

Delicate Bond of Steel

Mumbai Exhibition, November 9th – November 23rd, 2016

Opening Reception: Wednesday, November 10th, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Chatterjee & Lal, 01/18 Kamal Mansion Floor 1, Arthur Bunder Road Colaba, Mumbai

Aicon Gallery proudly presents its first exhibition in India, *Delicate Bond of Steel*. The exhibition, hosted in **Chatterjee & Lal's** Mumbai gallery, opens on November 10th, 2016, and features artists **Anila Quayyum Agha, Abir Karmakar, Rajan Krishnan, G. R. Iranna, Baiju Parthan, Promotesh Das Pulak, Saad Qureshi, Abdullah M. I. Syed** and **Salman Toor**. The exhibition is part of a collaborative exchange with Chatterjee & Lal, whose sister exhibition we enthusiastically look forward to hosting in 2017 in New York. Aicon's exhibition in Mumbai is dedicated to the memory of our dear friend and artist **Rajan Krishnan**.



Anila Quayyum Agha, *Intersections* (Installation View, Peabody Essex Museum), 2016, Laser-cut stainless steel and bulb, 60 x 60 x 60 in.

The departing British colonial administration positioned the independence and division of the Indian subcontinent in 1947, ultimately, as a means of ensuring lasting peace. However, seventy years later, regional, political and religious divides continue, contributing, in part, to the creation of a global South Asian diaspora, which has taken up firm, yet culturally and historically, interconnected roots wherever it finds itself. Yet, the peace that was to come from independence on the subcontinent, has been elusive. Sectarian strife and regional conflict have found a way to reach across borders the world over, but particularly so in Asia and the Middle East. If, in fact, peace has been imagined anywhere in these regions, it has been in the arts. Whether in the movies, music, television or in print, there has been a constant exchange, even under the darkest clouds of war, that has unpeeled and laid bare the lives of one to the other. Through this unpeeling and revealing, commonalities have ultimately trumped differences.

Delicate Bond of Steel is an homage to this imagination, this possibility of peace and co-existence. It brings together the work of sub-continental artists of the post-independence and post-partition generation. This generation was spared the complex and violent struggles of this era and often brought up instead on rosy nostalgia. It is also the generation that, through the digital flattening of the earth, has had access to instant and unfiltered information. For the diaspora artists in this exhibition, all of this comes together in wonderfully varied visual forms, which nevertheless spring from a common historical and cultural bond deeply rooted in the subcontinent.

Aicon Gallery's curatorial vision begins in the Indian sub-continent but reaches outwards internationally from there. The New York gallery provides a vital platform for Modern and Contemporary artists from South Asia, as well as the Middle East and, finally, diaspora artists, to realize their vision in a global and ever-shifting world. Alongside in-depth, focused solo shows, the gallery presents a program of curated group exhibitions that are international in their scope and ambition. The program deliberately links together art produced recently with art made in the latter half of the 20th Century. Through this, we hope to produce unexpected congruencies, shed light on multiple modernisms and nuanced designations of "contemporary".

Please contact Aicon Gallery (Projjal@Aicongallery.com) for more information.

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Road Colaba, Mumbai



Anila Quayyum Agha

Hidden Diamond

2016

Laser-cut stainless steel and blub

36 x 36 x 36 in.

G. R. Iranna



Saad Qureshi
Tempered Carpet
2014
Watercolor on paper
72 x 72 in.

Abir Karmakar



Abir Karmakar

Angle V

2015

Oil on canvas

24 x 24 in.

Abir Karmakar



Abir Karmakar

Angle VI

2015

Oil on canvas

24 x 24 in.

Rajan Krishnan



Rajan Krishnan

Pastoral Bird I

2013

Acrylic on canvas

48 x 36 in.

Rajan Krishnan



Rajan Krishnan

Pastoral Bird II

2013

Acrylic on canvas

48 x 36 in.

Baiju Parthan



Baiju Parthan

Terminus

2016

Animated 3D lenticular print

36 x 90 in.

Promotes Das Pulak



Promotes Das Pulak

Untitled (Gun)

2016

Shola flowers and wire

60 x 20 x 3.5 in.

Promotesh Das Pulak



Promotesh Das Pulak

Mortar Shells

2016

Shola flowers, resin and circuit boards

Dimensions Variable

Promotes Das Pulak



Promotes Das Pulak

Grenade 3

2016

Shola flowers, resin and circuit boards

6.5 x 2.5 x 2.5 in.

