

# Moonis Ahmad

## Visual Artist

b. 1992 | Srinagar  
27 Lewis St, Glenroy, Melbourne,  
Victoria, Australia, 3046  
+61416098644, [www.moonisshah.com](http://www.moonisshah.com)  
[moonis.shah@gmail.com](mailto:moonis.shah@gmail.com) | [info@moonisshah.com](mailto:info@moonisshah.com)

## EDUCATION

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>2017- Current</b> | PhD Candidate, University of Melbourne<br>Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship  |
| <b>2012 – 2016</b>   | BFA, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan<br><br>Passed with Distinction and Gold Medal (3.96/4 CGPA)<br>United Nations Madanjeet Institute of South Asian Art Scholar (UMISAA Scholar) |

## AWARDS

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>2021</b>    | Featured in Forbes India 30 Under 30: The ones we had to mention   |
| <b>2018</b>    | Recipient of VCA Academic Assistantship Award  |
| <b>2017-18</b> | Recipient of VCA Access Mentorship Award, University of Melbourne  |
| <b>2018</b>    | Recipient of Faculty Small Grant Scheme 2018   |
| <b>2017</b>    | Won Emerging Artist Award 2017, Foundation of Indian Contemporary Art.   |
| <b>2017</b>    | Recipient of Australian Graduate Research Scholarship covering all costs of my PhD Research at University of Melbourne   |
| <b>2012-16</b> | Dean's Honor's List Award for consecutive semesters of my BFA course of study  |
| <b>2012-16</b> | UMISAA scholar (United Nations Madanjeet Institute of South Asian Arts). Scholarship funded by South Asia Foundation and UMISAA for BFA programme at BNU. Scholarship covered full tuition, living, traveling and a monthly stipend. |

## RESEARCH OUTCOMES

### Solo Shows

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>2021 March</b> | Solo Show, "Anarchic Archive: The Spectres of Inconsistency" |
| <b>2019 June</b>  | Solo Show, "Atlas Holding Heavens" Vadhera Contemporary      |

- 2018 June Solo Show, “ De-ceasing Relevance: Figuring the Local/s” at SattelKammer, Bern with support from Pro-Helvetia, Foundation of Indian Contemporary Art and University of Melbourne.
- 2017 October Solo Show, Phd Confirmation, University of Melbourne
- 2016-17 Dec- Jan Solo Show, Counter Memories, Rohtas Gallery, Curated by Salima Hashmi, Lahore

## **GROUP SHOWS**

- 2021 March Can you hear my voice? Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria Australia
- 2020 March A Voyage of Seemingly Propulsive speed and an Absolute apparent Stillness, Group Show, Ark Gallery, Baroda, India
- 2019 January Games of Chance, Group Show Curated by Leandre D’Souza, Sunaparanta, Goa Centre of Arts, Goa, India
- 2019 Nov Phantom Limb, Sridharani Art Gallery, Raza Art Foundation, New Delhi, India
- 2018-2019 Critical Constellations, Group show, IGNSA, New Delhi, Curated by Vidya Shivadas, India
- 2019 February “Start-up States” Group show, Sarai CSDS curated by Laura McLean, New Delhi India
- 2018 May "Beyond Boundaries" Auckland Art Fair 2018, New Zealand
- 2018 April “Bureaucracies of Imagination” Two-person Show, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2018 February Boxed Light, Group Show, Mars Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2017 December Detritus / Matter out of Place, Group Show, Serendipity Arts festival Goa, India
- 2017 November “One Night With”, Sculpture Exhibition, MARS Gallery, Australia
- 2017 August Group Show, Past as Present, Gandhara Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2017 July Group Show, A Million Mutinies Later - India at 70, curated by Bhooma Padmanabhan, Anshika Varma and Iona Fergusson, Turner House, Cardiff, UK
- 2017 March Group Show, Sleepless Constellations, Curated by Salima Hashmi 1x1 Gallery, Dubai
- 2017 Feb Premise of Promise Curated by Quddus Mirza, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2016 Sept New Wight Biennial 2016 as Seh Rang Collective, UCLA, Los Angeles, USA
- 2016 May BFA Thesis Show

- 2015 Invited by Rashid Rana for a performance in his Venice Biennale Project, "The viewing, the viewer and the viewed" in Lahore.
- 2015 Group exhibition, Borders and Disorders, Venice Art House
- 2014 Group exhibition, Close Together Borderlines Production, Houston, USA December

