subject of "landscape" in all its dimensions: natural, human, urban, virtual.

Application Deadline: 15th June 2009

For more information please visit http://universes-in-universe.org/eng/magazine/articles/2009/tips/reunion_island_biennale_residency

Simply Screen: Inbetweeners of Asia - Call for Submissions

Austria

This is a call for lens-based artists working in film, video or animation, who deal with issues of inbetween-ness and hybridisation in the context of Asia. There will be a one-hour screening of ten pieces of selected works and a 30-minute discussion with the audience.

Application Deadline: 15th June 2009

For more information please visit <http://www.transartinstitute.org/Newpages/Residency09CallForArtists.html>

AAA Research Grant - Call for Applications

Hong Kong

Application Deadline: 30th June 2009

For more information please visit http://www.aaa.org.hk/research_application.aspx

Ear to the Ground - Call for Entries

UK

What do you hear when you press your ear to the ground? Please take the time to lie down on the earth before responding. You may send your response in any format or combination of formats (ie MP3, text, image etc). Please can you say when and where your listening took place. Responses will be shared on a dedicated website.

Send your response to mail@amculhane.co.uk

Life's Too Short

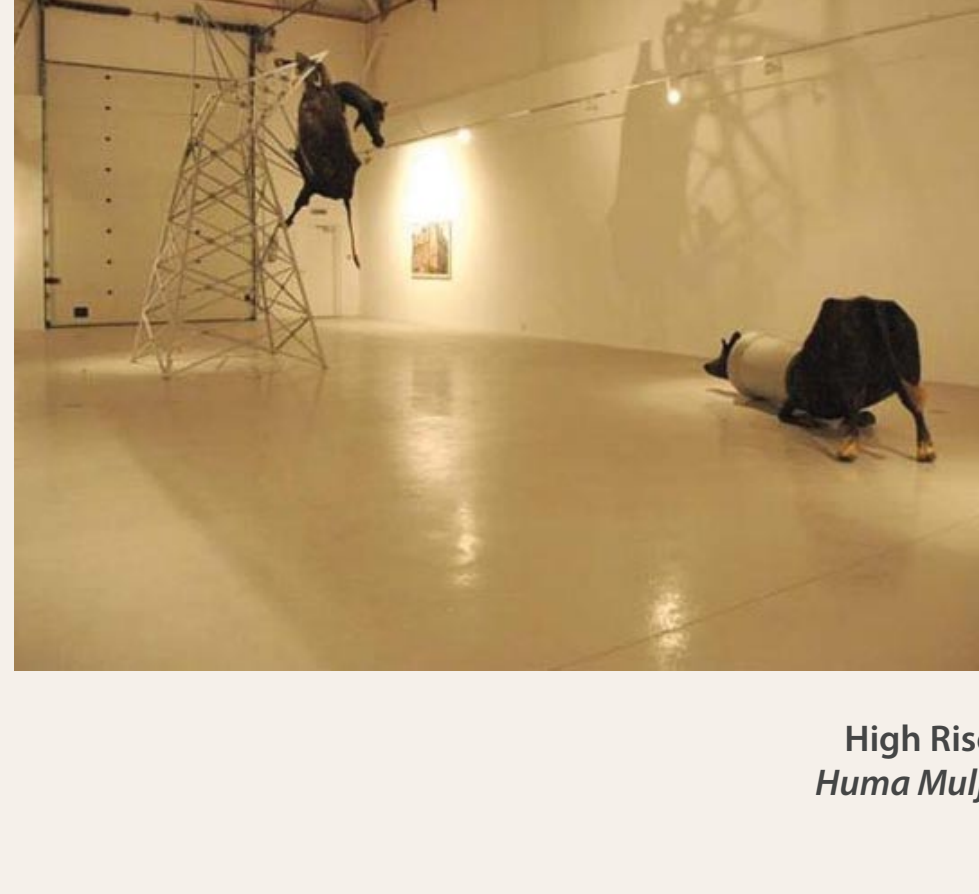
Pakistan

The life's too short Short Story Prize was conceived to reinvigorate this oft-neglected genre in Pakistan. With the increasing success of short story collections in the global publishing market, they are becoming big news again. Now we would like people to read yours. Sponsored by the ZZ & Zohra Ahmed Foundation, entry to this competition is free of charge and the prize money is the most substantial for any such endeavour in Pakistan.