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Saad Qureshi



Saad Qureshi

Honourable Wounds

2014

Charcoal, pastel, Indian ink on gaboon plywood

20 x 25 in.

Saad Qureshi



Saad Qureshi

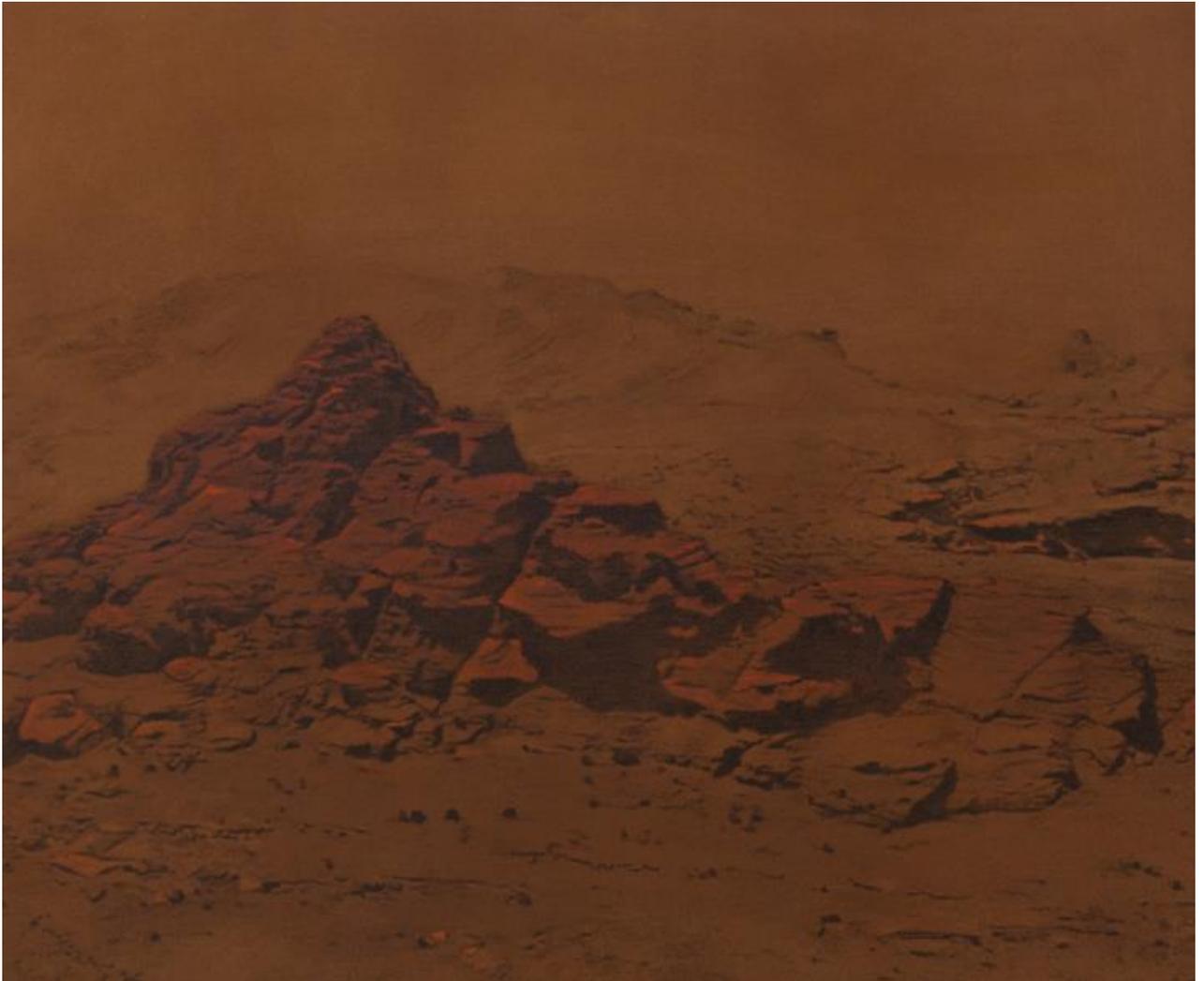
Brightness Breaks

2015

Charcoal, pastel, Indian ink on gaboon plywood

20 x 25 in.

Saad Qureshi



Saad Qureshi

Handful of Landscape

2015

Charcoal, pastel, Indian ink on gaboon plywood

20 x 25 in.

Avishek Sen



Avishek Sen

Oh God I'm Afraid to Cry

2016

Water-based mixed media on paper

29 x 23 in.