### **Other Research Outcomes**

- 2020 November Panelist alongside Raqs Media Collective, Rebordering the Archipelago: Asia Pacific Exchanges, Presented by the Centre of Visual Art, University of Melbourne In Association with the Asia Pacific Artistic Research Network, a joint project of Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne and Indonesian Institute of the Arts, Yogyakarta.
- 2020 July Artists Roundtable, Public Talk in collaboration with Gallery Ark and Art Fervour, India
- 2019 August Artist Talk, Foundation of Indian Contemporary Art, New Delhi, India
- 2019 August 100 years of state violence and people's resistance in South Asia, Panel Discussion and Artist Talk, University of Sydney, Australia
- 2019 April Interactive Session, Interrogating the 'Archive' in Analogue and code, Vadhera Contemporary, New Delhi, India
- 2018 July Residency at Lucerne HSLU, Stadtgalerie, Funded by FICA and Pro Helvetia, Switzerland
- 2018 May-June Residency at Progr, Stadtgalerie, Funded by FICA and Pro Helvetia, Switzerland
- 2016 June The Shifting Place Aesthetic, Spatial and Temporal Fractures of Transitional Territories, UNIDEE/TIPP Residency at Cittadellarte-Fondazione Pistoletto, Fully Funded By E.U.
- 2014 Invited for a Research Paper "The Post Modern Condition" presentation and reading at IFAC, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2012 Participated in "Real & the Recorded Time in Visual Art" held at University of Kashmir, By Nikhil Chopra.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2018 - 19 University of Melbourne Sessional Lecturer
  - Developed and led a studio options course "Impossibilities of the Object: Translation, Time and Sculpture" open to students working across all practices.
  - Engaged with and formed a collaborative environment involving Academics and artists from Universities such as University of Bristol/Plymouth College of Art; University of Kashmir; Beaconhouse National University.

- Delivered high quality tutorials to students from second and third year.
- Assisted with the graduate show exhibition and provided critical and conceptual feedback to students in tutorials held during the semester.
- Introduced techniques such as Photogrammetry (A software based programming technique to stitch still images into 3d Objects for 3<sup>rd</sup> Printing), Projection Mapping (Using single Projector to project videos on complex shapes and multiple surfaces using Graphic User Interface Programming)

2016

Intern at Art1st, New Delhi

- Coordinated in developing documentaries about Contemporary Indian Artists to create Contemporary Art Awareness amongst Students in India

2016

Assisted Research Project for Ayesha Abid Hussain in Lahore Biennale Foundation

- Led the postproduction of a video documentary which charted the history and importance of “Faiz Ghar” in Lahore’s Art History.

2008-2010

Founding Member of Kashmir Art Foundation

- The foundation intended to create awareness about Contemporary Art Practices to School students. The foundation was self-funded and eventually was shut down.
- Liaised with other tutors to create a working environment for studio-based practice in the context of emerging art practices.
- Designed and implemented individualized tutorials with school students in the content of Contemporary Art Practices.

## **OTHER SKILLS AND COMPETENCES**

Adobe Photoshop CS6-CC  
 2017 Adobe After Effects CS6-CC  
 2017 Adobe Premiere CS6-CC  
 2017 Resolume Arena 5.1  
 Autodesk 3ds Max  
 Arduino Programming  
 Processing  
 Cylon.js  
 Node.js  
 C++ Programming  
 Wordpress

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Frieze Critics Guide by Skye Arundhati Thomas  
<https://frieze.com/article/critics-guide-new-delhi-india-art-fair-returns-best-shows-town>
- Tales of myth, suspension, and violence by Gowri S  
<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/art/tales-of-myth-suspension-and-violence-shine-in-this-multi-disciplinary-show/article31932920.ece>
- A Glimpse of the White Whale by Tai Mitsuji  
<https://artcollector.net.au/auckland-art-fair-2018s-new-sector-gives-collectors-access-to-undiscovered-talent/>
- Disappearing Graffiti, Interview by Lowercase Staff  
<https://www.lowercasemagazine.com/blog/moonis-shah-kashmir-graffiti>
- We, In Conflict 2019, Tribune India  
<https://www.tribuneindia.com/mobi/news/spectrum/we-in-conflict/818362.html>
- Exhibition Review by Art Fervour  
<https://www.artfervour.com/post/winding-time-and-exploring-space-gallery-ark-and-its-current-show-on-myth-suspension-and-violence>
- Interview by Sarah Hall, Arts Precinct, University of Melbourne  
[www.precinct.finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/2017/11/24/moonis-shahs-anarchic-archive-work-wins-the-prestigious-fica-award/](http://www.precinct.finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/2017/11/24/moonis-shahs-anarchic-archive-work-wins-the-prestigious-fica-award/)
- Bureaucracies of Imagination, Sara Yawar, ArtNow Pakistan  
<http://www.artnowpakistan.com/bureaucracies-of-imagination-2/>
- Language of War by Zarmina Rafi  
[www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/the-language-of-war/](http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/the-language-of-war/)
- Platform Magazine Shruti Kapoor  
<http://platform-mag.com/art/atlas-reimagined.html>
- Libbas Magazine 2016 Review by Quddus Mirza