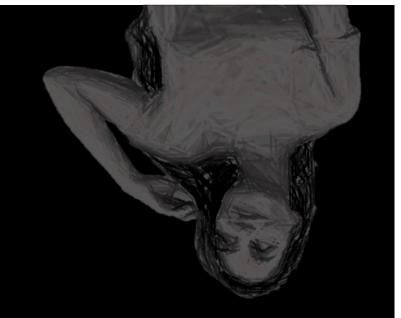


AQSA KHAN



WHAT IS IDENTITY?

My name is Aqsa Khan and I am a 24-year old aspiring textile/fibre artist. I was born in England, raised in Canada and currently reside in Lahore, Pakistan. With a mixture of all these diverse countries, I believe I have become a compilation of different identities. Thus, somewhere along the way, I lost my true self. Keeping all of this in mind, for my work, I try to place emphasis on the resilient journey we all go through in the search of an definitive identity.

INTRODUCTION

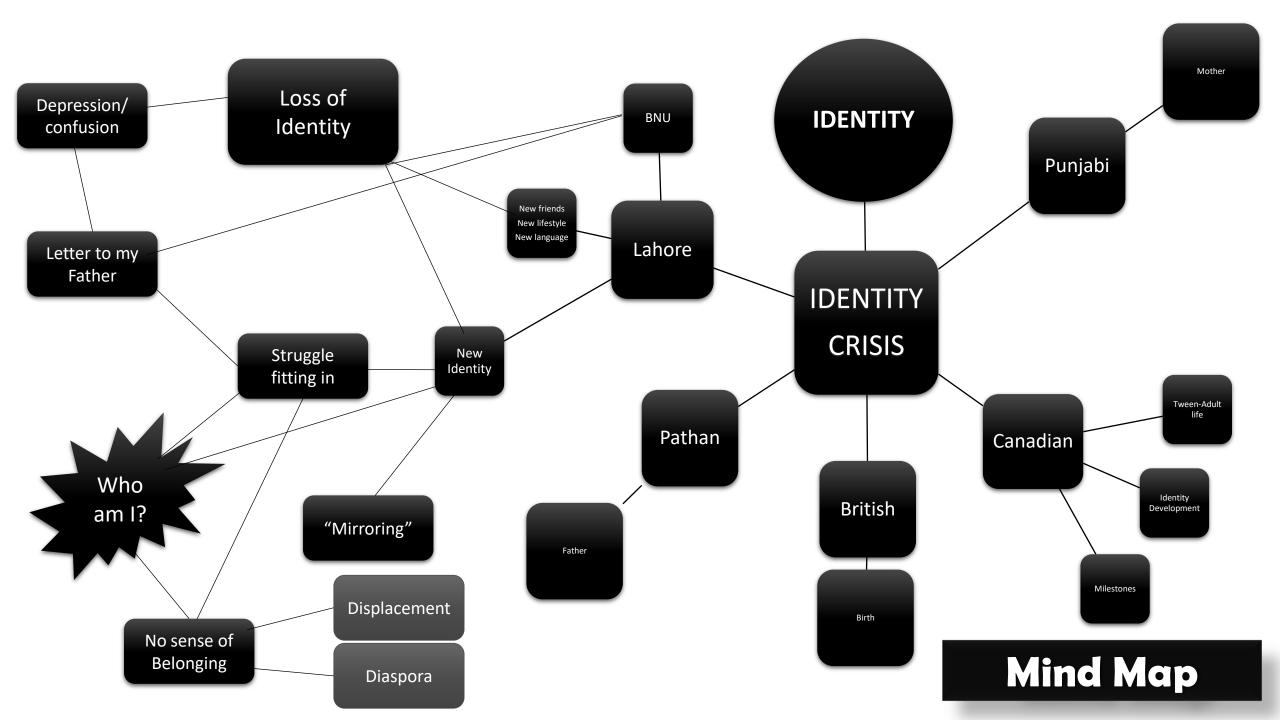




THESIS STATEMENT

Where we live, what we eat, the people we surround ourselves with and the experiences we have; shape our identity

But how do you define your identity if there has never been any consistency in your life, if you have not lived in the same place for more than two years or been around the same people? What if the only thing that has been consistent in your life is the constant sense of displacement?



LITERATURE

RESEARCH GAP

METHODOLOGY

- Bullying Amongst immigrant children
- Displacement
- Identity Crisis amongst immigrant children
- Identity Crisis
- Struggles of moving/effects

• Identity Crisis

- Constantly moving
- Meeting New People
- Exploring new places
- Memories/significance of these places
 - Association with self
 - Development of new identity
 - A Combination of everything

Material

- Mix Media
 - Digital Printing
 - UV Printing
 - Embossing
 - Foiling
 - Base- Acrylic, Brass, Fibre Glass, Aluminum
 - Acrylic- Layering, transparency

- Personal Imagery
- Articles (Jstor)
- Interviews
- Online Surveys
- Artist Research

Article Titles:

A Canadian Identity Crisis:

file:///D:/thesis/articles/identity/How%20moving%20to%20Canada%20brought%20abo ut%20my%20identity crisis%20-%20The%20Globe%20and%20Mail.pdf

Identity or Prestige: The Chameleon Effect on EFL Pronunciation:

file:///D:/thesis/articles/identity/75662-285835-1-PB.pdf

Diaspora, memory and identity: a search for home.:

https://utorontopress.com/us/diaspora-memory-and-identity-3

Always on the Move: How Residential Mobility Impacts Our Well-Being

file:///D:/thesis/articles/frequently%20moving/3.pdf

Displacement & Diaspora: Case of Cultural Identity:

https://www.academia.edu/8104264/Displacement_and_Diaspora_Case_of_Cultural_Identity_found_in_Jhumpa_Lahiri_s_The_Namesake_and_Leila_S_Chudori_s_Pulang

ARTICLES

Key Terms:		
	identity crisis	
	Immigrant	
	Culture	
	Prestige	
	Mimicry	
	Language	
	Disapore	
	Displacement	

ARTICLES

Key Terms: ☐ Diaspora ☐ New Identity ☐ Multiple Identities ☐ Anxiety Issues ☐ Social Connections ☐ Disassociation

Article Titles:

Diaspora: Identifying a New Identity Through Multiple Travels - A New View of Diaspora:

https://owlcation.com/humanities/Diaspora-Identifying-a-new-identity-through-multiple-travels-A-new-view-of-Diaspora-from-a-Moroccan-lense

Moving and Children's Social Connections: Neighborhood Context and the Consequences of Moving for Low-Income Families:

file:///D:/thesis/articles/frequently%20moving/childrens%20social%20connections.pdf

How do moving and other major life events impact mental health? A longitudinal analysis of UK children:

file:///D:/thesis/articles/frequently%20moving/How%20do%20moving%20and%20other %20major%20life%20events%20impact%20mental%20health_%20A%20longitudinal%20 analysis%20of%20UK%20children%20-%20ScienceDirect.pdf

Moving Is Tough for Kids: Moving is hard on kids who leave and those who stay

file:///D:/thesis/articles/frequently%20moving/Moving%20Is%20Tough%20for%20Kids%20_%20Psychology%20Today.pdf



How often have you moved in your life and how old are you?

Type something...



Was there a particular place u loved the most? If so, why?

Type something...



Are there any particular issues that you faced because of the moving?

Type something...



If most of you were not forced because of family, would you still have mved

Type something...



Do you feel like you dont have ONE distinct identity?

Type something...

Do you guys still have things/friends/pictures from all the places you guys have lived in?



