



SIMEEN FARHAT

Born in Karachi, Pakistan, Simeen Farhat currently lives and works in Dallas. Farhat is currently an Assistant Adjunct Professor at the University of Texas, Arlington. In 2011, Farhat received the Xerxes Artist Residency in Hampshire, UK. Her work is included in the Royal Collection of Crown Princess Sheikhha Salama at Abu Dhabi Palace.

EDUCATION

- 2000 Master of Fine Arts, Summa cum laude – Texas Christian University,
Fort Worth, TX
- 1998 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Summa cum laude – Arizona State University, Tempe,
Arizona

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *Union*, La Fontaine Contemporary Art Center, Bahrain. Upcoming
Art Chowk Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan. Upcoming
Word, Object, Motion, Anya Tish Gallery, Houston, TX (with Mohammed Al
Shammarey)
The Absolute Works From Nothing, Twelve Gates Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 2010 *Charmed, Frenzied, and Mad*, Xerxes Fine Arts, London, UK
Raghe-E-Nagse, Sharjah Museum of Modern Art, UAE
Vitalized Verses, V.M. Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
Masnavi, Anya Tish Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2009 *Uncoverings.....*, Haggerty Gallery, Dallas, TX. (Two-Person)
- 2008 *Words Without Voices; Forms Without Bodies*, The McKinney Avenue
Contemporary, Dallas, TX
Textual Dynamite, Mighty Fine Arts, Project Room, Dallas, TX
- 2006 *On the Run*, Kiva Gallery, Mountain View College, Dallas, TX

2005 *Shadows*, Commerce Street Artists Warehouse, Houston, TX
2001 *The Other Views*, Fort Worth International Center, Fort Worth, TX
2000 *Time and Place*, New Talent Gallery, Irving Art Center, Irving, TX
Distant Signs, Elder Gallery, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NB

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS SINCE 2002

2012 India Art Summit, New Delhi. Forthcoming
Dubai Art Fair, UAE. Forthcoming

2011 *Noticed Project*, Kirk Hopper Fine Arts, Dallas, TX
Jasmin, Sabin Knust Gallery, Munich, Germany
Platform 2011, Anya Tish Gallery, Houston, TX
Abu Dhabi Art Fair, UAE
Common Threads, Heritage House, Dubai, UAE

2010 Abu Dhabi Art Fair, UAE
Contemporary Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey
Slick Art Fair, Paris, France
Temporary Occupants, Eastfield College, Dallas, TX
Profiles, Khaki Gallery, Verge Art Fair, NYC, NY
Backroom Invitational, Bath House Cultural Center, Dallas, TX
Group Show, Khaki Gallery, Boston, MA

2009 *Body Text= "Gender,"* Visual Arts Main Gallery, University of Texas at Dallas, TX
Chawkandi Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
Texas Biennial 2009, Mexican American Cultural Center, Austin, TX
No Honor in Killing: Making Visible Buried Truth, National Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
Your Favorite Artist Was a Member, 500X Gallery, Dallas, TX
Babelating, Diane Sikes and Simeen Ishaque, 500X Gallery, Dallas, TX
Group Show, Mighty Fine Arts Gallery, Dallas, TX

2007 *East of Arden*, Studio 107 Gallery, Austin, TX
Art for the Bridge, Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, TX
Articulating the Subtext, Alliance Française Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan

2006 *Art for the Bridge*, Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, TX
Big As Night, Mighty Might Arts, Dallas TX
Platform, Arlington Museum of Art, Arlington, TX
West Meets West, University of Art and Design, Helsinki, Finland

- 2005
Broadway 417 Gallery, New York, NY
La Frontera, Gescheidle Contemporary, Chicago, IL
Frisbee Fair, Miami, FL
New Texas Talent '05, Craighead-Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
Red Hot Red Dot, Women and Their Work Gallery, Austin, TX
WAVE, Group Show, Graceland University, Lamonia, IA
- 2004
My Shadows Burnt in the Sun, Buffalo Bayou Art Park, Houston, TX
- 2003
Of Being, Fort Worth Community Art Center, TX
Dallas versus Houston, CSAW, Houston, TX
Duty Free, Visual Arts and Technology Gallery, San Antonio College, TX
Light Discussion, The Art Corridor II, Arlington, TX
ARTS 2003, National Juried Exhibition. Rockwall Art Center, Rockwall, TX

COLLECTIONS

Abu Dhabi Palace Sheikha Salama, Crown Princess, UAE

Zia Mohyeddin, Chairman, National Academy of Performing Arts, Karachi, Pakistan

ARTIST STATEMENT

The text in my sculptures and installations are appropriated mostly from famous Farsi , Urdu, and English, language poets, such as: Rumi, Khayyam, Faiz, Ghalib, and Fitzgerald; who wrote and expressed powerfully and eloquently about human emotions and struggle, freedom of thought, and speech. The small-scale wall mounted sculptures, "Speech Bubbles," represent the poems' poignant and piercing power to elicit strong emotions. The suspended installations also express the poems' melodic power and purity to induce uplifting thoughts, as many of these poems have also been sung by famous singers from the sub-continent. The cast shadows on the wall are also vital as they to add more depth and layers behind their meanings. My modest attempt is to translate their poetic dynamism into visual energy.

By pairing forms with poetic text, to show a connection between the mind and soul: a mind is free to think and a soul free to exist; separate from their utterance as a sound and with or without the coverings of an outer garment. The white figures represent purity, while the black text represents their communicative power. The text is used aesthetically, as a flowing pattern, as well as philosophically; with the ethereal figures it enables a dialogue with the viewer or monologue between mind and body.