

School of Art Newsletter

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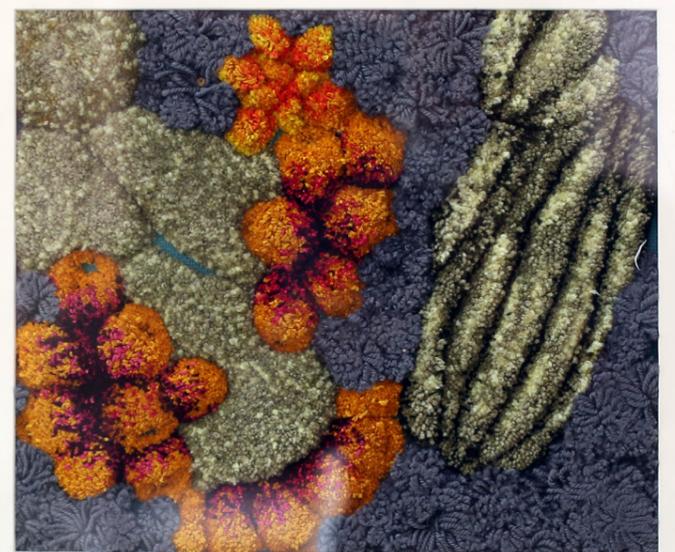
Seek Knowledge for Wisdom and Peace



Opening Ceremony Of Exhibition *Green Dot*

School of Art recently hosted a compelling exhibition addressing the urgent issue of climate change, aptly titled "Red Alert to Green Dot." This impactful event was meticulously arranged under the guidance of the visionary Dean School of Art, Prof. Dr. Shahida Manzoor. The exhibition stood as a testament to the School of Art's commitment to fostering awareness and provoking thoughtful discourse on pressing global challenges. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the esteemed presence of Prof. Dr. Murtaza Jafery, Vice Chancellor of the National College of Arts. Accompanying him were the distinguished Pro Vice Chancellor of the Institute for Art and Culture Dr. Ijaz A.

Qureshi, Registrar Brig. (Rtd) Mr. Safer Vaseer, Group head HR Mr. Tanveer Ahmed, Dean School of Art Prof. Dr. Shahida Manzoor, along with Deans and Directors, collectively symbolizing the collaborative effort to address climate concerns through artistic expression. The exhibition featured an array of captivating works, with active participation from both faculty and students, alongside contributions from renowned artists. The exhibition included traditional paintings, digital arts, installations, sculptures, fiber art, as well as textile and fashion products. Each piece served as a unique lens through which to view the profound impact of climate change on our environment.



Artwork titled "Desert Vegetation" by artist Dr. Asna Mubashra



An Artistic Call to Raising Awareness about Climate Change

Climate change is one of the biggest crisis that our world is facing today. It has now become vital for the artistic community to join hands, in order to raise awareness about this issue. In order to put emphasis on this serious issue, School of Art took the initiative of organizing an art exhibition on the theme of climate change as a step towards contributing to the idea of saving the environment and making sustainable choices. This artistic endeavor not only demonstrated the talent within the School of Art, but also underscored the power of creative expression in fostering awareness and inspiring positive action. "Red Alert to Green Dot" succeeded in merging the realms of art and environmental advocacy, offering a platform for dialogue on the critical issue of climate change.



Group photo of students and faculty members at Green Dot exhibition, along with Chief Guest, Pro VC IAC, and Dean School of Art



Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Murtaza Jafri viewing artworks displayed at IAC Gallery as part of Green Dot exhibition



Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Murtaza Jafri in discussion with students about the concept behind their installation, along with Pro. VC IAC Dr. Ijaz A. Qureshi and Dean School of Art Prof. Dr. Shahida Manzoor

Installation on Ecological Impact upon Nature

The students of 6th semester, under the supervision of instructor Mr. Mir Hamza, presented a meticulously designed installation, where burnt faces are meticulously affixed to wooden sticks, resembling the delicate and weathered appearance of chapped matchsticks. This intentional and laborious process serves as a metaphorical representation of the fragility of the human condition when faced with the relentless destruction brought about by environmental issues. The poignant nature of the installation strikes at the core of viewers' emotions, prompting deep reflection on the interconnectedness between human behavior and the resulting ecological impact. The deliberate placement of these charred faces atop matchstick-shaped structures is a visual masterpiece, capturing the attention of onlookers and initiating a stark contrast between the recognizable human form and the stark reminder of the destructive path humanity often

