

School of Art Newsletter

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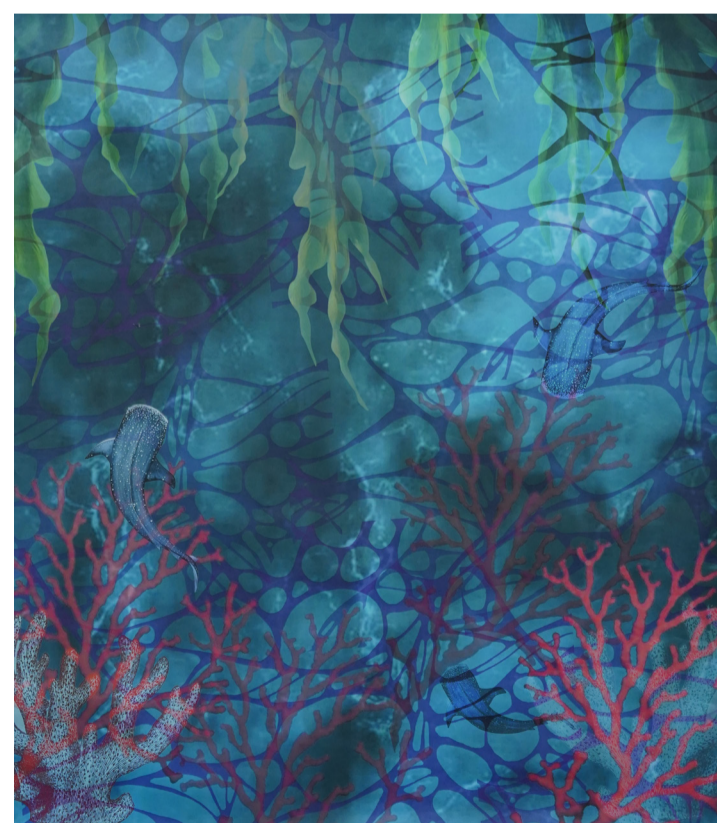
Seek Knowledge for Wisdom and Peace



Digital artwork by textile design student Noor Anwar inspired from the intricate structures of fungi and mushrooms

Heimtextile is an international trade fair for home and contract textiles that takes place annually in Germany. It is regarded as the textile industry's most important global event for interior textiles, interior design and trends. Throughout the four days of the event that takes place in mid-January, the trade fair serves as a business and information platform for manufacturers, retailers and designers from around the world as it determines the most influential international trends in the field of home textile. With its new products and innovative styles, Heimtextile sets the tone for the coming season by setting new themes, emphasizing on textile sustainability, and presenting the world's largest variety of home textiles. In light of this, student Noor Anwar of textile design department took inspiration from one of the latest trends of Heimtextile which is Ecosystem and developed an interesting yet modern composition for home-linen with the help of her digital techniques/abilities using Adobe photoshop. The

design draws inspiration from the complex and enthralling realm of mushrooms and fungi. In this particular composition, she used Mycelium from the ecosystem as her core inspiration which is a root-like structure of fungus consisting of a mass of branching thread-like structures called hyphae. The central design elements of the composition consists of drawings of a variety of mushrooms that are emphasised by the organic shapes and with intricate line work that highlights their distinct structures while attempting to encapsulate the beauty of nature. The sophisticated capabilities of the digital software made it possible to precisely layer and draw lines, which is essential for creating the clear, detailed appearance of the mushrooms and other organic components. The background of the design consists of abstract design elements and flowing patterns that resemble the natural habitat of mushrooms. These abstract patterns were incorporated in the design with the concept of providing depth and texture to the composition.



Digital design by textile department student Momina Javed inspired from marine life





The Gaza Project

The Gaza strip located in Palestine is experiencing a genocide and severe humanitarian suffering due to Israel's occupation. More than two million Palestinians—half of them children—no longer have access to clean water, food, or essential medical care due to the ongoing conflict, bombardment, and blockade. People have to live in constant fear of death and the uncertainty of not knowing if their loved ones will survive to see another day. It is important to address and bring attention towards this humanitarian crisis brought by the ongoing fighting. The outbreak of war in Gaza has inundated us with harrowing images across television and social media, lending extreme urgency to the necessity of art during difficult times. The world is talking about this issue on different forums, and thus it is our duty as responsible artists to play our role by creating artworks that highlight the suffering of Palestinians and open the world's eyes to violations of human rights. Art has long been a powerful medium to communicate politics and policy. Keeping this in mind, students of sixth semester created installations to represent the current situation at Gaza, under the supervision of the instructor Mr. Meer Hamza. The purpose behind creating these installations was to show our collective support for the suffering Palestinians, and to raise our artistic voices so they might help the people of Palestine in gaining their freedom. This project was done with the idea of paying homage to those who are bravely fighting this war despite the trauma and losses that they have suffered. Students have attempted, through these installations, to not just bring attention to the atrocities being committed by the Israeli army in Gaza, but they have also put an effort to document and celebrate the resilience of the people of Gaza.



