

Pakistan International School has always aimed to provide the best opportunities to its students where they learn, groom and fine tune their hidden talents. In this regard a colorful and memorable art workshop was organized for the students on Sunday 31st December 2017, where the famous Pakistani painter and calligraphist Riaz Rafi demonstrated live painting to the beats of music. Riaz Rafi is a person of many interests and pursuits. He was associated with TV as an Art Director, designed sets for TV shows. He conducted Art classes for underprivileged children. He has also learnt Kathak from Nighat Chaudry; appreciating the abstract aspect of music. Then he turned towards painting and sculpture and in 2000 he exhibited acrylic Sandstone sculpture paintings inspired by forms and figures from the ancient Indian Civilization as evidenced in the Caves of Aganta and Ellora, and the ruins of Texila. Next Rafi turned to calligraphy. He studied Calligraphy with the greatest Masters of this Genre in Pakistan Gulgee and Sadequain, apart from these two he also studied the classical Master of Islamic School of Calligraphy; such styles as Nastaliq, kufi, Irani and Iraqi etc. Rafi's recent work is a breath of fresh air in the current milieu of stagnation existing in Pakistani Art.

It was truly mesmerizing to watch him paint with the rhythm. While talking to the students, he said "Without the Arts human beings are incomplete. Any type of Art is inborn within individuals; it can be further nurtured by training but is essentially something that arises from within".

The enthusiastic students drew sketches and paintings under his guidance and learnt the basic techniques of sketching and color blending.

The workshop was attended by the former Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the State of Qatar Sarfaraz Khanzada, Mrs Nargis Raza Otho, Principal Pakistan International School, Vice Principals of all the wings and the students.

Mrs Nargis Raza Otho, thanked Mr Riaz Rafi for his valuable time and guidance she also urged that such workshops should be organized time and again giving the students a chance to find and spark their talents.