NO

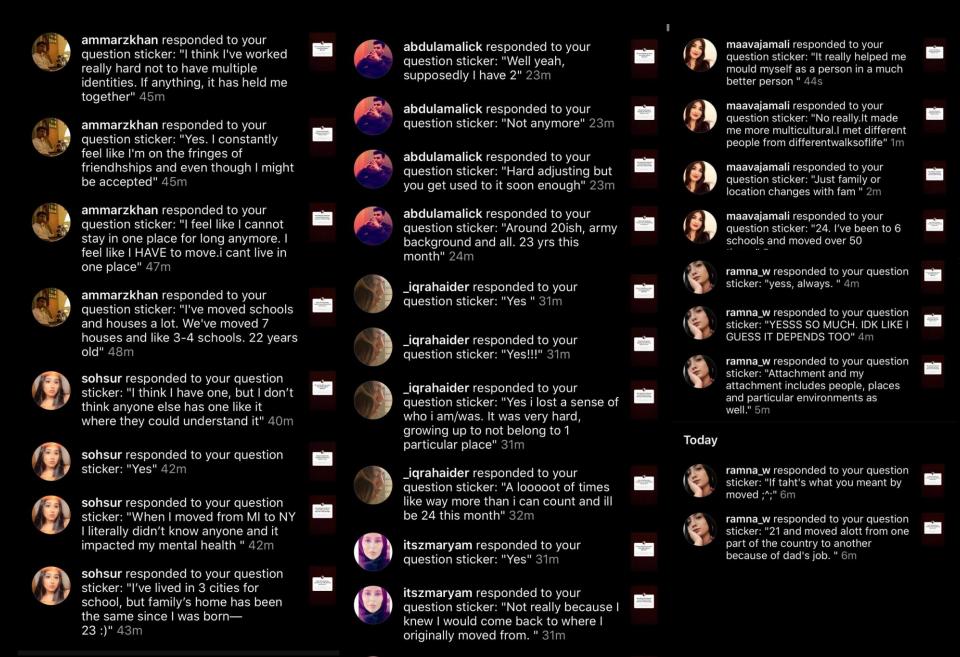


Do you have issues figuring out where you REALLY fit in?

Type something...

Online Survey

Results



itszmaryam responded to your

question sticker: "23 and twice" 32m



peerzada_16 responded to your question sticker: "Yes sometimes lol" 13m



rubii.hirx responded to your question sticker: "I've moved 5 times to different countries and cities and im 24" 13m



peerzada_16 responded to your question sticker: "Of course" 13m



peerzada_16 responded to your question sticker: "Many issues .. New faces new people new area new schools everything!! Takes time to settle " 13m





peerzada_16 responded to your question sticker: "After every 2 years as my dad was in army !! I'm 24" 15m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Lots of friends there.I can't forget the amazing time I spent there with my family." 2m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Whole childhood.It was a beautiful Cantt.I loved my school there at Mangla.I made " 3m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Yes.In 2005 my father was posted to Mangla Cantt.I



salmanzk responded to your question sticker: "Where I live now honestly, it's quiet, green and there's no over hanging wires. It's really calm." 24s



salmanzk responded to your question sticker: "Not really" 1m

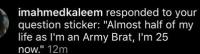


salmanzk responded to your question sticker: "No sense of possession, like this place is mine or I own it" 2m





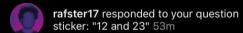














abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Whole childhood.It was a beautiful Cantt.I loved my school there at Mangla. I made " 3m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Yes.In 2005 my father was posted to Mangla Cantt.I think it was the best time of my " 4m



rijafatimaa responded to your question sticker: "More like education. No" 5m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "I think I love travelling and exploring different areas of our motherland." 5m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Yes" 6m



rijafatimaa responded to your question sticker: "No im a fixie i fix everywhere " 6m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "No" 6m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "My experience was amazing. Moving from place to place in Pakistan was indeed a "8m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "The stay was almost 2 years each station. I am 23 vears old." 10m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "My father was an army officer so we were posted to different cities of Pakistan," 11m



khanflictz responded to your question sticker: "I didn't move often but i travel alot. The hardest part is the faces and stories you'll never see again. " 21m



khanflictz responded to your question sticker: "Yes. I believe humans are complicated beings. We cannot be one thing and that's ok. " 22m



ammarzkhan responded to your question sticker: "Not really but if I had to choose, the house I grew up in" 33m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "I think I love travelling and exploring different areas of our motherland." 5m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "Yes" 6m



rijafatimaa responded to your question sticker: "No im a fixie i fix everywhere " 6m



abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "No" 6m



Today

abeerazain95 responded to your question sticker: "No I don't think so. Overall it has a very positive imapct on my life," 6m



peerzada 16 responded to your question sticker: "Abbottabad ..cause its the most Beautiful and peaceful place I've ever been" 2m



interaction

peerzada_16 responded to your question sticker: "Nope" 3m



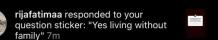
usmann_khalid responded to your question sticker: "Pind. It's so relaxing and peaceful unlike sher" 4m



peerzada_16 responded to your question sticker: "Abbottabad ..cause its the most Beautiful and peaceful place I've ever been" 5m



Today





-1000

-255

-100000

Alternation.

rijafatimaa responded to your question sticker: "4 times actually and 22" 7m

noreen_nasir_saeed responded to

hometown as it had best childhood

your question sticker: "Yes my

memories and familes were



usmann_khalid responded to your question sticker: "Pind. It's so relaxing and peaceful unlike sher" 7m

peerzada_16 responded to your

question sticker: "Nope" 6m



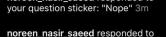
maavajamali responded to your question sticker: "Of course. It really opened my mind. I've been moving since I was 3 so it was a lot of exposur "8m





now" 4m

intact" 2m



noreen_nasir_saeed responded to

noreen_nasir_saeed responded to

your question sticker: "Every place

noreen nasir saeed responded to

your question sticker: "Trying to

your question sticker: "No not

has different lifestyle " 4m

your question sticker: "Yes it happens when you move around too much" 3m



maavajamali responded to your question sticker: "It really helped me mould myself as a person in a much better person " 10m



maavajamali responded to your question sticker: "No really. It made me more multicultural. I met different people from differentwalksoflife" 5m

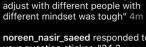


maavajamali responded to your question sticker: "Just family or location changes with fam " 6m



maavajamali responded to your question sticker: "24. I've been to 6 schools and moved over 50 times." 6m



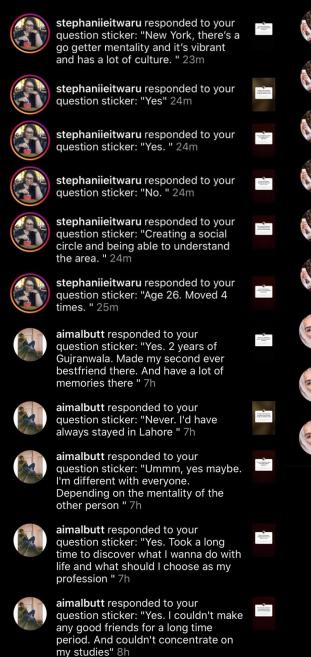






-1227

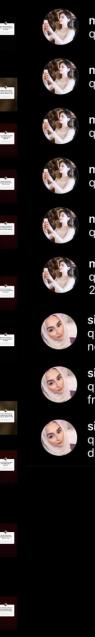


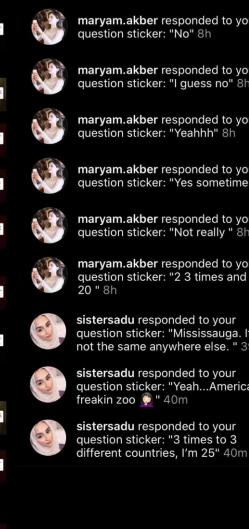


aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "About 6 times. And

I'm 22" 8h













American American American American American American

khanmandvc responded to your question sticker: "As an adult dealing with changing everything & giving people directions as if there's no GPS." 8h

khanmandvc responded to your

question sticker: "Thorncliffe park.

