I AM IN





I am in the colours

I am looking for her.
For who?
For Her
For the one they call Freedom

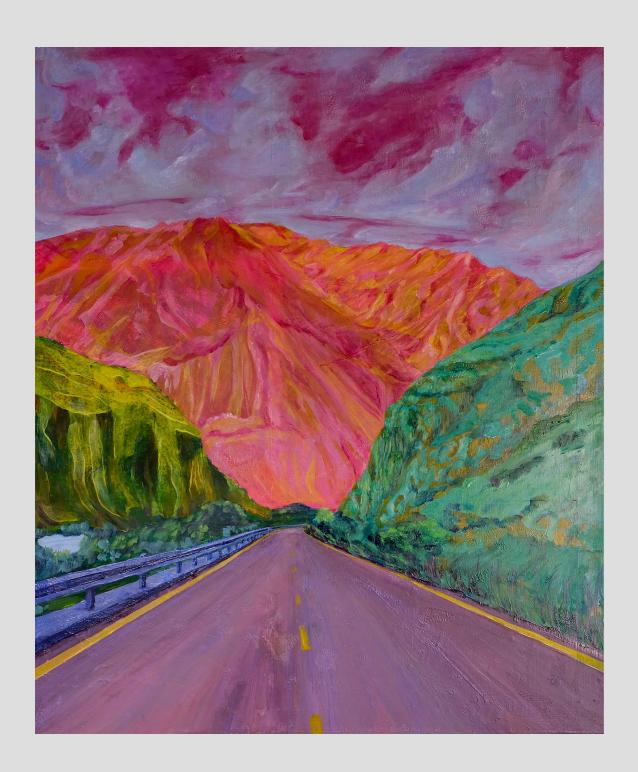
You won't find her here.

Not with those borrowed eyes,
discolouring your mind,
painting a façade of truth

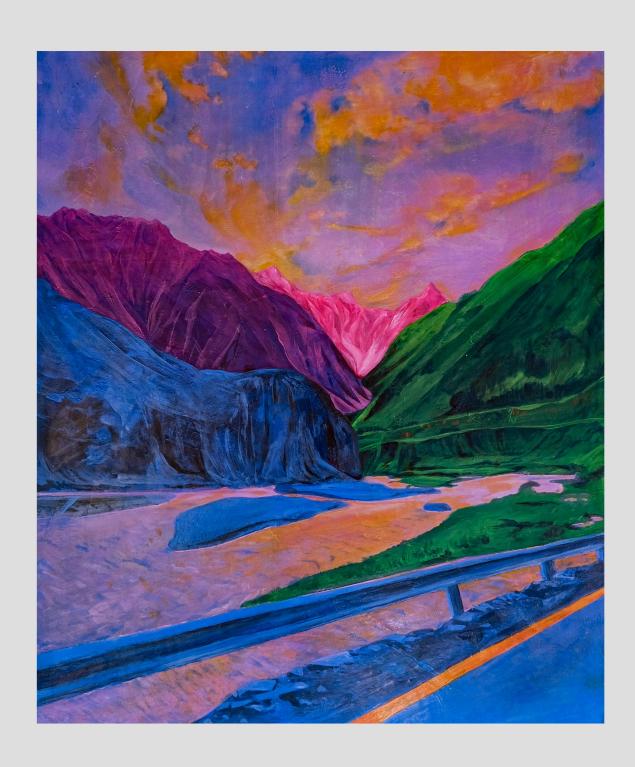
What you see
Is not the earth reflecting back at you,
But a gray distance,
Between you and the measure of your life

Follow the Colours
and you will find freedom
Find freedom
and you will find your lost eyes
Regain your sight,
And you will see the truth,

You will know that, I am in the Colours. When experiencing nature, physiological relaxation and neurological stimulation are integral to the formation of a renewed consciousness. Amber Arifeen in her latest solo presentation "I Am In The Colours" showcases the metaphysical journey that surfaced after her travels to the Northern Areas of Pakistan earlier this year. Showcasing a series of 20 paintings, the artist traverses through breathtaking mountain peaks, transient skies, hypnotic winding roads, and vast panoramic views of majestic landscapes.

