## SEJAL PAREKH

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## ARTIST STATEMENT

I am an emerging British Indian, multi-disciplinary artist. My practice is based in sculpture, often working on large scale site specific installations, and more recently sound and video pieces. I'm continually interested in dissecting rituals, routines and habitual behaviours within the context of the everyday. Originating in the understanding of growing up in a parallel-worlds-system, my practice focuses on cross-cultural social dynamics and identity, often manifesting in repetitive motives and objects.

My most recent body of work investigates the notion of hiraeth\* and incorporates distinct cultural sources in order to explore the conditions of self sovereignty. Often these objects and reference's have been weaponised to drive inequality and otherness, thereby my works become a form of resistance and irreverent refusal of those attempts by allowing the viewer to experience an inherent point of view.

My artistic career, like many, has been non-linear and to a certain extent this has enriched my practice on multiple levels. Since early 2021 I have divided my practice between London and Barcelona, as I have been fortunate enough to be a resident artist at <u>Tangent Projects</u>, which will culminate in a solo show in 2025. I will have my first London solo show at <u>The Stone Space Gallery</u>, in May 2024.

\*Hiraeth originated in Welsh, its meaning cannot literally be translated. The closest definition in English is: Hireath (plural -); combines elements of homesickness, for a home to which you cannot return, for a home which may have never been, nostalgia and longing. Interlaced is the acknowledgment of an irretrievable loss, a unique blend of place, time and people that can never be recreated. A spiritual longing for a home that never was. Nostalgia for ancient places to which we cannot return. It is nowhere and it is everywhere.