

WHAT SURFACE REMEMBERS

RAVI MORYA

JAN 17 - FEB 21, 2026

VHC

VIDA HEYDARI
CONTEMPORARY

In my practice, the surface functions as a living archive—absorbing, sheltering, and revealing layered traces of time, memory, and lived experience. Each painting emerges through an ongoing dialogue between the external world and an inward, contemplative process shaped by urban flux and moments of quiet attention.

Surfaces in my work act as both site and subject. Growing up amid the historical layers of Gwalior and now living within Delhi's continual transformation, I experience cities as palimpsests—spaces marked by accumulation, erosion, and repair. This informs a process rooted in instinctive layering, collage, drawing, and erasure. Forms are built and partially removed, allowing the surface to retain evidence of change rather than settle into a fixed image.

Beyond materiality, the surface becomes a metaphor for emotional and spiritual memory. Each layer, incision, and fragment carries residues of both environment and inner state—hesitation, resilience, reflection. Through slow, repetitive acts of making and unmaking, the painting absorbs these moments, holding what is often unseen or unspoken.

Urban disorder—fragmented walls, shifting structures, tangled systems—enters my visual language, yet within the studio this chaos is slowed and reconfigured. Painting becomes a meditative act, where turbulence gives way to attentiveness and surfaces begin to hold stillness.

Recent small works draw from vivid memories of vernacular architecture: painted grounds, architectural outlines, and objects shaped by use, care, and necessity. Grids, checks, and woven textures echo textiles, floor plans, and spatial layouts, hinting at the invisible systems that structure daily life. These patterned grounds evoke both domestic order and interconnectedness, suggesting how bodies, homes, and histories are held together by subtle, often overlooked rhythms. Rather than depicting these forms directly, I allow them to fragment and dissolve within layered pictorial spaces, where their symbolic presence speaks quietly of sustenance and connection.

Spatial ambiguity remains central. Forms hover, settle, or dissolve; lines guide without enclosing. Meaning is not prescribed but unfolds gradually, inviting viewers to navigate the work through their own memory and perception.

Ultimately, my work explores how presence is registered on the fragile skin of a painting. What the surface remembers is never fixed—it holds echoes rather than conclusions. These works invite slow looking, offering a pause from urban haste, where memory, stillness, and the ordinary reveal their quiet depth. In embracing simplicity, they suggest that true elegance lies not in excess, but in attention—where the everyday becomes a site of belonging and shared human truth.

– Ravi Morya





Untitled, 2025
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
76 x 76 cm (30 x 30 in)





Untitled, 2026
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
45.5 x 37 cm (18 x 14.5 in)





Untitled, 2025
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
165 x 228.5 cm (65 x 90 in)



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Untitled, 2026
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
45.5 x 38 cm (18 x 15 in)