Avishek Sen



Avishek Sen

There Was No Escape (A)

2016

Water-based mixed media on paper

11.5 x 16 in.

Avishek Sen



Avishek Sen

There Was No Escape (C)

2016

Water-based mixed media on paper

11.5 x 16 in.

Abdullah M. I. Syed



Abdullah M. I. Syed

Heavenly Offering – I (Assembly Series)

2016

Hand-cut 10 and 20 UAE Dirham banknotes and U.S. \$50 and \$100 bills in shadow-box

12.5 x 11 in.

Abdullah M. I. Syed



Abdullah M. I. Syed

Heavenly Offering – II (Assembly Series)

2016

Hand-cut 10 and 20 UAE Dirham banknotes and U.S. \$20 and \$100 bills in
shadow-box

12.5 x 11 in.

Abdullah M. I. Syed



Abdullah M. I. Syed

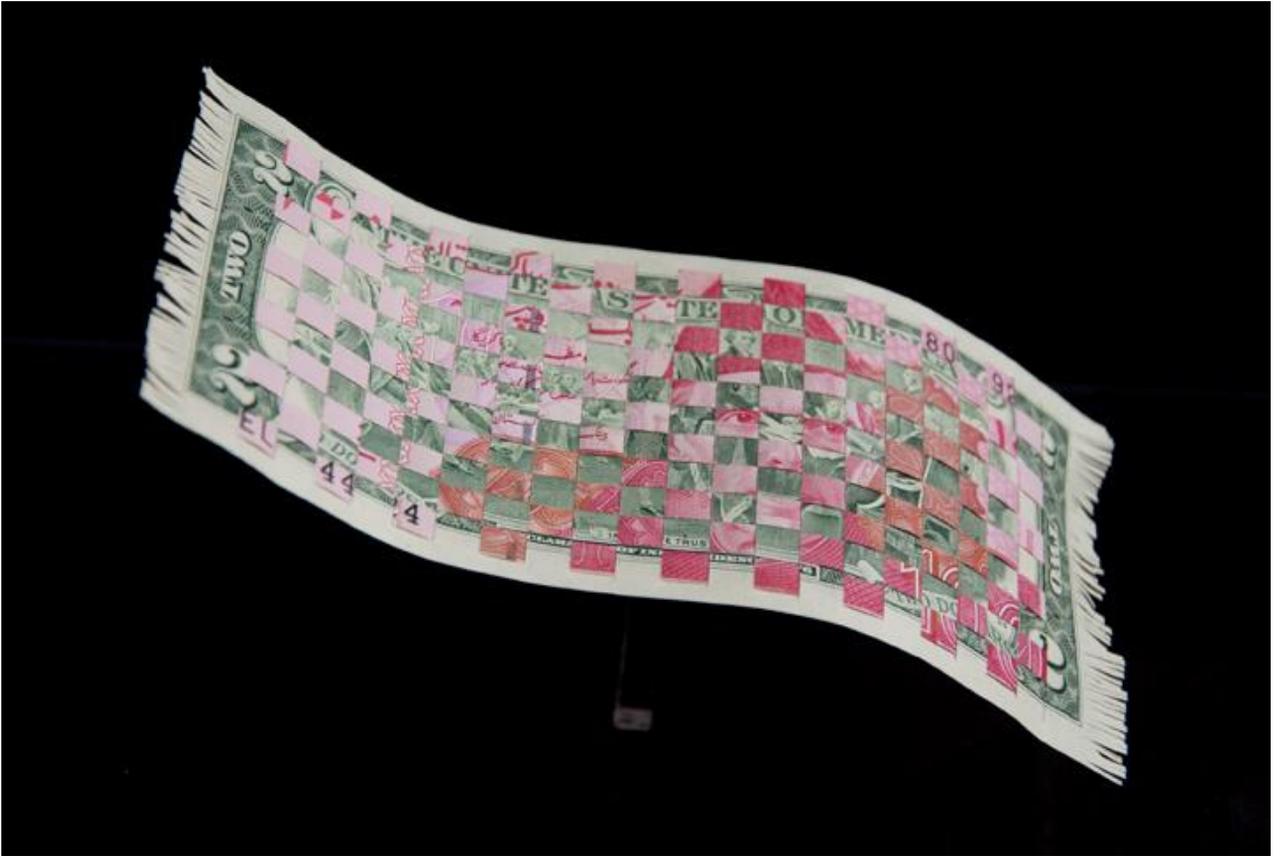
Heavenly Offering – III (Assembly Series)

2016

Hand-cut 10 and 20 UAE Dirham banknotes and U.S. \$10 and \$100 bills in
shadow-box

12.5 x 11 in.

