

Grosvenor Gallery



MUZZUMIL RUHEEL LOST IN HIS OWN GARDEN

Grosvenor Gallery 32 St. James's Street London SW1A 1HD

art@grosvenorgallery.com +44 (0) 207 484 79797 grosvenorgallery.com **Grosvenor Gallery** is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition of recent works by one of Pakistan's leading young contemporary artists, **Muzzumil Ruheel (b. 1985)**. The exhibition is in collaboration with **Canvas Gallery**, **Karachi** and will open with a private view on **Thursday**, **4 October 2016** from **6-8pm**. It will be open to the public from **5 – 14 October 2016**.

Muzzumil Ruheel was born in 1985 in Lahore, Pakistan, and is currently living and working in Karachi, Pakistan. In 2005, Muzzumil received his bachelor's degree in Arts, with a specialization in Journalism and Political Science, from Govt. Degree College (Lahore, Pakistan). In 2009, he went on to receive his second bachelor's degree in Visual Arts, from Beacon House National University (Lahore, Pakistan).

He was trained in the traditional art of Urdu, Arabic and Persian calligraphy before enrolling into an art school. Text has been a very significant part of his work. It is the medium in which he visualizes. He says "For me, words are the bridges through which I communicate and transcribe the visuals of my mind, its like storytelling, where a storyteller tells a story and we create visuals in our minds. My practice too is the same".

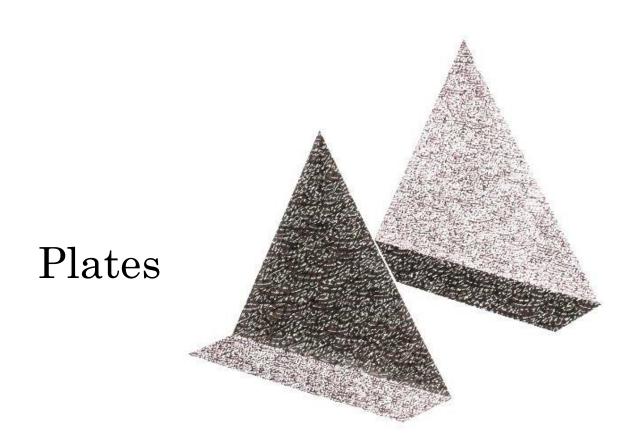
Using text as a medium for his visual art practices, he writes and rewrites accounts and stories, which make him, contemplate and question documented history and time. Visually, from a distance the works look like a chaotic assemblage of greyness just like realities today – frenzied, intertwined and unclear. He is entangled in a constant investigation as he researches events over and over again as he tries to document time itself; it is very similar to the age old process of doing 'mashq' done to achieve perfection. Ruheel's work is not based on a single notion, but is rather drawn from an open process of observing and gathering visual and conceptual materials, which entails their reflection through historical, social and political and religious views as well as his personal milieu.

A piece of fiction, which is there, and yet holds no existence; based on truths, yet alive in stories, it lives and deviates its realities from one's words to another's perceptions. It is these perceptions that a raconteur plays with, revealing accounts that create visuals in our minds. How the audience perceives the characters is at the narrator's leverage. How much fiction is part of a story and how much of it is the truth depends on what he chooses to exaggerate, what he delicately omits and what point of view is presented. "Far from the constraints of time, in a world where I can be anywhere; I exist, sometimes sitting next to a person, whereas sometimes in the shape of a clock, sometimes in the form of a chair, sometimes a pen, sometimes the wind that wisps past people eavesdropping, and in whatever form, living that moment overhearing conversations, witnessing situations and conversing aggravations." - Muzzumil Ruheel

Ruheel's current body of works are extracts of his interactions. Small accounts of situations he has witnessed through living multitudes of lives of people, animals and inanimate objects. He is divulging the overheard conversations, variations in perceptions of personalities, bigoted confessions of demagoguery and pretentious prejudiced stories of bravery. The existence of these contradictory contrasts has no significance to their realities but perceptions are never black or white, they exist in a murky grey. Irrespective, these details as usually forgotten as most are lost and tangled living their lives, running towards destinations, lost in their own definitions, perceptions of what they believe to be right.

