Moving Images - Static Spaces: Architectures, Art, Media, Film, Digital Art and Design

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Bridging the Gap, Filling in the Void: Public Art and Diverse Communities

• Author(s) Name:
Sana S. Burney

• University or Company Affiliation:
Assistant Professor, Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan

• Presentation Method: I would like to:
Present in person (with/without a written paper)

• Abstract (300 words):
In an effort to encompass the notion of ‘Art as Social responsibility’ and engage in the debate of the public art within the context of community outreach this research explores the amalgam of moving images and static spaces in the realm of public art predominantly in the socio-cultural context around the city of Karachi, the financial and commercial capital of Pakistan.

‘Mera Karachi Mobile Cinema’ and a few more projects of same focus, generate archival videos on ‘Everyday life in the city’ using cellphones by collaborating with diverse people (across ethnic and economic backgrounds) from different residential colonies and urban junctions.

These archival videos later in a sequence projected on the ordinary urban spaces using Mobile Cinema Rickshaw that was especially designed using local vernacular of transportation and ornamentation in mind. These screenings offer new and various ways of interpreting the city and its various public spaces besides produce opportunities for friendliness and openness amongst dissimilar communities.
The methodology assimilates literature reviews available in scholarly publications and on social and print media to gain an in depth information about public art projects in the city with significance to the influences of time periods, political changes and socio-cultural contexts. Furthermore survey will be conducted as required. Interviews will also be conducted of professionals in the field who are directly or indirectly involved in art/public art.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Sana Burney is a Fine artist living and working in Karachi. Her B.F.A. in Photography was received from Visual Studies, University of Karachi. Subsequent to that she attended the Post-Graduate diploma program in photography at the Indus Valley school of Art & Architecture in Karachi, Pakistan. She has been teaching for 10 years. She is currently on the faculty of the Indus Valley school of Art & Architecture and the Department of Visual Studies, Karachi University. She was invited to deliver lectures and conduct classes on Design at different prestigious universities of Karachi. She has presented her research papers on art and design at Turkey, USA and Pakistan. She has recently finished the public art project of flyover beautification in Larkana. Also she has done public art project of ‘FTC bridge beautification’ where she has not only designed the murals and light works also she has imagined and led both the projects. She has recently exhibited her installation works in London. Besides she has exhibited at several galleries of Pakistan that includes exhibition at Canadian Embassy Islamabad with the theme ‘Hidden from the view’. Her work majorly deals with the ritual practices associated with social norms and relationships. Also she works with the concept of spirituality, her prominent project is titled with ‘Esoteric Mysticism’. Mainly her work has techniques of ‘layering’. She works with the unconventional techniques of photography that makes her work unusual and novel. Freshly she has worked with Karachi Biennale and painted two reels for ‘Reel on Hai’ project. Reels were launched in March 2017 and are now placed in Safari Park. Her art practice is now diversifying into new directions of installation art.