

## 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

**2025** Garden Reimagined, PILOT, 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, İstanbul, 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, İstanbul, Turkey

Idols, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai, India

Idols, Canvas, Karachi, Pakistan

**2011** Cities, Green Cardamom, London, UK

**2010** Cityscapes, OUTLET, İstanbul, 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

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### 2026

Liste Basel Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland  
7th Mardin Bienalle, Mardin, Turkey  
Frieze New York, Lawrie Shabibi, New York, USA

### 2025

What the Eye Brought Back, P420, Bologna, 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, Istanbul, Turkey  
4. Contemporary Istanbul Bloom, PILOT, Lütfi Kırdar Congress Center Istanbul, 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

# PILOT

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, PhotoEspaña 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

# PILOT

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  
KOVİDEO, 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

# PILOT

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

# PILOT

## 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