Ruheel has exhibited works in an array of mediums, including multi-disciplinary mixed-media, interactive installation, video-art, performance, painting, digital, graffiti/street-art and sculpture. Muzzumil has already accumulated a number of awards and is in numerous national and international private collections.

He has been constantly involved with solo and group shows nationally and internationally. "The alternate life of lies" (solo), Canvas Gallery, Karachi 2016, "And his beard grew and grew and grew." (solo) Rohtas Gallery, Lahore 2015, Letter of apology, (Project), Kaladham Museum, Vijyanagar, India, "...but some of them never happened? (solo) "Canvas Gallery, Karachi 2014. His artwork has been featured in several publications, such as The wall art magazine, The National, The News, Shifter, Nukta Art Magazine, and many more. Muzzumil Ruheel lives and works in Karachi.







1. He Threw the Watch Away 2016 Print and ink on paper 45.7 x 73.6 cm. (18 x 29 in.)

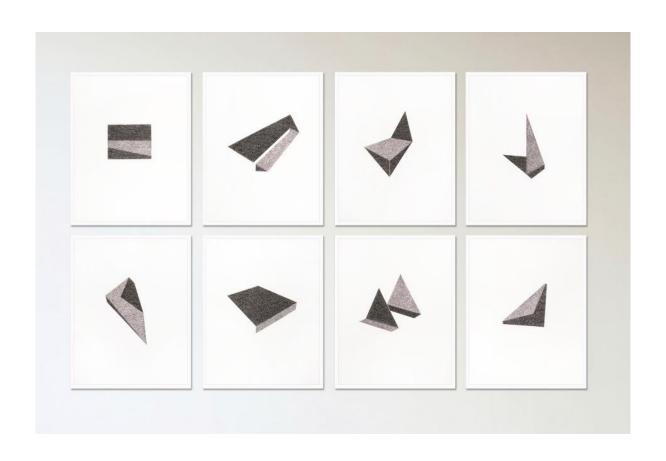




2. Memories of Black Stone 2016 Acrylic and ink on canvas 71.1 x 90 cm. (28 x 39 in.)



Morphed (Detail)



3. Morphed 2016 Ink on wasli paper Consists of 8 framed panels 55.8×71.1 cm. $(22 \times 28$ in.) each 238.7×149.8 cm. $(94 \times 59$ in.) overall



Nowhere to Run (Detail)



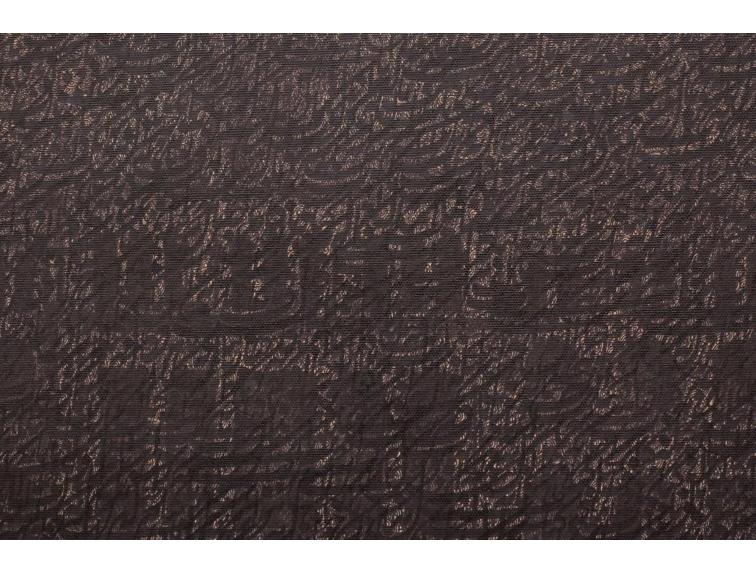
4. Nowhere to Run 2016 Acrylic and ink on canvas 71.1 x 90 cm. (28 x 39 in.)



