



Natasha Malik (b. 1988, Pakistan) is a multidisciplinary artist who lives and works in Islamabad. Malik received her BFA from the National College of Arts (NCA), Lahore, in 2012, and her MFA from the Slade School of Fine Art, London, in 2015.

Natasha Malik's practice draws on Indo-Persian histories and the miniature painting tradition, blending pre-colonial visual languages with autobiographical narratives. Working across painting, printmaking, film, photography, and installation, she examines the body, identity, sexuality, trauma, and memory. Her empowered female protagonist subverts patriarchal and colonial narratives, inhabiting psychological landscapes alongside symbolic human-animal-botanical hybrids. Influenced by regional art history and critical scholarship, Malik transforms archival materials, dreams, and sensory impressions into multi-media works that explore dualities of visibility, intimacy, remembrance, and transformation.

Malik's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. Her first solo show, titled *a cage elusive as a shadow* took place at Sanat Initiative, Karachi, in 2016. In the same year, she received a Special Commendation from Dentons Art Prize, London, and in 2018 was nominated for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize. Her second solo show, "The soul breathes differently", took place at Satrang Gallery in Islamabad. Her third solo show, *The Life of an Image*, was at Khaas Contemporary in 2022. She has shown her work at Coningsby Gallery (London), Asia House (London), and COMO Museum of Art (Lahore). She was a participating artist in the Lahore Biennale 2020 as a member of the Pak-Khawateen Painting Club.

## **Education**

2015 MFA Painting, Slade School of Fine Art, University College London, London, UK  
2012 BFA Miniature Painting, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan

## **Solo Exhibitions**

2022 *The Life of an Image*, Khaas Contemporary, Islamabad  
2018 *The soul breathes differently*, Satrang Gallery, Islamabad  
2016 *A cage as elusive as a shadow*, Sanat Initiative, Karachi

## **Selected Group Exhibitions**

2025 "Seen & Unseen" as part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, United Nations Pakistan at PNCA Islamabad, Pakistan  
*The Daughters that Dreamed*, Mandy Zhang Art, London  
*Encounters in Time*, Gallery 8B2, Islamabad  
*Artist in Residence Exhibition*, Villa Lena Foundation, Tuscany, Italy

2024 *Haryali*, Danish Ambassador's Residence, Islamabad  
*Knowledge of the Ancients*, Barkat Ali Islamia Hall, Lahore  
*Legacies of Crossings*, Shahnaz Gallery, London  
*At Daybreak*, Ignition Art Project, Coningsby Gallery, London  
*Triptykon*, LungA School, Seyðisfjörður  
*Losing, Looping, Forgetting*, List í ljósi, Seyðisfjörður

2023 *Pas-E-Aaina*, Dominion Gallery, Lahore  
*Ecological Study*, ArtNext Gallery, Lahore  
*The Unforgotten Moon*, IVS Gallery, Indus School of Art and Architecture, Karachi

2022 *The Unwritten*, Satrang Gallery, Islamabad  
*Tutti Frutti Kahaniyan*, Canvas Gallery, Karachi  
*A Decade*, Satrang Gallery, Islamabad

2021 *Spinning and Unspinning*, O Art Space, Lahore  
*Transforming Narratives*, CollaborArtists, Birmingham  
*The Architecture of Being II*, AAN Gandhara Art Space, Karachi

2020 *Pretty Art for Pretty People*, Curated by Champa, Sanat Initiative, Karachi

2019 *Indus Water Machines*, Lahore Biennale, Punjab Institute of Language, Art and Culture, Lahore  
*Crosscut: Consumerism & Ethics*, Gurmani House, Lahore

2018      *From the Hills to the Sea*, AAN Gandhara Art Space, Karachi  
National Exhibition, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore *within/without*, Asia House, London  
Oaks Editions Lithography Studio, Riverside Gallery, London  
Art for Artist, Qutub Rind and Contemporaries, O Art Space, Lahore  
Solitude, Koel Gallery, Karachi  
Future Debris, Zahoor-Ul-Akhlaq Gallery, National College of Arts, Lahore

2017      *You're Killing the Mountain*, Murree Museum Residency/Faiz Intl. Festival, Lahore  
Embodyed Experience, Taseer Art Gallery, Lahore  
Of Other Spaces, 8-F Gulberg 2, Lahore  
Water, Murree Museum, Murree  
Crossing Borders, Siddhartha Art Gallery, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Fine Print, IVS Gallery, Indus School of Art and Architecture, Karachi

2016      Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours 204th Exhibition, Mall Galleries, London

2015      The London Group 82nd Open Exhibition, The Cello Factory, London  
Hix Award Exhibition, CNB Gallery, London  
Material Matters, Goodenough College, London

2014      Slade Interim Show, Slade Research Centre, London

2012      Day After Tomorrow, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore

2010      Sanjh, Art Exhibition to Raise Funds for Flood Affectees, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore

2008      Culture and Democracy: The Exhibition, Zahoor-Ul-Akhlaq Gallery, NCA, Lahore  
Transformation, Zahoor-Ul-Akhlaq Gallery, NCA, Lahore

### **Residencies and International Visits**

2025      Artist in Residence, Villa Lena Foundation, Tuscany, Italy

2024      LungA School, Seyðisfjörður

2022      Visitor by Invitation of Mondriaan Fonds, Amsterdam

2017      Printmaking Workshop, Return to Basics, VASL Residency, Indus School of Art and Architecture, Karachi  
The Water Book, Murree Museum Artist Residency, Murree

### **Curatorial Projects**

2023      The Unforgotten Moon: Liberating Art from Guantánamo Bay, IVS Gallery, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi

2019      Unmaking History, co-curator, Research and Publication Centre, Lahore

2018      River in an ocean, co-curator, 51-N Gurumangat Road, Gulberg 2, Lahore

2017      Of Other Spaces, 8-F Gulberg 2, Lahore

### **Edited Journals**

2021 Co-edited with Abdullah Qureshi. *The Creative Process: Critical Perspectives on Art, Research, and Education from Pakistan and Beyond*, Research in Arts and Education

### **Selected Press**

2024 Pramodha Weerasekera, *Resonant Shells, Animated Bodies: Natasha Malik's Film Experiments*

2023 Naimat Khan, *Former Pakistan Guantánamo Detainee Uses Art to Portray Anguish of Years in Confinement*, Arab News Pakistan

2022 Nayha Jahangir Khan, *Art Review: Natasha Malik at Khaas Contemporary*

### **Selected Publications and Articles**

2023 Kate Wilson, *Drawing and Painting: Materials and Techniques for Contemporary Artists*, Artist Profile: Natasha Malik, pp. 124-125, Thames & Hudson, UK

Natasha Malik, *The Unforgotten Moon: Liberating Art from Guantánamo Bay*, NO-NIIN Magazine, Finland

Feliz Solomon, *540 Days at CIA Black Sites...*, Wall Street Journal

Sonia Ghezali, Shahzeb Wahlah, *Pakistani artist asks US military to return the artwork...*, France 24

### **Awards and Nominations**

2018 Nominated for Sovereign Asian Art Prize, Hong Kong

2016 Special Commendation, Denton's Art Prize, London

2015 Shakir Ali Award, National College of Arts, Lahore

2013 University College London Studentship for postgraduate work, Slade School of Fine Art, London

2012 Selected among 10 best works, *Day After Tomorrow*, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore

2011 Principal's Honour List, National College of Arts, Lahore

2010 Merit scholarship, National College of Arts, Lahore

2009 Merit scholarship, National College of Arts, Lahore