Website: <http://www.lifetoshort.pk/>



Divine Invasion
 Mehreen Murtaza



High Rise
 Huma Mulji



Adeela Suleman



Red Carpet
 Rashid Rana, Vienna

VASL News

Taaza Tareen IV

Karachi

Vasl's Taaza Tareen Residency gets fresher by the year - as both the quality and quantity of applicants rises. Vasl this time took the decision of holding Taaza Tareen twice annually. Participants for TTA were: Ammad Tahir, Ferva Ibrahim, Ghafar Afridi, Hurmat-ul-Een Ahmed, Imran Mudassar, Mariam Ibraaz and Sara Khan. The artists shared their work at the Indus Valley Gallery at the Open Day this March. The artists also conducted a 4 day Outreach with Ida Rieu, Karachi's biggest school for the deaf and the blind.

For more information about the outreach go to: http://www.vaslar.org/educationa%20outreach/folder.2009-04-29.8805798154/folder.2009-04-29.0364747098/index_html

Artists works: http://www.vaslar.org/residencies/folder.2009-03-30.2862204161/index_html

Ida Rieu: www.idarieu.org/

Artists Page Training: Lahore and Islamabad 2009

Hassan Mustafa at VASL carried out another round of intensive artist training for the VASL Artists' Directory in Lahore at Beaconhouse National University, and at the Rohtas I Gallery, Islamabad from March 17th to 19th, and March 21st respectively. This was made possible by Huma Mulji, Mehreen Murtaza in Lahore and Nadia Hussain and Alia Bilgrami in Islamabad. Thirty five artists trained and updated their pages which makes the VASL directory the most comprehensive database of Pakistani contemporary art.

We urge that others who hold a page on the website regularly update their content and find immediate assistance by emailing at hassan.mustafab83@gmail.com or vaspages@yahoo.com. For more information please visit <http://vaslar.org/artists%20pages>

Vasl hosts Araam: Halima Cassel, UK

Ceramic artist Halima Cassell was in Pakistan for the second stage of the Araam project, which is a split-site residency in partnership with the Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture and VASL. Cassell will spend her time in Pakistan researching, developing ideas and exploring new artistic and local craft techniques and methodologies, which are specific to different regions. Work inspired by the artists' creative explorations will feature in the Araam: Breathing Space exhibition at Mid Pennine Gallery, Burnley from 27 June to 15 August 2009.

For more information please visit <http://vaslar.org/artists%20pages/folder.2008-04-18.224191352/folder.2009-05-04.8814521713/document.2009-05-21.0232824773>

VASL & CAP collaborate for Shanaakht

Karachi

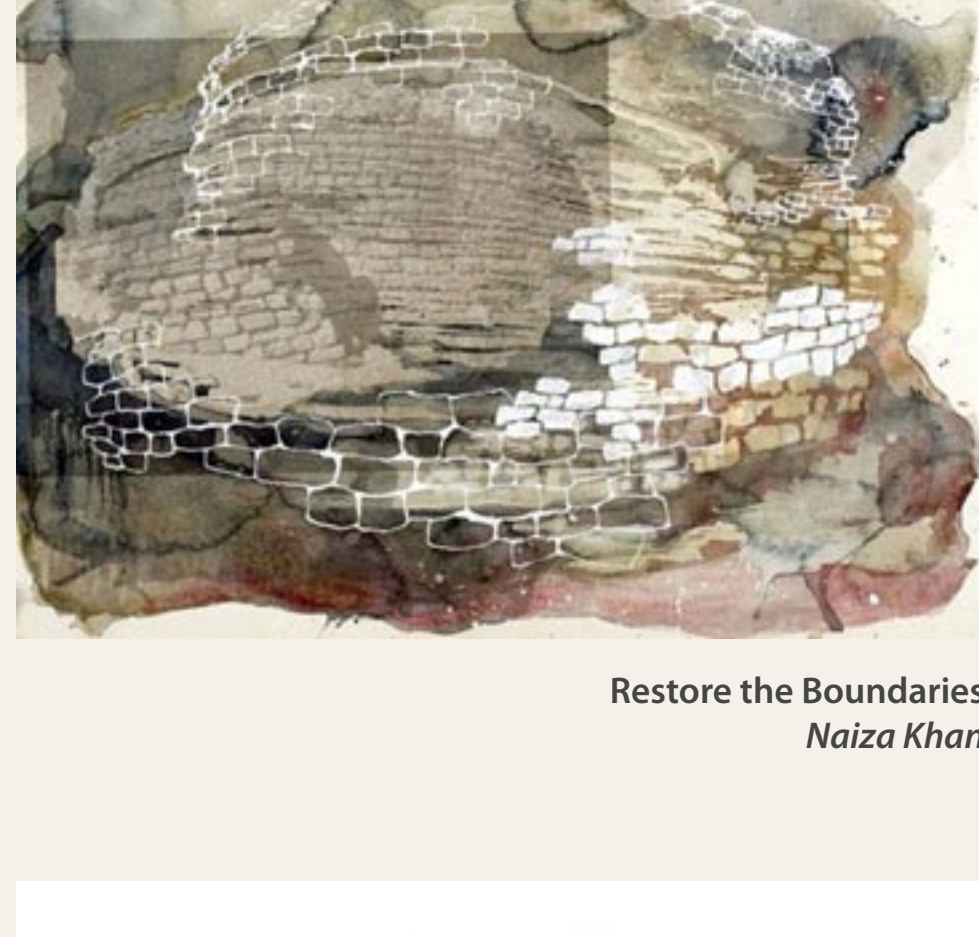
VASL collaborated with the Citizens Archive of Pakistan at the second Shanaakht Festival with the art show 'Sohni Dharti', along with 'Other Asias' in April 2009.

