

Seher Shah's Successful Year

Posted on [October 24, 2013](#) by [elisabettamarabotto](#)

Elisabetta Marabotto of Saffronart celebrates Seher Shah's art through her recent exhibitions



Seher Shah. Image Credit: <http://centerforthehumanities.org/speaker/seher-shah>

London: Earlier this year the Huffington Post listed Seher Shah in their list of [10 International Artists to Watch in 2013](#). And their insightful acknowledgement proved true, given the shows that the artist has participated in this past year.

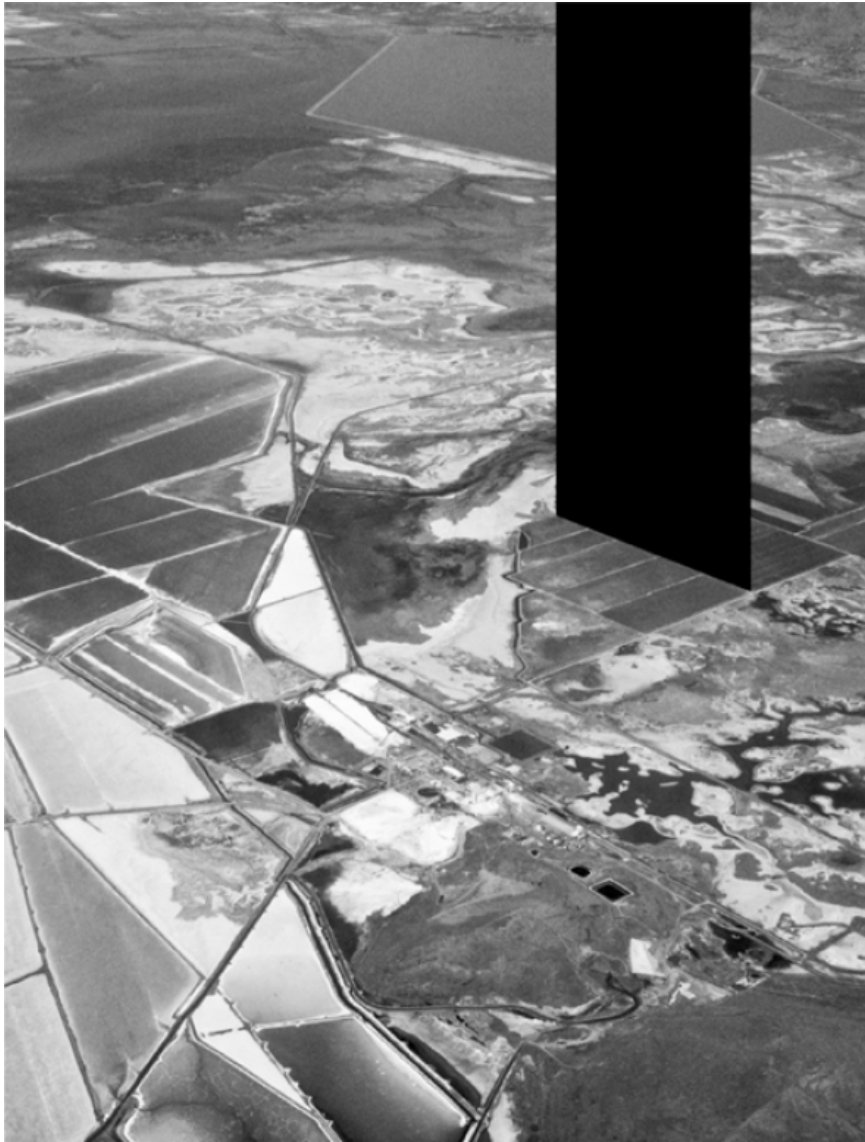
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Seher Shah, Mammoth: Aerial Landscape Proposals, 2012. Image Credit: <http://www.aaa-a.org/2013/09/09/observed-ratios%E2%80%A8-shoshana-dentz-caitlin-masely-seher-shah/>

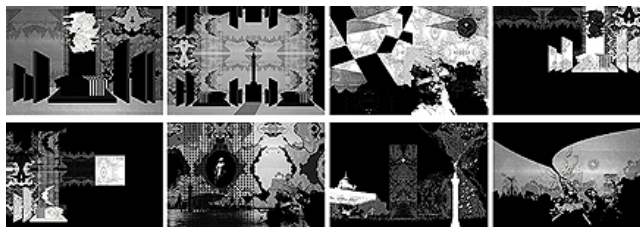
Recently Shah participated in a group exhibition at the James Gallery at the City University of New York. Curated by Katherine Carl, [Observed Ratios](#) opened in August and was on view till 19 October, 2013. The exhibition brings to fore the artists' engagement with modernist forms, which they survey in their works, while contemplating their own histories, producing works that respond to their individual enquiries into the modernist landscape. The exhibition was accompanied with an extensive program which included talks and interactions. A conversation with the artists that throws light of their practice at large and their works for this particular exhibition can be seen [here](#).

Earlier in the year she opened a solo show titled [Constructed Landscapes](#) at The Contemporary Austin in Texas. Curated by Rachel Adams, the works further investigate Shah's preoccupation with modernist architecture and urban monuments, by exploring ideas of large-scale urban structures embedded in the landscape. This exhibition also includes a site specific sculptural work titled *Object Repetition*. The work consisted of identical geometric forms that are placed together on the floor, lending the viewer an aerial view of the work which seems to reference architectural forms prevalent in Shah's oeuvre.



Seher Shah, Detail of Object Repetition (Line to Distance), 2013. Image Credit: <http://pastelegram.org/reviews/191>

For the first time, these new works are shown alongside her earlier drawings that reference the 1903 British coronation ceremony held in India, known as the Delhi Durbar. Here Shah combines archival imagery of the grand event with hand drawn and digital elements, to explore the multi spacial tangents of the ceremony. A work from this series titled *Perversions of Empire: Cluster* was part of Saffronart's autumn auction of Modern and Contemporary South Asian Art in September 2013.



Seher Shah, Persion of Empire: Cluster, 2008. Image Credit: <http://www.saffronart.com/auctions/PostWork.aspx?l=9008>

Seher's works explore themes related to art and architecture through the use of drawing, prints, photographs and sculptural installations. The artist often explores the spacial relationships between different entities-

human, monuments, landscapes; often times to highlight spaces of power and authority that navigate the relationships between these entities- sometimes inherent but often veiled and hidden. Given the artist's consistent progression and commitment towards developing her artistic discourse, Shah is an artist to seek by genuine connoisseurs and followers of the Contemporary South Asian Art genre.

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