

# FAIG AHMED

Faig Ahmed's surreal textile sculptures incorporate and re-interpret traditional carpet-weaving techniques from his native country into hyper-contemporary forms. His intricately patterned weavings are manipulated through rending, pixelation, or distortion.

By reimagining time-honored crafts, techniques and materials, Ahmed deconstructs and remakes the visual boundaries of the medium, challenging both perception and assumption.

Ahmed (b. 1982, Azerbaijan) lives and works in Baku, and graduated from the sculpture department of Azerbaijan State Academy of Fine Art in 2004. He represented Azerbaijan at the nation's inaugural pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 2007, and has exhibited worldwide, including group and solo exhibitions in New York, Paris, London, Berlin, Rome, Dubai, and Moscow.

In 2013, Ahmed was nominated for the Jameel Prize 3 at Victoria and Albert Museum in London, England. His works are in public collections such as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Palm Springs Art Museum, Seattle Art Museum, RISD Museum of Art, Chrysler Museum of Art, and the Jameel Foundation.

## ***Epiphany, 2016***

### **Handmade wool carpet**

Flow, change, transformation, disappearance and disintegration are reoccurring themes in Ahmed's works: the tension between the stability of traditional carpet designs, the rigidity of our perception of carpets, and the artist's intention of capturing a fleeting, unstable phenomenon. The yawning holes represent not damage, but insight—a jolting flash of observation and awareness.

## ***DNA*, 2016**

### **Handmade woolen carpet**

Ahmed's artwork speaks to the power of patterns to communicate messages across generations and cultures, drawing links between early human history with the digital age. The distortions in *DNA* are inspired by scientific attempts to describe metaphysical experiences, suggesting new ideas about the nature of reality and the limits of human perception.

## ***Embroidered Space, 2018***

### **Silk threads**

Carpet making has long served as a marker of cultural identity in Azerbaijan. In this artwork, the components of carpet weaving are deconstructed into threads and patterns, suspended and stretched across and through space. This intricate arrangement envelops the viewer spatially, inviting him/her to become an active participant in the work as s/he views the constructed network.