

Exhibitions (select)

- 2026 *Meter & Light: Day in Mad World*, Somad, New York, NY
2026 *Meter & Light: Night in Particle + Wave Media Arts Festival*, Calgary, Canada
2025 *Meter & Light: Night in Open Call exhibition*, The Shed, New York, NY
2025 *Meter & Light: Day in A Reference Letter for the Revolution*, En Foco & Wallworks NYC
2025 *Meter & Light: Night in ArtPrize fair & Grand Rapids Film Festival*, Michigan
2024 *Devoted: Religion in Asian American Art*, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY
2024 *Meter & Light: Day, Recess*, Brooklyn, NY (*solo residency*)
2024 *Dream House: Inside Music & Video*, Asian Arts Alliance, Philadelphia, PA
2024 *Meter & Light: Day*, Nawat Fes & the American Cultural Association, Fes, Morocco (*solo residency*)
2024 *Meter & Light: Day in ArtPrize fair*, Grand Rapids, MI
2023 *Meter & Light: Day (preview, part 2)*, Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art, Staten Island, NY (*solo residency*)
2023 *Meter & Light: Day (preview)*, The Rockaway Hotel & The Laundromat Project, Queens, NY (*solo residency*)

Performances (select)

- 2025 *Meter & Light: Night - performance with live musical ensemble*, The Shed, New York, NY
2024 *Meter & Light: Night - preview & live activation*, Recess, Brooklyn, NY
2023 *I am Sounding a Sacred Space*, 8th Floor & Rubin Foundation, New York, NY; Squeaky Wheel, Buffalo, NY
2023 *Mimi Bai: Hide & See - film with live score*, Boston Center for the Arts; The Rockaway Hotel, Brooklyn, NY
2022 *Conjurings: opening night 2*, Center for Arts, Research, and Alliances (CARA), New York, NY
2021 *Red Stage (opening night)*, Creative Time, New York, NY
2020 *Fundraiser for South Asian Resiliency Arts Fund*, India Center Foundation (*remote*)
2020 *Art Mirroring Art*, On Air Fest, Brooklyn, NY
2019 *New Asian Futurisms (closing night)*, Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia, PA
2019 *Rina Banerjee: Make Me a Summary closing*, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA
2018 *I can rotate, repeat, and rearrange (not restart)*, installation piece, Wreck City, Calgary, Canada
2018 *Instrument/ Investment (thesis performance)*, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
2017 *Parafiction (opening night)*, Bruce High Quality Foundation & ArtCenter of South Florida, Miami, FL

Residencies

- 2026 *MacDowell*, Peterborough, NH
2025 *Virginia Center for the Creative Arts*, Mt. San Angelo, VA
2025 *Vermont Studio Center*, Johnson, VT
2024 *Recess: Session*, Brooklyn, NY
2024 *Nawat Fes*, American Cultural Association & Language Center, Fes, Morocco
2024 *OneBeat: Virtual*, Found Sound Nation & U.S. State Dept. Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
2023 *Residency on the Rock*, The Rockaway Hotel, Brooklyn, NY
2023 *PASS Artist Residency*, Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, NY
2022 *Breckenridge Creative Arts*, Breckenridge, CO
2022 *Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences*, Rabun Gap, GA
2022 *Squeaky Wheel Film & Media Art Center*, Buffalo, NY
2021 *Anderson Center*, Red Wing, MN
2019 *Art City*, Winnipeg, Canada
2018 *Marble House*, Dorset, VT
2018 *Wreck City*, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
2017-2018 *Science, Religion & Culture Program artist-in-residence*, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University
2017 *Bruce High Quality Foundation: MFU*, ArtCenter of South Florida, Miami, FL

Awards, fellowships, & honors

- 2026 *Creative Research Grant*, Foundation for Contemporary Arts
2026 *The Artists Now Award*, The Eden Arts Foundation