Over 60 artists from various parts of the country participated in the festival's art show. The controversial closing down and postponement of the festival has initiated an important dialogue with artists and authority addressing a vague semblance of the idea of freedom of expression, tolerance and rights of the artist in Pakistan.

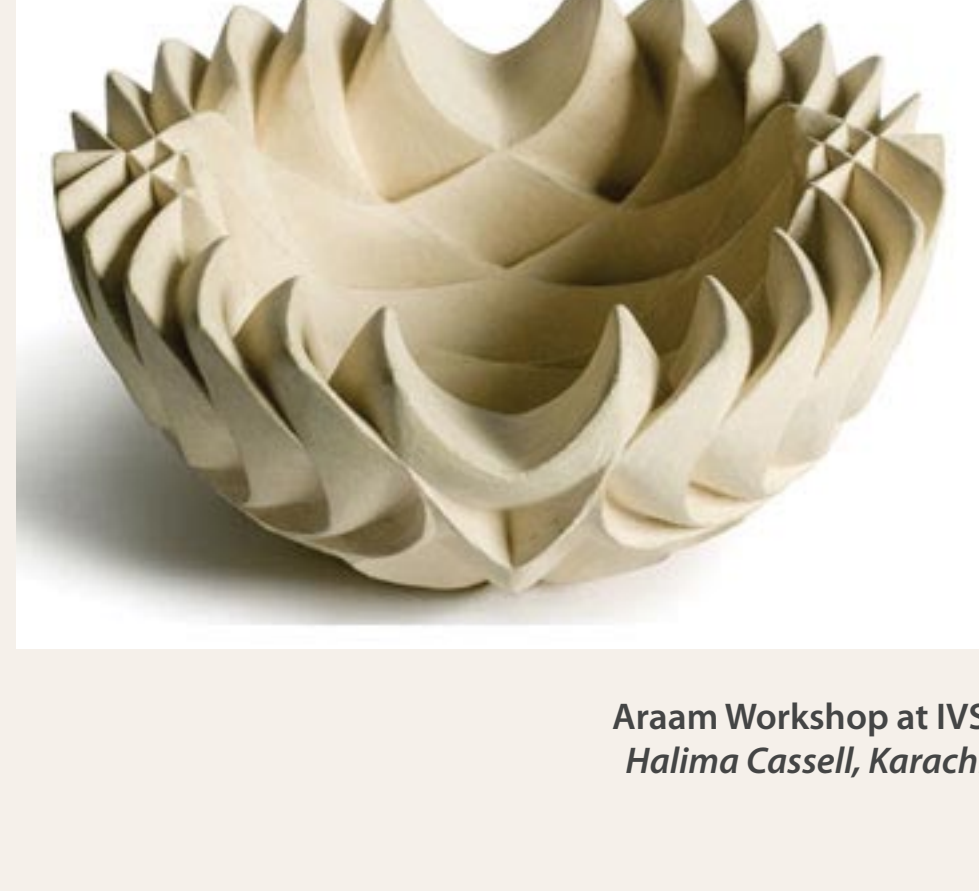
VASL ARTtext

On Location Karachi Cultural Safe Haven
 By Allison White for Art Asia Pacific
<http://aapmag.com/63features2.html>