Everyone was equal working class

khanmandvc responded to your

didn't understand. Who wants to

khanmandvc responded to your question sticker: "Short answer,

identity is the same, people have

khanmandvc responded to your

out I've got my own bubble & I let

different ways of looking at the same

question sticker: "Used to till I figured

people in but never let them pop me u

question sticker: "No as a kid no cuz I

humble upbringings. "8h

leave their friends?" 8h

thing. "8h

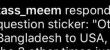
no..." 8h



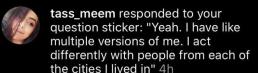
khanmandvc responded to your question sticker: "As a child, starting over again, and being a minority trying to fit in with the rich gore majority. "8h

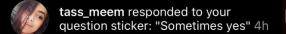


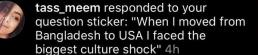
tass_meem responded to your question sticker: "Yes cause I met my bf there and have SO MANY memories attached to that place" 4h

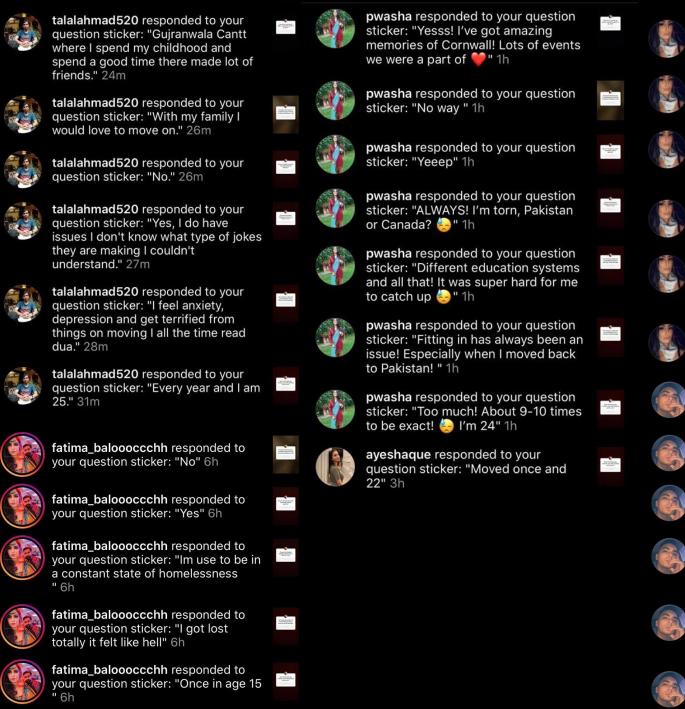


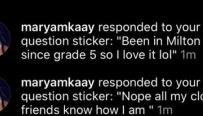
tass_meem responded to your question sticker: "Other than Bangladesh to USA, I chose to move the 3 other times just cause I love the personal gro" 4h











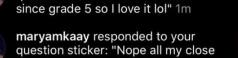
enough may 2m

Really big. "7h

multiple "7h

community. " 7h

old" 7h



maryamkaay responded to your

years are people that matter " 2m

maryamkaay responded to your

question sticker: "Haven't moved

maryamkaay responded to your

maryamkaay responded to your

question sticker: "2 & 23" 4m

azhar_moh responded to your

azhar_moh responded to your

azhar_moh responded to your

azhar_moh responded to your question sticker: "Instead of saying I

fit in , in a specific spot. I can be

azhar_moh responded to your

new friends and being in a new

azhar_moh responded to your

adaptable and fit in most places" 7h

question sticker: "Anxiety of making

question sticker: "8 times, 22 years

question sticker: "Yes I feel like I have

question sticker: "Nope " 7h

question sticker: "Chicago. It's big.

question sticker: "Lol Yesss Family is

where I'll be, Where ever they go

question sticker: "Nope, people that

have stayed in your life for over 3plus



shahnoorgureja responded to your question sticker: "Yess. The first house we moved to. Right after coming to Lahore. Long explanation



shahnoorgureja responded to your question sticker: "Not sure ab. But At one point in life I definitely would've" 3h



shahnoorgureja responded to your question sticker: "Bilkul. Different personalities with different set of people "3h



shahnoorgureja responded to your question sticker: "Yess. Definitely.



shahnoorgureja responded to your question sticker: "A couple of em . Which weren't that bad honestly " 3h



shahnoorgureja responded to your question sticker: "From Karachi to Lahore . Back in 2010. I was 17. " 3h







abdullahhbh responded to your question sticker: "I love being in my village in Pakistan it just hits different take away all of stress" 9h



aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "Yes. 2 years of Gujranwala. Made my second ever bestfriend there. And have a lot of memories there "7h



el_lord_narcos responded to your question sticker: "Yes" 7h



abdullahhbh responded to your question sticker: "I don't get it what

you mean by that" 9h



aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "Never. I'd have always stayed in Lahore " 7h



el_lord_narcos responded to your question sticker: "Yes " 7h



abdullahhbh responded to your question sticker: "No Ik what I am" 9h



aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "Ummm, yes maybe. I'm different with everyone. Depending on the mentality of the

other person "7h



el_lord_narcos responded to your question sticker: "I have been in a constant movement since age 11 and now I'm 23 years of age "7h





abdullahhbh responded to your question sticker: "No if I have the resources I know exactly where I want to be and what to do" 9h

question sticker: "Yes recently when I

question sticker: "New friends. I don't

like making new friends 😂 😂 " 9h

went to Pakistan but it was a family

issue nothing to do with travel" 9h

maznah_ch responded to your

abdullahhbh responded to your



aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "Yes. Took a long time to discover what I wanna do with life and what should I choose as my profession " 7h



el lord narcos responded to your question sticker: "I love the beaches particularly because ocean heals the sorrows "7h





el lord narcos responded to your question sticker: "Kohat, because it's so much naturally nurtured city with very good environment and clean air " 7h



aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "Yes. I couldn't make any good friends for a long time period. And couldn't concentrate on my studies" 8h



el_lord_narcos responded to your question sticker: "Yes" 7h





el_lord_narcos responded to your question sticker: "Yes" 7h







aimalbutt responded to your question sticker: "About 6 times. And I'm 22" 8h



How often have you moved in your life and how old are you?

Type something...

Common Answers:

MINIMUM

2

MAXIMUM

50

Age:

MINIMUM

20

MINIMUM

25

Common Answers:

Most didn't have a favorite place since they did not get a chance to stay for too long



Was there a particular place u loved the most? If so, why?



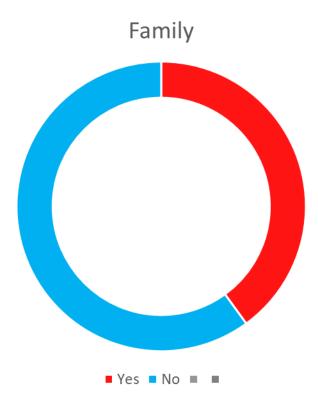
Are there any particular issues that you faced because of the moving?

Type something...

Common Answers:

u	Losing friendships
	Fear of rejection
	Not being able to stay in one place
	Mental health
	Lost sense of self
	Takes time to settle
	Attachment issues
	Loneliness
	No sense of possession
	Anxietv

☐ Different education systems

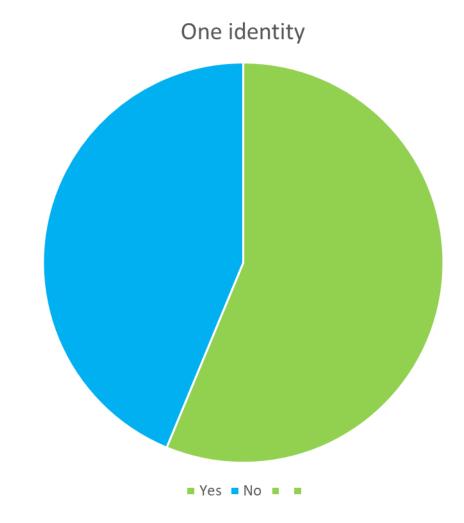


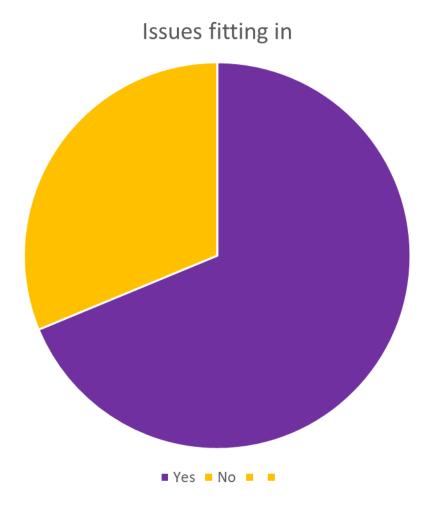


If most of you were not forced because of family, would you still have mved



Do you feel like you dont have ONE distinct identity?







