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ANWAR JALAL SHEMZA CV

Born 1928, Simla, India
Died 1985, Stafford, UK

Education

1956-1960
Slade School of Fine Art, London, UK

1944-1947
The Mayo School of Art, Lahore, Pakistan

Solo Exhibitions

2027
Anwar Jalal Shemza: A Circle, A Square, A Puzzle, Dulwich Picture Gallery, London, UK

2024
Heads, Hales Gallery, London, UK

2022
Anwar Jalal Shemza in the British Museum, British Museum, London, UK

2019
Anwar Jalal Shemza: Various Works (1961–1969), Sharjah Biennale 14: Making New Time, Sharjah, UAE

2018
Paintings from the 1960s, Hales Gallery, London, UK

2015
BP Display: Anwar Shemza, Tate Britain, London, UK
Drawing, Print, Collage, Jhaveri Contemporary, London, UK

2010
The British Landscape, Green Cardamom, London, UK

2009
Calligraphic Abstraction, Green Cardamom, London, UK

2006
Zahoor-ul-Akhlaq Art Gallery, National College of Arts, Lahore and Pakistan National College of Arts, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

1997
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK

1995
Botanical Gardens Gallery, Birmingham, UK

1992
Manchester Metropolitan University, Alsager, UK

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1991

Keele University, Keele, UK

1987

Playhouse Gallery, Canberra, Australia

1985

Roots, Indus Gallery, Karachi, Alhamra Art Centre, Lahore and Pakistan National Council of the Arts Gallery, Islamabad and Peshwar, Pakistan

1972

Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, UK

1967

Exhibition of 25 Paintings, Alhamra Art Centre, Lahore and Pakistan National Council of the Arts Gallery, Islamabad and Peshwar, Pakistan

1966

Commonwealth Institute, London, UK

1964

Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, UK

Keele University, Keele, UK

Stafford College of Art, Stafford, UK

1963

Paintings, Drawings, 1957-1963, Gulbenkian Museum of Oriental Art and Archaeology, Durham, UK

1962

An Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings, Alhamra Art Centre, Lahore, Pakistan

1961

Exhibition of Paintings by Shemza, Pakistan National Council of the Arts Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan

Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings: 75 Heads, Pakistan National Council of the Arts Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan

1960

Paintings, Gallery One, London, UK

Society of Contemporary Art Gallery, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

1959

Drawings and Paintings, A J Shemza, New Vision Centre, London, UK

1956

Heads, Drawings and Painting, Pakistan National Council of the Arts Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan

Paintings by Anwar Jalal Shemza, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan

1954

Thirty Portraits of Quaid-i-Azam, Alhamra Art Centre, Lahore, Pakistan

Exhibition of Paintings, Sculpture and Pottery, Alhamra Art Centre, Lahore, Pakistan

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Selected Group Exhibitions

2026

SOME TREES (Part 3). Andrew Bick and Anwar Jala Shemza, ARTSHED, Glaisdale, UK
The Sun and The Moon: Art Inspired by the Celestial, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
South Asian Modern Art 2026, Grosvenor Gallery, London, UK
Put 'Em Up!, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK

2025

The Other Story (Revisted), Grosvenor Gallery, London, UK
The Other Story: Afro-Asian Artists in Post-war Britain, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
Material Affinities and Tropical Dreams, Almeida & Dale, São Paulo, Brazil
Crossing Borders: Modern Art from South Asia, PhillipsX and Grosvenor Gallery, London, UK
Tigers & Dragons: India and Wales in Britain, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea, Wales, UK
Fighting to be Heard, Cartwright Hall Art Gallery, Bradford, UK

2024

Lattice Structure of Space Time, Indigo+Madder, London, UK
Manzar: Art and Architecture from Pakistan 1940s to today, Art Mill Museum, Doha, Qatar
Venice Biennale: Foreigners Everywhere, Venice, Italy
The Shape of Things: Still Life in Britain, Pallant House, Chichester, UK

2023

Radical Landscapes: Art inspired by the land, William Morris Gallery, London, UK
Albukhary Foundation Gallery of the Islamic World, British Museum, London, UK
PERPETUAL BEINGS Vol*.2, PNCA, Islamabad, Pakistan
Contact, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai, India
Rituals of Devotion, McEvoy Foundations for the Arts, San Francisco, CA, USA

