



Ashmolean NOW: Soma Surovi Jannat

Climate, Culture, Care

Mallica Kumbera Landrus

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- The book focuses on the artist's recent works, concerns around environmental issues, and engagement with the Ashmolean collections
- There are various articles and some commercial catalogs of her previous works, but none on her recent works
- This is the first exhibition-related book on Soma Surovi Jannat, showing at the Ashmolean, from 28 March, 2026
- The exhibition and book provide the Museum an opportunity to engage wider diverse audiences, while also presenting the works of a contemporary multidisciplinary artist who reflects and draws strength from our collections

In 2023 Soma Surovi Jannat (b.1990), one of the most exciting emerging artists working in South Asia, became the Ashmolean's first artist-in-residence from Bangladesh. Jannat's art practice arises from a profound connection with nature. Inspired by the Ashmolean collection, her recent works weave together motifs to create new imaginary worlds of forests, bodies of water, animal and human forms. The exhibition will capture the ways in which Jannat explores the climate crisis, natural disasters, and the disproportionate impact on marginalized communities and ecosystems. An artist of exceptional talent and versatility, this would be Jannat's first solo exhibition in the UK focusing on her engagement with the Ashmolean collections and the works created between 2023 and 2026. The exhibition and book provide the Museum an opportunity to engage wider diverse audiences, while also presenting the works of a contemporary multidisciplinary artist who reflects and draws strength from our collections.

Professor Mallica Kumbera Landrus is Keeper of the Eastern Art Department in the Ashmolean Museum, where the collections span more than 5,000 years of cultural and artistic development, from across Asia and parts of Africa. Her curatorial responsibilities are mainly in Indian, Himalayan and Southeast Asian art.

