PİLOT

HAMRA ABBAS

Born 1976, Kuwait
Lives and works in Lahore, Pakistan

EDUCATION

2004 Meisterschüler, Universitaet der Kuenste, Berlin, Germany
2002 MA, Visual Arts, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan
1999 BFA (Sculpture), National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 Solo Exhibition, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
2025 Garden Reimagined, PİLOT, İstanbul, Turkey
2024 Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
2023 Frieze Seoul 2023, Seoul, South Korea
2023 COLOR | GARDEN, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
2020 Every Colour is a Shade of Black, COMO Art Museum, Lahore
2019 Open Cube, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
Gardens in Which Rivers Flow: Plastic Flowers and Everyday Miracles, Art Dubai with Canvas Gallery, Dubai, UAE
2017 Colour, Canvas, Karachi, Pakistan
2016 Bodies, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
2015 But Can You Show this in Pakistan?, PILOT, Istanbul, Turkey
2014 Kaaba Picture as a Misprint, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
2013 Hamra Abbas: Wall Hanging, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
2012 City and the Everyday, PILOT, Istanbul, Turkey
Idols, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai, India
Idols, Canvas, Karachi, Pakistan
2011 Cities, Green Cardamom, London, UK
2010 Cityscapes, OUTLET, Istanbul, Turkey
2009 Video Art by Hamra Abbas, Babusch Project Space, Berlin, Germany
2008
Adventures of the Woman in Black, Green Cardamom, London, UK
New works by Hamra Abbas, NCA Gallery, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
God Grows on Trees, Schultz Contemporary, Berlin, Germany
Hamra Abbas, Zahoor-al-Akhlaq Gallery, NCA, Lahore, Pakistan
2006
Hamra Abbas, Dorothea Konwiarz Stiftung Galerie, Berlin, Germany
Lessons on Love, Rohtas 2, Lahore, Pakistan

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026

Homecoming, PILOT, İstanbul, Turkey
Frieze Abu Dhabi, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Dubai, UAE
Contemporary Istanbul 21th Edition, Rixos Tersane, İstanbul, Turkey
Liste Basel Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland
7th Mardin Biennale, Mardin, Turkey
Frieze New York, Lawrie Shabibi, New York, USA

2025

What the Eye Brought Back, P420, Bolognia, Italy
By the Movement of All Things, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai,
UAE Shadows - Art Here 2025, UAE
Richard Mille Art Prize, Louvre Abu Dhabi, UAE
Form and Rhythm, Sotheby's Dubai,
UAE Art Basel Hong Kong, Lawrie Shabibi, Hong Kong
Fragments of Folklore, JAX District, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
20. Contemporary Istanbul, PILOT, Rixos Tersane, İstanbul, Turkey
4. Contemporary Istanbul Bloom, PİLOT, Lütfi Kırdar Congress Center İstanbul, Turkey

2024

The Lahore Biennale, Lahore, Pakistan
MANZAR: Art and Architecture from Pakistan 1940s to Today, National Museum of Qatar, Museum Park Street, Doha, Qatar

2023

Brand New Ancients, Misk Art Institute, Riyadh, KSA
STILL, LIFE! MOURNING, MEANING, MENDING, 21c Museum Hotel in Bentonville, Arkansas, USA

2022

Art Mill Museum 2030, Al Najada Heritage House #15, Doha, Qatar.

2021

Public Art Programme, EXPO 2020, Dubai, UAE
Precaution, ARTER, Istanbul, Turkey
Tonight No Poetry Will Serve, Barefoot Gallery, Colombo

2020

We Do Not Dream Alone, Asia Society Triennial, New York, NY, USA
Miniature 2.0, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey

2019

Gateway: Fragments, Yesterday and Today, Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Abu Dhabi, UAE
2nd Karachi Biennale, Bagh Ibn e Qasim, Karachi, Pakistan
She Persists, Palazzo Benzon, Venice, Italy
MATERIALIZE, Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE

