

**Title:**

The Anticipation of Rain

**Logline:**

The Anticipation of Rain is fine artist Naima Karim's personal and moving reflection on creative inspiration and plea for global collaboration in a time of climate change.

**Synopsis:**

The Anticipation of Rain is fine artist Naima Karim's memoir and plea for global collaboration in a time of drastic climate change.

Naima's artwork celebrates the changing beauty of skies, but in particular the dynamic nature of skies, the arrival of the monsoon, and its significance to her homeland, Bangladesh. Her fascination with the beauty of the natural world was born from a time in her life when she was left temporarily paralysed by a virus. Unable to move for over a year, she spent her time studying and staring at the sky in awe and wonder as it morphed in colour and form above her. Having grown up in Bangladesh, the South Asian monsoon is a joyous, exciting, and romantic experience for Naima. Naima's voice guides the audience through her moving lived experience and provokes questioning around climate change.

Climate change has made the monsoon in South Asia increasingly erratic, causing extreme rainfall and drought in equal measure across the Indian subcontinent. In low-lying Bangladesh, the arrival of the monsoon, once associated with hope and renewal, is now a time of fear and loss.

The Anticipation of Rain is a 7 min multi-sensory virtual reality experience, utilising 3D digital representations of Naima's unique brushwork, two specially designed scents, and a rich and immersive sound design to represent the arrival of a monsoon storm.

**Synopsis: (150 words)**

The Anticipation of Rain is fine artist Naima Karim's memoir and plea for global collaboration in a time of climate change. It utilises Naima's brush strokes, immersive sound, and bespoke scents.

Naima's artwork celebrates the changing beauty of skies. The arrival of the monsoon is one of her inspirations. Her fascination with the beauty of the natural world was born from a time in her life when she was left temporarily paralysed by a virus. Unable to move for over a year, she spent her time studying and staring at the sky in awe and wonder as it morphed in colour and form above her.

The South Asian monsoon is a joyous, exciting, and romantic experience for Naima. Which became unpredictable and erratic since her childhood. Naima has hope that her monsoon rain will inspire all to see, love, and inspire to take care of our beautiful world.

**Award nominations:**

IDFA Doclab immersive non-fiction competition, 2022 (9 Nov.2022)

<https://www.idfa.nl/nl/film/8e3bcb9b-ccf4-41ed-b17b-515d6a61df00/the-anticipation-of-rain>

Crystal Owl Awards by Steriopsia Europe, 2022 (19 Oct. 2022)

[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/stereopsia\\_stereopsia-crystalowlawards-2022winners-activity-6988775003362099200-EucA?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_desktop](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/stereopsia_stereopsia-crystalowlawards-2022winners-activity-6988775003362099200-EucA?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop)

Social Impact VR Award by AIXR, UK, 2022 (1 Dec. 2022)

