

Abdul Sattar

Shrine paintings of the Indus Delta

سمندری مناظر

Oil paint on plywood

Courtesy the artist

Across the wall of the gallery is a constellation of shrine paintings made by Abdul Sattar that sit as they would in approximate geographical proximity to each other, waypoints without the fixed lines of a map.

A network of sacred shrines continues to survive on the islands of the Indus Delta where most human inhabitants have been forced to leave. These water shrines are centred around graves of saints known to

protect the delta. The Sindhi word for indigenous, maqami, derives from the word maqam meaning gravesite. To belong to the land is to be connected to the dead. These enduring shrines function as miraculous anchors that continue to ground, sustain and guide fisherfolk in an increasingly precarious world.

From L–R the shrines are:

- 1. Rattakot, Phitti Creek**
- 2. Shrine of Yousuf Shah, Phitti Creek**
- 3. Shrine of Shaddi Shah, Khuddi Creek**
- 4. Shrine of Sheikh Nooruddin, Paitiani Creek**
- 5. Shrine of Mohammad Shah, Paitiani Creek**
- 6. Shrine of Haji Pir Mohammad, Hajamro Creek**

7. Shrine of Dada Sanwlo, Mul Creek

8. Shrine of Dada Sanwlo, Sir Creek

If you are interested in purchasing one of the paintings, please speak to a member of our reception team. All funds raised will go to the communities involved in Lines That World a River.

Ustad Abdul Aziz

Fish paintings of the Indus Delta

سمندری مناظر

Oil paint on plywood

Courtesy the artist

Alongside the shrines are a small series of paintings by Ustad Abdul Aziz celebrating the sea life, including fish and sharks, that know the delta as their home.

Fisherfolk often refer to these paintings of fish and shrines as ‘samandari paintings’, a term which references the oceanic connections of the works.

If you are interested in purchasing one of the paintings, please speak to a member of our reception team. All funds raised will go to the communities involved in Lines That World a River.

Aziza Ahmad

with Shahana Rajani, Aisha Aijaz Jat, Ali Akbar Dablo,

Ameerzadi Hasan Jat, Areeba Dablo, Areesha Dablo,

Farzana Azeem Jat, Hajiani Jat, Haji Ali Jat, Halima

Wasim Jat, Khadija Hidayatullah Jat, Nadia Ghulam

Mohammad Jat, Naseer Abdul Sattar Jat, Shehzadi

Qadir Baksh Jat, Maira Dablo, Mehboob Azeem Jat,

Najma Ahmed Dablo, Naseema Qasim Dablo, Rashid

Dablo, Yasmin Dablo, Zubair Azeem Jat

From River to Shrine

Animation, sound, 4 min 51 sec

Courtesy the artist

An animated glossary of words created from a workshop facilitated by Rajani and Ahmad in the fisherfolk settlement of Rehri Goth in Karachi and newly produced for this exhibition. The workshops brought together a group of children aged 6 -14 years over one month to explore their relationship to the river and delta through drawing and making, with conversations from elders. Using the children's drawings from the workshops, the glossary presents words associated with life around the river and delta.

Made with the support of the Canada Council of the Arts.

Credits

Animation by: Aziza Ahmad

Drawings by: Aisha Aijaz Jat, Ali Akbar Dablo,

Ameerzadi Hasan Jat, Areeba Dablo, Areesha Dablo,

Farzana Azeem Jat, Hajiani Jat, Haji Ali Jat, Halima

Wasim Jat, Khadija Hidayatullah Jat, Nadia Ghulam

Mohammad Jat, Naseer Abdul Sattar Jat, Shehzadi

Qadir Baksh Jat, Maira Dablo, Mehboob Azeem Jat,

Najma Ahmed Dablo, Naseema Qasim Dablo, Rashid

Dablo, Yasmin Dablo, Zubair Azeem Jat

Workshop facilitated by: Shahana Rajani, Aziza

Ahmad, Nawaz Dablo, Gulbano Dablo and Abdullah

Dablo

Photography by: Hadi Khatri

Sound by: Omí Delnevo

Shahana Rajani

with Ustad Abdul Aziz, Abdul Sattar, Fatima Bibi, Abida

Dablo, Nawaz Dablo, Gulbano Dablo and Mudassir

Sheikh

Lines That World a River

لکھنؤ سے دریا تھامنا

2026

Three-channel video, sound, 14 min 46 sec

Courtesy the artist

The work expands on the single-channel work *Four Acts of Recovery* (2025) which was commissioned by the Han Nefkens Foundation – the South Asian Video Art Production Grant 2023, in collaboration with Para Site, Hong Kong; Prameya Art Foundation, Delhi, India; Nottingham Contemporary, UK; Ishara Art Foundation, Dubai, UAE; and Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp, Belgium.

Made with the support of the Canada Council of the Arts.

Credits

Paintings by: Ustad Abdul Aziz and Abdul Sattar

Translation by: Asadullah Alvi and Nirmal Riaz

Creative Producer: Sharlene Bamboat

Line Producer: Mohammed Ali Hakeem

Director of Photography: Saad Bhatti

Camera: Saad Bhatti, Mohammed Ali Hakeem,

Shahana Rajani

Lighting: Usman with Ahsan, Imran and Umair

Location Sound: Mohammed Ali Hakeem, Umair,

Shahana Rajani

Sound Design and Composition: Mudassir Sheikh

Animation: Aziza Ahmad

Editing: Shahana Rajani

Colour Grading: Saad Bhatti and Monica Maria Moraru

Amelia Daiz and Year 4 pupils from

**Huntingdon Academy with Sarah Lees, and secondary
pupils from Westbury Academy with Kevin Brown**

The Water Draws Us Together

2026

Pastel on plaster

**This collaborative mural maps people's relationship to
Nottingham's waterways and their shared memories
of water through collective mark making. Inspired by
Shahani Rajani's exhibition and her collaborations with
children in Karachi, Nottingham Contemporary's
Associate Artist Amelia Daiz worked with local
students aged 8-16 years to explore what the local
waterways mean to them.**

Daiz worked with the children to explore their memories of spending time alongside and in water through walking, drawing and making. Their artwork has also been developed into a zine.

Over the coming months, at the invitation of the students of Huntingdon Academy and Westbury Academy, local schools and community groups will take part in workshops with our Associate Artist team to continue contributing to the artwork and make their mark.

If you would like your school or community group to take part in the mural, please contact our learning

**team to book a session with our Associate Artists by
emailing learn@nottinghamcontemporary.org**

**Amelia Daiz and Year 4 pupils from
Huntingdon Academy with Sarah Lees, and secondary
pupils from Westbury Academy with Kevin Brown**

Zine Storyboard

2026

Mixed media

**A collation of media including drawings, cut outs,
photographs and texts from the collaborative zine
made by Nottingham Contemporary's Associate Artist**

**Amelia Daiz working with local students from
Huntingdon Academy and Westbury Academy.**