

MURAD KHAN MUMTAZ

RETURN

12 JANUARY – 11 FEBRUARY 2012

OPENING RECEPTION: 12 JANUARY 2012, 6-8PM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tracy Williams, Ltd. is pleased to present Murad Khan Mumtaz's first solo exhibition in New York. Informed by his training in the centuries-old practice of Indian miniature painting, *Return* is a new body of work addressed to the past, present, and future. The series is the result of Mumtaz's encounter with the historical, cultural, and ecological landscape of the American Southwest, a region transformed by many generations of conflict between European colonizers and indigenous populations, as well as the terrifying legacy of the nuclear industry.

Produced during a recent residency at the Santa Fe Art Institute in New Mexico, Mumtaz's paintings meditate on instances of disappearance evident throughout the western landscape. Humble in scale but vast in their depiction of space, his tiny, enigmatic paintings raise oblique questions about the fate of indigenous culture and open land. These inquiries are relevant to a wide range of post-colonial landscapes, including that of his native Pakistan, where the land continues to be a site of conflict between traditional societies and modern economic interests. Many of the works in the exhibition were composed using natural pigments derived from mineral, earth, and plant material collected in New Mexico and prepared using methods traditional to South Asia.

A native of Lahore, Mumtaz received a BFA from the National College of Arts, Lahore, and an MFA from Columbia University, which he attended on a Fulbright Fellowship. His work has been included in solo and group exhibitions in the U.S., Germany, India, and Pakistan. He currently lives and works in Lahore.

For more information, please call [212.229.2757](tel:212.229.2757) or email laura@tracywilliamsltd.com