2025 *50th Anniversary Fellowship & Sackett Fellowship*, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts
 2025 *En Foco Artist Fellowship*, En Foco
 2025 *Full Fellowship - Digital Media/Film*, Vermont Studio Center
 2025 *Documentation & Storytelling Fund*, National Performance Network (NPN)
 2024 *Emergency Grant*, Foundation for Contemporary Arts
 2024 *Media Arts Assistance Fund for Artists award*, Wave Farm & New York State Council for the Arts (NYSCA)
 2024 *Artist Engagement Fund*, National Performance Network (NPN)
 2023 *Composer-Compositions award*, New York State Council for the Arts (NYSCA)
 2022 *The Lee and Margaret Echols Distinguished Fellowship for Musicians*, Hambidge
 2021-2022 *Fellowship for Utopian Practice*, CulturePush
 2020 *South Asian Resiliency Arts Resiliency Fund*, India Center Foundation
 2016 & 2019 *Revolution Remix fellowship & Artists in the Archive fellowship*, South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA)
 2018 *Create Change fellowship*, The Laundromat Project
 2017 *Islamic Scholarship Fund*
 2016 *Artists in the Archive fellowship*, South Asian American Digital Archive
 2013-2014 *William J. Clinton fellowship*, American India Foundation
 2013 *Center for Humanities fellowship*, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
 2012 *Tololyan Fund for Study of Diasporas/Transnationalism & Davenport Grant for Public Affairs*, Wesleyan University
 2011 *Distinction in College of Social Studies examinations*, Wesleyan University

Recordings, scores, & commissions

2026 *The Return*, feature film by Anjali Kemat & Rehan Ansari produced by Aubin Pictures & PBS
 2025 *Gaza Biennale*, score for trailers and video
 2023 *Articles of Interest: Paisley*, podcast by Avery Trufelman
 2022 *Hide & See*, short film by Mimi Bai & Sam Jones, premiere at Maryland Film Festival
 2022 *Starch*, short film by Ajai Vishwanath
 2022 *Tanaïs*, fashion video series by Tanaïs Nandini Islam
 2021 *Pinna: Ramadan*, audiobook by Torran Wakefield-Thompson for Pinna.fm
 2019 *We May Never Dance Again*, dance piece by Raja Feather Kelly at Invisible Dog Art Center, Brooklyn, NY
 2018 *I can rotate, repeat, and rearrange (not restart)*, live score for installation, Wreck City, Calgary, Alberta
 2018 *Vacation Time / Vacate Now*, score for installation by sculptor David Hoffos, Wreck City
 2016-2025 *Humeysha*, songwriting project and touring live act

Lectures & panels

2026 *MacDowell Downtown: spring featured presenter*, Peterborough, NH
 2025 *College of Social Studies: Monday lunch lecture series*, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT
 2024 *The Laundromat Project's Strategic Vision Release*, The Ford Foundation Center for Justice, New York, NY
 2024 *Translating Bollywood into Arabic (with Katharine Halls)*, Arabic Language Institute in Fes (ALIF), Fes, Morocco
 2023 *In Conversation with S. Shiraz Ali (intellectual historian of early modern Islam)*, Duende, Buffalo, NY
 2022 *Town Hall: Music* (remote), Asian American Arts Alliance
 2022 *Place, Body*, FABnyc at Downtown Art, New York, NY
 2022 *Root Systems: The Legacy of Artist Collectives in NYC*, Amos Eno Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 2020 *The Music of Asian America Research Center*, Online (remote)
 2019 *Revolution Remixed*, St. John's University, Philadelphia, PA
 2019 *South Asian Millennial Conference*, Yale University, New Haven, CT
 2018 *Priors & Priorities: Temporalities of Black, Brown & Queer Bodies*, Mahindra Humanities Center, Cambridge, MA
 2017 *Muslim Cool*, Asian American Writers Workshop, New York, NY
 2017 *Ways of Knowing*, Harvard University
 2017 *Engaging Particularities*, Boston College
 2017 *Where We Belong*, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Essays

