



CITY OF MEMORIES

SALAHUDDIN

I live in the older part of Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. Built by the Mughals from the 15th century onwards this part of Dhaka developed as the provincial centre of commerce for the then Eastern Bengal. In spite of the British colonialisation, its nature had remained essentially the same for centuries. This was characterised by a unique urban culture, complete with its separate dialect and a particular way of life where demarcation lines between private lives and community activities interceded and blurred. The lives of peoples here were marked by the joy of closeness and a feeling of belongingness. This is perhaps best reflected in the architecture. The closely built structures, the intricate pattern of the roads, the doors and windows that opened directly on to the main alleys reflect the closely knit nature and the pinness of the community.

With the advent of modernity all that is changing. Dhaka is now a capital city and the pressures of urbanisation and development is resulting in the loss of a unique way of life. Commerce has always been the heart of old Dhaka but the current level of commercialisation cannot be contained within its confines. As a result, marginalisation and decay has become the order of the day. All around me lives and structures keep falling apart. Viewed from the dominant paradigm old Dhaka has come completely irrelevant and perhaps even unwanted.

The main objective of my work is to break the stereotypes constructed by this dominant paradigm. I believe that old Dhaka has much to offer especially in terms of the advent of individualism that has wrought havoc in our society. The bondings and the togetherness, the neighbourhood and the belongingness, all these can essentially provide solace in the highly competitive environment of the present day. My work is, therefore, focused to reinvent the old city. The interpretations I offer, are attempts to portray from a treasure trove of memories, a way of life that if allowed to become extinct which leaves us hollow and empty.

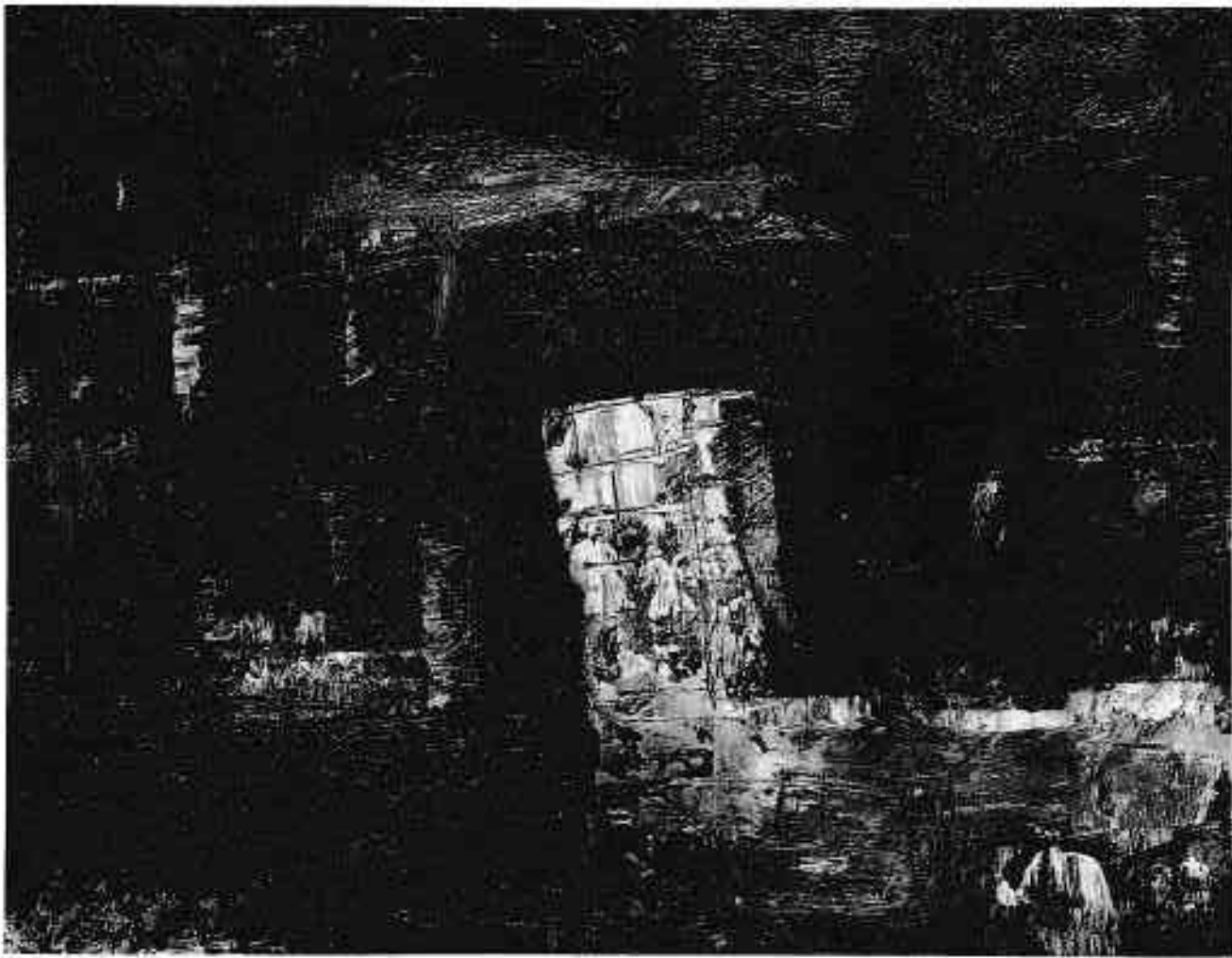
The forms, compositions, colours and the structures are all reflective of this central ideology. It incorporates elements from my childhood memories, aspects of daily existence and is blended together to reflect the fantastic rhythm, music, smell and texture of the old city.

