



**ANIDA YOEU ALI** is an artist whose works span performance, installation, new media, public encounters, and political agitation. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach to artmaking, her installation and performance works investigate the artistic, spiritual and political collisions of a hybrid transnational identity.

Ali is the winner of the 2014-2015 Sovereign Asian Art Prize for her series *The Buddhist Bug*, a multidisciplinary work that investigates displacement and identity through humor, absurdity and performance. Ali has performed and exhibited at the Palais de Tokyo, Musée d'art Contemporain Lyon, Smithsonian, Malay Heritage Centre, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Art Central Hong Kong, and Queensland Art Gallery. Her artistic works have been the recipient of grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, Art Matters Foundation, Ford Foundation, and the Tacoma Arts Commission.

Ali's pioneering poetry work with the group *I Was Born With Two Tongues* (1998-2003) is archived with the Hemispheric Institute. Currently based in Tacoma, Ali is also the co-founder of Studio Revolt, an independent artist run media lab whose works agitate the White House, won awards at film festivals, and redefines what it means to create sans-studio and trans-nomadically. Ali holds an MFA from School of the Art Institute Chicago (2010) and a BFA from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (1998). Ali currently serves as an Artist-in-Residence at the University of Washington, Bothell where she teaches courses in Interdisciplinary Arts, Global Studies and American & Ethnic Studies.



**ANEELAH AFZALI** is the founder and Executive Director of the American Muslim Empowerment Network (AMEN), a new initiative of the Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS). She also serves as a Board Member of the Faith Action Network and on the Steering Committee of the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network.

Aneelah is an attorney and graduate of Harvard Law School who made partner at a law firm and led as General Counsel of a local healthcare IT company. In addition to her legal practice, Aneelah co-founded MELAW -- the Middle Eastern Legal Association of Washington -- and served as inaugural president for two years. The Washington State Bar Association honored Aneelah with its Excellence in Diversity award, and Washington Law and Politics recognized her as a Rising Star multiple years.

Four years ago, Aneelah took a break from her legal career to pursue service and knowledge, two things her faith emphasizes. Since then, she has served as a community activist, interfaith leader, and justice advocate. Aneelah graduated from the University of Oregon Honors College, and Harvard Law School. She also was named one of the 2017 Most Influential People by Seattle Magazine as a "Bridge Builder." Aneelah enjoys traveling, snowboarding, and football, and is a proud Seahawks and Ducks fan!



**Olmecca** is a Hip-Hop artist, producer, activist and scholar who has been featured on BBC London, Huffington Post, NPR, KEXP Seattle, URB Magazine, Democracy Now and CNN Latino. His work has been featured on various documentaries including PBS “Independent Lens”, and “Two Americans,” a documentary about the immigration issues in Arizona. He has written music for tv shows including “Sons of Anarchy,” “CHANCE” on HULU, and new series, “The Mayans” on FX.

Olmecca grew up in the barrios of L.A. and Mexico, a reality that brewed his blending of music genres and cultural sensitivity. His bilingual music has earned him respect and praises in both English and Spanish news outlets and genres (Hip-Hop and Latin Alternative). Olmecca has collaborated with Taboo (Black Eyed Peas), Latin Alternative band, Ozomatli, Hip-Hop legend, Ras Kass, and Dave Kushner (Velvet Revolver). Olmecca has toured Canada, Latin America and Europe and has helped spawn a new trend of bilingual Hip-hop. While everyday people respect his lyrical content, music connoisseurs value the production, and educators utilize Olmecca’s music in their classrooms.

This, along with his social commentary and community efforts makes Olmecca a stand-alone artist in how he can intersect various identities and demographics. It is also for this reason that he is not only a gifted performing artist, however, a university lecturer doing guest lectures, residencies and keynote speeches in universities throughout the U.S. His capacity to bring various campus programs, offices and academic departments together is not only unique, but also necessary. His work has been noted by social justice dignitaries speaking alongside Dolores Huerta, Naomi Klein and many others.