

Art Roving presents:  
**Welcome Home**  
**گھر آنے پر خیر مقدم**  
a solo exhibition by Javaid Nayyar

Work Name	Medium	Size	Price	Description
<b>Finding Paradise</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	60" x 48"	\$1979.00	<p>Paradise- an ideal or idyllic place or state. Also; heaven.</p> <p>In the 9/11 attacks, 19 Muslim extremists killed 2,977 innocent people hoping that this act would lead them to paradise. Alternatively, millions of peace loving Muslim immigrants have come to America to find a different kind of paradise full of freedom and an escape from repression with unending opportunities.</p> <p>After 9/11, these two very different paths to finding paradise were confused by American society. The surveillance state took over and regular everyday Muslim citizens became the enemy.</p> <p>This piece is an exploration of the complex fabric of identity for immigrant Muslims in America post 9/11.</p>
<b>Desert Storm (Quiet Riot)</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	60" x 48"	\$1979.00	<p>Based on the artist's childhood experience of growing up as a Muslim in America during the Gulf Wars, this mixed media piece examines the marketing and selling of war. The centerpiece is an enlarged Topps Desert Storm trading card of Dick Cheney, which along with images of tanks and missiles, was marketed to children in a alongside baseball and other trading cards. Other popular children's characters are reimagined as pro war advocates here. Metal band logos of the artist's youth are also used to provide both a sense of nostalgia for the time and a commentary on the events of the time. Skateboard company logos popular during the artist's youth also offer a commentary on the state of affairs during the time.</p>
<b>Welcome Home</b>	Acrylic & photo on canvas	24" x 24"	\$800.00	<p>A portrait of the artist's childhood room while the Gulf War was raging on the other side of the world, with immediate effects outside the window is depicted here. The creeping Islamophobia resulting from the Gulf War, the idea of home and America as a welcoming paradise (or jannat as it's called in Urdu) for immigrants under attack is examined in this piece.</p>
<b>No Pork On My Fork</b>	Acrylic on canvas	48" x 36"	\$800.00	<p>A humorous take and affirmation of the Muslim prohibition against eating pork.</p>
<b>The Price of Gasoline</b>	Acrylic on canvas	36" x 24"	\$850.00	<p>An exploration of the relationship between oil wealth, oppression and the repression of women's rights.</p>
<b>Saddam Hussein Thinking Now I Know How Joan Of Arc Felt</b>	Acrylic on canvas	24" x 24"	\$800.00	<p>Inspired by the refrain from The Smiths song "Bigmouth Strikes Again" this painting examines the parallels between the stories of Joan of Arc and Saddam Hussein. Recruited by the U.S. to fight Iran in a bloody proxy war for almost a decade, Saddam was a well funded asset for many years in Washington D.C. until the Gulf War</p> <p>Betrayal and the impending doom of the world's most powerful Army, Navy and Air Force closing in is what the artist conveys here. The resemblance of the Gulf War to a mid-evil crusade against a barbaric Muslim foe is also addressed.</p>
<b>Shezan Mango Juice Box 250 ml</b>	Acrylic on canvas	18" x 24"	\$450.00	<p>Shezan's little mango juice box is representative of much more than the 250 ml of mango juice it holds. It also holds a sense of culture, identity and a reminder of home for many immigrants far away from their motherland.</p> <p>The Shezan box is as iconic for most South Asians as the Campbell's Soup can is for Americans so the artist I decided to memorialize it here.</p>
<b>Rekha's Complexion</b>	Acrylic on canvas	30" x 24"	\$475.00	<p>A side effect of colonialism and imperialism, skin cremes, soaps, lasers and bleach are all for sale in many South Asian countries to help whiten skin to conform with Anglo standards of beauty. A vintage ad for one of these soaps is what inspired this piece. It's subject is Rekha, a very famous and notoriously fair skinned Bollywood actress. In this painting, Rekha is made a bit darker by the artist and best is underlined to ask the question of what the best thing for one's complexion, dark or not, actually is.</p>

