

CONVERSATION WITH ZOHAIB MAHAR

Artist of the Month 2025



Zohaib Mahar is a contemporary Pakistani artist currently based in Hyderabad Jamshoro, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in painting. His artistic practice centers on capturing the essence of everyday life, offering viewers a glimpse into the common experiences and observations that shape our world.

On personal education, and creative education viewed locally and globally

I have completed my BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts) from the Fine Arts department. It was a very valuable and enriching experience for me, as I learned a great deal during my studies. In fact, most of my foundational knowledge and artistic understanding was developed during this time under the guidance of my teachers. I believe art institutions play a very important role in an artist's development. They not only provide technical knowledge but also create a dedicated space and an artistic environment that helps shape an individual's creative personality. For this reason, I truly appreciate the role of art education and institutions in nurturing artists.



On their journey to arts

I have been passionate about drawing since my childhood. During my school years, I would spend most of my free time sketching and experimenting with different ideas. As I grew older, I became more aware of the field of art, which further increased my interest and dedication. When the time came to choose a career path, I decided to pursue art seriously. Initially, my family was not fully supportive of this decision, but with time and effort, I was able to convince them. Eventually, they not only supported my choice but also played an important role in helping me grow in my artistic journey.

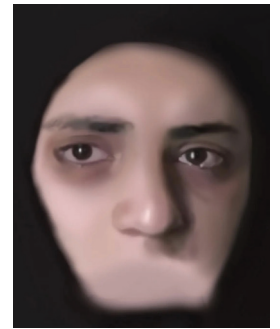


My work questions the reality of social issues. We often intensely discuss and highlight important issues for a period, but gradually they are forgotten by society, as if nothing ever happened. This cycle of attention and neglect reflects how easily collective memory shifts and how urgent concerns lose their impact over time.

Messaging with art

On Art as a representation of reality or escape from it

I believe art has always tried to reflect the realities of society and, to a great extent, artists have been successful in doing so. Through different periods of history, art has documented social conditions, human emotions, struggles, hopes, and flaws, making it a powerful mirror of its time. At the same time, I also feel that art is not limited to a specific time or place. While it emerges from a particular context, it often carries a timeless quality that allows it to transcend its original moment. The emotions and questions it raises can remain relevant across generations, making art both a reflection of its present and something universal at the same time.



I have exhibited my work in online galleries twice. The experience was quite decent and gave me exposure to a wider audience beyond physical spaces. However, I feel online platforms still need improvement in terms of stronger curation and meaningful engagement with artworks. Artists can be better represented if there is more focus on storytelling, context, and direct connection between artists and viewers or collectors, which can also help them earn a more sustainable income.

Online galleries and marketing artwork online