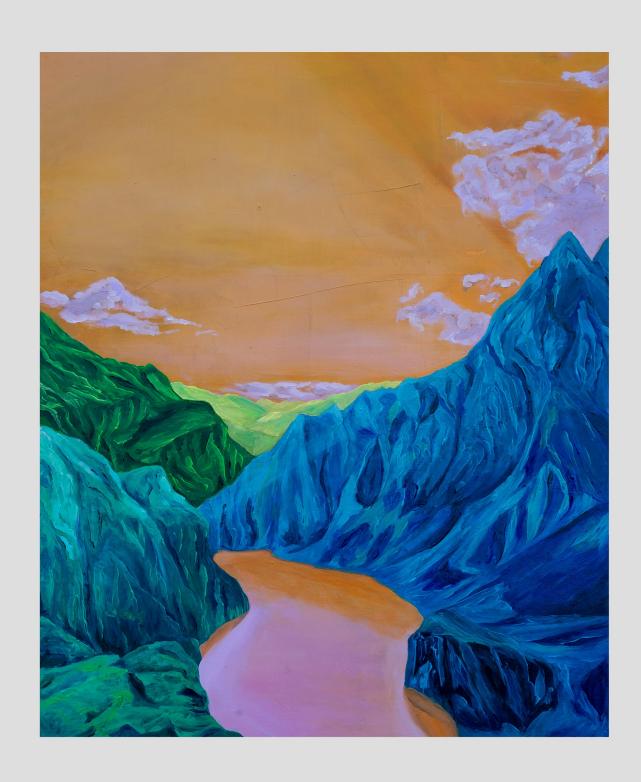


The lyrical vibrations of colour are the true protagonists instrumental in activating the artists inner journey of self exploration through these unique spatial realities. Arifeen's departure from representational figuration with autobiographical narratives into a form of abstract expression and colour field painting signals the beginning of a deeply introspective journey.





As she reflects on personal life experiences, Arifeen has immersed herself in therapeutic meditations that have become a catalyst in activating a painterly autonomy. Breaking away from classical horizon lines, formalistic investigations and the rigidity of thematic subject matter into a form of automatism that is uninhibited by her previous work.



Dandelion19.5" x 23.5"Acrylic, oils, and transfers on wood panel2022PKR 200,000

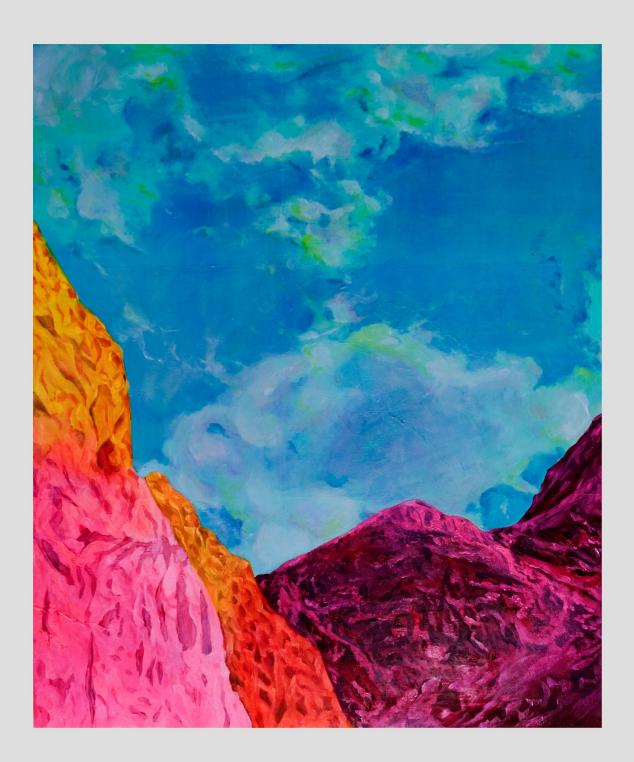
Colour is a visual intervention acting as a gateway into the subconsciousness enabling her to transcend traditions of classical landscape. The frequency of colours are heightened, the brush strokes exaggerated, the depth of field elongated and the mystically imagined foliage creates a transportative experience for the viewer. The naturalism in Arifeen's work is encapsulated by her intricate detailing of lush green leaves, trees, and wild grass, lining the trails of these ancient rock formations.

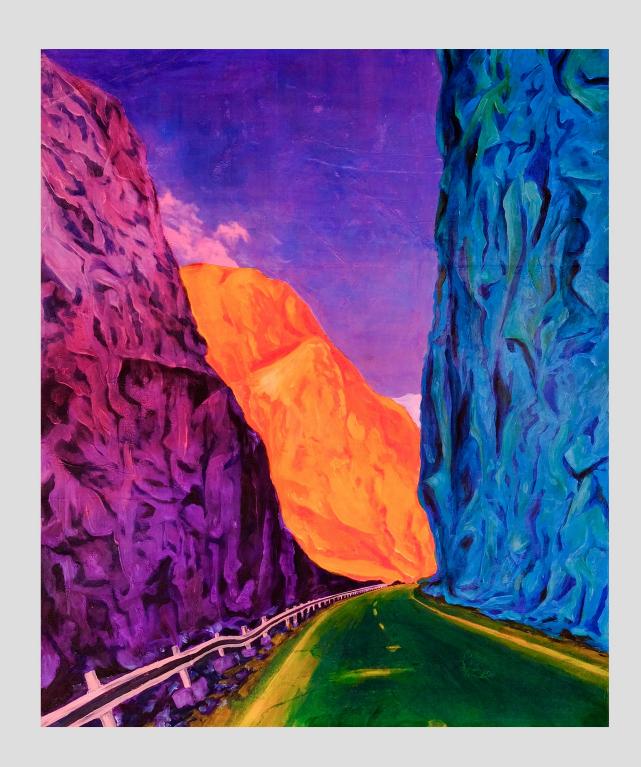




Mulberry

19.5" x 23.5"