<b>Death Angel</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	48" x 36"	\$1200.00	Using his own youth and the bands he listened to during that time as a backdrop, in this piece the artist examines the dark side of the "war on terror" in this piece, particularly drone strikes and the dehumanization of their sometimes innocent (and youthful) targets. The artist uses photos of himself and family to lend humanity to otherwise faceless victims. Also addressed is the tying of the military with a righteous purpose, the "Don't Tread On Me" snake wrapped around a cross.  "Charlie Don't Surf" was a saying popularized during the Vietnam War, a derogatory reference to the Vietnamese and their lack of ability to surf, a quintessential American pastime. This helped to turn the Vietnamese into the "other", dehumanizing them. The artist updates that phrase for the modern age with "Haji Don't Skate" (Haji is the derogatory term used by US soldiers for Muslims).
<b>Utopia Parkway</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	36" x 36"	\$1099.00	Utopia Parkway is the name of a street that runs through a large portion of Queens in New York City, connecting various immigrant communities together. The idea of Queens as a Utopia, or heaven for immigrants is explored here. References to angels from Islamic art are depicted in a scene of heaven alongside Queens staples such as LL Cool J, lowered Honda coupes and cee-lo dice games reflecting a different and more complicated kind of paradise.
<b>Angel of Arrogance</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	18" x 24"	\$550.00	This piece is based on the Iron Sheik, a popular WWF wrestler from the 1980's. An Olympic wrestling champion from Iran, Iron Sheik was proud, strong, defiant and spoke Farsi in almost all of his interviews, often praising Allah in a time where Muslim characters or actors rarely appeared on television. He was also WWF World Champion in 1983 (and the first Middle Eastern and Muslim professional wrestling champion ever). Due to his unlikely trailblazing and iconic status, the Sheik is reimaged here as a religious figure delivering a sermon about his favorite topics, his own
<b>Lahori Dreams</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	48" x 36"	\$1200.00	The Honda CD-70 (or Cash Deposit 70) is the most popular motorcycle in Pakistan. The CD stands for Cash Deposit because having one of these motorcycles is like money in the bank since they are so in demand and selling them is a breeze. This motorcycle is both a workhorse that can fit a whole family on it and a dream machine for an individual driver. This sense of both freedom and utility is shown here.
<b>Arby's Ki Mitti</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	36" x 48"	\$1200.00	This work is based on the artist's experience as a child of moving from New York City to Kenner, Louisiana due to his father's desire to build and open an Arby's restaurant there. The family would take trips to view the construction site, deemed Arby's Ki Mitti, ("The Dirt of Arby's" in Urdu) in a Chevy Impala until the pile of dirt blossomed into a freestanding building. Representative of both the immigrant experience and a tribute to the artist's father who has passed away, the American Dream is celebrated here.
<b>Shirin Dreams Of A New Regime</b>	Acrylic & mirrors on canvas	24" x 24"	\$900.00	A re-interpretation of Roy Lichtenstein's Thinking of Him, the main character here, Shirin, imagines herself without the mandatory head covering required of all women in Iran. Classic Persian miniature animals provide a balance and sense of cultural history to the oppression and turmoil currently rampant in Iran.
<b>Apu Seeks Forgiveness</b>	Acrylic and Mirrors on Canvas	36" x 48"	\$1200.00	An examination of cancel culture and it's effects on those in the margins of society who are most powerless to it's consequences. Apu, a popular Indian-American cartoon character from The Simpsons, was removed from the show after his anglo voice actor was pressured to stop voicing Apu's Indian accented dialogue. This piece examines the impact of this decision on Apu's family and also references the historical colonial power of Anglo powers on their Indian subjects.
<b>Sid Vicious Under The Gaze Of An Immigrant</b>	Acrylic and Embroidered Ribbon on Canvas	24" x 24"	\$800.00	The battle for influence between competing cultures for the hearts of immigrant children is explored in this piece. A doe eyed deer caught between Sid Vicious, punk rock legend and heroin addict bathing in a golden angelic halo vs. the warning of staying away from Haram (painted in Urdu in the top right). Forbidden, sinful things that would take you away from God. The deer, adorned with punk band logos, turns his head away from tradition and makes the contemporary culture his new religion.
<b>Punjab Pink Panther</b>	Acrylic and Mirrors on Canvas	28" x 20"	\$600.00	Based on an actual sign for an auto repair shop in Astoria, Queens, this work explores a sense of immigrant pride in two homelands, one of birth in Punjab and one of choice in New York. The Pink Panther makes an appearance as an unlikely and fantastical advocate for this very real business.

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