Tapestry of Colors

The word tapestry comes from Old French, *tappiser*, meaning 'to cover with heavy fabric,' 'carpet.' Tapestry making is an ancient art that has been practiced throughout history, and now varying methods of making tapestries have been resurrected and used as contemporary art forms worldwide. It is a form of textile art, traditionally woven by hand on a loom. Normally it is used to create images rather than patterns by weaving coloured weft threads through plain warp threads. The warp threads are stretched on a loom and act as a grid for weavers to create a pattern with the coloured weft threads. Tapestries are typically heavy, displayed with care, and depict elaborate scenes. Landscape tapestry is one of the favourites for ages as they are considered a perfect amalgamation of modern and ancient art forms. Tapestries that depict scenes from nature and landscape art can cover the walls of any interior surface with beautiful scenes while adding appealing textures and aesthetics to the space. With this idea, students of third semester textile design department were assigned the project of creating tapestries inspired from nature and landscapes. This project was created by students under the supervision of the instructor Mr. Niamat Ali. Each student selected a realistic or abstract visual that captures nature and landscape. The students used vibrantly colored warp threads and multiple weaving techniques to visually create a variety of images and their ideas through layers of thread. The final created images exuded a unique charm and timeless beauty, while the bright color palette of the tapestries added an element of vibrance. These tapestries can be utilized in an interior space as wall hangings that can act as a creative and high quality decorative element.



Creative Calligraphy

Calligraphy is a visual art related to writing. It is the design and execution of lettering with a pen, ink brush, or other writing instrument. Since the ancient times to the contemporary world, many different traditions of calligraphy have existed that incorporated various styles of lettering along with a difference in writing materials. In East Asia and the Islamic world, where more flexibility is allowed in written forms, calligraphy is regarded as a significant art whose formation may be affected by the meaning of the text, or even different words. But in the West the aim of calligraphy is only to achieve attractive writing that is usually consistent within each piece of writing, with little or no interpretation of the text attempted. Modern calligraphy ranges from functional inscriptions and designs to fine-art pieces where the letters may or may not be readable. Calligraphy can be used in many different fields such as painting, architecture, graphics design, and textile design with the contributions of developing technology. Calligraphy is an important skills to be learnt by Graphic designers, along with typography, as it can help in developing an understanding of lettering, its formation and design styles. This skill can then be applied to creating typographic posters, package designs, logo designs, digital designs and many other graphical products. In order to provide graphic design students an opportunity to enhance their understanding about calligraphy, its ancient styles and modern formation, fifth semester students are taught calligraphy. This is done with the aim of helping them learn compositional skills for not just english, but also urdu lettering. This can contribute to students learning how to create designs with effective visualism that puts forward letter formation in an aesthetically pleasing and meaningful manner.



Modern Art Cosplay

Modern art is an art movement that emerged in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was characterized by a shift away from traditional styles to a more abstract, experimental approach for creating works of art. Challenging the notion that art must realistically depict the world, some artists experimented with the expressive use of color, non-traditional materials, and new techniques or mediums. Students of fourth semester in their Modern Art class under the supervision of Ms. Istrahat Waheed embarked on an exciting cosplay activity, embodying the personas of renowned modern artists or recreating famous paintings. The intention behind involving students in such an activity was to actively involve them in their learning process. This creative endeavor required each student to thoroughly research their chosen art movement or artist's life, style,

and iconic works. They then brought these artists to life through detailed costumes and character presentations. From Salvador Dali's eccentric personality and Frida Kahlo's vibrant floral attire, the students not only dressed the part but also engaged in performances that captured the essence of the selected artist's techniques and philosophies. This immersive experience allowed students to deepen their understanding of modern art history while expressing their creativity and interpretive skills in a dynamic and memorable way. This activity not just gave students an opportunity for exploring self-expression in a creative manner, but cosplay can also create awareness about different cultures, historical periods, or social issues. It can act as a good challenge in bringing an artwork or an artist to life while using imagination, creativity and problem solving skills.

Mughal Art Fresco Painting

Fresco painting is an ancient method of painting water-based pigments on freshly applied plaster, usually on wall surfaces. The colours, which are made by grinding dry-powder pigments in pure water, dry and set with the plaster to become a permanent part of the wall. Fresco painting is ideal for making murals because it lends itself to a monumental style, is durable, and has a matte surface. In the Indian subcontinent, fresco art reached its zenith during the Mughal era from the 16th through the 19th century. Some of its most remarkable examples are surface decorations of the early 17th-century Maryam Zamani Mosque, the mid-17th-century Wazir Khan Mosque in the Walled City of Lahore, and the mausoleum of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir in Lahore's Shahdara Town area. To pay homage to the golden age of Mughal art and fresco ornamentation, tile mosaic panels from the architectural surface decoration of Wazir Khan mosque were recreated to help students learn how to execute fresco painting. This was done in order to revive the ancient technique of fresco painting and help students learn the intricacies of the designs that can be seen as a part of Mughal ornamentation.



Portfolio Exhibition



Art is a way of expressing emotions uniquely, and practicing art gives artists a chance to display their most complex emotions in their best works. Organizing exhibitions of their artworks is important for any artist as it can act as a catalyst for sharing art and ideas with the public. This way of displaying and contextualizing art helps in making it relevant and accessible to audiences, while also allowing the artist to get hands-on curatorial practice. Keeping this in mind, the students of fifth semester from the Fine Arts department organized a portfolio exhibition in the IAC gallery. The objective of the display was enabling the students to explore different techniques, reflect on their own progress, identify their strength, and recognize areas for improvement. The display provided not just an opportunity to the students for getting constructive feedback from peers and instructors, but also helped boost their confidence. Such practices enrich the learning experience of students as well as giving them a feeling of accomplishment which can be pivotal for their professional growth.

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