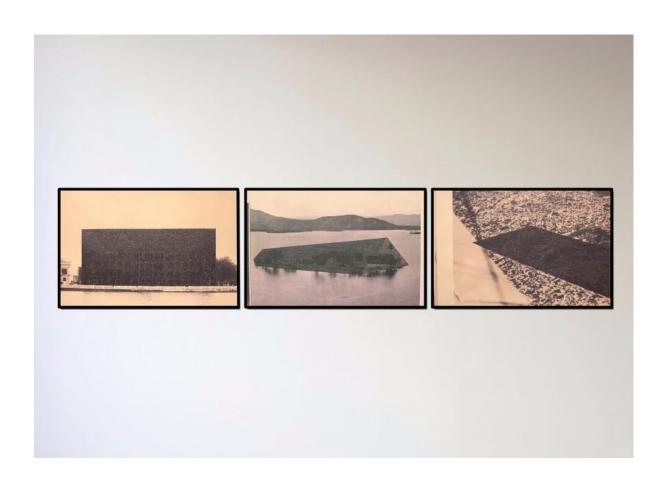
Pet Tigress Detail)



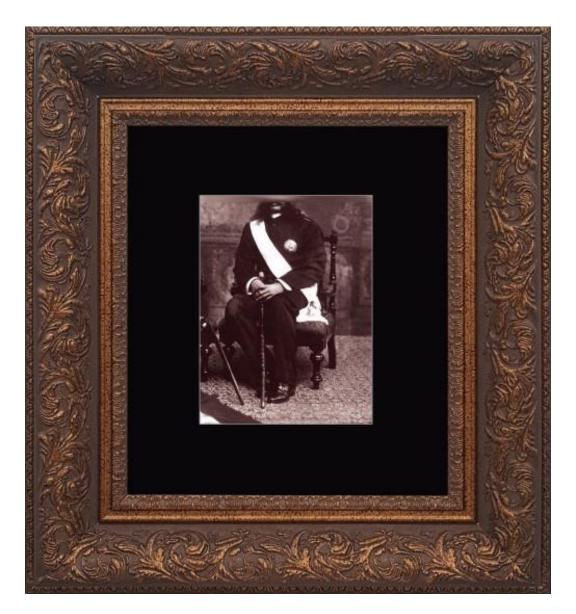
5. Pet Tigress 2016 Acrylic and ink on canvas 71.1 x 90 cm. (28 x 39 in.)



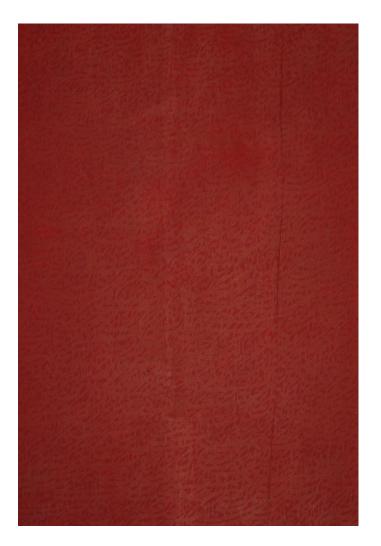
Pieces of Heaven....for Some (Detail)



6. Pieces of Heaven....for Some
2016
Print and ink on canvas
Consists of 3 framed panels
71.1 x 104.1 cm. (28 x 41 in.) each
71.1 x 327.6 cm. (28 x 129 in.) overall



Red Cloak (Detail)



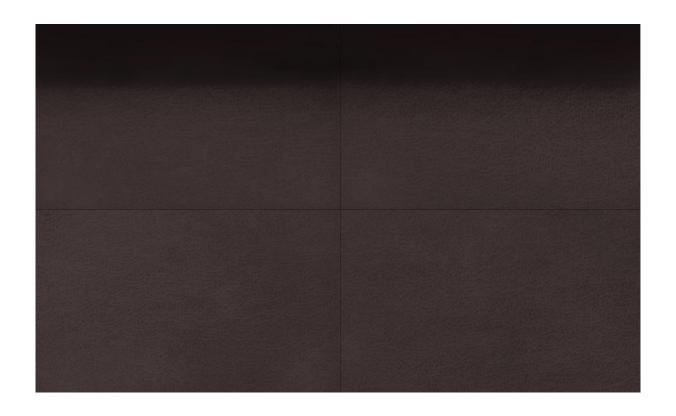


7. Red Cloak 2016 Consists of 2 panels

Acrylic and ink on canvas $96.5 \times 142.4 \text{ cm}$. (38 x 56 in.)

