

MOHAMMED QASIM ASHFAQ

b. 1982, Falkirk, UK. Lives and works in Dunfermline, UK.

Mohammed Qasim Ashfaq's work is an invitation to look at the world - to look again and look better. An artist of dual Scottish and Pakistani heritage, his visual language is a space of meeting and confluence, invoking the tessellation of Islamic ornament and mysticism alongside sharp technological precision. In his work, shapes we consider stable are collapsed and reconstructed as fluid sculptural energy, exploring dichotomies of light and space, opacity and reflection. Virtues of patience and meditation and material reverence are embedded within a slow but fierce propulsion to the future - one where ideals of modernism and science fiction are held in creative tension with traditions of craft and devotion. His drawings - monochrome works composed exclusively of graphite - are produced through an exacting line by line process administered directly with pencil, compass and ruler, shimmering between qualities of pure surface and limitless depth, echoing through both interior and exterior worlds, the cognitive and embodied, the secular and the sacred.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021

INTERVALS, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

VOLUME, Vortic London Collective, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2017

BLACK SUN, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2014

CLEAR BLACK SMOKE, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

Mohammed Qasim Ashfaq, Cairn Gallery, Pittenweem, UK

2011

SILVER, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

Make me a black hole and I will believe you, Amrita Jhaveri Space, Mumbai, IN

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

Flat Volume, A.P.T Gallery, London, UK

2022

Raw Nerves, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2021

Oceans of Milk, APSARA Studio, London, UK

2018

Contemporary Sculpture Fulmer 2018, Berkshire, UK

Geometrica, Tristan Hoare, London, UK

2017

We Are Not Alone, British Council at ATHR, Jeddah, SA
Drawing Biennial 2017, Drawing Room, London, UK

2016

Romanticism and the Sublime, Lubomirov Angus Hughes, London, UK
It's Me to the World, Modern Art Oxford, Oxford, UK
What we all lack, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK

2015

ROD, Embassy Gardens Commissions, London, UK

2014

A Strong Affinity, Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK
Mirrorcity, Hayward Gallery, London, UK

2013

Open Heart Surgery, The Moving Museum, London, UK
TECTONIC, The Moving Museum, Dubai, AE

2012

The 7th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT7), Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, AU

2011

Point. Line. Plane., Hannah Barry Gallery, London, UK
Spiralling Skywards, National Trust – Nymans, Sussex, UK
Let There Be Sculpture!, New Art Centre, Wiltshire, UK
Bold Tendencies IV, Bold Tendencies, London, UK

COLLECTIONS

British Council Collection, London, UK

PUBLICATIONS

We Are Not Alone (British Council at ATHR: Jeddah, 2017)
STERNE Kosmische Kunst von 1900 bis heute (LENTOS Kunstmuseum Linz: Austria, 2017)
Drawing Biennial 2017 (Drawing Room: London, 2017)
BLACK SUN (Hannah Barry Gallery: London, 2017)
CLEAR BLACK SMOKE (Hannah Barry Gallery: London, 2014)
Open Heart Surgery (The Moving Museum: London, 2014)
TECTONIC (The Moving Museum: Dubai, 2014)
The 7th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT7) (Queensland Art Gallery: Brisbane, 2014)
Mirrorcity (Hayward Gallery: London, 2014)
SILVER (Hannah Barry Gallery: London, 2011)

RESIDENCIES/AWARDS

2025

Jerwood Foundation, Sir John Soane's Museum, London, UK