Kazi Salahuddin Ahmed



WALLS OF MEMORY-4

OIL ON PAPER



CITYS OF MEMORIES-34

OIL ON PAPER



CITYS OF MEMORIES-35
OIL ON PAPER



WALLS OF MEMORY-10

OIL ON PAPER



WALLS OF MEMORY-6

OIL ON PAPER



Kazi Salahuddin Ahmed

Born : 13th September, 1963, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Education

- 1995 - Menal Workshop, Conducted by Suzanne Benton at the institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka.
- 1989 - Art history and Art Appreciation course, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka
- 1986 - MSS International Relations, University of Dhaka.
- 1985 - BSS (Hons), International Relations, University of Dhaka.

Award

- 1998 - Honorable Mention Award, 65th Miniature Painters, Sculptures and Grovers Society of Washington D.C. USA.
- 1998 - 2nd Prize in Abstract Art 1st Tone International Miniature Art Exhibition, Bangladesh.
- 1997 - 1st Prize in Abstract Art 12th Georgia Miniature Art Inc USA.
- 1996 - 4th Prize in the 12th Annual Juried Miniature Art Exhibition, Long island USA.
- 1995 - Honorable Mention Award in the 10th Georgia Miniature Art Society Inc, USA

Solo Exhibition

- 1999 - Gallery 21, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1998 - Tourist Service Center, Kathmunudu, Nepal.
- 1998 - Shajahan Art Gallery, New Delhi, India.
- 1997 - High Commission of Indian Cultural Center Gallery, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1997 - Gallery De Alliance Francais, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1995 - Zainul Gallery, Institute of fine Arts, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1994 - La-Gallery, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1993 - Gallery De Alliance Francais, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1987 - T.S.C University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Group Exhibition

- 1999 - Bangladeshi Painter Show at Artoday, New Delhi, India.
- 1998 - "Remembering Vigo" International Mail Art Exhibition, Argentina.
- 1998 - 13th National Art Exhibition, Bangladesh, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1998 - 1st Tone International Miniature Art Exhibition, Bangladesh.
- 1998 - 65th Miniature Painters, Sculptures and Grovers Society of Washington D.C. USA.
- 1998 - "30 Painters Exhibition from Bangladesh" - Osaka, Japan.
- 1998 - 12th Young Artist's Art Exhibition Shilpakala Academy, Chittagong, Bangladesh.
- 1998 - The Art of the Miniature V, The Snow Geoses Gallery, USA.
- 1997 - 12th Georgia Miniature Art Inc. USA.
- 1997 - 64th Miniature Painters, Sculptures and Grovers Society of Washington D.C. USA.
- 1997 - 8th Asian Art Biennial, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1996 - 12th Annual Juried Miniature Art Exhibition, Long island USA.
- 1996 - 12th National Art Exhibition, Bangladesh, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1996 - 11th Young Artist's Art Exhibition, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1996 - Three Man Show Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1995 - 10th Georgia Miniature Art Inc. USA.
- 1995 - 2nd Tone National Miniature Art Competition Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1995 - Metal Sculpture Exhibition Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University, Bangladesh.
- 1995 - 11th Annual Juried Miniature Art Exhibition, Long island USA.
- 1994 - 11th National Art Exhibition, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1994 - 10th Young Artist's Art Exhibition Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1993 - 1st Tone National Miniature Art Competition Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1993 - 6th Asian Art Biennial, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1993 - 15th Montana Miniature Art Society International Show, USA.
- 1992 - 10th National Art Exhibition, Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1988 - 8th Young Artist's Art Exhibition Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 1987 - Victory Day Art Exhibition Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Present Position

