

Ameena Khan

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Ameena Khan is a mixed media artist living and working in the Tampa FL area. Born in 1980 in Gainesville FL, Ameena has been exhibiting her paintings in galleries and festivals since 2010. Using a combination of pop art, impressionism, and art deco styles, Ameena tells the stories of Muslim women living in America.

"I believe that art can transcend the boundaries of culture, language, and beliefs to touch hearts and transform communities. The very best art challenges our most deeply held convictions and gives us the opportunity to grow. This principle is the driving force for my work." –Ameena Khan

STATEMENT: JUST A PEEK, PLEASE?

Stories about Muslim women are typically limited to one of two stereotypes: the victim, or the siren. This oversimplification dehumanizes the complex lives of individuals, and invents a vast separation between non-Muslim and Muslim women. It creates a sense of "us versus them" and relegates Muslim women to being "an OTHER" instead of just "another."

"Just a Peek, Please?" expands the narrative by telling the stories of a collection of American Muslim women who have agreed to share their experiences anonymously. These stories range in sentiment and complexity from faithful to faithless, fearful to fearless, embraced to isolated. Certain pieces are concealed using a scarf previously worn by the muse, carrying with it something of the woman's identity and essence. In an act that is typically unacceptable or taboo, the viewer is required to lift the woman's article of clothing to see the art underneath. This voyeuristic act creates the sense of a fleeting, intimate conversation between the viewer, muse, and artist.

SELECT EXHIBITIONS

- 2018, May 8 – Aug 19: “Arabesque: Contemporary Conversations”
 - The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens, Winter Park FL. (forthcoming)
- 2018, Mar 9 – April 15: “Veiled / Unveiled”
 - Osceola Arts, Kissimmee FL.
- 2016, July – Aug: “Loud Print”
 - Carrollwood Cultural Center, Tampa FL. (SOLO)
- 2015, Sept – Dec: “Loud Print”
 - Hillsborough Comm. College, Tampa FL. (SOLO)
- 2015, Mar – Jul: “Dialogue in Color”
 - Women and Gender Studies, Univ. of So. Florida, Tampa FL. (SOLO)
- 2014, Nov – Dec: “3rd Ann. Juried Int. Exhib. of Contemporary Islamic Art”
 - Luminarte Gallery, Dallas TX.
- 2014, Feb – Aug: “We Rise Together”
 - Nur Spirituality Institute, Orlando FL. (SOLO)
- 2013-2014, Dec – Mar: “Sacred Voices”
 - Canton Museum of Art, Canton OH.
- 2013, May – Aug: “Reflections”
 - Beltram Peace Center, Gainesville FL. (SOLO)
- 2013, July-Sept: “4th Annual Juried Exhibition”
 - Florida Museum for Women Artists, Deland FL.