

ADEEL UZ ZAFAR

Karachi born artist, Adeel Uz Zafar (b.1977) works and lives in his hometown. The artist completed his BFA degree at the prestigious National College of Arts, Lahore in 1998. Zafar took up the role of an illustrator and worked with several established publications before dedicating himself to painting almost two decades later. His time in the remote district of Gilgit, proved to be of vital importance to his practice where his style evolved in a rather unusual way.

The restrictions of mediums and techniques at this time gave birth to his engraving technique. Due to the dearth of paints and prepared surfaces in Gilgit, the artist started using photographic sheets and a cutter to create his imagery.

Zafar employs his childhood experiences and insight as a children's book illustrator into his practice. In his work, childlike imagery is given a certain seriousness or gravity by being wrapped in bandages. With the use of bandages, Zafar tries to raise questions about identity and the delusion of individuality. He wraps his subjects so that the individual features or elements that make them different from one another are concealed, cloaking their identity. These monstrous objects are then placed in front of a pitch-black backdrop to create sublime visuals. The artist's meticulous detail and laborious technique might resemble the painstaking technique of miniature painting yet he is set apart from miniature painters due to the sheer size of his art pieces.

Zafar has exhibited his work extensively within the country as well as internationally. The artist has been a part of several fairs such as Art Stage Singapore (2016), India Art Fair (2016), Art Basel, Hong Kong (2015) and Pulse Art Fair, New York (2012). He has also undertaken residencies in Lahore, Sydney and Cleveland.

His work was part *Converging Lines*, a two-person show in 2012 and a solo exhibition, *Being/Becoming* curated by Aasim Akhtar at Khaas Art Gallery, Islamabad in 2015.

Education

1998 BA (Fine Arts) Painting, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan

Select Exhibitions/Projects

2016	<i>Universal / Personal</i> , Hinterland Galerie, Vienna, Austria
2015	<i>Monomania</i> , Aicon Gallery, New York, USA*
	<i>Parrhesia II</i> , Koel Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
	<i>Silsila II</i> , Sanat Initiative, Karachi, Pakistan
2014	<i>Stranger Than Fiction</i> , Gandhara-art, Karachi (solo show)
2014	<i>Semblance of Order</i> , Koel Gallery, Karachi (group exhibition)
2013	Extra/Ordinary 37 Do-It-Yourself Art ideas for free, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
	<i>Semblance of Order</i> , Parramatta Artists Studios, Sydney (group exhibition)
	<i>Are you in Character?</i> Gandhara-Art, Karachi (group exhibition)
	<i>Protagonists</i> , Fost Gallery - Gillman Barracks, Singapore (solo show)
2012	<i>Ussman aur Mein</i> , Koel Gallery, Karachi (group exhibition)
	<i>Stop Play Pause Repeat</i> , Lawrie Shabibi, Dubai (group exhibition)
	<i>Let's not talk about Politics</i> , Gandhara-Art, Karachi (group exhibition)
	<i>Mein</i> , Koel Gallery, Karachi (group exhibition)
	<i>Converging Lines</i> (A suite of Drawings), Khaas Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan (group exhibition)
	<i>Letters to Taseer II</i> , The Drawing Room, Lahore, Pakistan (group exhibition)
2011	<i>Psychological Space</i> , Indus Valley School Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)

- ICON- A Tribute to Film star RANI*, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore (group exhibition)
Silsila, Koel Gallery, Karachi (group exhibition)
 Two Person Show- Adeel uz Zafar & Ayaz Jokhio, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
 2010 *The Rising Tide- New directions in Art from Pakistan 1990 -2010*, The Mohatta Palace Museum, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
The Drawing Room at Slick Paris, The Palais de Tokyo and the Musée d'Art moderne de la Villa de Paris, Paris, France (group exhibition)
Out of the Box- Box Print Portfolio, Indus Valley School Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
Sanjh, an Art exhibition in support of efforts for the relief of the Flood Affectedees, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan (group exhibition)
On the Brink, Fost Gallery, Singapore (4 person show)
RM Studio Residency International Show, Ejaz Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan (group exhibition)
 2009 *One Square Mile*, Arts Council, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
Being a Man in Pakistan, Art Chowk- The Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
Size Does Matter, VM Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
Redo Pakistan, Other Asias (in collaboration with Shanaakht Festival), Arts Council, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
Gift to Pakistan, VASL (in collaboration with Shanaakht Festival), Arts Council, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture (IVSA) Faculty show, IVSA Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
 2008 *Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture Faculty Show*, IVSA Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan (group exhibition)
 1998 *Degree Show*, National College of Arts, Zahoor ul Ikhlaq Gallery, Pakistan (group exhibition)

Selected Illustration Projects

- 2012 *Prerana & Lal Peela* (Children Story Book- Bilingual edition), Kathalaya publications, Kathmandu
 2008 *Urdu Readers (Series of Text books)*, Danish Publications, Karachi, Pakistan
 2007 *Zafran (Children Story Book)*, Paramount Publishing Enterprise, Karachi, Pakistan
 2006 *Just Like Other Kids (Children Story Book)*, The World Bank, Islamabad, Pakistan
Oxford Progressive English (Series of Text Books), Oxford University Press, Karachi, Pakistan
 2004 *What Is In My Mouth? (Children Story Book-Bilingual edition)*, Human Rights Education Programme, Karachi, Pakistan
Dirawna Dar (Children Story Book), The Book Group, Karachi, Pakistan
Head Start Readers (Series of Text Books), Danish Publications, Karachi, Pakistan
 2003 *The Mountain That Loved a Bird (Children Story Book)*, The Book Group, Karachi, Pakistan
Yahan Wahan Kahan (Children Story Book), The Book Group, Karachi, Pakistan
Mujhay Acha lagta hay (Children Story Book), The Book Group, Karachi, Pakistan
Oxford Social Studies for Pakistan (Series of Text books), Oxford University Press, Karachi, Pakistan

- 2001 *A Tale of Two Kittens (Children Story Book-Bilingual edition)*, Human Rights Education Programme, Karachi, Pakistan
- 1999 *Beemar Dost (Children Story Book)*, The Book Group, Karachi, Pakistan
Kantay ki Ani Par (Children Story Book), The Book Group, Karachi, Pakistan