- Freelance Artist

Studio

- 42, Rup Lal Das Lane, Shambazar, Dhaka- 1100, Bangladesh, Tel : 236474.

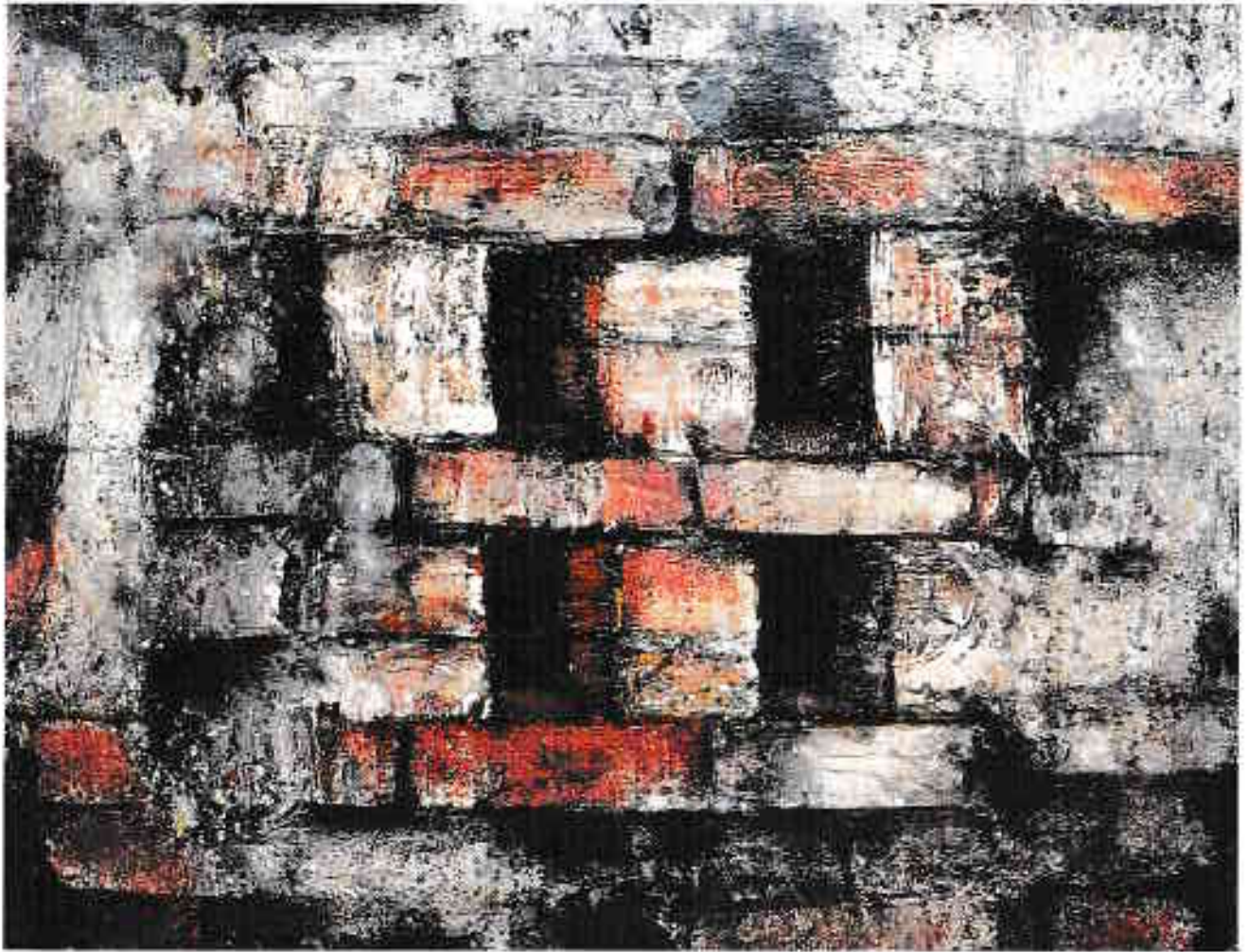


WALLS OF MEMORY-7

OIL ON PAPER

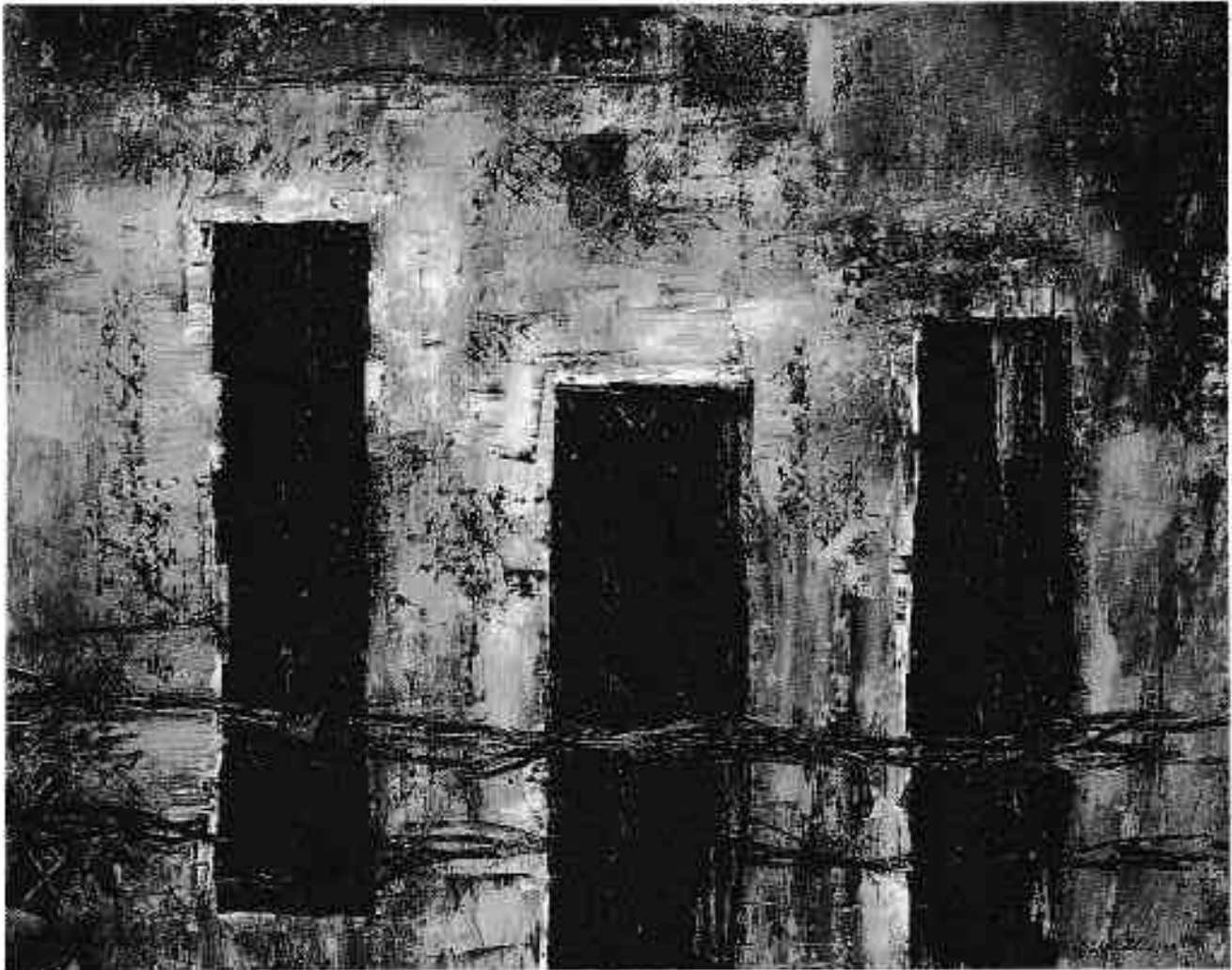


WINDOW
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WALLS OF MEMORY-8