Do you have issues figuring out where you REALLY fit in?

Do you guys still have things/friends/pictures from all the places you guys have lived in?

YES NO

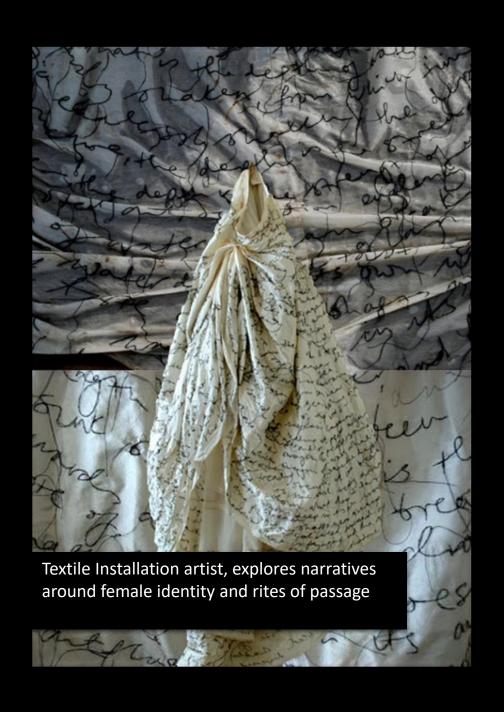
Do you guys still have things/friends/pictures from all the places you guys have lived in?



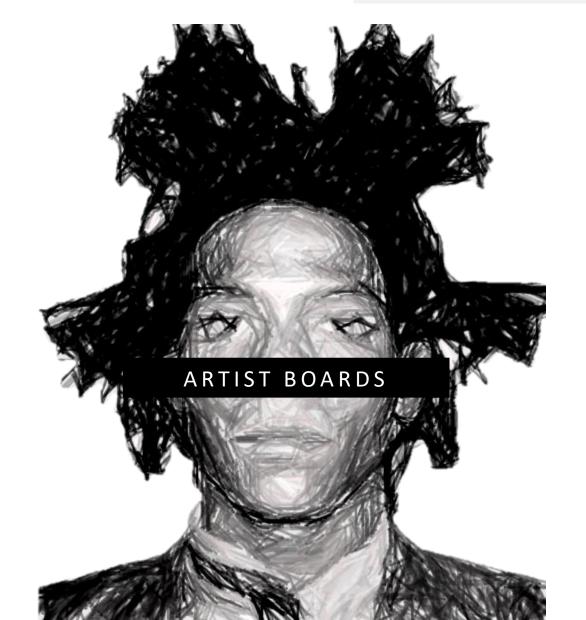
Cathryn Kemp

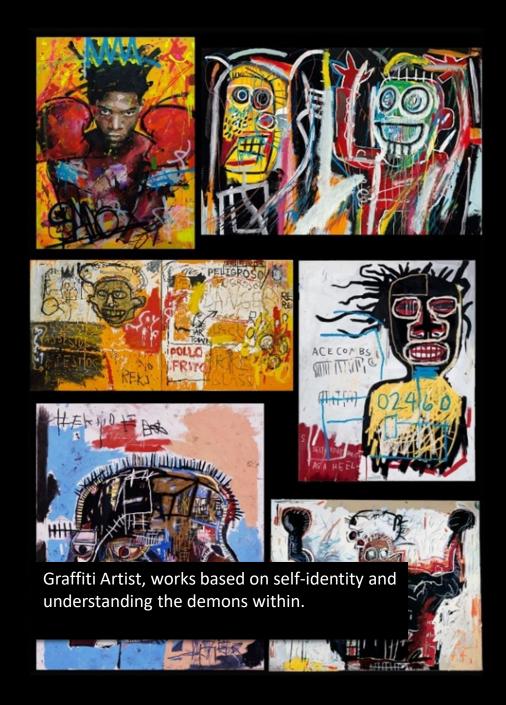






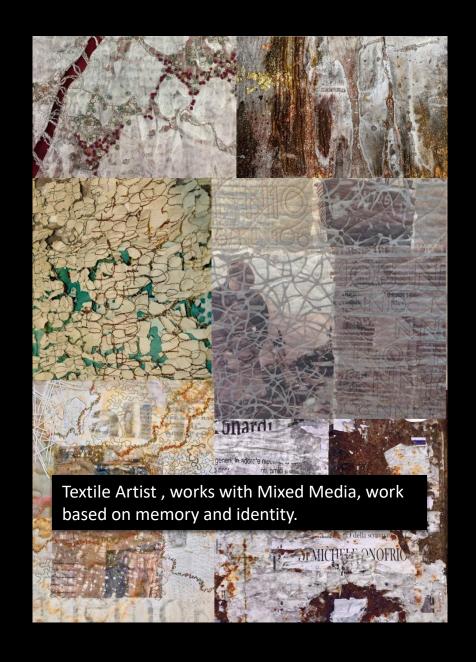
Jean Michel





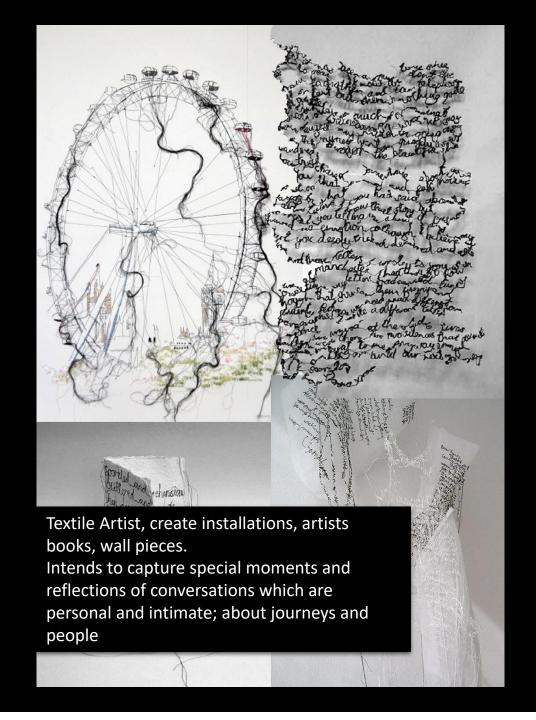
Christine Chester





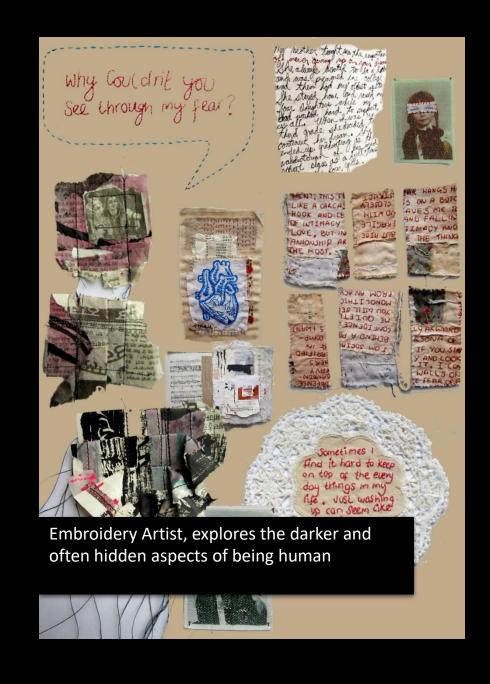
Donna Rumble Smith





Emma Parker





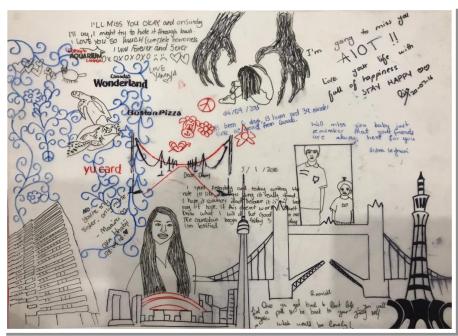
Anna Torma















VISUAL BOARDS

Anna Torma inspired
Doodling based on
Memories
Experiences
Places
People
☐ Text
Acetate sheets in layers
Paint markets