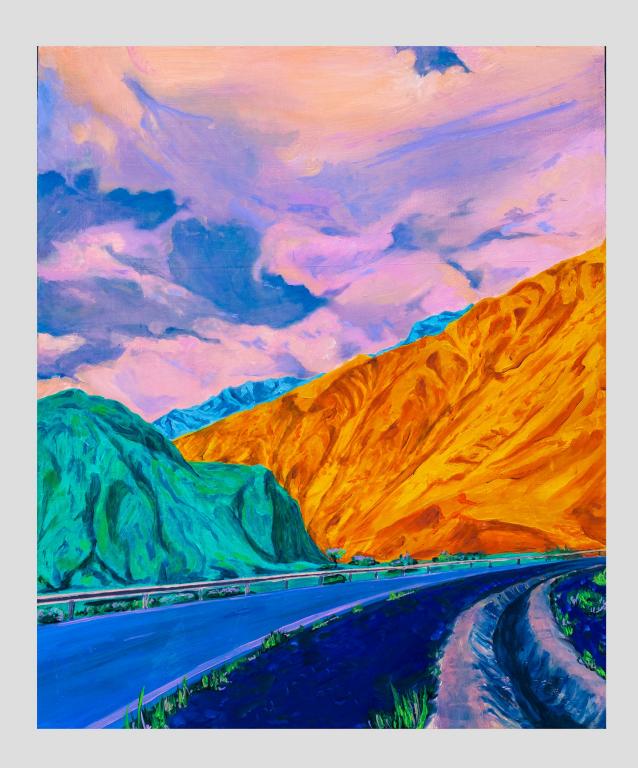


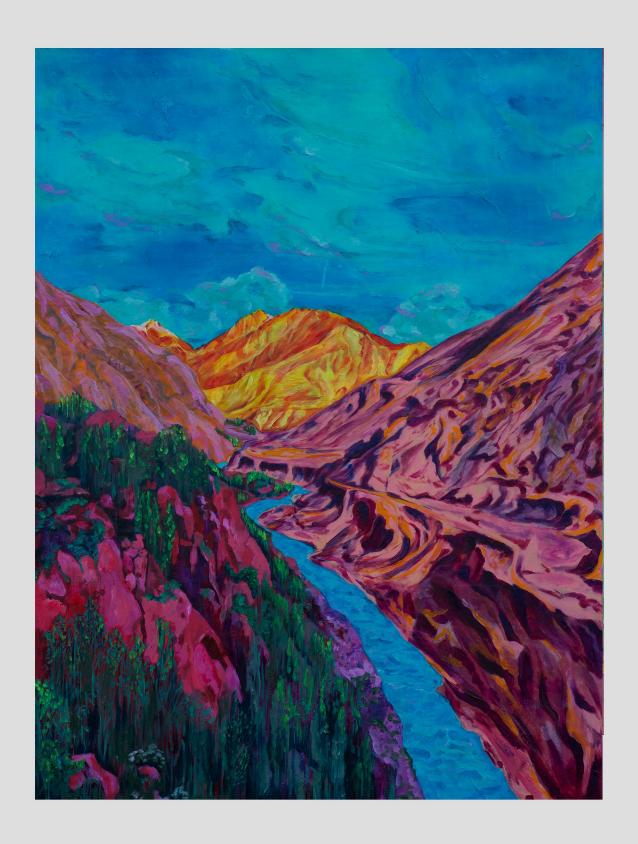


The swinging pendulum of perspectives are anchored by the avalanche of colours spreading across the series purposefully trapping abstraction within realism. Crisp highlights of sun rays pierce through psychedelic mountains bringing to the surface the stillness and silence of nature. The infinite wisps of clouds hanging in the distance become calming and soothing constellations that gaze back at the viewer.