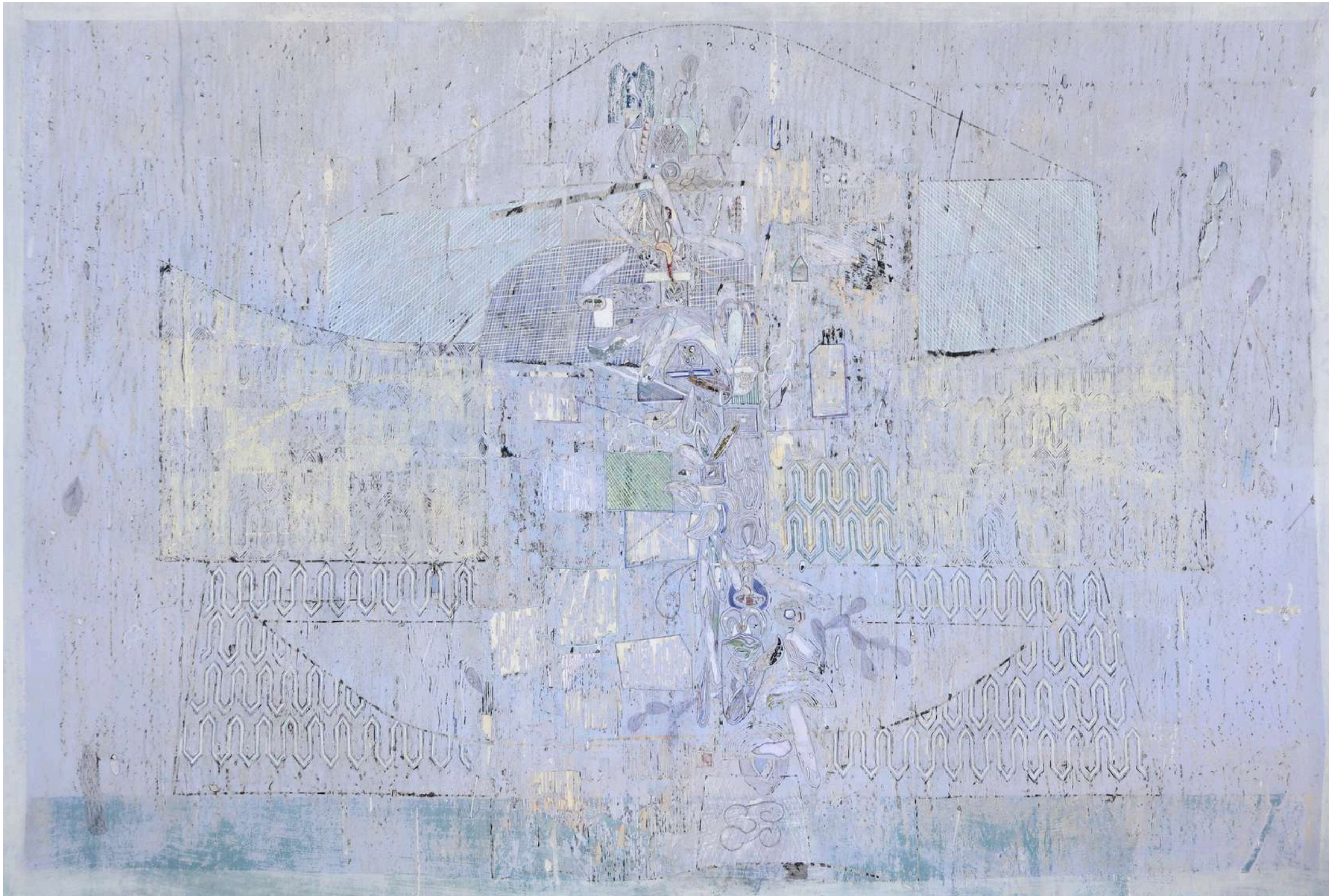




***Untitled*, 2025**
Mixed Media, Canvas
38 x 30.5 cm (15 x 12 in)



***Untitled*, 2025**
Mixed Media, Canvas
38 x 30.5 cm (15 x 12 in)



Untitled, 2025
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
162.5 x 241.5 cm (64 x 94.5 in)







Untitled, 2024
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
152.5 x 183 cm (60 x 72 in)





Untitled, 2025
Mixed Media, Canvas
30.5 x 30.5 cm (12 x 12 in)





Untitled, 2025
Acrylic, Paper Collage, Canvas
137 x 66 cm (54 x 25 in)





RAVI MORYA

Ravi Morya was born in 1992, Gwalior, India. He pursued BFA in Painting, from RMT University in 2015. Within Morya's practice, repetition evolves into a conceptual framework for understanding the human experience. It is through the repetition of motifs, gestures, and processes, that he unveils the overtones of our collective consciousness, offering glimpses into the nature of our being.

