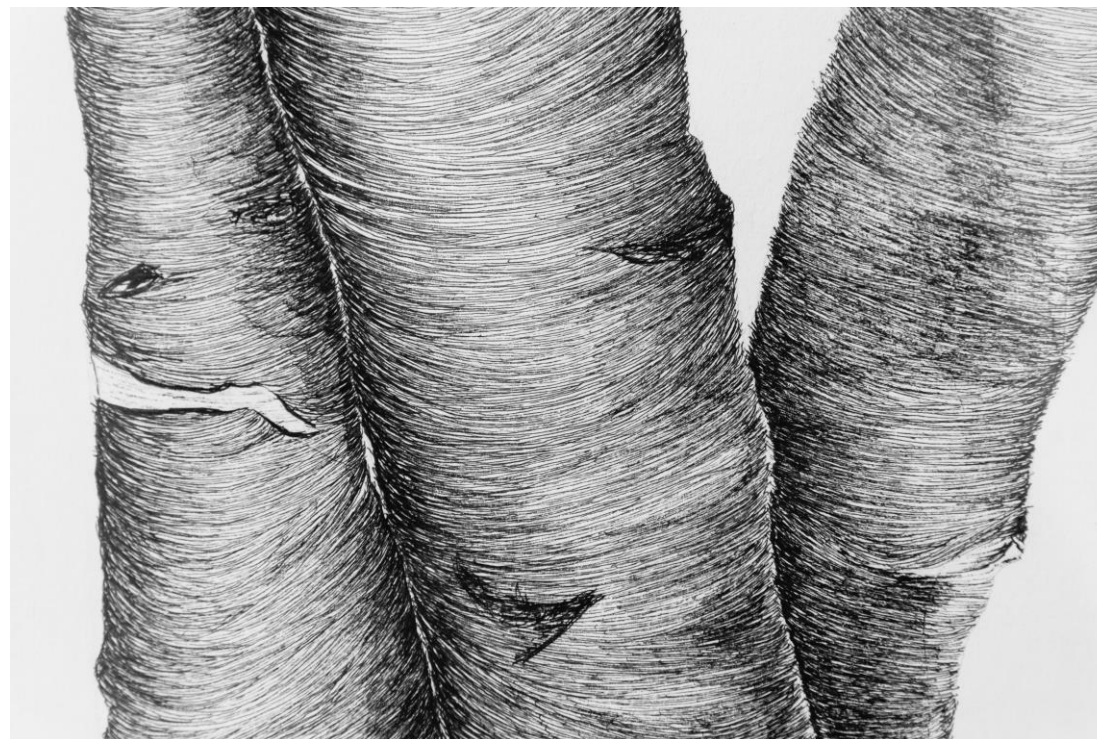


Artist Name: Farrah Akbarali

Name of Art Piece: Birches I, Birches II



Birches I



Birches II

Artist Bio:

The indirect influence of the apartheid struggle in South Africa during her childhood has had an impact on her work. Born in Pretoria, South Africa in 1972, from an early age, Farrah Akbarali exhibited a passion for all things art and design. A self-proclaimed minimalist, she found inspiration in everything from literature to nature; and music to meditation. It was in the late seventies, when her family moved from South Africa to Dallas, Texas is where she developed her love of art and taught herself how to draw. Farrah moved to Toronto, Canada in her late teens and studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design University (OCADU) where she specialized in Graphic Design and worked in the field for 17 years. This gave her the space and structure to develop an early aesthetic and a style which provided a discipline and focus.

In 2008, Farrah moved to Geneva, Switzerland. It was there, that she began experimenting with different mediums, techniques and styles and came to realize her need to create works that were personal and expressive. Her art is detailed and conceptually driven, consisting of 'energetically infused lines', communicating the perseverance of nature as a metaphor for the human spirit.

Her images are drawn line by line creating harmony through the layering of lines with the use of mostly black ink. Farrah imbues each piece with her thoughts, hopes, meditations and supplications to invoke vibrations in her drawings. Farrah works with a range of different media however; her work has predominantly been in ink. She takes seemingly delicate objects and enlarges them to offer new perspectives; to shape what we see and feel. Her drawings are almost always psychoanalytical or personal spiritual journeys. Her nature series represents a true reflection of Farrah, herself and her profound connection to it.

Farrah has been commissioned by private collectors and has exhibited internationally. Today, Farrah devotes herself to producing artwork that expresses the range of her life experiences.

Artist Statement:

Birches I and Birches II are part of a larger conceptual project I am currently working on. In this series, I draw from my deep connection to nature, motivated specifically by the nobility of trees. I have always been fascinated by the strength and majesty of them. To stroll among trees is to feel the magnificence of their spirit. Walking through a forest or simply driving past a tree, I am constantly reminded that nature can serve as a mantra in meditation, slowing down what is happening around you. As a result, an inner stillness and energy can fill us, generating a sense of presence, which intensifies our awareness and perceptions. The Naturalist, Hal Borland writes, "Knowing trees, I understand the meaning of patience. Knowing grass, I can appreciate persistence."

For me, birches hold significant spiritual importance and represent strength, renewal, and growth. I draw on nature's perseverance as it acts as an offering and an invitation to see beyond the surface. Nature serves as a metaphor for life, people, interconnected relationships, and personal narratives.

Each line drawn holds memories and meditations. My intent is to shape what is seen and felt.