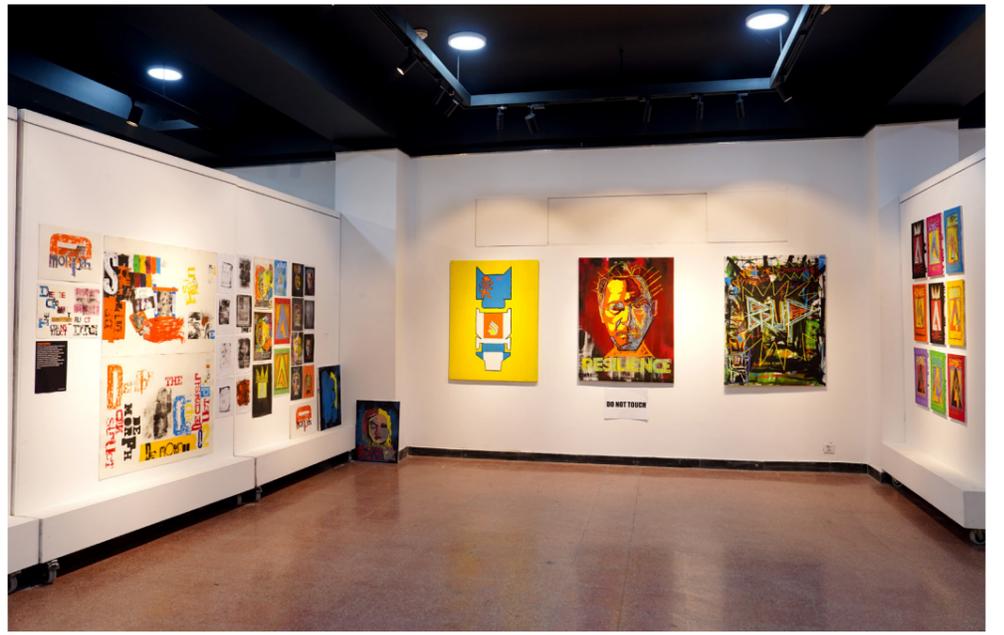
trends. Each face, now transformed into a wooden stick with lingering embers, portrays a palpable sense of sorrow and despair. The artist skillfully conveys a narrative of empathy and connection, inviting viewers to engage with the artwork on an emotional level. The somber expressions etched onto the faces evoke a shared sense of responsibility and accountability, urging individuals to contemplate the toll of their actions on the environment and, by extension, on humanity itself. This thought-provoking installation challenges the viewer to confront the consequences of environmental negligence, compelling them to consider the broader implications of their choices. Through its intricate details, symbolism, and emotional resonance, the artwork becomes a powerful catalyst for dialogue and reflection, transcending its visual impact to foster a deeper understanding of the delicate balance between human existence and the natural world.



Installation being displayed in Institute of Art and Culture gallery

Mini-Thesis Display of Textile and Graphic Design Department

Mini-thesis display of School of Art students was exhibited in January, 2024 that covered a diverse range of topics, delving into a wide sphere of themes, both in graphic and textile design. Students got an opportunity to explore distinct and innovative ideas and techniques. The projects of students from Graphic design department that were displayed included **D-Morph** by Huzaifa that is based upon art and design movements through cultural representation, project titled **Rabt** by Hamna delves into traditional heritage via contemporary design at a design symposium. **Dotify** by Zarmina introduces a Braille campaign for the visually impaired to explore retail products. **Swaad Swirl** by Eisha Hatif reinvented Jalebi street food in four flavours, while Anas designed an Urdu typeface based upon exploration of freehand typography.