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WALLS OF MEMORY-9

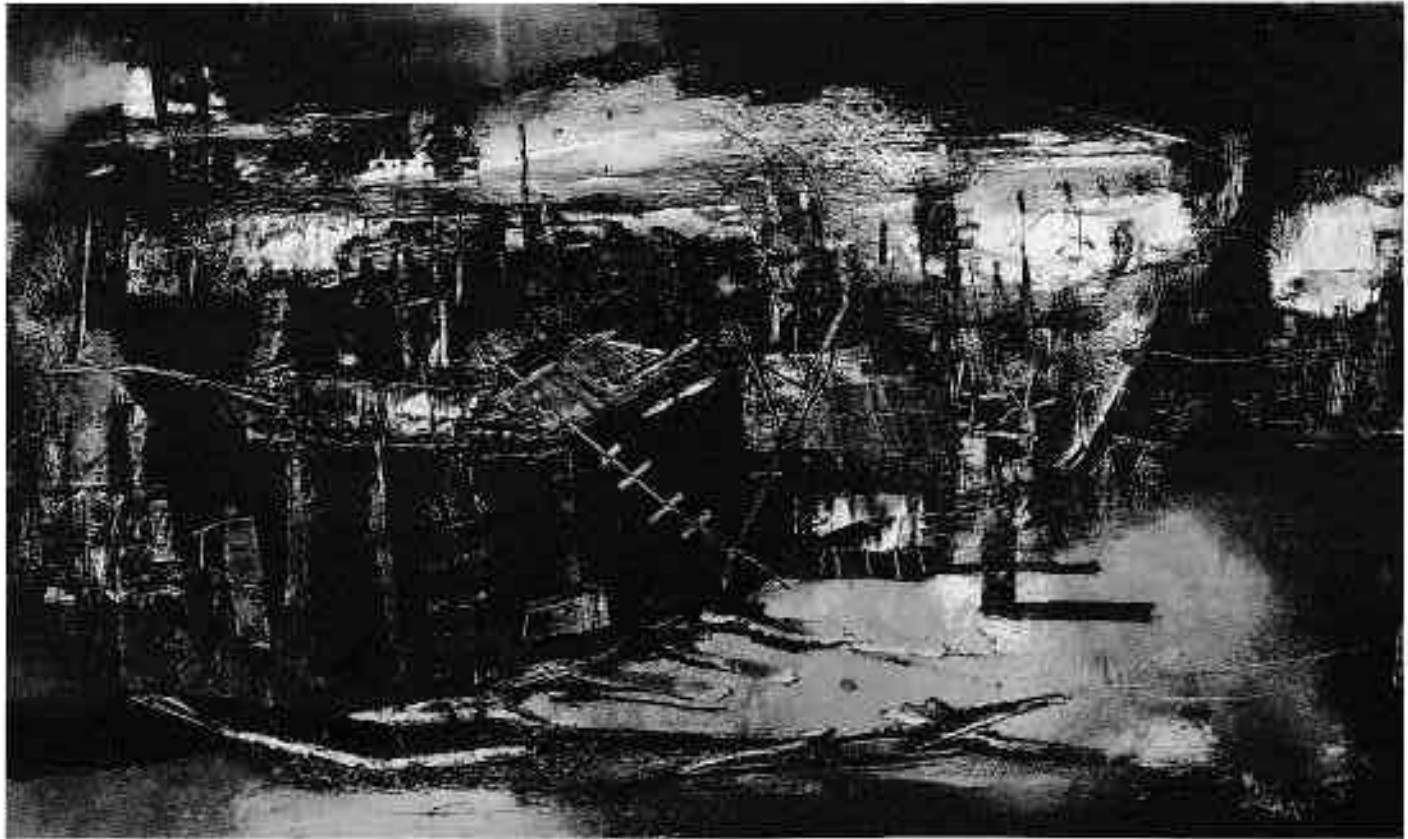
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CITYS OF MEMORIES-36

OIL ON PAPER

COURTESY BY
K-SHAFI BAKERY



CITYS OF MEMORIES-37

OIL ON PAPER

COVER | THREATNING SKY-4 OIL ON PAPER

BACKCOVER | AUTUMN RAY-5 OIL ON PAPER

PHOTOGRAPH
HOSSAIN SHAHID ECHO



9th Solo Painting Exhibition

2nd to 13th March 1999

Gallery 21

765 Satmasjid Road Dhanmondi Dhaka-1209 Bangladesh
Tel # 614716 Fax # 880-2-9880790