2023 *Infinites from One: Style and Multiplicity in Islamic Recitation (excerpt)*, The Rubin Foundation, NYC
 2020-2021 *Sacred Space: on sound and faith in the pandemic*, newsletter
 2019 *Introducing: Humeysha's "Nusrat on the Beach,"* Talkhouse, NYC

2017 *Secondary Screening*, The New Yorker
 2017 *Ramadan: Here Comes the Sun*, BuzzFeed, NYC
 2017 *Islam & the Imagination: Notes from a Muslim-American Artist*, Miami Rail

Bibliography & Press

2026 *Approaching Perfection* by Travis Diehl & Zain Alam, The Eden Assemblage
 2026 *Artful Immersion: Interlocking Rhythms of Time in Muslim Life*, MacDowell
 2025 *On Zain Alam's Meter & Light: Night* by Walter Ancarrow, Fran Magazine
 2025 *AAPI Artists Reinterpreting Tradition at The Shed's "Open Call: Portals"* by Bri Ng Schwartz, The Amp
 2025 *Exhibition Review: "Open Call: Portals" at The Shed, Hudson Yards* by Liam Otero, Art & Ponder
 2025 *Early-Career NYC Artists Display New Work At The Shed In Hudson Yards* by Jane Levere, Forbes
 2025 *Brooklyn-based artists shine in The Shed's free summer exhibition, 'Open Call: Portals'* by Jenny Seo, Brooklyn Paper
 2024 *Artists Look to Sufism for Echoes of the Divine*, Sadaf Padder, Hyperallergic
 2024 *Peeling Back the Layers of Religious Devotion* (exhibition review), AX Mina, Hyperallergic
 2021 *Urgent Archives: Enacting Liberatory Memory Work - Introduction*, Michelle Caswell, UCLA
 2020 *"This is What Feels True to Me, & I Believe That Deserves to Take Up Space,"* Passion of the Weiss
 2019 *Humeysha Channels Summery Calm For 'Nusrat on the Beach'*, Rolling Stone India
 2019 *The Archival Spark*, Tides - SAADA
 2019 *14 Concerts to Check Out in NYC This Weekend*, New York Times
 2018 *'A Wonderful Alchemy': Inside the Music (and Mind) of Zain Alam*, Pacific Standard
 2018 *A Haunting View on Leaving Home*, Clove Magazine, London
 2018 *On Departures, Humeysha Transcribes the Diasporic Experience*, Stereogum, NYC
 2018 *Hindi-Urdu-English: The Theopoetics of Humeysha*, Open Horizons, Boston
 2017 *Why This Musician Wants to Understand Xenophobia by Remembering*, Public Radio Intl.
 2016 *Humeysha Explore Migration and Longing*, Village Voice, NYC

Teaching, jury, & consultancy

2019-2025 *Juror/Panelist*, American India Foundation Banyan fellowship (2025); OneBeat residency (2024); NYC Cultural Development Fund (2024); Snug Harbor residency (2024), Anderson Center residency (2022 & 2024); Hambidge residency (2023); Squeaky Wheel residency (2023); Marble House residency (2019-2025)
 2019-2023 *"Collect, Curate, Craft" field recording & sound workshop series*, multiple locations
 2021 *Founder*, Doctors in Diaspora (remote relief organization for COVID-19 triage efforts in India)
 2021 *Creative consultant - Ramadan audiobook*, Pinna.fm, NYC
 2021 *Urdu & Hindi translator and canvasser*, Asians for Ossoff & Warnock, Atlanta, GA
 2020-2026 *Creative & cultural consultant (game design)*, Bloomsbury Publishing Group, London, UK

Education

2016-2018 Harvard University, Masters in Islamic studies (*concentration in art & philosophy*)
Studied with Vijay Iyer, Khaled El-Rouayheb, and Michael D. Jackson
 2009-2013 Wesleyan University, BA in College of Social Studies (*with certificates: South Asian studies; social & critical theory*)
Studied with Alvin Lucier, Khachig Tololyan, and B. Balasubrahmanian