Pakistan Report - On the verge
 By Benjamin Genocchio, NY
<http://www.vaslar.org/text/folder.2008-08-26.8805113797/folder.2009-03-18.9794193219/Genocchio%20Art%20Pakistan%20Art%20in%20America%20Pdf>



Restore the Boundaries
 Naiza Khan



Aaram Workshop at IVS
 Halima Cassell, Karachi

Artists in the Network & Beyond

Gasworks Artist in Residence 2009

6th July 2009 - 30th September 2009, UK

Artist Mehreen Murtaza is the 2009 recipient of the Charles Wallace - Rangoonwala residency award for a Pakistani artist, to have a residency at Gasworks. Mehreen Murtaza's visual narratives intertwine a traditional background with popular culture. Born in 1986, Murtaza lives and works in Lahore, Pakistan. She has participated in residencies and workshops with VASL, the German Cultural Centre in Lahore and Khoj, New Delhi and has exhibited work in Pakistan and abroad.

For more information please visit <http://www.gasworks.org.uk/residencies/detail.php?id=465>

Rashid Rana nominated for Prix Pictet award for 2009

Dubai, Vienna, Hong Kong, Korea

He will be presenting at Art Dubai - 2009, Gallery Chemould, Mumbai India, also represented by Green Cardamom, London UK, Rashid Rana at Art Hong Kong - 2009, represented by Green Cardamom, London UK. Rashid Rana has been conferred with an Associate-ship of the National College of Arts at the recent convocation, in recognition of his contributions in the field of contemporary art. Work to be shown at the exhibition 'The 21st Century, The Feminine Century, and the Century of Diversity and Hope'. The 2009 International Incheon Women Artists' Biennial (IWAB) KOREA.

For more information visit <http://www.galleryelementa.com/> and <http://www.prixpictet.com/>

Adeela Suleman exhibiting at "Failed States" and "Steel Life"

Milan, London, New York

'Failed States' presents the first large-scale survey in London of works by these two emerging woman artists from Pakistan. Both Qayyum and Suleman produce poetic, nuanced works that are rooted in the social and political reality of contemporary Pakistan. The private viewing is on 2nd June 2009, 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Exhibition runs 3rd June - 4th July, 2009, with another show at AICON, NY in collaboration with Canvas Gallery.

'Steel Life' will commence from 25th May till August 2009, at the La Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy.

For more information visit: http://www.steelife.it/stampa_en.html

Huma Mulji's first solo exhibition 'High Rise'

Dubai

Huma Mulji exhibits in her first international solo show at the Elementa Gallery, Dubai (May 2nd-June 20th).

For more information visit <http://www.galleryelementa.com/>

Naiza Khan exhibiting at "The Emperors New Clothes"

New York, Hong Kong

A group show curated by Atteqa Ali at the Talwar Gallery in June 2009. For more information visit: <http://www.talwargallery.com/>, as well as Art HK 09/



Taaza Tareen IV
 Artists in their IVS Studio, Karachi



Artists Training, BNU
 Lahore

Artists in Diaspora

Tazeen Qayyum in Bazgasht: Traditional Methods and Modern Practices

Art Gallery of Mississauga, Canada

Bazgasht in Urdu and Hindi means echo or likeness of something that repeats or resonates leading to a revival. Bazgasht: Traditional Methods and Modern Practices presents works by internationally acclaimed artists leading the modern-day revival of miniature painting traditions from South Asia. These artists portray bold and fresh perspectives, on both local and global levels as they take a new look at this art form by questioning, adopting and re-inventing traditional practices.

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 28th at 7pm

For more information visit: <http://www5.mississauga.com/agm/Exhibitions/Exhibitions.htm>

Shazia Sikander at MOMA: Compass in Hand and Stalemate at Sikkema Jenkins & Co. - Stalemate

New York

From April 22—July 27, 2009, From April 22—July 27, 2009 at MOMA and - New York, April 3 - May 2, 2009 at Sikkema Jenkins & Co.