Graphic Design project D-Morph by Huzaifa on theme of deconstructing art and design movements from history in cultural context



Graphic design student Hamna presenting her project titled Rabt to jurors

The students from textile design department also attempted to reach the pinnacle of their creative exploration by creating a range of projects that included **Pan-oply**, a homage to Rajput warriors that showcased a meticulous blend of traditional elements and modern design. The use of diverse materials such as metal, steel, and leather, along with intricate embellishments, highlighted the students' proficient utilization of a wide range of techniques. The sustainable fashion project

incorporated techniques like upcycling and circular design, creatively transforming polypropylene bags into stylish surfaces. Extensive exploration of recycled materials ensured a cohesive fusion of sustainability, style, and functionality. In **Contemporizing Spiritual Perceptions**, a variety of mixed media techniques, including embroidery, beadwork, and digital compositions, were strategically applied. These methods aimed to contemporize and visually capture the spiritual

Dribble by Aqeel focused on reviving hockey in Pakistan, emphasizing youth development. **Mir-e-Daastan** by Daim showcased Kashmiri cuisine (Kulcha). Photography based project **Daim Abad** by Anas Bhatti, that included his prize winning photograph, takes an archival journey through Lahore's walled city via historical poetry. **Bloomicious** by Fatima Laeeq presented an innovative bakery that centred on inspiration from organic flower extracts.



Textile design student Basma Ahmad explaining her mini-thesis project to juror



Group photo of School of Art Dean Prof. Dr. Shahida Manzoor along with Textile and Graphic design faculty members and students of mini-thesis from both departments

essence of Data Darbaar, showcasing a dynamic perspective on spiritual beliefs. Within **Redefining Feudalism**, textile art became a medium for challenging societal norms. Techniques like embroidery and mixed media were employed to celebrate diversity, emotion, and resilience, crafting a counter-narrative to prevailing stereotypes. Every stitch and element contributed to weaving a tapestry that reflected the vibrant spirit of the artist's upbringing in a culturally rich border region. The jurors gave a very positive feedback about the quality of work displayed by students, and Dean School of Art appreciated the efforts of School of Art faculty in guiding their students towards creating artworks presented in mini-thesis.



Textile Products Inspired by Chintz Patterns

In the course of their studies in the B.F.A. Textile Design program, under the supervision of instructor Ms. Nimra Sajjad, students of semester 5 engaged in an in-depth exploration of the thematic focus on Chintz designs and patterns. Noteworthy for their vibrant and intricate designs, Chintz patterns, with origins tracing back to India, are characterized by the inclusion of floral motifs, paisleys, and geometric shapes. The students diligently embraced the significance of the Chintz theme, infusing modern interpretations while upholding the tradition of bold and lively designs. Their exploration encompassed a thorough examination of Chintz patterns, color palettes, accessory styles, and contemporary fashion trends. Employing meticulously crafted research boards on the given theme gave them an oppor-

tunity to develop their own print designs for apparel. Moreover, they showcased their creative skills through the development of coordinated garment designs, culminating in the production of finished products such as bags and garments. In the development of their products, students adeptly integrated contemporary bag styles trends into their designs, skillfully infusing Chintz aesthetics with a modern flair. Their discerning approach encompassed a thoughtful consideration of prevailing trends, wherein they selected fabrics and that resonate with the discerning preferences of the market. The resultant tangible outcomes eloquently demonstrate a nuanced understanding and application of Chintz aesthetics within the context of contemporary fashion designs.



Textile design student Muhammad Abrar along with his design work based on theme of Chintz patterns

Visit to Old Lahore for Study of Light

Students from fourth semester Graphic design department, accompanied by their class instructor Mr. Kashif Rafique, embarked on a captivating journey to explore the historical wonders of Old City, and the historical sites of Lahore. The purpose of this educational excursion was to delve into the intricate study of light and its impact on architecture, for their photography class. The enthralling visit included prominent landmarks such as Masjid Wazir Khan, Shahi Hamam, Gali Sojan Singh, and Delhi Gate. As the students and faculty immersed themselves in the rich cultural and architectural tapestry of these sites, they gained valuable insights into the interplay of light and structure - a crucial

aspect for their photography studies. Under the guidance of their instructor, the students had the unique opportunity to witness the historical significance of each location and analyze the subtle and distinct use of light in enhancing architectural aesthetics of these historical buildings. This hands-on experience not only enriched their understanding of photography but also deepened their appreciation for the historical and cultural heritage that is deeply embedded in the realm of Old City of Lahore. Organization of such trips gives students an opportunity to explore the outside world, and get to view it with a new perspective, which is vital for their journey and evolution as a professional artist and designer.



Group photo of 4th semester Graphic design students with instructor Mr. Kashif Rafique at Lahore Fort

Acknowledgements:

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