2022

In the Heart of Another Country, Deichtorhallen International Kunst and Fotografie
Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
Radical Landscapes, Mead Gallery, Coventry, UK
Conference of the Birds, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, UK
SOUTH ASIAN MODERN ART 2022, Grosvenor Gallery, London, UK
Radical Landscapes, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
Postwar Modern: New Art in Britain 1945-65, Barbican Centre, London, UK
A Century of the Artist's Studio 1920 - 2020, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK

2021

Unsettled Objects, Sharjah Art Foundation, Al Sharjah, UAE
Abstraction and Calligraphy - Towards a Universal Language, Louvre Abu Dhabi, UAE

2019

Home Is a Foreign Place: Recent Acquisitions in Context, The Met Breuer, New York, NY, USA

2018

Speech Acts: Reflection-Imagination-Repetition, Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
What's Essential, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai, India
Kamrooz Aram, Anwar Jalal Shemza, Hales Project Room, New York, USA

2017

Windows, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai, India

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South Asian Modernists 1953-63, The Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
Art Dubai Modern, Jhaveri Contemporary, Dubai, UAE

2016

Rewind, Dhaka Art Summit, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Postwar: Art Between the Pacific and the Atlantic, 1945-1965, Haus Der Kunst, Munich, Germany

2014

Dhaka Art Summit, Jhaveri Contemporary, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Burning Down the House, 10th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea
The Importance of Staying Quiet, Yallay Gallery, Hong Kong, China
Trajectories: 19th–21st Century Printmaking from India and Pakistan, Sharjah Museum of Art, Sharjah, UAE

2012

Migrations: Journeys into British Art, Tate Britain, London, UK

2011

Drawn from Life, Abbott Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, UK

2008

Drawn from Life 1: Drawing Process, Green Cardamom, London, UK

2000

Pakistan: Another Vision, Brunei Gallery, London, UK
The Coming Age in the New Millennium, Alliance Francaise de Singapour, Singapore

1999

Typo, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK

1998

Clwyd Theatre, Mold, Wales, UK

1997

Printmakers of Pakistan, Bradford, UK

1989

The Other Story: Afro-Asian Artists in Post-War Britain, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
Wolverhampton City Art Gallery, Wolverhampton and Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK

1987

Anwar and Mary Shemza, Playhouse Gallery, Canberra, Australia

1986

6th Triennial of World Art, New Delhi, India

1973

1st British International Drawing Biennale, Teeside Art Gallery, Teeside, UK

1972

3rd Biennial of Engraving, Art Gallery, International Club de la Estampa, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1971

East Comes West, Bradford City Art Gallery, Bradford, UK

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1970

2nd International Exhibition of Original Drawings, Moderna Galerija, Rijeka, Yugoslavia
2nd Biennial of Engraving, Art Gallery, International Club de la Estampa, Buenos Aires, Argentina

1969

A J Shemza and R Silvester, Paintings, Prints, Enamels and Reliefs, Commonwealth Institute, Edinburgh, UK

1968

6th International Print Biennial, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan
1st Biennial of Engraving, Art Gallery, International Club de la Estampa, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Centenary Exhibition, Royal Commonwealth Society, Bristol, UK

1967

4th International Triennial of Original Coloured Graphic, Parktheatre, Grenchen, Switzerland

1965

An Exhibition of Paintings by Four Commonwealth Artists, Chester Town Hall, Chester, UK

1963

Graphische Sammlung, Albertina, Vienna, Austria
September Exhibition, Grosvenor Gallery, London, UK

1962

Exhibition of Paintings: A J Shemza and Mary Katrina, The Society of Contemporary Art, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

1958

Five Modern Painters of Pakistan, Woodstock Gallery, London, UK

1955

Moyene, Imam, Shemza: Lahore Art Circle, United States Information Centre, Murree, Pakistan
Lahore Art Circle Group Exhibition, The Divisional Auditorium, Lahore, Pakistan

Selected Collections

Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, UK
Birmingham Museum and Art Galleries, Birmingham, UK
Bradford Museum and Art Galleries, Bradford, UK
British Museum, London, UK
Government Art Collection London, UK
Guggenheim, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Oriental Museum, Durham University, Durham, UK
Herbert F Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, USA
Lahore Museum, Lahore, Pakistan
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA
Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesbrough, UK
Minneapolis Institute of Art, MN, USA
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, USA
National Portrait Gallery, London, UK
Sharjah Art Foundation, UEA
Tate Gallery, London, UK

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Awards, Fellowships, Grants

1973

Major Prize, 1st British International Drawing Biennale, Teesside, UK

1956

Gold Medal, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan