



(ABOVE) Rashid Rana's stunning work titled 'Two Ways to a View I' (2016-17), C print plus DIASEC, two parts, each: 180 X 216 cm



ART OF A MASTER

RASHID RANA

GLOBAL APPLAUSE FOR HIS INNOVATORY OEUVRE

Pakistan's leading contemporary artist Rashid Rana has had a busy run in the past few weeks with several international engagements including an exhibition at the Leila Heller Gallery in Dubai. The exhibition titled 'Rashid Rana: A Scatter in Time' focused on Rana as a contemporary art innovator, whose conceptually driven art practice embodies strategies that are inventive and unique. Rana is known for his photomontages and photo composite collages as well as his conceptual sculptures and videos. His technique of splicing and stitching and reassembling historical art and contemporary imagery, utilising the grid structure, and rearranging them into pixelated puzzles is his hallmark. The exhibition opening was followed by an 'Artist Talk: Rashid Rana in Conversation with Glenn D. Lowry,' Director of MoMA, New York, where Rana spoke about his practice and particularly the Transliteration Series on display at the Leila Heller Gallery.

Earlier this year, Rana was also an honoree for the Asia Art Award 2017 at a formal ceremony held in Hong Kong, along with other honorees Hon Chi Fun, Hong Kong's most respected visual artist, Kimsooja, an internationally acclaimed

visual artist, and the famous Japanese photographer Hiroshi Sugimoto. The prize, founded in 2013, celebrates artists and art professionals for their significant contributions to contemporary art in Asia. Rana states: 'It was an honor for me to be given an award alongside a senior artist such as Sugimoto whose practice I have always admired.'

Rashid Rana is the founding faculty member and current Dean of the School of Visual Arts and Design at the Beaconhouse National University in Lahore. He is also the founding artistic director of the 2018 Lahore Biennale. Last year, the Museum of Modern Art in New York invited Rashid Rana for a public talk about his curatorial plans for the inaugural Biennale, to be held in 2018. Lowry asked him a straightforward question: 'On the surface, Rashid, you look like a sane man, you have a great artistic practice, you are admired by many people, you are a renowned teacher, why would you take this on?' Rana replied succinctly: 'My wife and you share the same views! You don't have a choice when you are living in South Asia and similar parts of the world. You have to take on multiple roles – simply. Since there is no other thing which is

THE **INSIDE** STORY



The exhibition titled 'Rashid Rana: A Scatter in Time' focused on Rana as a contemporary art innovator, whose conceptually driven art practice embodies strategies that are inventive and unique

(ABOVE) Rashid Rana's works at the Leila Heller Gallery in Dubai (BELOW) Rashid Rana with Glenn D. Lowry for his talk with the MoMa Director at the Leila Heller Gallery following the show's opening





(Left to right) Michelle Yun, Senior Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Asia Society Museum; Boon Hui Tan, Vice President of Global Arts & Cultural Programs and Director of Asia Society Museum; Rashid Rana, 2017 Asia Arts Awards Hong Kong honoree; Hiroshi Sugimoto, 2017 Asia Arts Awards Hong Kong honoree; Kimsooja, 2017 Asia Arts Awards Hong Kong honoree; S. Alice Mong, Executive Director, Asia Society Hong Kong Center; Dominique Chan, Head of Gallery & Exhibition; and Hon Chi Fun, 2017 Asia Arts Awards Hong Kong honoree (seated)

RASHID RANA RECEIVES ASIA ART AWARD AT A CEREMONY IN HONG KONG



Rashid Rana receiving his award from Amna Naqvi



Guests at the 2017 Asia Arts Awards Hong Kong dinner



The 2017 Asia Art Awards Hong Kong honorees, (left to right) Kimsooja, Hon Chi Fun, Rashid Rana, and Hiroshi Sugimoto



Shireen Gandhi, Rashid Rana, Aroosa Rana & Greg Hilty

straight anyway, starting from the sense of time, it is all non-linear, one is better off not taking any prescriptive route. You see how things come your way...'

Rana has participated in major exhibitions globally including 'My East is Your West,' an event at the 56th Venice Biennale (2015); 'Labyrinth of Reflections' at the Mohatta Palace Museum, Karachi (2013); Cornerhouse, Manchester (2011); Asia Society Museum, New York (2009); and Musée Guimet, Paris (2010) among others.



TEXT: AMNA R. ALI
IMAGES: COURTESY RASHID RANA



Aroosa & Rashid Rana



Lina Samman & Leila Heller

ANOTHER JEWEL IN THE CROWN

RASHID RANA HAD AN EXHIBITION AT THE LEILA HELLER GALLERY IN DUBAI RECENTLY. THE EXHIBITION TITLED 'RASHID RANA: A SCATTER IN TIME' WAS ATTENDED BY ART AFICIONADOS AND GUESTS INTERESTED IN THE FAMOUS ARTIST'S DYNAMIC WORK. THE EXHIBITION OPENING WAS FOLLOWED BY AN 'ARTIST TALK: RASHID RANA IN CONVERSATION WITH GLENN D. LOWRY.' DIRECTOR OF MOMA, NEW YORK



Alexander Heller, Marjan Fateh & Ghamzeh Alabbar



Rashid Rana, Ishrat Rana, Aroosa Rana & Arshad Rana



Thomas & Ingrid Jochheim



Rashid Rana & Glenn Lowry



Noreen



Faiza Rangoonwala & Zahida



Lina Samman



Mr & Mrs Abhinav Saxena



Grimanesa & Filly Hamid



Jolaine Frizzell, Rashid Rana, Nadia Samdani, Leila Heller & Rajeeb Samdani



Zahra Mehmood, Saba Qizalbash & Aroosa Rana



Justine Ludwig & Taimur Hassan

HELLO! EVENTS



Nicky Ure & Alice Querin



Rashid Rana & Leila Heller



Leila Maleki, Leila Heller, Fatima Maleki & Nahid Taghinia Milani



Amanda Smith & Jad Panayoti



Leila Heller with guest



Ammar al Attar & guest



Jad Panayoti, Amanda Smith, Marco Buonomo & Tiphaine Cheveau



Reza Aramesh & Jolaine Frizzell



Ali Gokal & Mehreen Rizvi
Khursheed



Brooke L. McGowan Herzog, Leila Heller & Zain Masud



Guests



Farokh & Leila Derakhshani