

Please join the Faculty of Art at OCAD University for the launch of
Art Creates Change: The Kym Pruesse Speaker Series



Ambarien Alqadar and Samina Mishra: Documentaries from Jamia Nagar

Wednesday, October 13, 7 p.m.

What are the dilemmas faced in making documentaries about one's own neighbourhood when that community is a loaded site of refuge, stereotyping and police repression?

Ambarien Alqadar and Samina Mishra both graduated from the prestigious AJK Mass Communication Research Centre (MCRC), which houses India's only MA program in film and television. The MCRC and its host university Jamia Millia Islamia are located in the neighbourhood of Jamia Nagar, increasingly referred to as Delhi's Muslim ghetto. As filmmakers with roots in Jamia Nagar, their complex and probing documentaries address both "insiders" and "outsiders" in raising difficult questions about gender, sexuality, class, religion and nation.

Ambarien Alqadar will screen excerpts from *Who Can Speak of Men*, about women who cross dress, and *Between Leaving and Arriving*, which probes the infamous "Batla House encounter," in which neighbourhood youth were killed by police. Samina Mishra will screen from *A House on Gulmohar Avenue*, which uses her own story as the great granddaughter of Dr. Zakir Hussain, India's first Muslim president and a founder of Jamia Millia Islamia university, to explore what it means to be a Muslim in India today, and *Come, Walk Through Our Streets*, produced with children from Jamia Nagar.

Screenings will be followed by a conversation on the ethics and politics of neighbourhood autoethnography with Richard Fung, Associate Professor in OCADU's Integrated Media program, and Visiting Professor at the MCRC in 2009.

All are welcome and admission is free.

Art Creates Change The Kym Pruesse Speaker Series is presented with support from the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.



OCAD University

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