<https://vrawards.aixr.org/finalists-2022/>

### World Premiere:

International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), 9 Nov. 2022

### Poster:



### Exhibitions and Festivals:

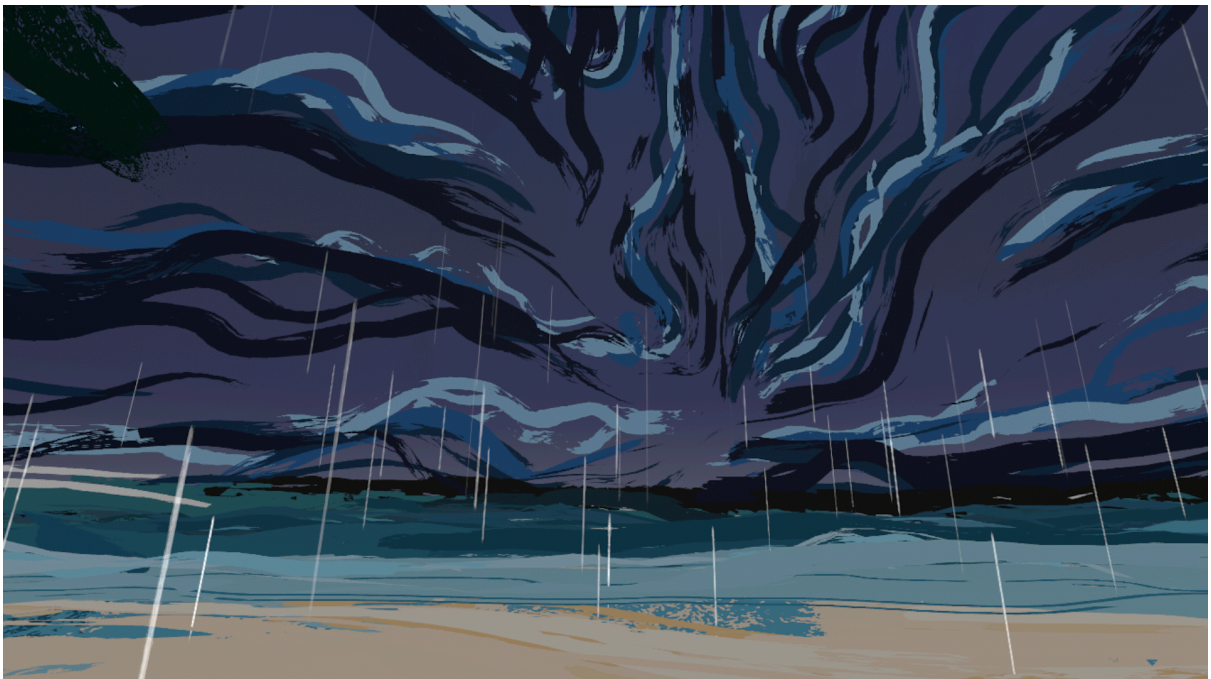
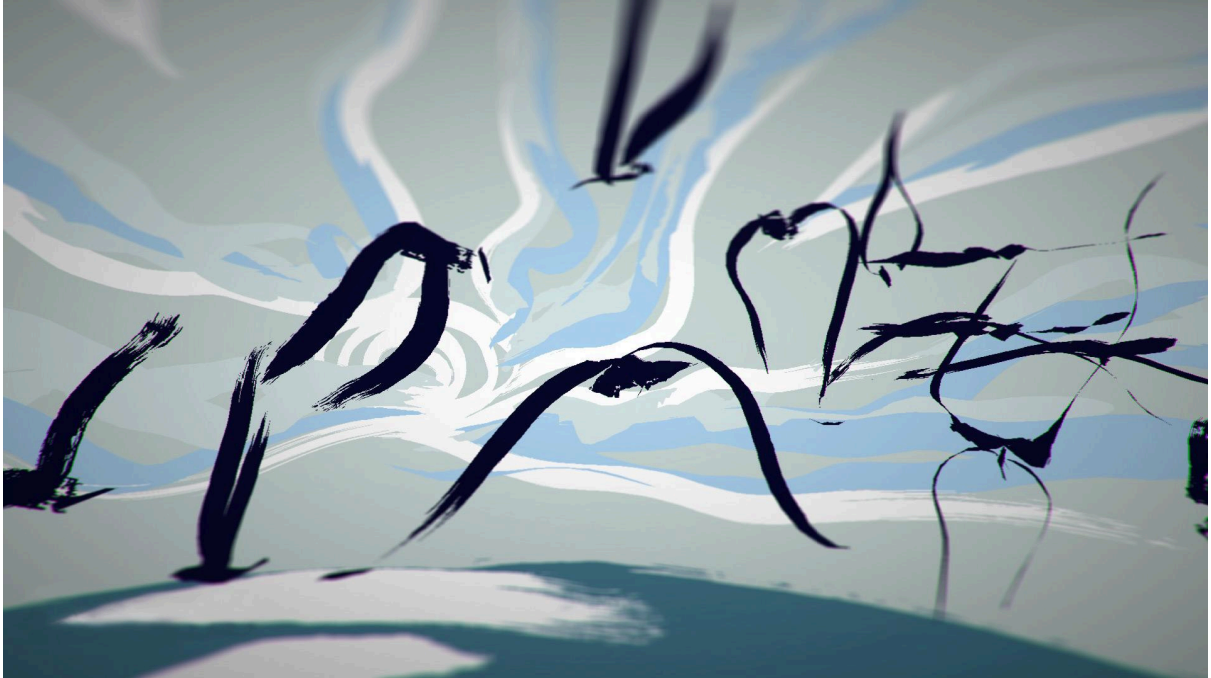
- 1. Forum Groningen, 16 Nov, 2023
- 2. DOKUArt, Croatia, 11 Oct, 2023
- 3. ACM Siggraph, Los Angeles, 6 Aug. 2023
- 4. MozFest House, Amsterdam, 20 June 2023
- 5. Saudi Film Festival, Ithra, 11 May 2023
- 6. Beldocs, Serbia, 9 May 2023
- 7. Mozilla Festival (MozFest virtual) 20 March 2023
- 8. Leap 23, Riyadh, Feb. 2023
- 9. Red Sea Film Festival, 1 Dec. 2022
- 10. International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), 9

