

Fall 2021 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
Crossing Boundaries: Understanding Contemporary Asian Art
Sponsored by the *Society for Asian Art*

“Re-Telling Tales: Five Contemporary Women Artists from India (1997-2021)”

Dr. Arshiya Lokhandwala
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Artist Bios:

Rummana Hussain was born in Bangalore, India in 1952 and passed away in 1999 in Mumbai, India. Hussain's works have been on view at various institutions around the world including Tate Modern, London, UK; 3rd Asia Pacific Triennale, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia; Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), New Delhi, India; Fowler Museum, Los Angeles, CA, US; Museum Abteiberg, Germany; Smart Museum, Chicago, IL, US; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; Asia Society, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Monterrey, Mexico; Rose Art Museum, Brandeis, MA. In 1998 Rummana was Artist in Residence at Art in General, New York. Rummana's works were featured in the India Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale in 2019.

Anita Dube is born in Lucknow in 1958, completed her BA (History) from Delhi University in 1979 and her MVA (Art Criticism) from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda in 1982. She was the curator of Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2018 and has shown extensively in India and all over the world. Her select solo exhibitions include 'Yours Disparately' (Nature Morte, New Delhi, 2014), 'Eye, etc.' (Lakeeren Gallery, Mumbai, 2013), 'Babel' (Galerie Dominique Fiat, Paris, 2011), 'Kal' (Lakeeren Gallery, Mumbai, 2010), Labyrinth (Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai, 2011), to name a few. She has been exhibited in biennales and exhibitions as the first 'Kochi Muziris Biennale' (India, 2012), 'Biennale Jogja XI' (Jogja National Museum, Indonesia, 2011), 'Against Exclusion' 3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art (curated by Jean-Hubert Martin, Garage Center, Russia, 2009), as well as 'Part Narratives' (curated by Gayatri Sinha, Bikaner House, Delhi 2017), 'Given Time: The Gift and Its Offerings' (curated by Dr. Arshiya Lokhandwala, Gallery Odyssey, Mumbai 2016), 'Dwelling' (curated by Ranjit Hoskote, Galerie Mirchandani & Stenruecke, Mumbai, 2016), 'After Midnight: Indian Modernism to Contemporary India 1947/1997' (curated by Dr. Arshiya Lokhandwala, Queens Museum of Art, New York, 2015), 'Difficult Loves-7 Contemporaries' (curated by Roobina Karaode, The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi, 2013), to name a few. The artist lives and works in New Delhi.

Sheela Gowda was born in Bhadravati, India, in 1957. She studied painting at Ken School of Art, Bangalore, India (1979), pursued a postgraduate diploma at Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, India (1982), and earned an MA in painting from the Royal College of Art, London (1986). Gowda has had solo exhibitions at Venkatappa Art Gallery, Bangalore (1987 and 1993); Gallery 7, Mumbai (1989); Gallery Chemould, Mumbai (1993); GALLERYYSKE, Bangalore (2004, 2008, and 2011); Bose Pacia Gallery, New York (2006); Museum Gowda, Netherlands (2008); Office for Contemporary Art, Oslo (2010); Iniva, London (2011); and Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands (2013). Notable group exhibitions include *How Latitudes Become Form*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2003); Documenta 12 (2007), *Indian Highway*, Serpentine

Gallery, London (2008); *Making Worlds*, Venice Biennale (2009); *Provisions*, Sharjah Biennial (2009); *Paris-Delhi-Bombay*, Centre Pompidou, Paris (2011); and *Garden of Learning*, Busan Biennial (2012). She was a finalist for the 2014 Hugo Boss Prize. Gowda lives and works in Bangalore.

Ayisha Abraham was born in London but is now based in Bangalore and has for many years worked with amateur film footage. She explores and expands dormant and archived potentials in terms of filmic materiality and its relation to historicity.

She received her BFA in Painting at the MS University, Baroda, India, in 1987. In 1991 she participated in the Whitney Independent Study Program, New York City. In 1995 she completed her MFA at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She has had several solo exhibitions in New York and India, as well as being exhibited in numerous group shows. In September 2005 her film *Straight 8* was screened at the Srishti exhibition at Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria. In 2005 she was an invited artist at the Khoj residency in Mumbai. Her short film *One Way* was screened at the Directors Fortnight at Cannes, May 2007. She is a member of a Bangalore artists collective, BAR1 and works as a visual arts consultant at the Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology in Bangalore.

Pushpamala N was born in Bangalore in 1956 and is known for her strongly feminist work and for her rejection of authenticity and embracing of multiple realities. As one of the pioneers of conceptual art in India and a leading figure in the feminist experiments in subject, material and language, her inventive work in sculpture, conceptual photography, video and performance have had a deep influence on art practice in India.

Starting off her career as a sculptor, Pushpamala began using photography and video in the mid-1990s, creating tableaux and photo-romances in which she casts herself in various roles. Interested in history and the idea of cultural memory, she cites a wide range of references in her series of masquerades where she simultaneously inhabits and questions familiar frames from art history, photography, film, theatre and popular culture, thereby placing herself as the artist at the center of social and political inquiry.

Pushpamala N lives and works in Bangalore after having lived for periods in different Indian cities. She exhibits widely in India and internationally and speaks often at seminars and conferences.