

Zarah Hussain

Paradise Carpet

15 November 2024 – 22 February 2025

This exhibition is called **Paradise Carpet**. It is by the artist Zarah Hussain.

It features a new light installation which is projected on to a carpet. There are lots of patterns and colours that constantly change.

Zarah is interested in shapes, spirituality, and digital technology. She uses design and studies how different cultures connect.

Her work blends old and new ideas. She uses this to create experiences that feel magical and peaceful.

Paradise Carpet is a special space for everyone. Visitors can walk, sit, pray, or meditate on the floor-based work. Calming sounds play in the background which makes it a relaxing place to think about the people we share the world with. It is also a place to be together with people, on this carpet.

Zarah grew up in the north of England. She is inspired by her family's Kashmiri heritage and Islamic art.

She is interested how Islamic art and the designs in Islamic carpets tell stories from different cultures. Her art mixes this history with digital art. She likes to bring traditional art and future technologies.

This exhibition is about movement, migration, and bringing people together.

It feels especially important right now as people may feel divided in the UK. This art exhibition is also reminds that we all share a common place in the world. We are all human beings.

To make **Paradise Carpet**, Zarah worked with students at the Academy of Live Technology in Wakefield, a college for studies in live event design and entertainment. They designed this experience to bring people closer together.

You can also see a big light display from the street outside the gallery on the road Mulberry Way. It adds a bright touch to Wakefield this winter.

Interpretation Glossary

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| Spirituality | is about feeling connected to something bigger than ourselves, like nature, kindness, or a sense of peace inside. |
| Culture | is the way people live, including their language, food, clothing, music, and traditions that make each community special and unique. |
| Kashmiri Heritage | is the rich culture, history, and traditions of the Kashmir region in South Asia. It is known for its beautiful landscapes, colorful art and crafts, delicious foods, and welcoming people. |
| Islamic art | a style of art that includes beautiful patterns, shapes, and calligraphy often inspired by nature, made by artists from Muslim cultures around the world. |
| Migration | when people move from one place to another to live, often to find better opportunities or safety. |