2018

Art Dubai Contemporary, with Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
1st Lahore Biennale, Pakistan
Global Control and Censorship, Galeria Arsenal, Bialystok, Poland

2017

Witness, 1st Karachi Biennale, Karachi, Pakistan

Sanctuary, FOR-SITE Foundation, San Francisco, USA

Insights, Art Basel Hong Kong, with Lawrie Shabibi, Hong Kong
The Making of an Institution, NTU CCA, Singapore

2016

Text Edit, Manhattan Bridge Anchorage, Brooklyn, New York, USA
Accademia di Brera, Milan, Italy
do-it, Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE

2015

And Nothing but the Truth: Parrhesia II, KOEL Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
Art Dubai Contemporary, with Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai, UAE
Istanbul. Passion, Joy, Fury, MAXXI, Rome, Italy
Globale: Global Control And Censorship, ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medien, Karlsruhe, Germany
ALL ABOUT THESE… LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, Gallery on the move, Cologne, Germany
What is Home? Pump House Gallery, London, UK
The Body And Other Small Tales, Thessaloniki Centre of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece

2014

Whorled Explorations, Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Kochi Island, India
UNTITLED Art Fair, with Lawrie Shabibi and Copperfield gallery, Miami Beach, Florida, USA
Abu Dhabi Art, with Lawrie Shabibi, Abu Dhabi, UAE
The Shade of the Moon, Changwon Sculpture Biennale, Changwon, South Korea
The Importance of Staying Quiet, Yallay Gallery, Hong Kong
Censorship, The 7th Move on Asia, Alternative Space Loop, Seoul, South Korea
ALL ABOUT THESE… LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, Soma Mexico DF, Mexico City, Mexico

2013

The 2013 DeCordova Biennial, DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln, USA
Signs Taken in Wonder, Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover
ECHOES: Islamic Art and Contemporary Artists, The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas, USA
Signs Taken in Wonder: Searching for Contemporary Istanbul, MAK, Vienna

2012

The Collectors Show: Chimera, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore

2011

Medi(t)ation – 2011 Asian Art Biennial, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts,
Taichung, Taiwan
Home Spun, Devi Art Foundation, Gurgaon, India
Everyday Miracles (Extended), Walter and McBean Galleries, SFAI,
San Francisco, California, USA
Sympathy for the Devil, Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels, Belgium
The Power of Doubt, PhotoEspana 2011, Museo Colecciones ICO, Madrid,
Spain

2010

The Rising Tide: New Directions in Art from Pakistan 1990-2010, Mohatta
Palace Museum, Karachi, Pakistan
UNERWARTET/UNEXPECTED, Kunst Museum, Bochum, Germany
ResembleReassemble, Devi Art Foundation, Gurgaon, India
Beyond the Page: The Miniature as Attitude in Contemporary Art from

Pakistan, Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, California, USA

2009

Aluminium, 4th International Biennial of Contemporary Art, Baku, Azerbaijan
2nd International Incheon Women Artists' Biennale, Incheon, South Korea
Everyday Miracles (Extended), Walter and McBean Galleries, SFAI, San Francisco, California, USA
Everyday Miracles (Extended), REDCAT, Los Angeles, California, USA
Hanging Fire, Asia Society Museum, New York, New York, USA
Read, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada
Mashq, Green Cardamom, London, UK
Jameel Prize, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
International Artists' Workshop, PRAXIS: Art in Times of Uncertainty, 2nd
Thessaloniki Biennale, Greece
Anomalies, Rossi & Rossi, London, UK
Starring the Artist, Indus Valley School Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
Provisions for the Future, 9th Sharjah Biennale, Sharjah, UAE
2008 Recently Seen and Admired, Galerie Kunstagenten, Berlin, Germany
The Audience and the Eavesdropper: New Art From India and Pakistan,
Phillips de Pury & Company, London, UK
Drawn From Life, Green Cardamom, London, UK
Buffaloes in Combat, Scotiabank Nuit Blanche, Toronto, Canada
Farewell to Post-Colonialism, 3rd Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum
of Art,Guangzhou, China
Crossroads, Elementa Art Gallery, Dubai, UAE
In-Situ, Shake Before Use, ARTIUM de Alava, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain

