

Homer Watson *House & Gallery*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kitchener-based artist explores concepts of identity and trauma in HWHG's winter exhibition, *Bag-O-Bahar: Let the Flowers Bloom*

February 4 through to April 24, 2022

Opening reception Thursday, March 3 at 7pm



Sumaira Tazeen, *Umeed V (Hope V)*, Carbon transfer and opaque water-based pigment on Fabriana, 2021. Image courtesy of the artist.

January 10, 2022, Kitchener, ON: Homer Watson House and Gallery is thrilled to welcome an ambitious new body of work from Kitchener-based artist Sumaira Tazeen. *Bag-O-Bahar: Let the Flowers Bloom* opens on February 4 in the Watson Gallery.

The exhibition presents a series of work that investigates the conceptual discourse of how traumatic events disrupt constructs of identity. Using irises as a symbol of hope, Tazeen reflects on her personal experiences and reflections of healing and care after living through difficult times in an unsuccessful marriage and domestic abuse.

Bag-O-Bahar: Let the Flowers Bloom will showcase a combination of intricate paintings alongside video work. "Tazeen's practice is quite interesting, and I am honoured to have her work shown here. Her artwork continues to address very challenging and complex issues in a thought provoking and visually stunning way," shares director/curator Tabatha Watson.

Please join us for the opening reception on Thursday, March 3 at 7pm. Artist Sumaira Tazeen will be in attendance.

About Sumaira Tazeen:

Sumaira Tazeen is a Kitchener-based artist, educator, and curator of Pakistani origin. She received her BFA in Miniature Painting and Sculpture from the National College of Arts, Lahore in 1996 and has exhibited across South Asia, the United States, Canada, Europe, and the Middle East. Tazeen has received numerous awards and recognition throughout her career including: the Haji Muhammad Sharif Award for Miniature Painting (1996), the Charles Wallace Trust Fellowship (2004), the Department for International Development Scholarship Award (2003-04), Ontario Arts Council grant for Emerging Artists (2014, 2016), and was selected as Kitchener's Artist in Residence (2018). Tazeen's practice questions social issues in her immediate surroundings and is deeply rooted in the traditions of South Asian culture and personal experience.

About Homer Watson House & Gallery:

Homer Watson House & Gallery is the homestead of Homer Watson, Canada's first internationally recognized landscape artist (1855-1936). In 1980, the house and surrounding three-acre property were designated under the Ontario Heritage Act as being of architectural and historic significance. HWHG is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the legacy of Homer Watson's creative spirit by stimulating the appreciation, enjoyment, and practice of the visual arts.

Homer Watson House & Gallery is wheelchair accessible.

GALLERY HOURS:

Tuesday to Sunday: 10am – 4pm

For more information please contact:

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