

# Crossover

Exhibition Dates: **18th February - 5th March 2020**

Artist: **Maryam Mirzaei**

In the artworks shown here, the artist uses symmetric forms which are commonly used in Islamic art. Symmetrical forms provide the artist with a framework within which mystical and metaphysical concepts are able to be brought to the foreground.

The use of symmetrical forms in Islamic art and architecture allows for an emphasis on divine unity (tawhid), which is the central feature of Islam's worldview. The Circle within sacred Islamic cosmology is a symbol that represents divine unity, in this exhibition, what can be seen is that both geometric and freehand patterns are made from combining circles.

Maryam Mirzaei strives to make her works meaningful to diverse peoples, her work actively seeks to transcend cultural and ethnic considerations. Her starting position is within the Persian Islamic tradition which represents her personal heritage. The Crossover is made in how she frames beauty as a universal feature that runs throughout creation, recognised and appreciated by all irrespective of personal background.

The work she shares with us contains timeless elements such as the islmi form and spiral patterns, these reflect their own specific cultural and historical realities. A unique feature of Islamic art which her work brings to the fore is the absence of perspective, something which is a common feature within Western art. There is no shadowing nor any sizing in Maryam's work, this is because in light of the Quran's teachings. Allah places all humans in light and to place anyone in darkness, even in a piece of art is an act of gross disrespect.



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