



# WHAT'S LEFT BEHIND

WORK BY SATPREET KAHLON

## ARTIST STATEMENT

In this body of work, I am exploring my history with, and the greater context of, sexual violence against women, especially as it pertains to women of color. By combining destructive processes with delicate techniques, as well as industrial materials with feminine materials, I hope to reference the dualities that women of color who are also victims of sexual violence have to navigate: both as defenders of their communities against racial stereotypes, as well as advocates on behalf of themselves as victims.

Often, this burden, and the confusion and shame that come with it, can inflict just as much harm as the initial act of sexual violence itself. A woman's struggle with sexual violence is not over once the physical act is over; conversely, it is just the beginning of a lifelong attempt to heal and cope with very serious trauma that is compounded by society's tendency to blame and discredit victims of sexual abuse. By coming to terms with the vast maze of my own trauma in the making of this work, I hope to encourage a deeper conversation of the long lasting effects of sexual violence by taking a closer look at what's left behind.

## BIOGRAPHY



Satpreet Kahlon is a multidisciplinary artist who is currently based in Seattle. With two BFAs (Studio Art, Art Education), Satpreet hopes to serve as an advocate for positive social change within her community, both as an artist and as an educator.

Her work has been exhibited both extensively, including at Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, CA, the Stellenbosch Academy of Design and Photography in Cape Town, and Tipton Gallery in Johnson City, TN. She is currently the ArtBridge Fellow at Pratt Fine Arts Center, and has been the recipient of many awards, including a Windgate Fellowship to attend Penland School of Craft and an Individual Artist Grant from 4Culture in Seattle, WA.

Now, she lives as a resident artist in the Bemis Building in Seattle, where she makes conceptually driven work while simultaneously working as a teaching artist at the Seattle Art Museum.