COLOUR BOARD

CATEGORIES:

I split up all the visuals I had into different categories; according to cities, countries and schools so that it would be easier to make Visual Boards





England



islamabad



lahore



milton



missisauga camilla



New folder



scarborough



sheridan



t.l kennedy



york





bishop reding



bnu



camilla rd





sheridan



t.l kennedy



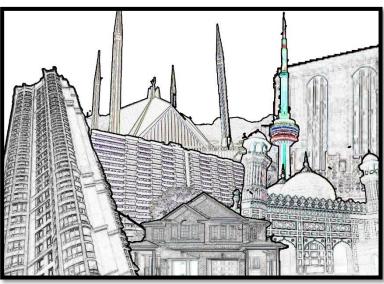
CHANGE OF AESTHETIC:

- I realized my doodling was not up to the mark and decided to try out a tool I was much better at, Photoshop.
- I was using images I had of the people in my life and the all the places I had memories from.
- At this point, I liked the architectural aesthetic, so I decided to focus on places instead









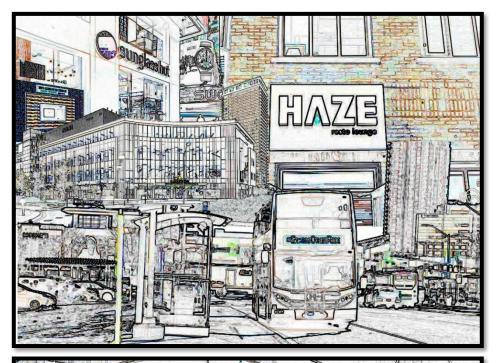




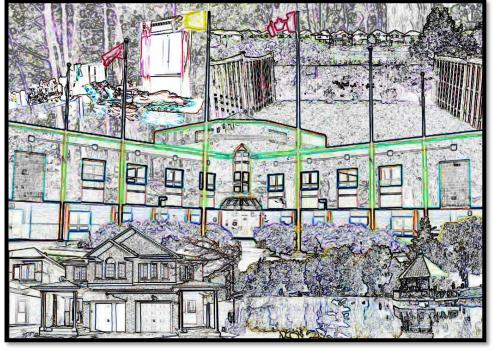
VISUAL BOARDS

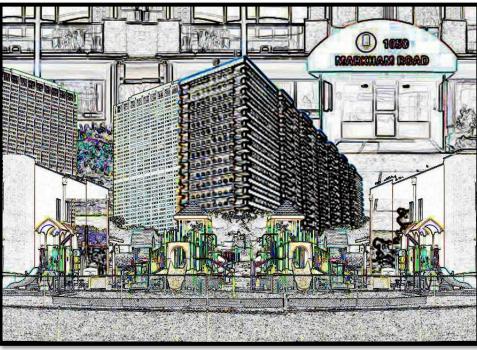
I decided to focus on the places in my life, the experiences I had there and how these experiences shaped my "identity"

I used images that I had collected over the time I lived in these places and edited them to achieve a more illustrated look."



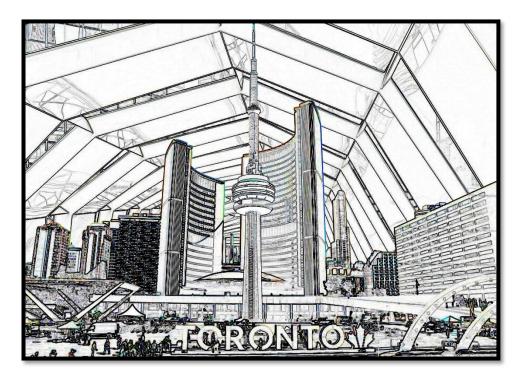






I collected all the visuals I had of all the schools, universities, houses, apartments, places I visited, etc., and categorized according to countries or cities.

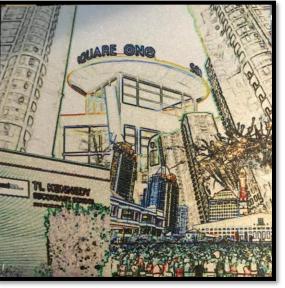


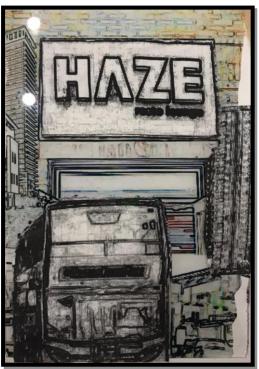












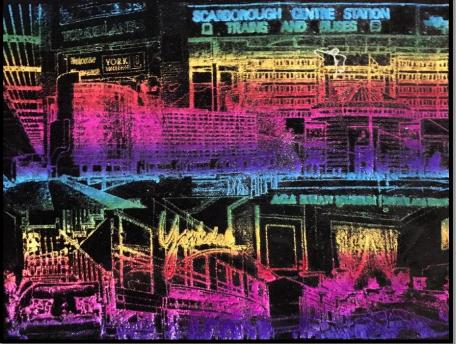
EXPERIMENTATION

- Aluminum
- Wood/Lasani
- Brass
- Fibre Glass
- Acrylic

EXPERIMENTATION

- Embossing
- Foiling
- Machine Embroidery
- Felting
- Digital Printing
- UV Printing
- Photo Transfer







Experimentation

- Embossing
- Foiling
- Machine Embroidery
- Felting
- Digital Printing
- UV Printing
- Photo Transfer

