

PROJECT DESCRIPTION FOR CAN SERRAT-ABID ASLAM

Contemporary miniature practice has always been part of my interest, not only in terms of old traditional art but rich cultural history as well. The depiction of tales from Mughal era, the ruling kings, their activities and memorable events, affection towards their people and loved ones always gained my concern. Before coming to the residency program, my own art practice revolved around the events happened back in my everyday phenomenal, especially by portraying more figurative imagery rather than landscapes. But now as I'm here at a new place, I felt how traveling changed my whole perspective of looking at various things; environment, people, culture, language, experiences on daily basis.

Artists and art practice at Pakistan is way more different than at Spain. In Pakistan artists practice not only for the sake of art but for income as well to fulfill their needs, but in Spain I realized how artists keenly learn to earn through their talent or art, I mean any kind of art either it's an art performance or dancing, singing, sketching and painting by the street side. People here still admire, get indulge by becoming part of the activity and only praise. After experiencing such lively events, I realized that this is the point where artist's documentation sums up and where my new body of work belongs to.

I've produced few works during this residency program but the imagery is actually quite different from the works I have done before. Specifically Mughal figurative element replaced by landscapes and figures from the streets of Spain; the trees here reminded of Van Gogh's painting when he used to portray what he felt about that particular place. The nuance of nature, landscape, environment and people actually started becoming part of my new body of artworks.