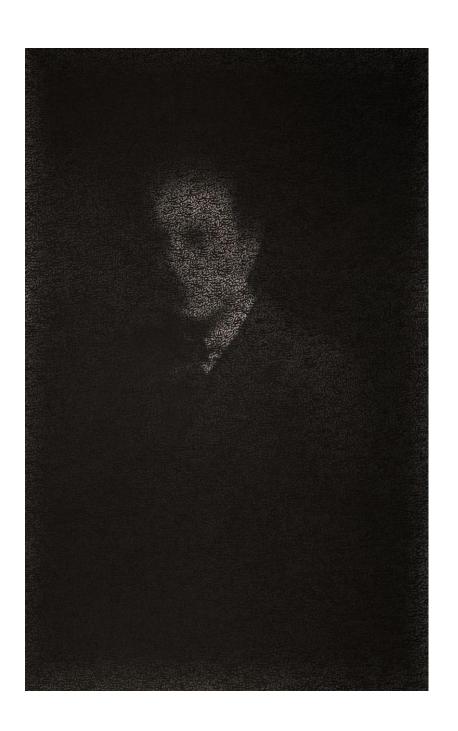
Framed C-type print 55.8 x 71.1 cm. (22 x 28 in.)





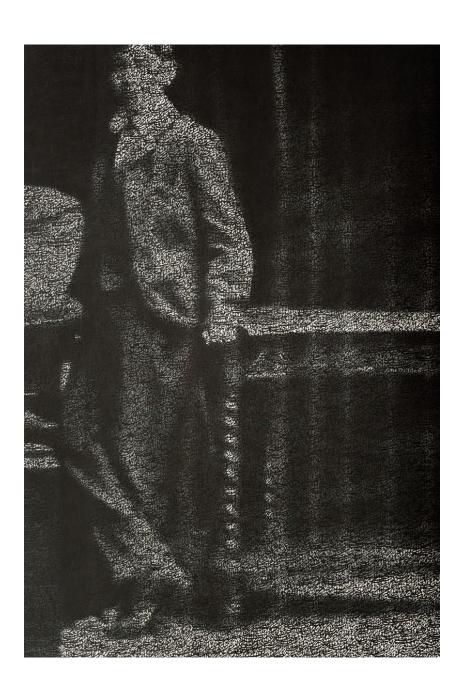
8. Shadows Circus
2016
Acrylic and ink on canvas
Consists of 4 panels
99 x 160 cm. (39 x 63 in.) each.
195.5 x 320 cm. (77 x 126 in.) overall





9. The Glistening Brooch 2016 Print and ink on paper 45.7 x 73.6 cm. (18 x 29 in.)

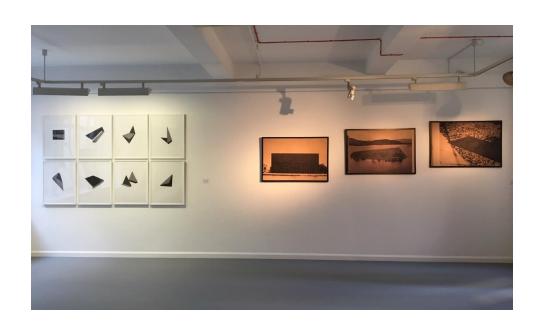




10. *The Horseman*2016
Print and ink on paper
45.7 x 73.6 cm.
(18 x 29 in.)