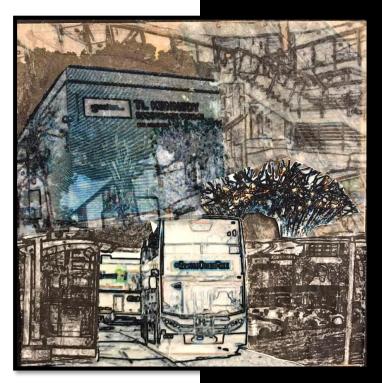
MIXED MEDIA





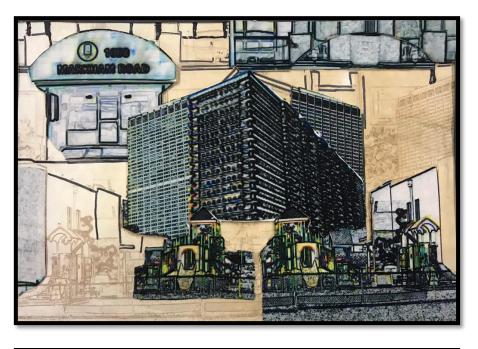
MIXED MEDIA

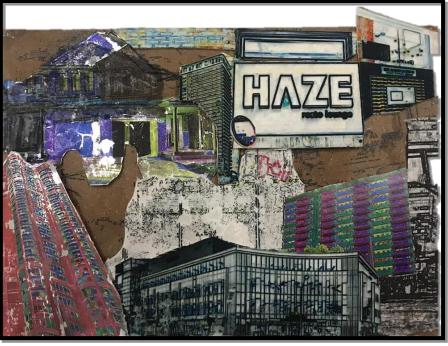




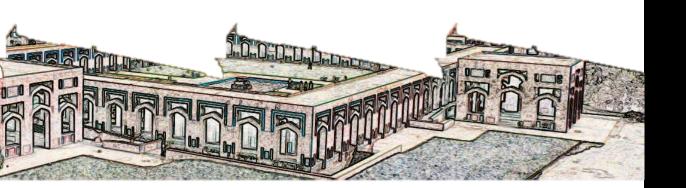


MIXED MEDIA





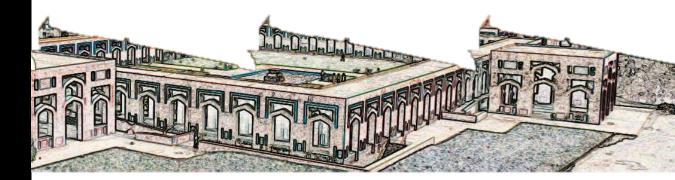
MINI THESIS DISPLAY



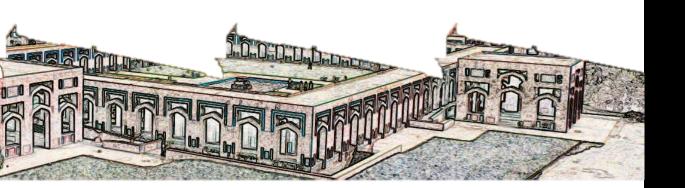




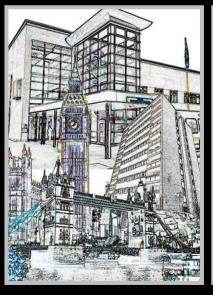
MINI THESIS DISPLAY

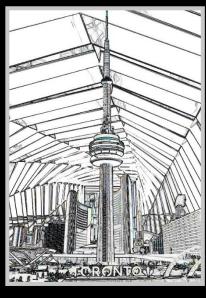


MINI THESIS DISPLAY







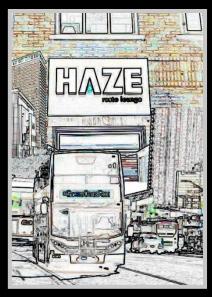


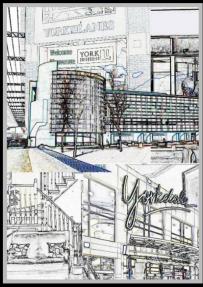










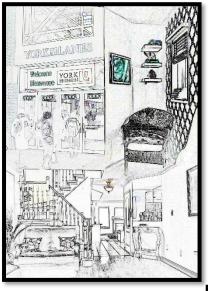








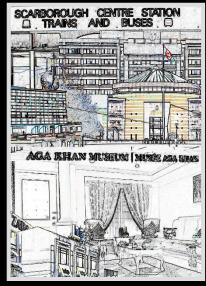




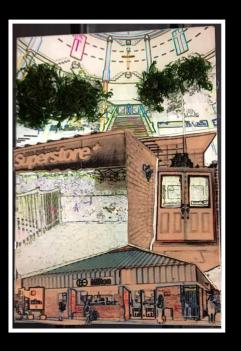


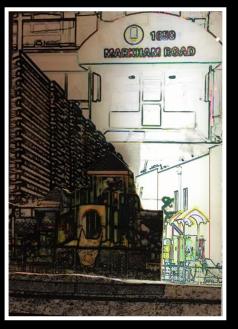


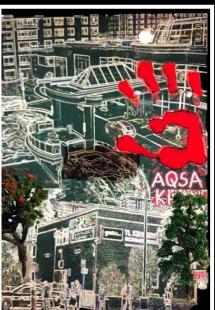








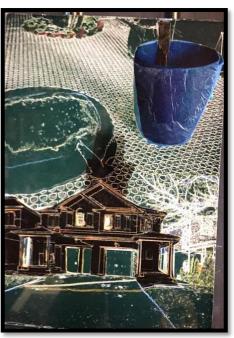




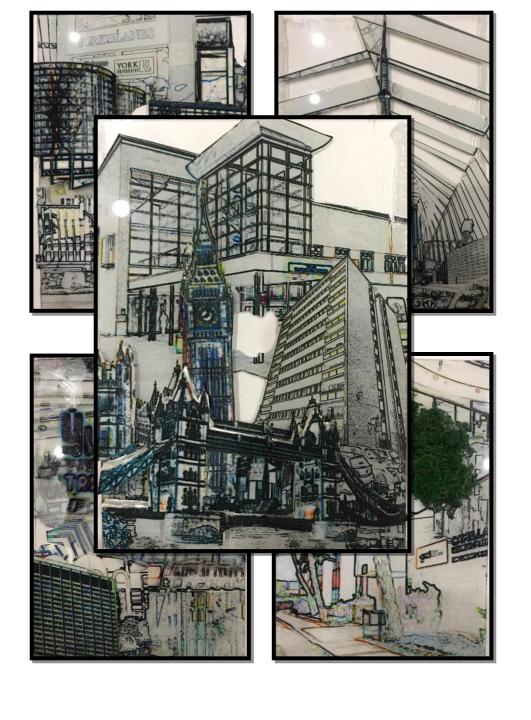














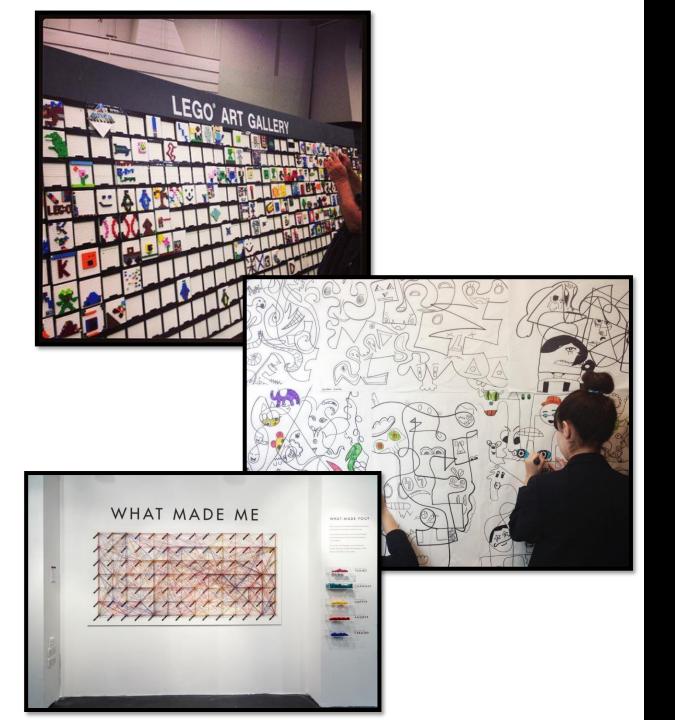
THESIS



In our lives with so many intermingling of elements in which we are all caught up, a new concept of identity is needed, and needed urgently. We cannot expect all human beings to choose between excessive assertion of their identity and the loss of their identity altogether but instead we all have to find a common ground for ourselves. The search for that common ground is what leaves you lost, confused, displaced, as if you are unidentifiable. You do not know where you do or don't belong, and that is when your journey begins; of finding YOUR identity. One that defines you how you want to be defined, not how everything else around you defines you. You choose what identifies you as a person, no one else can force that upon you.