Abdullah M. I. Syed



Abdullah M. I. Syed

Weaving Myth III (Flying Rug Series)

2013

Hand-cut and weaved U.S. \$2 bill and 100 Pakistani Rupee with custom Perspex vitrine

6 x 10 x 6 in.

Abdullah M. I. Syed



Abdullah M. I. Syed

Weaving Myth IV (Flying Rug Series)

2013

Hand-cut and weaved 10 British Pounds and 20 Pakistani Rupee with custom Perspex vitrine
6 x 10 x 6 in.

Salman Toor



Salman Toor
Resident Aliens II
2016
Oil on canvas
30 x 40 in.

Salman Toor



Salman Toor
The Burden (Diptych)
2015
Oil on canvas
40 x 60 in.

Salman Toor



Salman Toor

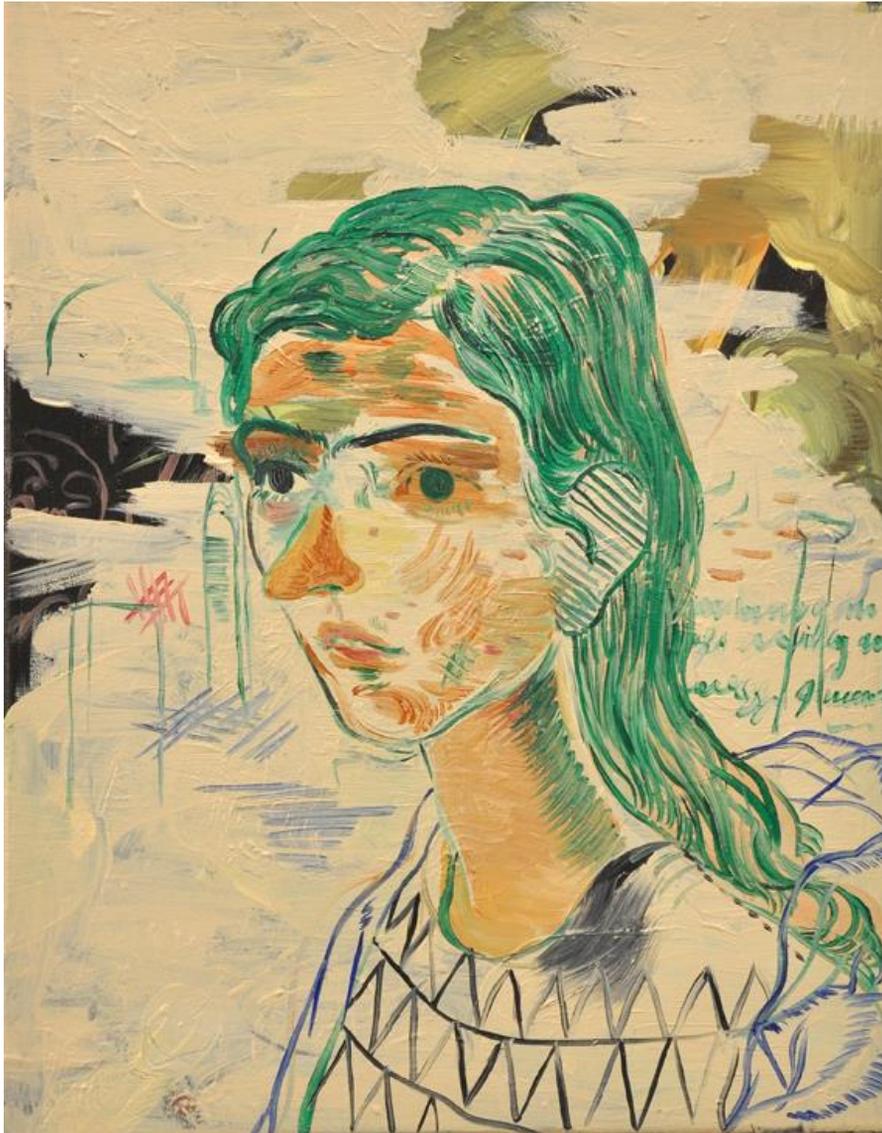
Jetsetter

2015

Oil on canvas

22 x 25 in.

Salman Toor



Salman Toor

Cobbled Together Girl

2015

Oil on canvas

20 x 16 in.