Nov. 2022

- 11. International Documentary Film Festival, Forum Selection to Pitch, 14 Nov. 2022
- 12. Encounters Film Festival (official selection- I had to decline participation as IDFA required a World Premier), Nov. 2022
- 13. Belfast XR Festival (official selection- I had to decline participation as IDFA required a World Premier), Nov. 2022
- 14. Gamers 8, Riyadh, 12 July 2022
- 15. Sync Summit, Ithra, 30 March 2022
- 16. Demo, King Abdulaziz Center for Culture, Ithra, 7 Feb.2022



**Visual references:**





**Installation cube photo at the Demo at Ithra:**





### **Director's Biography:**

Creator and Director Naima Karim, is a Bangladeshi Dutch fine artist, a painter of the sky. The Anticipation of Rain is her first foray into virtual reality production and 3D art. She used the VR tool Openbrush and created the 3D environment for “The Anticipation of Rain” with her unique artistic style.

She has participated in many exhibitions but the most important participations are,

2022 “The Anticipation of Rain” World Premiere at IDFA, The Netherlands

2022 Painting, Asian Art Biennale, Bangladesh

2022 “The Anticipation of Rain” Creative Solutions Program, Ithra, Saudi Arabia

2020 Painting, 2nd Dafen International Oil Painting Biennale, Shenzhen, China

2019 Painting, 8th Beijing International Biennale, China

## **Director's Statement:**

Monsoon rain in Bangladesh is a joyous, exciting, and romantic experience for me. To share and immerse the audience fully in the experience I was inspired to create The Anticipation of Rain. I used the VR tool "Openbrush" to paint the 3D environment. My aim is to inspire all to take care of the beautiful world that we share.

## **Credits:**

Creator, Narrator, Writer, Principal VR Artist: Naima Karim

Producer: Mitch Turnbull

Art Director: Richard Tongeman

Sound Designer: Henrik Oppermann

VR Artist: Lorna Inman

Perfumer: Andreas Wilhelm

## **Mentors:**

Simon Benson

Jennifer Rosen

Maddalena Crosti

Filipe Andre Martins Gomes

Tehmina Zaheer

Ahmed AlAbdulrahman

Gaëlle Mourre

Luke Richie

## **Funded by/Production:**

Creative Solutions Program, Ithra, Saudi Arabia

<https://www.ithra.com/en/special-programs/creative-solutions/>

**Arab News article announcing the five prototype winners:**

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1909036/amp>

**Email:** [naima.karim@gmail.com](mailto:naima.karim@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.naimakarim.com/new-page-4](http://www.naimakarim.com/new-page-4)

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/naimakarim](http://www.instagram.com/naimakarim)

**Linkedin:** [www.linkedin.com/in/naima-karim-artist](http://www.linkedin.com/in/naima-karim-artist)

**Trailer link:** <https://vimeo.com/755211647>

**Trailer link (short):** <https://vimeo.com/757859029>

## **Press and podcast:**

Voices of VR by Kent Bye

<https://voicesofvr.com/1168-the-anticipation-of-rain-combines-open-brush-landscape-vr-painting-of-a-monsoon-with-custom-scenes/>

XR Must

<https://www.xrmust.com/xrdatabase/all-experiences/the-anticipation-of-rain/>

Arab News

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2299926/saudi-arabia>

Variety Article

<https://variety.com/2022/film/global/red-sea-film-fund-banksy-amer-shomali-1235454701/amp/>

Dhaka Tribune

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/showtime/2022/11/25/naima-karim-on-her-vr-films-success-at-idfa>

Gamers8

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2126831/amp>

<https://www.timeoutriyadh.com/gaming-tech/gamers8-riyadh>

<https://www.instagram.com/tv/CgHVsIDIu1j/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

Coral Cripps

<https://www.gmw3.com/2022/04/ithras-creative-solutions-a-unique-glance-at-nature-culture-history-and-education-through-xr/amp/>

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2137371>

Ithra Arab news

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1909036/amp>