

**Shahzia Sikander**

20 September – 16 November 2003

Shahzia Sikander was born in Lahore, the central heart of Pakistan and it was there that she attended the National College of Art to study the techniques of miniature painting. While still a student, Sikander challenged tradition by mixing elements of popular culture from around the world with the styles of Persian, Mughal, Kangra, Deccan and Rajput miniaturism. Sikander is now based in New York and recently introduced her interest in digital manipulation to her practice, adding another layer to the miniature drawings and painted motifs she creates and allowing her the freedom to subvert content and merge media into her experimentation.

At Platform, Sikander has created a new site-specific wall painting which extends over two surfaces of the entrance facing wall, introducing the viewer to her world of miniature painting, its lavish colours and swirling compositions. The reverse side of the wall is enlivened by an animation. Projected on to the painting, the moving images insert a sense of ephemerality to the static figures and their potential action as portrayed in the original scene. Sikander will also exhibit a second animation and a number of wall hung paintings.

This exhibition is part of the 8th International Istanbul Biennial curated by Dan Cameron.  
18 September – 16 November 2003  
Tues – Thurs 13:00 – 20:00  
Fri – Sat 13:00 – 22:00