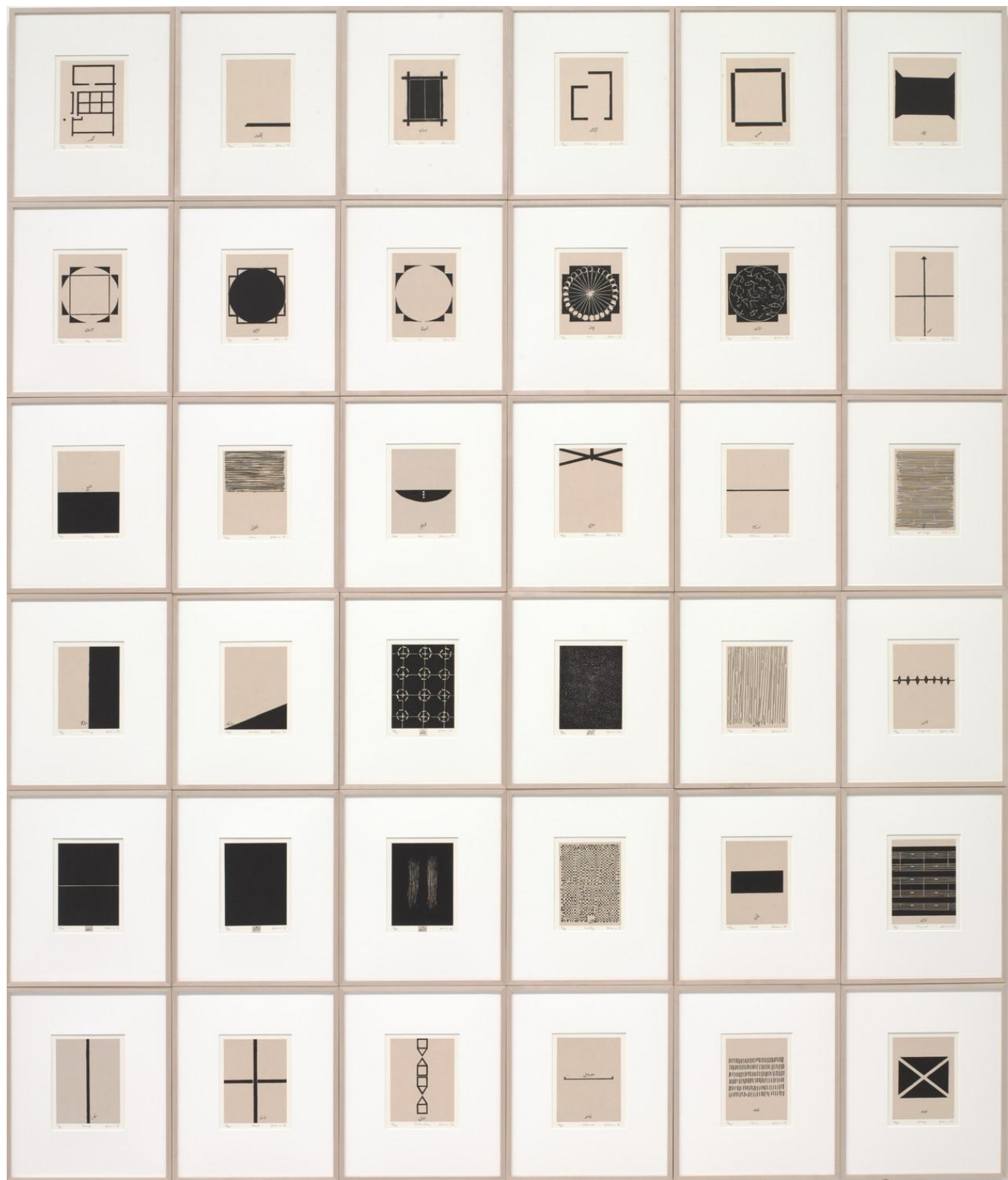
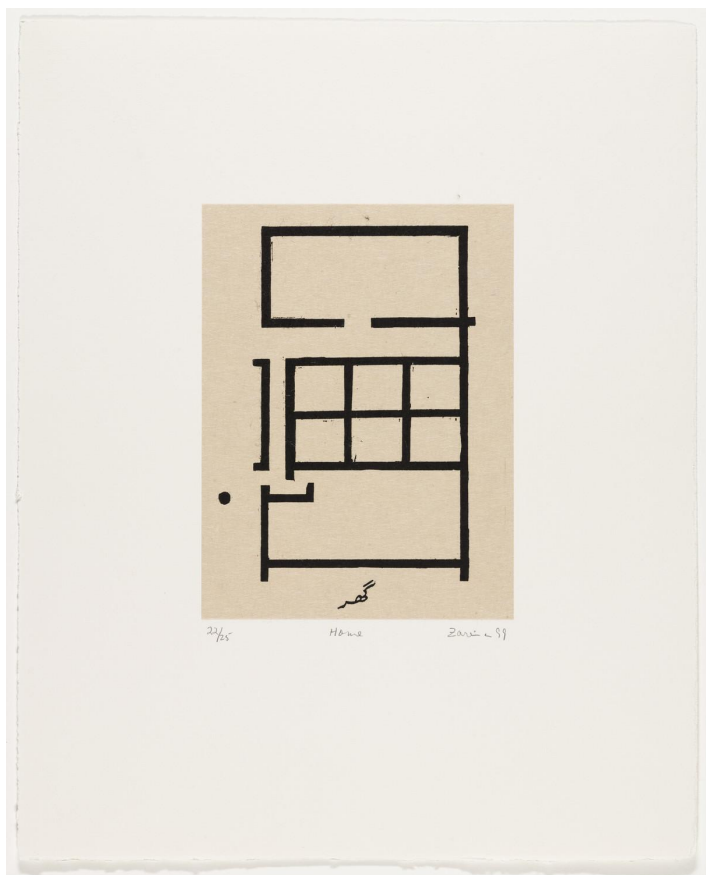


