Questions

Name: YASMINE MOHAMMED

Age: 46

Currently Based: GLASGOW

Profession: ARTIST

Ethnicity: PAKISTANI

1. What made you want to Pursue the chosen career path?

**I have always been creative and artistic since I was young and wanted to sue my skills to help people..**

1. Describe was your career journey? Studying? Jobs?

**Art was the only subject I was good at school and got on well with art teachers. I studied ‘O’ grade and Higher, CSYS Art & Dseign (A-level equivalent) I went onto study foundation art course. After I knew I wanted to study more of the arts and came across the Community Arts course at Stahclyde University, then it was a teaching college. Basically how to apply for funding, doing community workshops. etc.**

**1991 STUDIO ART TECHNICIAN COURSE**

**1993-1996 - BA COMMUNIRTY ARTS**

**I moved to London in 1997 to work in an performing arts centre for Asian artists and help with asylum seekers and wanted to use my art skills to help young people and applied to to the SCITT school based teacher training in London schools in South London, South east London and East London with schools that had Visual arts/performing Arts status. I worked in some of the most diverse and deprived areas in east london, Tower Hamlets and Newham. After a few years of teaching in inner city schools I realised that my passion was more for charity and community work.**

**2001-2002 PGCE ART & DESIGN**

**In 2018 I set up my art business making encaustic art pic trues from beeswax. It means ‘to burn’ melting beeswax opt a hot iron surface to paint and also facilitate beginners workshops. I had been doing this over 20 years and got fed up applying fo jobs , I got help with PeoplePlus to set up my business. I had moved back to Glasgow from London in 2012 as teaching jobs were hard especially art was oversubscribed. London was also expesneive to live and many of my friends were moving our of London.**

1. Who or what is your inspiration?

**Lots of things, culture, city, history, Cultural identity influences by female artists British Indiian, Chila Burman/ American Iranian, Shirin Neshat**

1. In 3 words describe what your career means to you?

**Freedom, Expression, Therapeutic**

1. What Project or Research are you currently working on?

**I have been looking after my elderly dad with my siblings and was applying for part time jobs before lockdown currently haven’t been working on art but fro the Black Lives Movement encouraged me to want to go back doing more cultural identity art. In 2009 I wrote poems and had photos of myself tasing about my identity and going back to my roots in Pakistan and looking at Western/Pakistani influences.**

1. What are your favourite and positive moments in your chosen career path?

**Through my online business i made some fabulous friendships with other likeminded creatives, strangers that i have not met in person but have become supportive community through Instagram etc.**

1. Was there any barriers that you have faced choosing your chosen career path?

**I guess teaching was good career to go not especially with the Asian community it’s seen as a good profession but becoming a full time artist or starting my business family haven’t supported as much.**

1. Was it difficult to go through your chosen career in the society as a Pakistani Women? **yes initially I wanted to study set design because generally Pakistani women after school end up in marriages and not pursuing their careers, this is changing since my generation.**
2. Did you experience any positive Impact from Society?

**Yes**

1. Did you experience any negative impact from Society?

**NA**

1. Was Family & Friends supportive with your chosen career path?

**I think this is similar question to 7/8**

1. Would you say there are less BAME (Black Asian and Minority Ethnic) In your Chosen Career Path?

**Theres definitely more BAME in the arts compared to the 80s/90s but there needs to be more people even more now.**

1. If yes, What can we do to change this?

**When I was teaching, I would invite friends who were in various sectors of the arts to show that doing art wasn’t just ab typical career but there more to it than just doing the traditional fine arts etc. Graphic design , animators, storytellers, interior design etc.. Definitely need more educational workshops within BAME communities, parents and schools to show the diversity of careers in the arts. Funnily many young people from the South Asian communities are inherently creative in the arts when you look at Pakistan and India, the visual arts, colours, textiles, entertainment, dancing etc. A lot of the young people I taught were very creative.**

**Having more BAME reps from these industries would help Riz Ahmed actor going into schools etc (Sanjeev Baskar, Meera Syal) these people paved the way for may upcoming generations, Noreen Khan BBC Radio, Anita Rani, Mehreen Baig TV Presenter.**

1. In some words describe what is it like to having a career that is non stereotypical?
2. What advice would you give for anyone starting their non stereotypical career?

**I think its good to have a mentor in the area that you want to go into, it helped me having a mentor to discuss my ideas etc. Don’t give up on your creativity no matter what people say or express lack of support.**

1. Would you be okay with a Interview Via Instagram Live on my Instagram page? @artisticidentity

**Would depend on the context who will be joining re the audience, what types of questions etc you will ask.**

1. Would you like you name/Identity to be mentioned in the Art work?

**Yasmine Mohammed / art name YasArtDesign**

**Any additional comments for the artist or myself**

**Some of your questions are quite similar. As a suggestion maybe your questionnaire could have been an interview itself.**