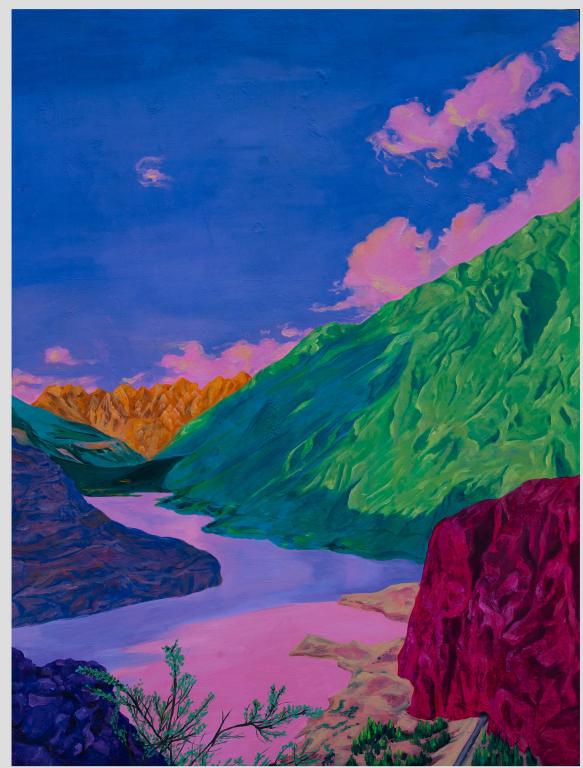


The thrilling re-enactments of nature present a vision of emotions carved as brushstrokes and unapologetic selections of colour. These painterly cues become guides in navigating the series of kaleidoscopic scapes as the artist presents the transformative experience that nature has had on her seen through the lens of memory on the canvas.