PURPOSE STATEMENT





INTERACTIVE WALL

THESIS IDEAS:

- An interactive Space
- Relatable for the viewers
- Installation
- Acrylic

INSTALLATION











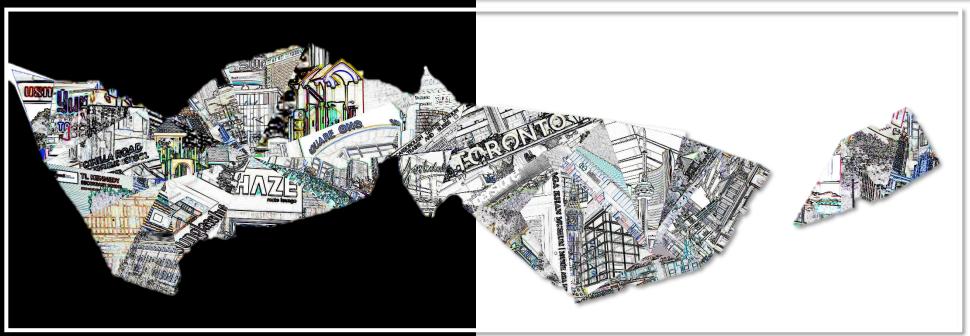




INSTALLATION+INTERACTIVE WALL

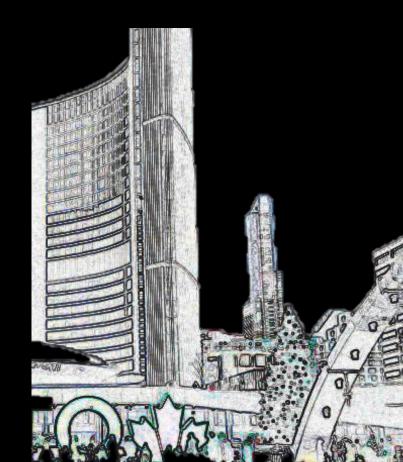
PROTOTYPE





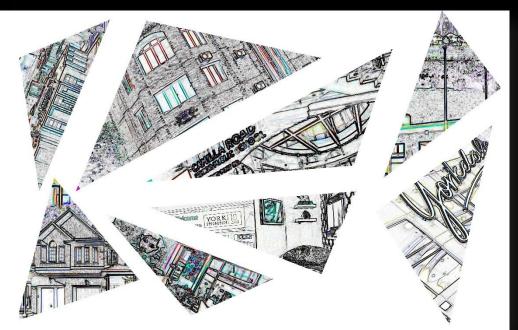
PANELS

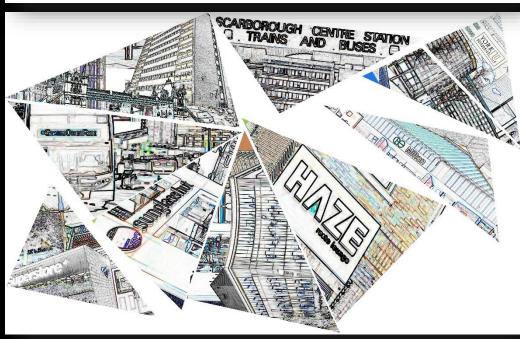


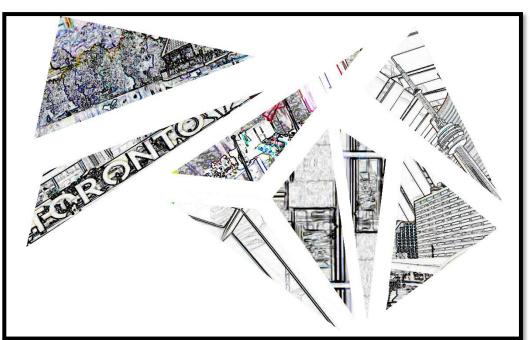


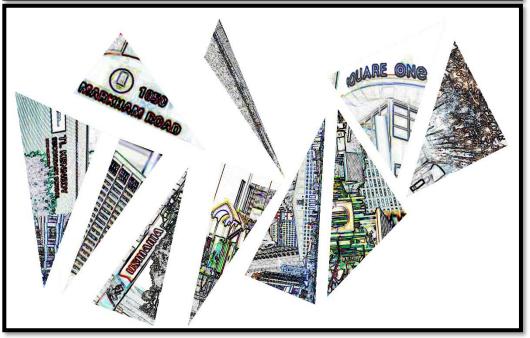
- I had gotten half of my pieces UV printed but the rest were interrupted because of COVID
- UV printing and the entire 36x8 feet installation was not feasible or possible anymore financially or physically
- The installation was meant to be 36x8 Ft which was a size impossible for me to manage without any interaction with the actual space it was meant to be installed in.
- Additionally, due to the crash of the economy, my father was also unable to manage the expenses that would go towards the completion of this installation.
- Thus. A 3D animation was the best option I had to still present my work in the most understandable way possible

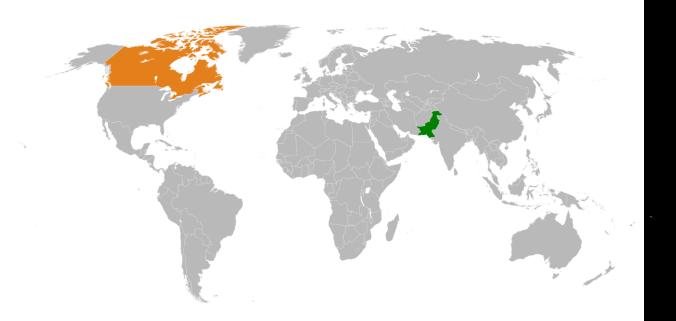












LOCATION

EMPORIUM MALL











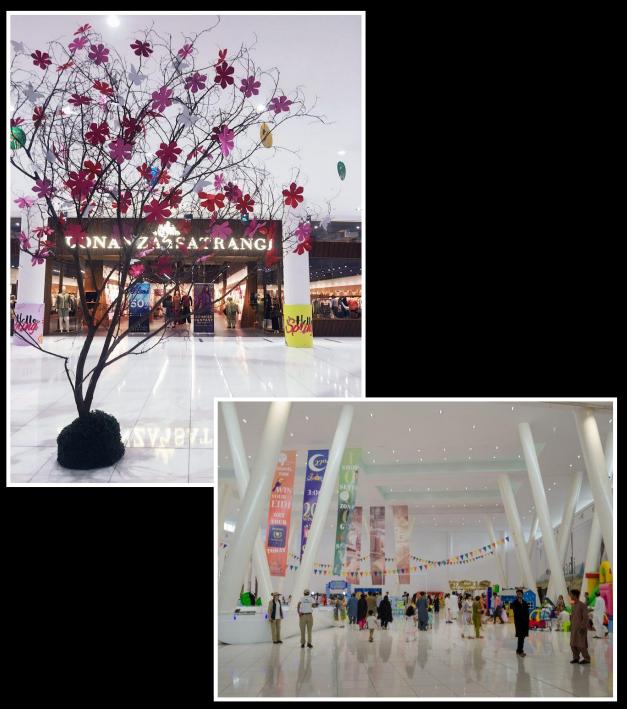


PACKAGES MALL













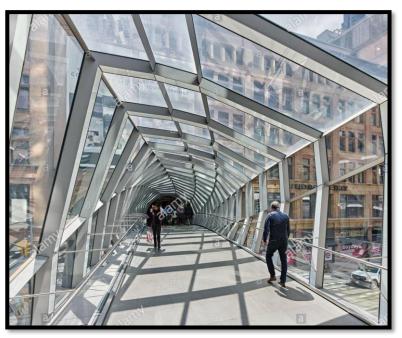
EATON CENTRE

















SQUARE ONE

I believe square one would be my first choice if I had to choose between all these malls because it played a major role in building who I am as a person today;

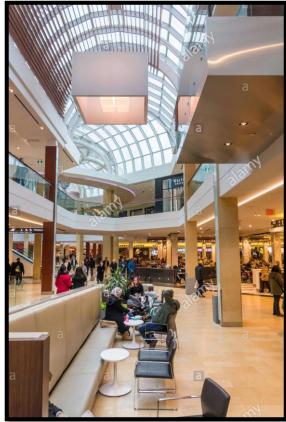
- My high school was 5 mins away, it was our hangout spot
- My condo building was right across from it
- My first job (sunglass hut) was in square one
- Any bus I would take from any city would connect to square one bus terminal
- My gym was right across from it
- My university was right across from it, every mean from 8
 am to 10pm was from square one
- Every movie I have watched has been in square one movie theatre
- The library when I used to read is a 2 min walk