11. The Leftover Excerpts from the Red Wall 2016
Acrylic and ink on canvas 96.5 x 142.2 cm. (38 x 56 in.)

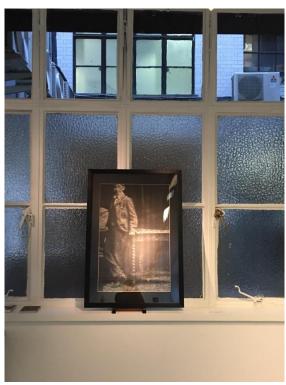












CURRICULUM VITAE MUZZUMIL RUHEEL B.1985, LAHORE

EDUCATION:

2009 Bachelors in Visual Arts

School of Visual Arts, Beacon House National University, Lahore, Pakistan 2005 Bachelors in Arts

Govt. Degree College, Lahore, Pakistan

EXHIBITIONS:

Solo Shows:

2016

- "Lost in his own garden", Grosvenor Gallery, London, UK 2015
- "The alternate life of lies", Canvas Gallery, KaraAchi, Pakistan
- "And his beard grew and grew and grew." Rohtas Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan 2014
-
 Letter of apology, (Project), Kaladham Museum, Vijyanagar , Karnataka, India
- "...but some of them never happened?" Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan 2012
- "It's only words" Rohtas Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan
- Yak Yak Yak, (Project) New Media Installation, Gandhara Art Gallery, Karachi,

Pakistan

2011 "I do not quote from scriptures; I simply see what I see", VM Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan

Two Person Shows

2013 The Social "Animals", Koel Gallery, Karachi

2010 Back 2 Back, Rohtas II Gallery, Lahore & Rohtas I Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

2016

•"Digging deep, crossing far curated by Julia tieke & Elke falat, Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien,

Berlin

- · In letter and spirit, Tarq, Mumbai, India
- ${\mbox{\ensuremath{\bullet}}}$ The 70's, Amin Gulgee Gallery, Karachi

2015

- · Letter of apology, Abhisaran Booth, Indian Art Fair, India
- Group show, curated by Sameera Raja, Mohatta Palace Museum, Karachi, Pakistan

2014

- Letter of apology, Performance, OPJ Museum, Vijyanagar, Karnataka State, as part of Abhisaran A collateral event of Kochi-Muziris Biennale, India
- Present Re-Inventions, Grosvenor Gallery, London
- Pastures still green, IV Young Moscow International Biennial, Moscow

Museum of

Modern Art, Russia

- · IEAA Show, Dubai
- · Shape, Pattern and Form, Art Factum, Beirut, Lebanon
- Art Fest 2014, Frere Hall, Karachi, Pakistan

2013

- · Are you in Character, Gandhara Art Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- Stop-look-listen, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- · Crossing over, Gallery Latitude 28, New Delhi, India
- · Awaaz, The Pakistan Council of Arts. Karachi, Pakistan
- Black Umbrella, performance, Gulgee Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan 2012
- · Seven, Curated by Adeela Suleman, Full Circle Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- Text Me, Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, Dubai
- Band Baaja Baraat, In collaboration with Muhammad Zeeshan, curated by Sameera Raja, IVS

Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan.

- People tree, Sound Installation, Port Grand, Karachi, Pakistan 2011
- Psychological Space, IVS gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- Items of Dual Use, VM Gallery, Karachi and Wip Konshtall, Stockholm, Sweden
- Vasl Rohtas Rawan International Artists Residency show, Rohtas I Gallery, Islamabad,

Pakistan

2010

- Still Exotic, Collaborative Project with Mohammad Abdelkarim, Cairo Documenta, Egypt
- · Combinations, Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- Through Other Eyes, Aberystwyth Arts Centre, Aberystwyth University,

Wales, UK

2009

- Ishq Vishq, IVS Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- Canvas Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan
- Space Invader Show, Aicon Gallery, London, UK
- BNU Degree Show, Alhamra Art Gallery. Lahore, Pakistan
- Grey noise, Bastakiya Art Fair, Dubai
- Through Other Eyes, Herbert Art Gallery, Coventry and The Glynn Vivian Gallery,

Swansea, Wales, UK

2008-06

 \bullet Parallel Lines, Cartwright Hall, Bradford City Art Gallery and Museum,

UK

- · Media as Medium Show, UDK, Berlin, Germany
- Moti roti 360° 60 X 60secs Traveling Video Exhibition by Moti roti,

Pakistan, India,

UK

- Envoy of Wisdom, National Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
- Video Show, Curated by Shalalae Jamil, Shanakhat Project. Organized by Citizens

Archive Pakistan, Karachi, Pakistan

• 13 Satellites, Public Art Project Exhibition, German Cultural Centre,

Lahore, Pakistan · "Source of

Inspiration" Hamail Art Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan

• "Lahori Shezade" Kara Film Festival, Karachi

WORK EXPERIENCE:

2013

Visiting Faculty BNU, Lahore Pakistan.

