

## EXPERIMENTS

Five Postmodern Expressions from Bengal

08/05/2016 – 24/05/2016

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum in collaboration with Centre for International Modern Art (CIMA), Kolkata, presents 'Experiments', an exhibition of contemporary artists from Bengal at the Special Project Space from 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016- 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

The exhibition brings together expressions of five artists from Bengal selected by CIMA gallery, whose works are resonant of their concerns with the idea of the urban in present day India from a postmodern context. The exhibition will be **inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Devendra Fadnavis**, in the presence of **Smt. Snehal Ambekar, Honourable Mayor of Mumbai** and **Shri Ajoy Mehta, Honourable Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai**.

### About the Exhibition

Postmodern is an expansive term, which is used for art, literature, architecture and philosophy among others. It is essentially a reaction to the idea that reality can be explained objectively – for instance – scientific. In Postmodern, the individual constructs 'reality' as it tries to understand its own personal experience of reality. Postmodernism is skeptical of explanations, which claim to be valid for all groups, communities, traditions, and races. Instead it emphasizes the relative truths of each person.

Postmodernism is "post" because it denies the existence of a scientific, philosophical or religious truth which can be applied to everything for everybody. The idea of merging distinctions between high and low art, particularly with the inclusion of aspects of popular, consumerist culture, is also an important element in postmodernism.

In this exhibition of five artists, the exploration of the idea of postmodern in the context of present day India, both urban and 'becoming' urban is shown. The participating artists are: Shreyasi Chaterjee, Sumitro Basak, Sangita Maity, Kingshuk Sarkar and Pitambar Khan.

The artists were not selected on the basis of any theme but looking at their artworks together, reveals a few common threads. The subliminal is a portentous beauty. There is fragility, violence and impermanence in these artists' work. Viewing them, one may even feel a strange sense of peril. It is this, which makes the exhibition a remarkable and significant art event.

### **About the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum**

The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum opened to the public in 1857 as the erstwhile Victoria and Albert Museum, Bombay. As Mumbai's oldest Museum, it showcases the city's cultural heritage and history through a rare collection of Fine and Decorative Arts that highlight Early Modern Art practices as well as the craftsmanship of various communities of the Bombay Presidency. The permanent collection includes miniature clay models, dioramas, maps, lithographs, photographs, and rare books that document the life of the people of Mumbai and the history of the city from the late eighteenth to early-twentieth centuries.

The Museum, once in a derelict condition, underwent a comprehensive five-year restoration by INTACH supported by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai and the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation. The project won UNESCO's international Award of Excellence for cultural conservation in 2005. The Museum re-opened in 2008 with an extensive exhibition programme and is committed to promoting contemporary art and culture. The Museum hosts an extensive exhibitions programme which explores the importance of the collection and includes a strong focus on contemporary art and culture.

The Museum has partnered with international institutions to showcase artists and exhibitions including the Victoria and Albert Museum, British Council, British Library, Dresden State Art Collections, Solomon R Guggenheim Museum, Museum of Modern Art, ErmenegildoZegna Group and Guild of the Dome Association in an effort to facilitate international cultural exchange. The Museum has expanded its curatorial initiative to invite external curators, institutions and organisations to present exhibitions related to the focus areas of the collections.



The Museum's education and outreach programme aims to build and diversify the Museum's audiences, encouraging repeat visits and engaged participation with its permanent collections, contemporary exhibitions and activities. On offer is a rich selection of programmes including film, music and courses and lectures on history of art focused on providing stimulating, participatory experiences that respond to different age, interest and language groups, and recognize a diversity of backgrounds. These experiences are aimed at encouraging critical engagement with Mumbai's history, and artistic and cultural developments.

For further information log on to [www.bdlmuseum.org](http://www.bdlmuseum.org) | [Like us](#) | [Follow us](#)

**For Listings:**

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum presents  
*EXPERIMENTS: five postmodern expressions from Bengal*  
In collaboration with CIMA, Kolkata

**Exhibition Dates:** 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**Exhibition Venue:**

At the **Special Project Space**  
Dr.BhauDaji Lad Museum  
91A Rani Baug, Veer Mata JijabaiBhonsleUdyan  
Dr Baba SahebAmbedkar Marg,  
Byculla East, Mumbai 400027

**Timings:**

10:00 am to 6:00 pm | last entry 5:30 pm  
Closed on Wednesdays and certain public holidays

**For further details, please contact:**

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