For more information visit: <http://www.shaziasikander.com/>

Canvas Gallery: Relocated and Artworld Opened

Karachi

Artworld @ Labels has been opened as an alternative space for young artists to exhibit their works by the Canvas Gallery. The Gallery itself has relocated to: F 50 / A (Same lane as Cafe FLO / KOEL), Block 4, Clifton, Karachi Phone Number: 9221 586 1523 Fax: 9221 586 1503

IAPEX 2009 'Celebrating Karachi' by Sameera Raja 29th - 31st May at EXPO Centre, Karachi

Grey Noise: Ayaz Johkio at the 6th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art

Brisbane, Australia

Ayaz Johkio will represent Pakistan at the 6th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art in Brisbane, Australia. Grey Noise also showed Ayaz Johkio's work 'Old Father Time' from April 26th - May 15th, 2009.

Zahoor ul Akhlaq Gallery: Half Life

Zahoor ul Akhlaq Gallery, Lahore

David Alesworth & Huma Mulji, Zahoor-ul-Akhlaq Gallery, February 16th- March 4th

Please visit http://www.davidalesworth.com/album_details/8

Galleri Petronas: Drawing the Line sculptures by Amin Gulgee

Kuala Lumpur

Internationally renowned sculptor who hails from Karachi, Pakistan. Using the medium of metal, he has been exhibiting and working his sculptures from the purely abstract, to works that draw inspiration from Hindu mythology, Buddhist civilisations and Islamic calligraphy. The exhibition ran from 28th Nov 2008 to 29th Jan 2009.

Green Cardamom

www.greencardamom.net

Hamra Abbas awarded a jury prize at the recent Sharjah Biennale 9

Sharjah

Abbas showed two works at the Biennale: God Grows on Trees and In This Is a Sign for Those Who Reflect. 'God Grows on Trees' includes photographs taken at madrassahs in northern Pakistan and a Diasec C-Print showing an image of trees on a grid in Lahore, each affixed with a sign with one of the 99 names. Her work 'In This Is a Sign for Those Who Reflect' is a large scale installation, incorporating moving walls signed with sounds of meditative breath. God Grows on Trees was previewed last year at the Zahoor-ul-Akhlaq Gallery, NCA, Lahore.

Bani Abidi at the Lyon Biennale:

Lyon

Abidi has been invited to show a large body of work at the upcoming Lyon Biennale in September. This will include Security Barriers, A-L (2008), Intercommunication Devices (2008), and Reserved (2006). She will also show a new photographic series titled Karachi.

The View from Elsewhere/Small Acts

Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney

19 Mar - 13 Jun, 2009, Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane 1 August - 15 November 2009 <http://www.sherman-scaf.org.au> <http://qag.qld.gov.au>

Iftikhar Dadi and Elizabeth Dadi at 'How Nations are Made'

Cartwright Hall, Bradford

4 July to 23 August

Mahbub Shah in 'Pattern Recognition'

The City Gallery, Leicester, UK

20 June - 24 October 2009 <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/>

Muhammad Zeeshan

ACC Galerie, Weimar, Germany

4 April - 31 May 2009
 Kei Ding: Asli Cavusoglu, Muhammad Zeeshan and Hagen Betzweiser

ART HK 09 Hong Kong International Art Fair

Hong Kong

14th-17th May 2009 with Green Cardamom.

For more information visit: <http://www.hongkongartfair.com/2009/index.php>

Safavids Revisited at British Museum

London

Zeeshan, British Museum, London, Until 18 October, 2009 <http://www.britishmuseum.org/>

East/West Divan: contemporary art from Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, curated by Jemima Montague, and organised by the Turquoise Mountain Foundation, Collateral events, The Venice Biennale. 7 June - 4 October 2009.

For more information visit: http://www.greencardamom.net/exhibitions/exhibitions_page.php?id=35

Timeline

Canvas Gallery Karachi	VM Art Gallery Karachi	Photospace Gallery Karachi
April 10 th Ghazala Irshad & Sonia Chundrigar	May 5 th Babar Mughal Solo Show	April 22 nd "Image Stalkers"
14 th Amina Arif, Imran Channa, Nadia Khwaja & Vajid Ali	Koel Gallery Karachi	Grey Noise Lahore
28 th "Unreal Lives"	April 16 th "Dissolving Shadows"	April 26 th "Old Father Time"
May 14 th Amjad Ali Talpur, Nizakat Ali, Hammad Malik, Nizam Dahiri	May 21 st "Kuch to Kaho"	
26 th Ahmed Ali, Manghanhar, Ahsan Jamal, Munawar Ali, Shahana	June 21 st "Father & Son"	
	Rohtas Gallery Lahore	
	June 3 rd Safder Ali Qureshi	
	9 th Michal Gilkson	