

# NIAGARA

[< Back to Rubaba Haider's profile](#)

## RUBABA HAIDER

Rubaba Haider is a contemporary artist based in Melbourne, Australia. The artist, who studied miniature painting in Pakistan at the prestigious National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan was forced to seek refuge in Australia due to the persecution of her people.

Haider has witnessed how fragile the ties that bind communities, relationships and bodies together can be and expresses this vulnerability through intricate renderings of cloth and thread on paper using gouache and pencil. The artist's work has been shown in group exhibitions both in Australia and overseas and is held in a number of private collections in Europe, the subcontinent and Australia. 2014 marked the artist's debut solo exhibition.

## EDUCATION

2004 – 2007 Bachelor of Fine Art, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018 *A story of thread and thrum*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

2014 *The stitch is lost, unless the thread be knotted*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 *Spring1883*, presented by Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

2020 *Bakhiya*, Threshold Art Gallery, New Delhi, India

*India Art Fair*, presented by Threshold Art Gallery, New Delhi,

2019 *Microcosm 3*, AAN Gandhara Art Space, Hong Kong

*Zephyr*, Greater Dandenong Council, Melbourne

2018 *India Art Fair*, presented by Anant Gallery, New Delhi, India

2017 *Shifting Realities*, with Anant Art, Shridharani Art Gallery, New Delhi, India

2016 *Universal/Personal*, Hinterland Galerie, Vienna

*HERE&NOW16 / GenYM*, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, Perth

*The Politics of Imagination*, Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Dandenong, Victoria

2015 *Home Here Now*, Walker Street Gallery & Arts Centre, Melbourne

2014 *Celeste Art Prize finalists exhibition*, Assab One, Milan, Italy

*Like a shadow; I am and I am not*, installation at Gee Lee-Wik Doleen Gallery, Melbourne

2013 *Burqas, veils and hoodies: Identity and representation*, Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Melbourne, curated by David O'Halloran

*New Heartlands Fine Art Prize*, Fortyfive Downstairs, Melbourne

2012 *Melbourne Art Fair*, presented by Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

*Refugee Week – Rubaba Haider*, Kingston Art Centre, Melbourne

*New Heartlands Fine Art Prize*, Fortyfive Downstairs, Melbourne

*Affordable Art Fair*, presented by Words For Art, Melbourne

*You am I*, Islamic Council of Victoria, Melbourne

2011 *Intimate Pictures – Pakistani Contemporary Miniatures*, Tokyo Gallery + BTAP, Tokyo

*Heartlands Fine Art Prize*, Fortyfive Downstairs, Melbourne

2010 *Heartlands Fine Art Prize*, Alliance Francaise Gallery, Melbourne

*Visions of the West*, Melbourne

- Intricate Contemplation and Nostalgia*, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan  
*Mader-e-Gul*, The Hunt Club, Victoria
- 2009 *Summer show*, Anant Gallery, New Delhi, India
- 2008 *Parallel Lines – Contemporary Art from Lahore, Pakistan*, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, London  
*Connect*, Anant Art Gallery, New Delhi, India  
*Genesis 2008*, Gandhara Art Space, Karachi  
*Miniature Artists of Pakistan*, National College of Arts, Lahore  
*Thesis Show*, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2007 *The Annual Degree Show of the Fine Art Department*, National College of the Arts, Lahore, Pakistan

#### **AWARDS**

- 2014 *Celeste Art Prize*, Finalist, Milan
- 2013 *Hume City Council Arts Awards: Emerging Visual Artist Award*, Melbourne
- 2011 *Heartlands Fine Art Prize* (Winner of Newly arrived prize), AMES, Melbourne
- 2010 *Heartlands Fine Art Prize* (Winner First place), AMES, Melbourne

#### **COMMISSIONED PROJECTS & PUBLIC ART**

- 2016 Craigieburn Park Public Art Project, The Centre for Art, Society and Transformation (CAST), Melbourne  
 Chronicles of Place, Public Artwork curated by Clare McCracken, Bowen Street, RMIT, Melbourne
- 2015 *The Women's Project*, City of Melbourne
- 2012 Route-96 Tram stop design projects, Melbourne
- 2011 *Snapshots of Oz*, five short films for the Department of Immigration, Australia
- 2010 WYPIN (Western Young People's Independent Network) Photography workshop, Footscray, Victoria  
*Different Cloaks of Culture*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne

#### **COLLECTIONS**

- The Lekha and Anupam Poddar Collection, India  
 Green Cardamom, England  
 Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
 Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth  
 Ipswich Art Gallery, Queensland  
 Private collections, Melbourne and Sydney

#### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Rewati Rau, 'Finding hope and beauty in broken objects of art', *India Today*, 16 January 2020
- Gabriella Coslovich, 'Studio visit: inside the Melbourne studio of Rubaba Haider', *Look: Art Gallery Society of New South Wales*, March-April 2019, pp. 66-72
- Ellinor Pelz, 'Profile: Rubaba Haider', *Artist Profile*, issue 45, 2018 pp. 124-128
- Shailza Ria, '10 artworks from the 10th Edition of the India Art Fair you would want to own', *Architectural Digest*, 1 March 2018, online, accessed 24 March 2018
- Eugene Cheung, 'Rubaba Haider: A story of thread and thrum', *Art Collector*, Jan - Mar 2018
- Shalmali Shetty, 'Shifiting Realities', *Big Art*, 7 August 2017
- Manik Sharma, 'Shifting Realities: This art exhibition is a surreal journey through ideas of reality and fantasy', *Firstpost*, 6 August 2017
- Universal/Personal*, exhibition catalogue, Hinterland Galerie, Vienna, 2016
- Sabine V. Vogel, 'Gitter und Kratzer aus Pakistan', *Die Presse Bienna*, 4 May 2016
- Salwat Ali, 'Group show: Of change and transitions', *Dawn Newspaper*, 24 April 2016
- Aisha Khalid, 'Personal / Universal', *Nafas Art Magazine*, April 2016
- The stitch is lost, unless the thread be knotted*, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne, 2014

Dylan Fox Kearney, 'Artist threads life experience into new exhibition in Craigieburn', *Herald Sun*, 5 November 2014

Liza Power, 'Rubaba Haider: Held by a thread', *Vault: New art & culture magazine*, no. 8, November 2014, pp.78-80

Robert Nelson, 'Art Melbourne 2012', *The Age*, 30 May 2012

'Artfiend: Intricate contemplation and nostalgia', *Dawn.com*, 14 February 2010

Louis Werner, 'Reinventing the Miniature Painting', *Saudi Aramco World*, July/August 2009

Sumbul Khan 'Questioning Neo-Miniature', *The Anxious Century, Nukta Art*, vol. 3 TWO, 2008, p.12

Salwat Ali, 'Crossing the threshold', *Dawn Gallery*, 26 January, 2008

Muhammad Ashraf, 'Displaying Diversity', *The Nation - Sunday Plus*, 27 January 2008