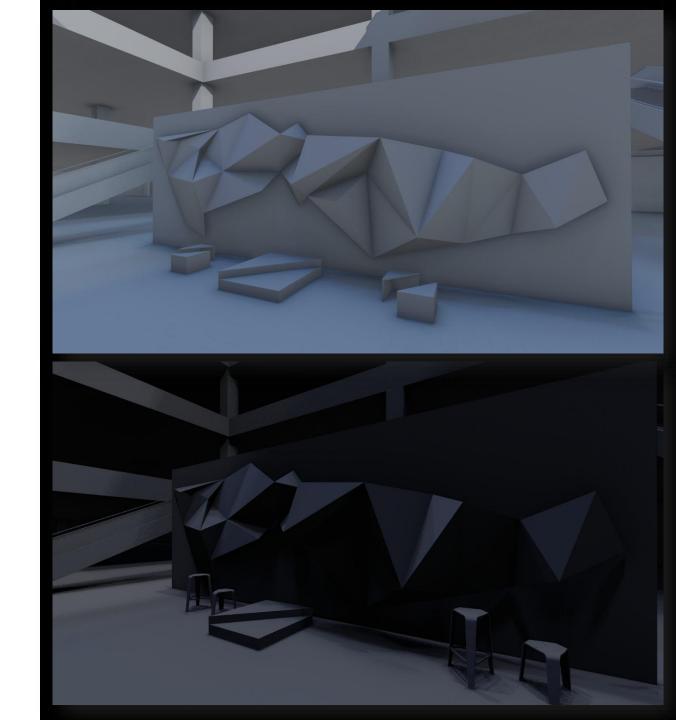


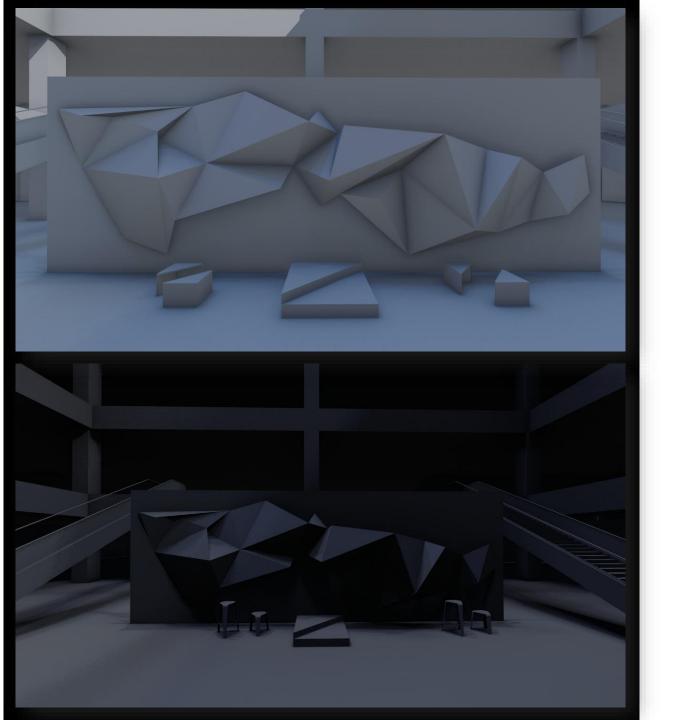




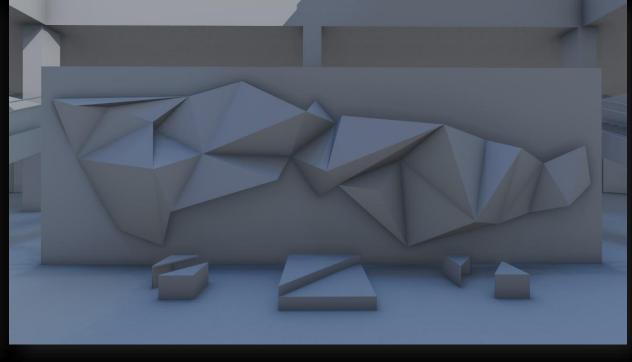


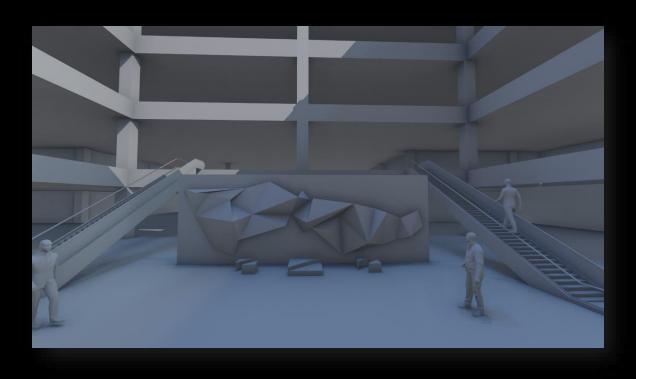


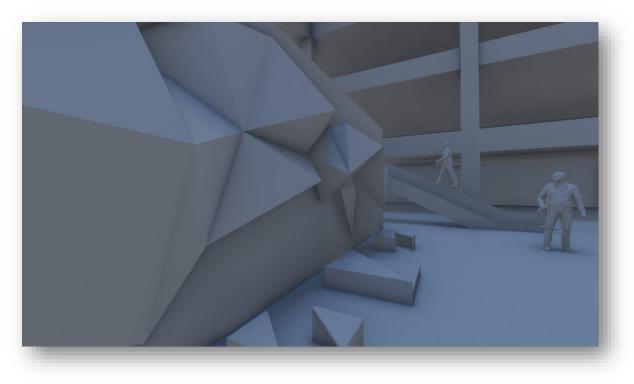


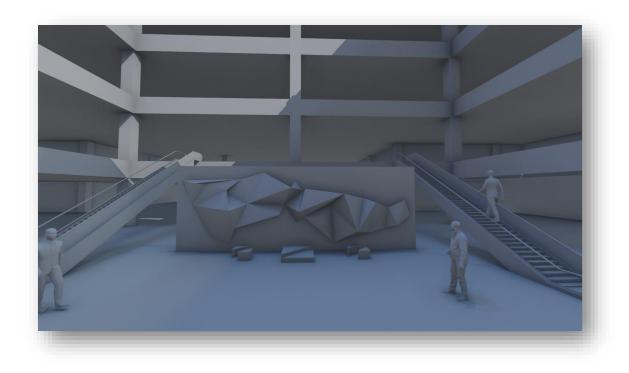


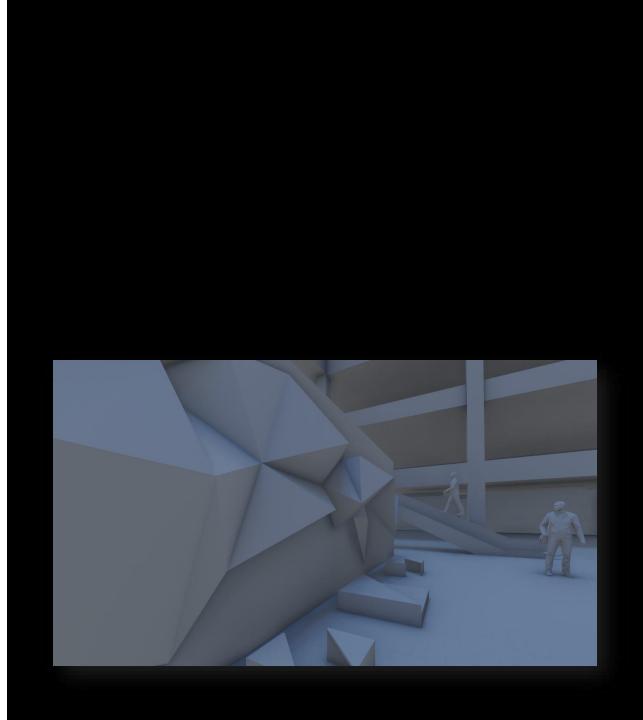
















FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS





Still from the Animation



Still from the Animation



Still from the Animation



Still from the Animation

