



The Answers Take Time

A Retrospective of Annu Palakunnathu Matthew

Presented by Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum

In collaboration with sepiaEYE

Curated by Esa Epstein

Preview: Saturday, 14 September 2024, 6 pm

Artist Walkthrough with Sabeena Gadihoke: 6:20 pm

Book signing: 7 pm

On view till 27 Oct 2024

Special Project Space, Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai



Annu Palakunnathu Matthew, Dad and Ajit, From "Fabricated Memories," 1997-2000.
Polaroid emulsion transfers on paper in a handmade accordion book. Courtesy of the Artist & sepiaEYE

Supported by sepiaEYE & The Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Jodhpur

The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum in collaboration with sepiaEYE is delighted to present *The Answers Take Time* a retrospective of Annu Palakunnathu Matthew's work accompanied by the monograph of the same title.

The exhibition showcases eight distinct bodies of work that span nearly three decades of Matthew's career. *The Answers Take Time* (by Minor Matters/sepiaEYE, 2022) is Matthew's first monograph covering her mid-career survey. It elucidates the progression of a conceptual artist who uses photography, collage, animation, and parody to explore performative and nuanced elements of cultural identities. Matthew draws on personal experiences and identity to tell the stories of others. Although she began her career as an accomplished still photographer, her artistic practice has expanded, incorporating a unique blend of stills, moving images, and sound for an immersive experience for the viewer. These works often draw on archival photographs for their inspiration and re-examine historical narratives and the legacies of colonization.

About Annu Palakunnathu Matthew

Born in England, Matthew moved to India at age 11. She immigrated to America at the age of 28 and began her photographic career here. Matthew's work has garnered international acclaim, with notable exhibitions at prestigious institutions that underscore the global significance of her artistic contributions. She has exhibited in solo shows at the The Royal Ontario Museum; The Newport Art Museum; and Nuit Blanche Toronto. Selected group exhibitions include The RISD Museum; The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Museum of Fine Arts Houston; The San Jose Museum of Art; The Victoria & Albert Museum; The Smithsonian Institution; Noorderlicht Photofestival; Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal Photo Biennale; Kochi-Muziris Biennale; and Guangzhou Photo Biennial. A passionate mentor to students and emerging artists, Matthew is a Professor of Art at the University of Rhode Island. She also served as the Director of the Center for Humanities and the Silvia Chandley Professor of Nonviolence and Peace Studies. Matthew has received many grants and fellowships, including two Fulbright Fellowships, a MacColl Johnson Fellowship, the John Gutmann Fellowship, the Rhode Island State Council of the Arts Fellowship, and the American Institute of Indian Studies Creative Arts Fellowship. She was an artist-in-residence at the Yaddo and MacDowell Colonies.

About Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum

The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum is Mumbai's first museum, established in 1857, and is the erstwhile Victoria and Albert Museum, Bombay.

The Museum building and collections underwent a comprehensive, UNESCO-Award winning restoration, spearheaded by Tasneem Zakaria Mehta as the convenor of the Mumbai Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), and supported by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai and the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation. Since it opened to the public in 2008, the Museum has pioneered contemporary art which is presented in the extraordinary 19th-century building, one of the finest in India, in an attempt to rethink the cannon and challenge colonial and enlightenment precepts.

The Museum was built to showcase the city's contemporary art and craftsmanship through a rare collection of fine and decorative arts of India. The Museum's robust exhibition and outreach programme invites artists to engage with these collections and archives and interrogate its founding principles.

Over 85 exhibitions have been presented, which include collaborations with both local and international institutions and organisations. Past exhibitions have showcased contemporary creative practices in design, crafts and textiles, architecture, urbanism, and film and video art.

The exhibition is on view at:

Special Project Space, Museum Plaza,

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo (Rani Bagh), 91-A, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Road, Byculla (E), Mumbai – 400027

Timings: 10 am to 5:30 pm

Closed all Wednesdays and certain public holidays

Free entry

For more information about the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum, please visit www.bdlmuseum.org

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/bdlmuseum/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BDLMuseum

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BDLMuseum>

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For press enquiries, please contact:

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Kindly note that the main Museum building is currently closed due to essential repairs.