2009-13 Visiting Faculty

Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan

Fine Art | Communication Design Department

2012 Art Electives, Agha Khan Medical College, Karachi, Pakistan 2010 -11 Visiting Faculty,

Karachi University, Karachi, Pakistan Visual Studies Department

2010 Art Electives, Agha Khan Medical College, Karachi

WORKSHOPS, RESIDENCIES & PROJECTS:

2014 Abhisaran JSW Residency, Vijyanagar , Karnataka State, India

2012 Vasl International New Media Artists Workshop, Karachi, Pakistan 2011 Vasl Rohtas Rawan International Artists Residency, Islamabad,

Pakistan.

2008

- ${}^{\textstyle \bullet}$ Media as a Medium Workshop, Lahore and Berlin 2007
- · Research Project on Calligraphy, Lahore Museum, Lahore
- MEDIA, Conflict Resolution Workshop, British Council, Islamabad

2006 Conflict Resolution Workshop, British Council, Lahore

2004 Architectural Calligraphy Workshop, Anjuman-e-Memaran, Lahore

2002 Calligraphy Workshop, National College of Arts, Lahore

PUBLICATIONS & ARTIST TALKS:

2015

- · Altering perceptions by M Saeed Kureshi, Dawn News
- The Eye still seeks by Salima Hashmi(Book)
- · Written in beauty by Shurthi srinath, Deccan Herald
- Abhisaran, India (catalogue)

2014

- · A timeless amalgamation by shanzay subzwari, The Express Tribune
- · Present re-inventions by ArtNow Pakistan
- Piecing it together by Maryam Usman, The Express Tribune
- Transcendence curated by Muzzumil Ruheel (catalogue)
- ${\boldsymbol{\cdot}}$ Beyond Words by Minerwa Tahir, The Express Tribune

2013

- The Social Animals under way at Koel by Peerzada Salman
- Social Animals by M
 Saeed Kureshi, Dawn News
- The caricatures of social animals, Veera Rustomji
- · Crossing-over by Ilena Bose, The wall art magazine, New Delhi, India
- In remembrance By Rabia Ali, The Express Tribune

2012

- ${\color{blue} \bullet}$ No Ordinary Language by Maureen Korp, Ontario, Guerilla magazine, issue- 34
- · Interview by Nilofur Farukh, Nukta Art Magazine
- Exploring Language and Text Through Art, Dubai, khaleej esque
- The National, Abu Dhabi
- · Artist Talk at Lawrie Shabibi Gallery, Dubai
- New perspectives, newer possibilities By Gemma Sharpe, Herald, Pakistan
- · Vasl Workshop by Eman Mahmud, Artnow Pakistan
- Vasl Art Share, Indus Valley school of art and architecture

2011

- The secret of words by Aasim Akhtar, Friday times
- · Artists' perspective: Scripting art by Salwat Ali, Dawn News

Calligraphy for the textually illiterate by Ammar Shahbazi, The News

- · Artist Talk, Rohtas Rawan studio, Islamabad
- Items of Dual Use, VM Gallery, Karachi and Wip Konshtall, Stockholm, Sweden (Catalogue)

2010

- Is this the helmet of Mambrino? By Gemma Sharp, Shifter Magazine, New York, USA
- Back 2 Back: Coming to terms with life & living by Schezee Zaidi, The News
- 2009 Through Other Eyes, Herbert Art Gallery. Coventry, UK (Catalogue)
 2008 Parallel Lines, Bradford City Art Gallery and Museum, UK (Catalogue)
 2007 "Art For The Sake Of People" by Quddus Mirza, The News. (22nd April)

2006

- "Source of Inspiration" by Farida Batool.
- "Tantalizing Text" by Saira Dar, The Nation,
- "Kara Film Festival", Karachi (Catalogue)
- "Present Day Calligraphy", Ali Raza, 'I' candy'
- "Modern Calligraphers", Makhzan-e-Khatati (History book of Calligraphy) by Khurshid Gohar

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