2007

Not Only Possible But Also Necessary-Optimism In The Age Of Global War,
10th International Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, Turkey
Urban Myths and Modern Fables, UTS Gallery, Sydney, Australia
Inaugural show, National Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
Contemporary Art from Pakistan, Thomas Erben, New York, New York, USA
Politics of Fear, Albion Gallery, London, UK

2006

Zones of Contact, 15th Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
Beyond the Page, Asia House, London and Manchester Art Gallery, UK
Open day, Vasl International Artists Workshop, Gadani, Pakistan

2005

Zeitsprünge Raumfolgen, ifa Galerie, Berlin, Stuttgart, Germany
Full House, Künstlerdorf Schöppingen, Schöppingen, Germany
Meisterschueler Prize Winners of UdK, Galerie Michael Schultz, Berlin, Germany
KOVIDEO, 1st Durban Video Festival, Mumbai, India

2004

Meisterschueler Prize Exhibition, Universitaet der Kuenste (UdK) Berlin, Berlin, Germany
Aarpaar 3, Lahore and Karachi, Pakistan, Mumbai, India
Miniature from Pakistan, Fukuoka Museum of Asian Art, Fukuoka, Japan
Open Studios, Triangle Artists' Workshop, Brooklyn, New York, USA

8th Symposium Junge Kunst, Guetersloh, Germany
FreiRäume, A Project by FreiStil e.V., Berlin, Germany
Love It or Leave It, 5th Cetinje Biennial, Cetinje, Montenegro Creative
Insecurity, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, Canada Meisterschueler Exhibition,
Universitaet der Kuenste (UdK) Berlin, Germany
Along the X-Axis: Digital Art From India and Pakistan, New Delhi, India
Playing with a Loaded Gun, Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany
2003
Junger Westen 2003, Kunsthalle Rechlinghausen, Rechlinghausen, Germany

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art Jameel Collection, Dubai, UAE
Borusan Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey
British Museum, London, UK
Burger Collection, Hong Kong
Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, UAE
Devi Art Foundation, Guragon, India
Dubai Collection, Dubai, UAE
EXPO 2020, Dubai, UAE
Farjam Collection, Dubai, UAE
Kadist Collection, Paris, France
King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra), Saudi Arabia
Kiran Nader Museum of Art, New Delhi, India
Koç Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey
21c Museum Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, USA
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas, USA
Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, USA
Qatar Museums, Qatar
Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada
USA Art In Embassies Collection, USA
Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels, Belgium
Zayed National Museum, UAE

AWARDS

2026 Sitara-e-Imtiaz (Star of Excellence) by State of Pakistan
2021 Asia Arts Future, Asia Arts Game Changer Awards India
2019 Artist in Residence, Civitella Ranieri Foundation, Umbertide, Italy
2016 Artist-in-Residence, The Marble House Project, Dorset, Vermont, USA
2015 Nanyang Technological University CCA Singapore Residencies: Insights, Nanyang, Singapore
2011 Abraaj Capital Art Prize Winner, Dubai, UAE
2010 Triangle Artist Residency, Brooklyn, New York, USA
2009 Jury Prize, Sharjah Biennial 9, Sharjah, UAE
2006 Residencies at Gasworks, Victoria & Albert Museum and Green Cardamom,London, UK
2005
Scholarship, Dorothea Konwiarz Stiftung, Berlin, Germany
Residence scholarship, Kuenstlerdorf Schoeppingen, Schoeppingen, Germany

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2004
Meisterschüler Prize, Universität der Künste (UdK) Berlin, Germany
Triangle Artists' Workshop, Brooklyn, New York, USA
8th Symposium Junge Kunst, Guetersloh, Germany
2003
Fellowship Award, artist-in-residence, Vermont Studio Center, Vermont, USA
DAAD Scholarship, Germany