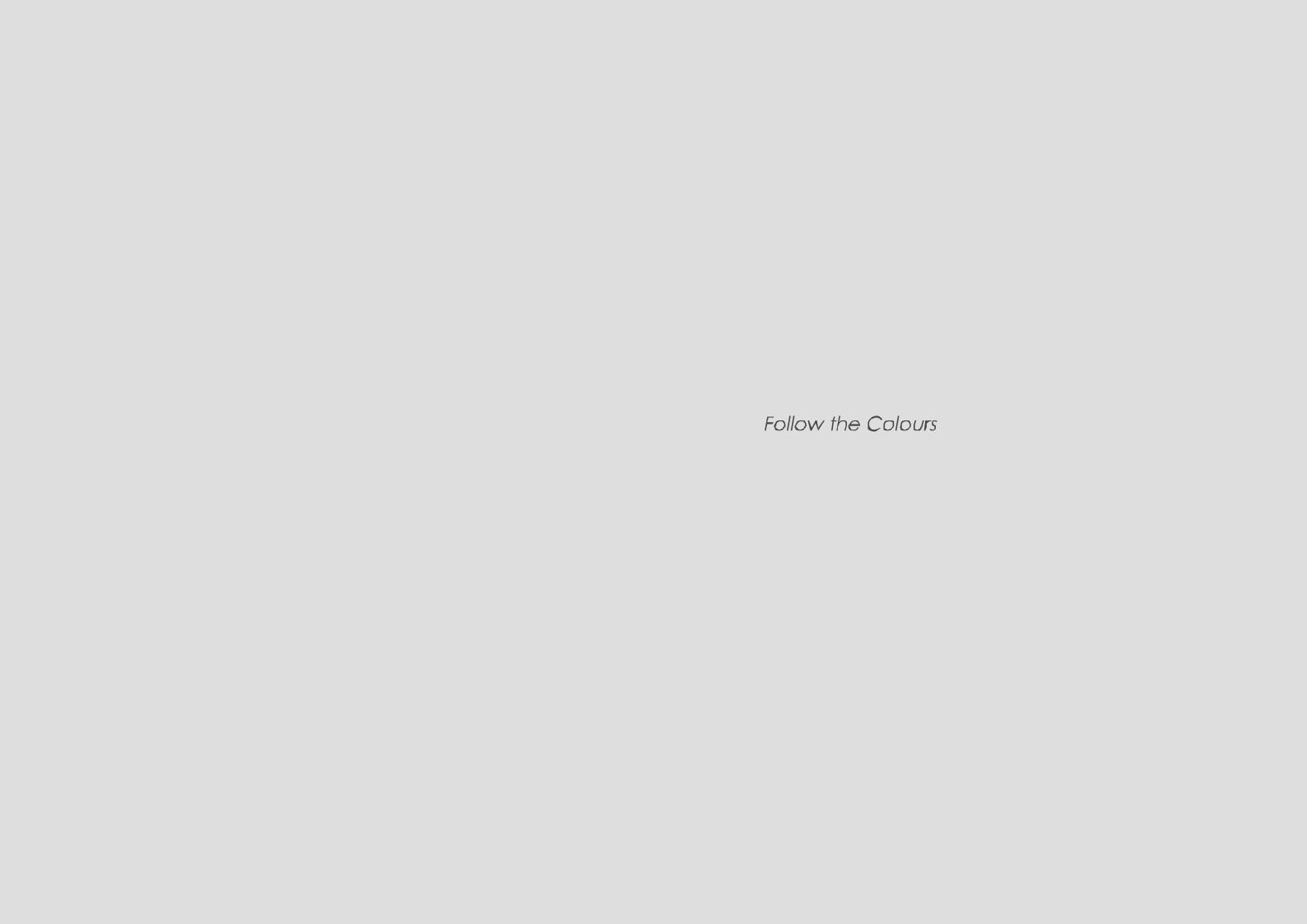
Nayha Jehangir Khan

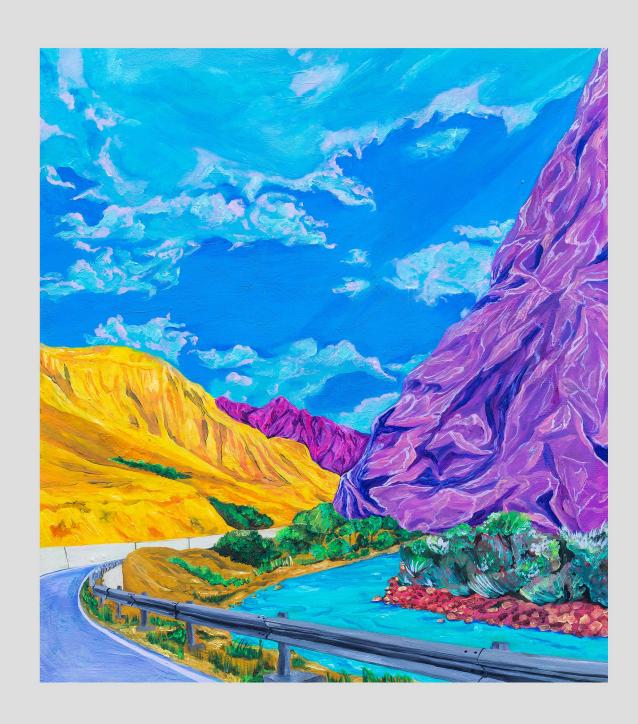
Art Writer

www.nayhajehangirkhan.com

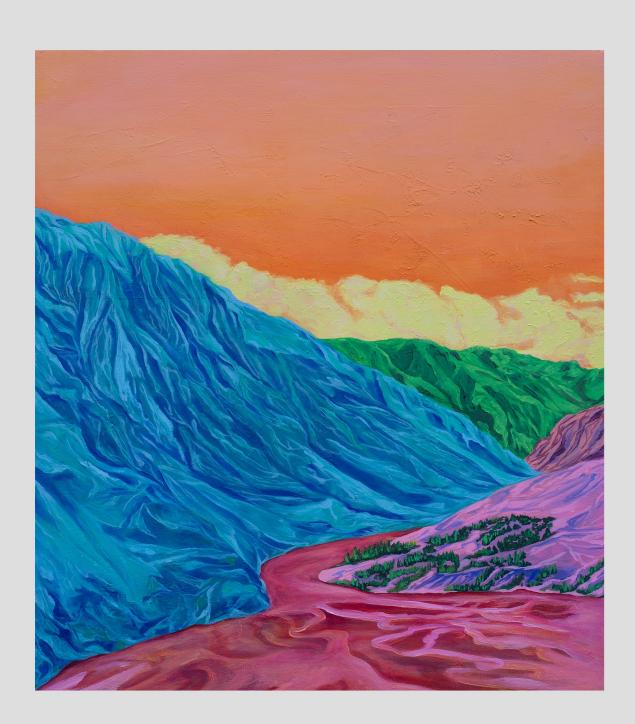


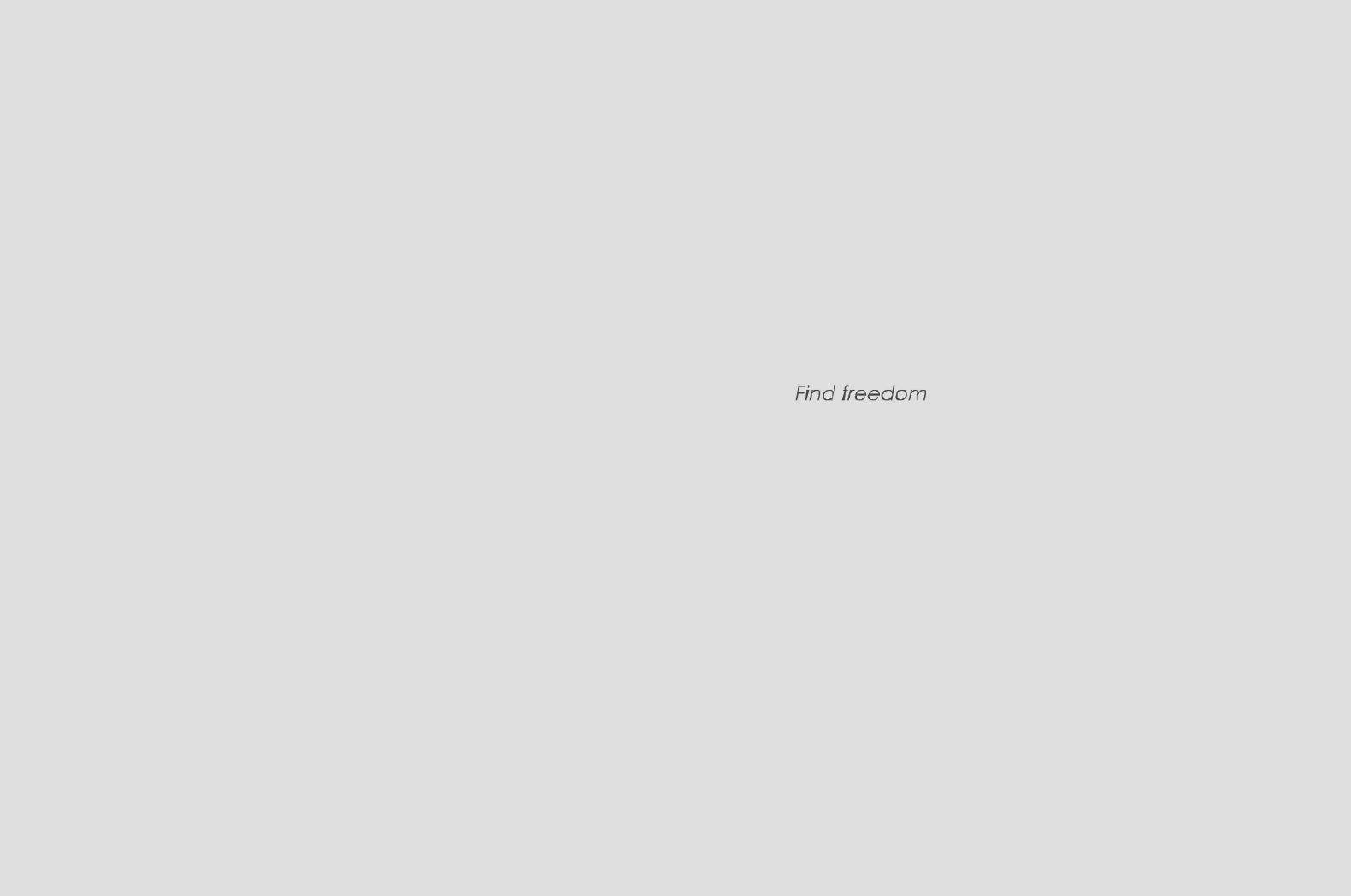


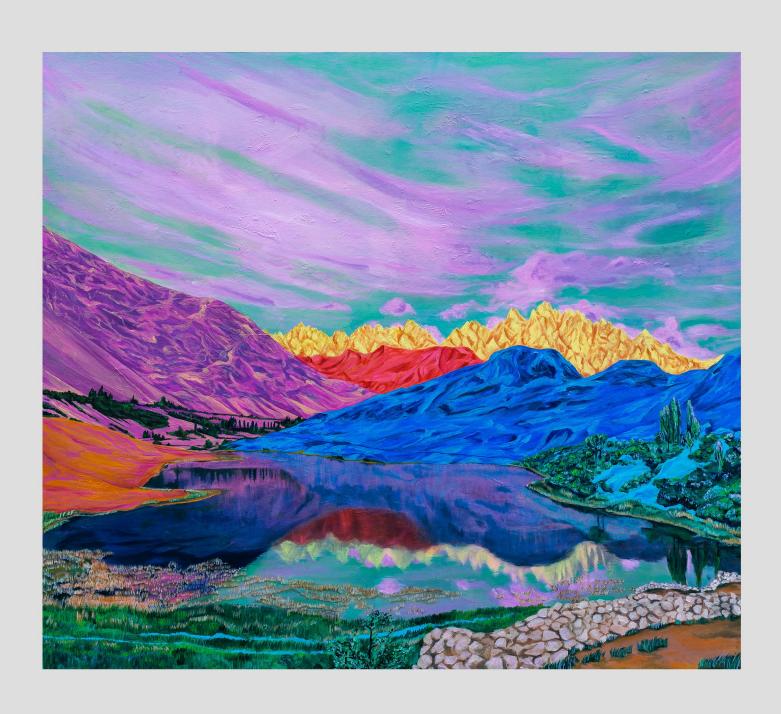








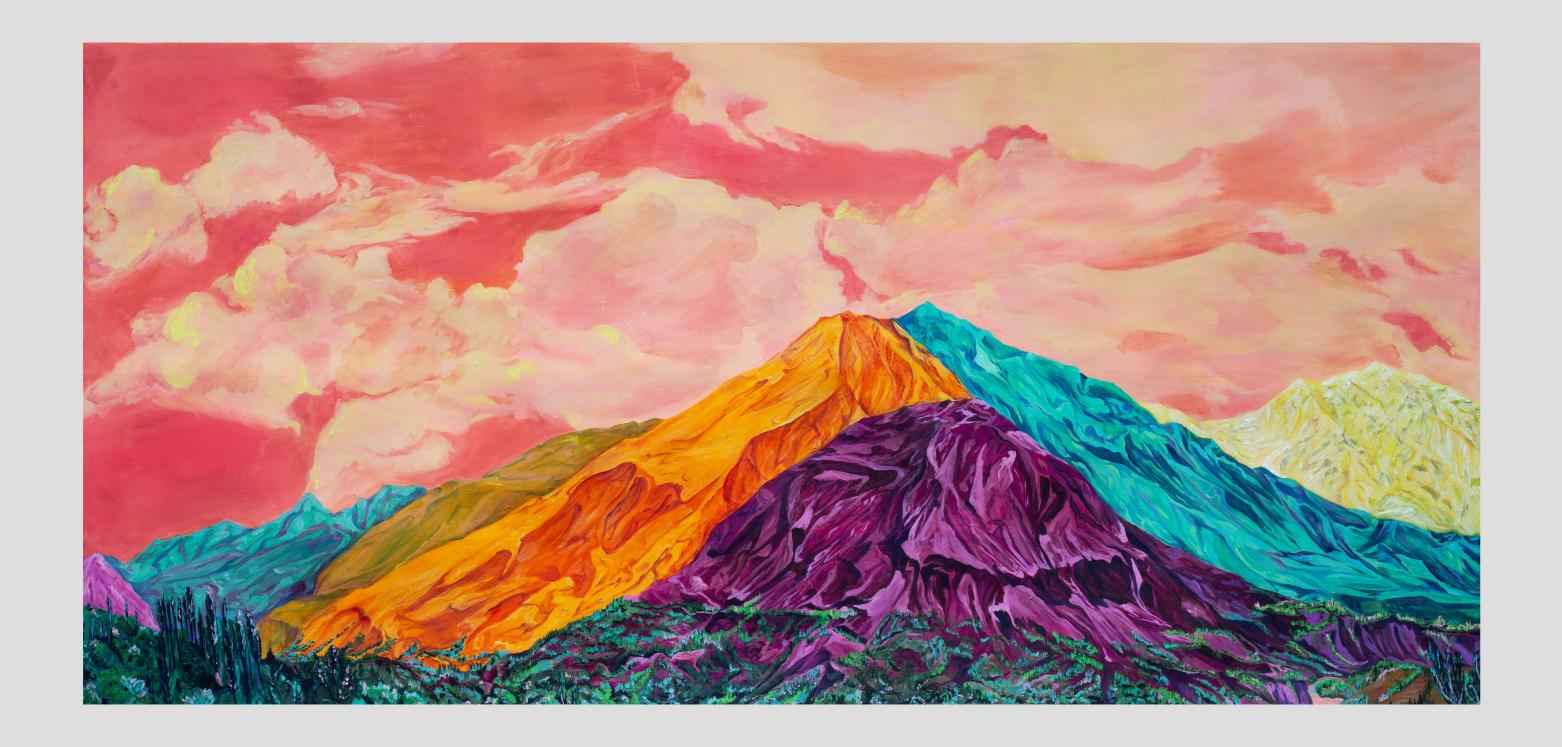


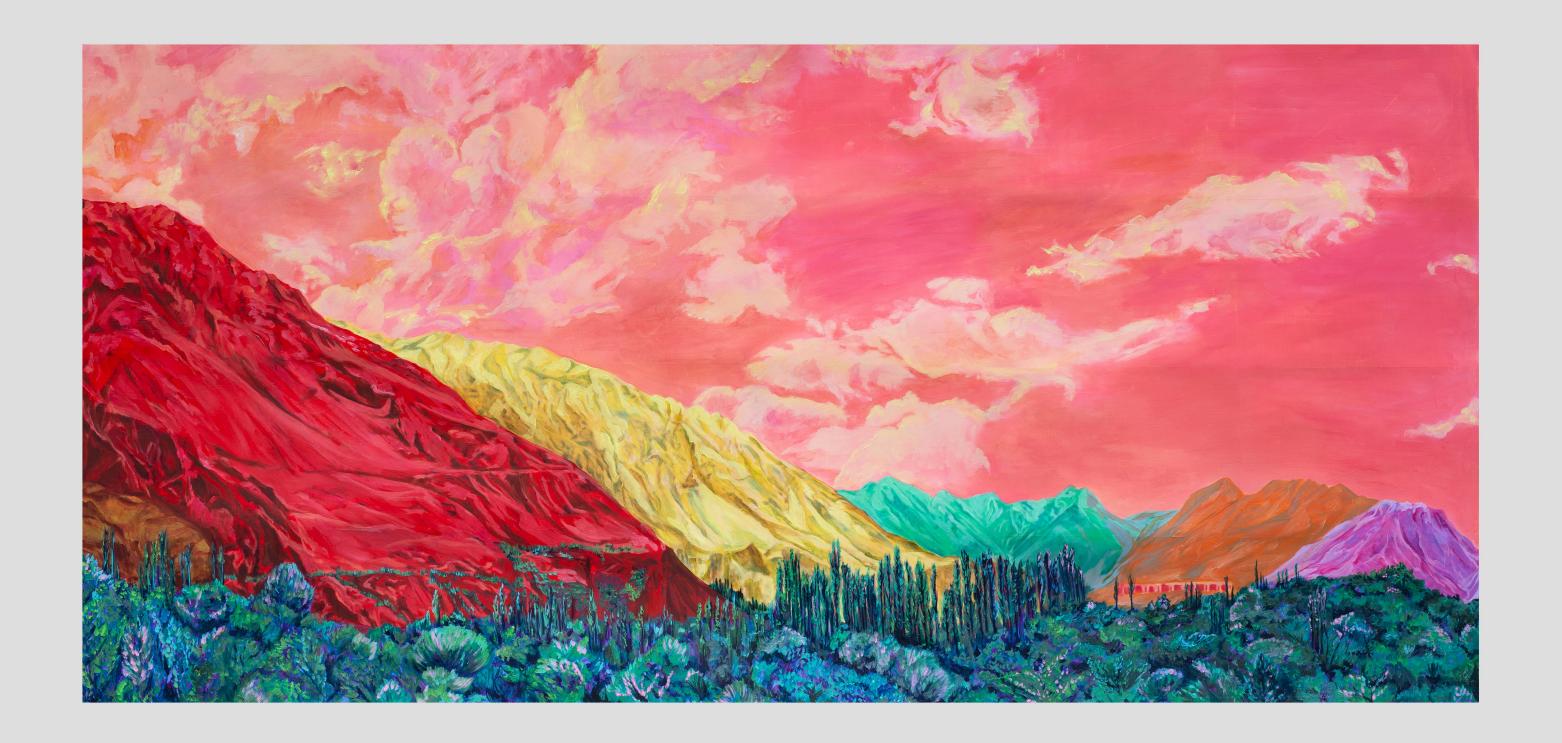






Regain your sight,
And you will see the truth,





You will know that, I am in the Colours.







Artist Bio

Amber Arifeen completed her masters in painting from Wimbledon College of Arts in 2019. She is a Pakistani – American visual artist, born and raised in Lahore, Pakistan. After graduating from U.C Berkeley in 2011, she returned to Pakistan to work with