His works have been exhibited in several solo, and group shows in India. Additionally, Ravi has been a scholar at the Ministry of Culture on the Young Artist scholarship. He has also been a part of shows like the Art Incept grant show, CIMA art gallery annual show, Birla Academy, Kolkata, and is a recipient of awards like the Prafulla Dhanukar Art, CIMA award, Madhya Pradesh State award, and the All India Art award from the state gallery of art, Hyderabad.

Ravi Morya lives and works in New Delhi, India.

RAVI MORYA CV

Born in 1992, Gwalior, India

Lives and works in New Delhi, India

Education

2015 - BFA Painting, Raja Mansingh Tomar Music And Arts University, Gwalior, India

Solo Exhibitions

2024 - Submerged Memories, Ganges Art Gallery, Kolkata, India

2017 - Beyond The Cascade, Triveni Art Gallery, New Delhi, India

2016 - A Few Frame, Tansen, Gwalior, India

Group Exhibitions

2025 - Over(p)lay, Vida Heydari Contemporary, STIR, Delhi, India

2025 - Produce, Method, Delhi, India

2024 - Iterations, VHC | Vida Heydari Contemporary, Pune, India

2023 - Beneath the Surface, Method, Mumbai, India.

2023 - Natura Urbana, Arpana Caur Art, Gallery, Delhi, India

2022 - Yours In Truth, Space 118, Mumbai, India

2022 - Dreaming of Genesis, Gallery Round Them Oranges, Jaipur, India

2021 - Annual show, Cima Gallery, Kolkata, India

2021 - Annual show, Birla Academy of Art and Culture, Kolkata, India.

2021 - Art Incept Grant Show, Art Incept, Delhi, India

2021 - Ravi Jain Memorial Show, Dhoominal Art Gallery, Delhi, India

2019 - Group Show, Indian habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

2019 - AIFACS Annual Show, AIFACS, New Delhi, India

2016 - Young Artist Group Show, Phoenix Mall, Lucknow, India

2014 - Abhudaya, Tansen Kalavithika, Gwalior, India

2013 - In Between, Tansen Kalavithika Gwalior, India

Awards

2022 - CIMA Art Gallery Jury Award

2021 - Prafulla Dhanukar State Award

2019 - All India Art Award State Gallery of Art Hyderabad

2018 - M.P. State Award (N.S. Bendre Award)

2018 - Prafulla Dhanukar, Delhi State Award.

Collections

Panchshil | ITM University



ABOUT VIDA HEYDARI CONTEMPORARY

Vida Heydari Contemporary is an international art gallery in Pune specialising in contemporary art and representing established and emerging artists with diverse backgrounds, across a variety of mediums and genres. Founded in 2020 with an emphasis on authenticity, quality and innovation, VHC aims to contribute to the cultural fabric of the city. The gallery is committed to fostering the careers of its artists and sharing their work with a global audience, providing a platform for under-represented artists, presenting pioneering museum-quality exhibitions, positive collaborations, price transparency and offering a very hands-on and tailored high quality experience. In less than three years from its inception, VHC has mounted significant exhibitions featuring local and international artists. It has also participated in some of the most prestigious art fairs, such as Art Basel Hong Kong, India Art Fair and Art Mumbai. In addition to the gallery program, VHC hosts talks, performances, workshops and educational programs to create engaging and enriching artistic experiences that capture the essence of life.

ABOUT THE FOUNDER

VHC was founded by Vida Heydari, a visionary curator, gallerist and collector with nearly two decades of diverse experience in the global art world. She has worked with accomplished Indian, Iranian and Chinese contemporary artists and has consulted for various private and public collections. Known for her keen eye for detail and talent recognition, Heydari's Canadian-Iranian heritage and long exposure to Indian Culture have also informed her curatorial choices. This is reflected in VHC's unique collection that celebrates the fusion of Eastern and Western artistic influences. Under Heydari's direction, VHC has become a platform to encounter and engage with relevant contemporary art practices from around the world.

Tax applicable @5% on all artworks
Shipping and transport additional @actuals

VHC

VIDA HEYDARI

CONTEMPORARY

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