Mondays with MoMA

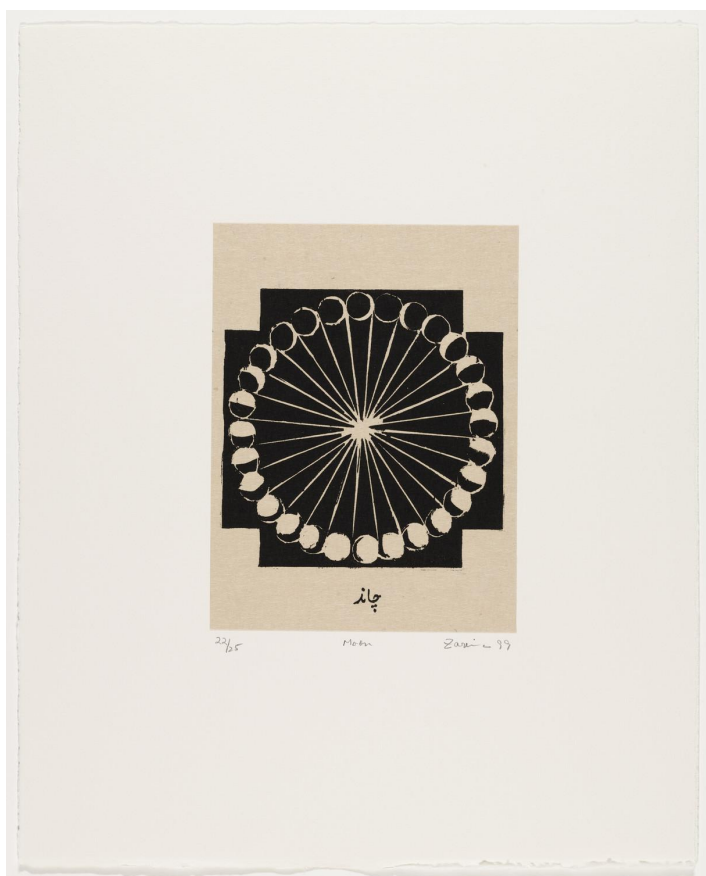




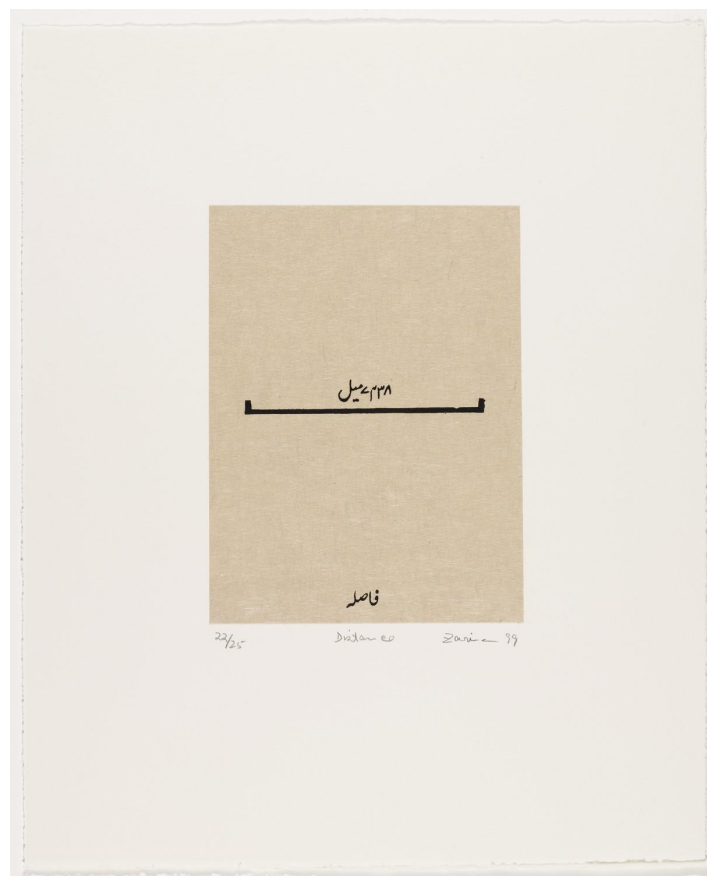
Home from Home Is a Foreign Place



Wall from Home Is a Foreign Place



Moon from Home Is a Foreign Place



Distance from Home Is a Foreign Place

Step 1 Look closely

Questions

1. What do all the images on page 1 have in common? Focus on color, shape, and line.
2. Look at selected works in the series on page 2, or go to mo.ma/3jDfmJY to see all thirty-six. What connection do you see between the titles and the images?

Step 2 Learn more

Zarina was born in Aligarh, India, but left in her early twenties to live in Bangkok, Delhi, Paris, Bonn, Tokyo, Los Angeles, and Santa Cruz before settling in New York City in 1976. In *Home Is a Foreign Place*, she reflects upon her faraway childhood home. “This piece is my narrative of the house I was born in and left in my early twenties never to return,” she once explained.

The artwork consists of thirty-six woodblock prints, each of which features a geometric, monochromatic design. To make these images, Zarina wrote a list of words that she considered meaningful, such as *axis*, *distance*, *road*, and *wall*. She sent the list to a calligrapher in Pakistan, who wrote them in the traditional nastaliq script used for manuscripts in Zarina’s native Urdu language. Back in her New York studio, Zarina developed what she has described as “idea-images, which flowed from these words.” In this work, Zarina explores her feelings about home, memory, and loss.



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Step 3 Activity: Draw your memory of home

Materials: pencil, paper, black marker

1. Create a list of five words that you associate with the idea of “home.”
2. Next to each word, draw a shape or symbol that can represent this word.
3. With your pencil, draw your symbols on a sheet of paper, combining them into a composition. Consider playing with scale, contrast, and placing when creating your composition.
4. Do you feel that your symbols convey your idea of home? How might you reposition or change them to make the idea clearer?

Step 4 Share!

Share your artwork with a family member and tell them how your artwork relates to your idea of home. Or you can email a photo to us at:

schoolprograms@moma.org.

Image: Zarina. *Home Is a Foreign Place*. 1999. Portfolio of thirty-six woodcuts with letterpress additions mounted on paper. Publisher: Zarina, New York. Printer: Zarina, New York. Acquired through the generosity of Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis in honor of Edgar Wachenheim III. © 2022 Zarina