an international women's reproductive health organization, giving her exposure to the contrasting realities of women living in Pakistan, across different classes, and to the ties that bind them. Her feminist practice and interest in South Asian female subjectivity draws inspiration from philosophers she studied as an undergraduate at U.C Berkeley and these experiences of living abroad and in Pakistan.

She has had three solo shows and several group shows in Pakistan, Paris, Berlin, and London. In October of 2021 Arifeen was invited to participate at Domus Residency - an eco-feminist residence located in Southern Italy. Her practice has evolved and expanded to include painting, performance, sound, animation, film and sculpture.

www.amberarifeen.com
Instagram: amber_arifeen

Artist Statement

Understanding the South Asia woman as an ever-evolving subject and her experience as a product of memory, spaces, and history is central to Arifeen's practice. It seeks to disrupt static notions about what a South Asian woman is or ought to be. Arifeen uses two-dimensional mark-making and her own bodily movements to capture the flows of knowing, seeing and embodied intermingling specific to the South Asian woman and their everyday environments. Playing with surface and texture is a process of subversion and protestation, enabling her to explore their physical and psychological interiorities.

Arifeen explores the idea of memory, meaning, and lived experience as appearances within consciousness, that live on as a continuous process. The artist's own subjective experience of place and space is documented through imagery and colour. Inspired by a solo trip to the mountains of Hunza, in the Karakorum Range in Pakistan, this series of work stems out of the idea of freedom and the experience of it as a product of perception, self-love, and a free consciousness. Colour plays the role of emotional memory, giving a feeling tone to experience as remembered and allowing for a depiction of reality that is dreamlike, otherworldly, radiant, and almost psychedelic in its experience.



+92 321 4183066

haamgallery@gmail.com

31-BWB Broadway Road, DHA Phase 8 Main Commercial, Lahore