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**Buffalo Arts Studio presents *Displacement: Reclaiming Place, Space, and Memory***

**Artist-in-Residence Sa'dia Rehman**

**Residency: March 13–26, 2023**

**Exhibition: *The Falls*, March 24–May 4, 2023**



Each year Buffalo Arts Studio invites up to three artists to participate in our artist-in-residence program. Our residencies support regional, national, and international artists with a focus on artists whose work is not only a powerful visual statement, but also spurs dialogue between varied audiences and open doors to social, economic, and environmental justice.

Artists-in-residence are selected based on the way(s) their practice fits within the Buffalo Arts Studio curatorial vision as well as their relevance to the larger exhibitions, panel discussions, and workshops. For the 2022/23 exhibition series *Displacement: Reclaiming Place, Space, and Memory* Artist-in-Residence, curator Shirley Verrico selected **Sa'dia Rehman**, a multidisciplinary artist whose work explores the structure of the family and the nation, as well as the borders around and between each. Rehman questions how we live within these systems and how these systems impact who we are, while also giving rise to the desire to rearrange, reimagine, and even dismantle them. Rehman centers familial history to expand on harm and survival, situating their own family history in the context of larger historical processes. Rehman also draws on traditions of Islamic art and architecture, as well as

the modern art of Asian and African diasporas. As a result, Rehman's artwork engages the relationship between structures, images, and memory in both the public and private sphere, examining how each relates, communicates, consolidates, and contests ideas about displacement and migration.

During their residency, **March 13–26, 2023**, Rehman will create an assemblage on and off the walls evoking global histories of broken waterways and broken promises. Rehman will also work with Journey's End Refugee Services Refugee and Asylee Mentoring Program (RAMP) **Thursday, March 16 & 23, 2023**. RAMP serves refugees, asylees, and Special Immigrant Visa holders between the ages of 18 to 24 by pairing them with adult mentors who can best help them achieve their personal, professional, and educational goals. For the workshops, Rehman and students will create stencils of community. The imagery will reflect the broad definition of family. Together with RAMP mentees, participants will trace the shifting images on the wall as a live drawing, exploring how these public and private records communicate, consolidate, and contest ideas about collective and individual identities.

The resulting drawing and work from the residency will be part of the final exhibition titled ***The Falls***, and will be on display in both galleries at Buffalo Arts Studio **March 24–May 4, 2023**. *The Falls* will include a new body of work rooted in Rehman's research on their family's displacement in 1974 from their village in Pakistan due to the building of the Tarbela Dam on the Indus River. Together, the projected video, observational sketches, sculptures, and imagined architectural floor plans explore memory, grief, and migration, as well as the multiple histories and geographies that can be triggered by a single event.

Sa'dia Rehman (b. Queens, NY) holds an MFA from The Ohio State University and MA from The City College, CUNY. Rehman has exhibited at the Wexner Center for the Arts, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Queens Museum, Columbus Museum of Art, The Kitchen, Kentler International Drawing Space, Center for Book Arts, Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU and Pakistan National Council of the Arts. Rehman was the recipient of the Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson Grant and Meredith Morabito, the Henrietta Mantooth Fellowship and was awarded residencies at Abrons Art Center, Art Omi, Asian American Arts Alliance, Edward Albee Foundation, Vermont Studio Center, NARS Foundation and AIM Bronx Museum. Rehman's work has been featured in *The Brooklyn Rail*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *Hyperallergic*, *ColorLines* and *Art Papers*.

For more information about Buffalo Arts Studio, please visit [www.buffaloartsstudio.org](http://www.buffaloartsstudio.org)

Buffalo Arts Studio is a not-for-profit arts organization whose mission is to create cultural connections in our community through exhibitions, public art, and educational programs. We also provide support resources and affordable studio space for local visual artists. Buffalo Arts Studio is a catalyst for self-empowerment and for the cultivation of new ideas and actions to enhance our region. Buffalo Arts Studio is located at 2495 Main Street, Suite 500, Buffalo, NY 14214. The gallery is open Tuesday–Friday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Buffalo Arts Studio receives exhibition support from the Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation, Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo, Erie County Cultural Funding, Garman Family Foundation, John R. Oishei Foundation, M&T Bank, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the New York State Council on the Arts.

High Resolution images available upon request.