



## ITALIAN PALIMPSEST

**A selection of 12 artworks from the Collezione Farnesina**

**In collaboration with the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre**

**30<sup>th</sup> March – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019**



Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum, in collaboration with the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, presents, 'Italian Palimpsest: A selection of 12 artworks from the Collezione Farnesina'. The exhibition will be on view at the Special Project Space, Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum from 30th March – 30th April 2019.



### **About the Exhibition**

Since 2000, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, called La Farnesina, is home to the best Italian contemporary art production of the last century. With artworks from 450 Italian contemporary artists, the Collezione Farnesina in Rome is the largest private collection in Italy from the 1900. The collection is displayed along 6500 meters of corridors and can be visited regularly by the general public.

The Collezione Farnesina was born following the initiative and vision by Ambassador Umberto Vattani, who recognized that contemporary art was a field of strategic intervention for the cultural policy promoted by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Beginning in 2000 with the first significant set of acquisitions of numerous works of art from the 50s and 60s, in course of time the collection has come to include notable works from the history of Italian art in the 20th Century.

The selection on exhibition in Mumbai contains artworks from the last 40 years, spanning movements such as futurism, metaphysical, avant-garde, surrealism, spatialism, minimalism, and return to figurative art. Examples are 'Ossimoro Sorvolante' by Ontani, 'Dame Ninette de Valois' by Enrico Baj, and 'A spasso con la natura' by Bruno Ceccobelli. The exposition is not limited to contemporary painting, but includes pieces from contemporary photography, collage, and lenticular print.

This initiative is the first of this kind, as this is the first time that the Collezione Farnesina is displayed in Mumbai. It is meant to present the best of Italian contemporary art as well as being a means to further enhance Indo-Italian relations.

### **About the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre in Mumbai**

The Italian Embassy Cultural Centre (ICC) in Mumbai is part of a worldwide network of 83 Offices of the Ministry of External Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, set all over the world. The ICC in Mumbai is located in the Kanchanjunga Building. It actively promotes the Italian language, culture and heritage through an articulated series of events, ranging from music to figurative arts, and from science to literature.

The Italian Embassy Cultural Centre facilitates interactions between Italian and Indian artists and cultural entities in order to nurture a rich cultural exchange and amalgamation between the two countries. ICC makes a point in collaborating as much as possible with local cultural and academic institutions. In fact we strongly believe that cooperation is paramount to promote our cultural bilateral relations. We try to keep our events free and open to the public. We are proud to say that, with few exceptions, our events are for everyone.

For more information about IIC and its activities, please contact us via the following channels:

Website: [https://iicmumbai.esteri.it/IIC\\_MUMBAI/en](https://iicmumbai.esteri.it/IIC_MUMBAI/en)

Email: [iicmumbai@esteri.it](mailto:iicmumbai@esteri.it)

Phone: 022 2380 4071



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

The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum opened to the public in 1857 and is Mumbai's oldest museum. It is the erstwhile Victoria and Albert Museum, Bombay, that showcases the city's art and culture 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 Museum was in a derelict condition and 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 several international institutions to showcase artists and exhibitions including the Victoria and Albert Museum, British Library, Solomon R Guggenheim Museum and Museum of Modern Art in an effort to facilitate international cultural exchange.

The Museum's education and outreach programme aims to build and diversify the Museum's audiences. 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, art and cultural developments.

### **Outreach**

Engaging participatory experiences are the focus of the Museum's vibrant education programme. As one of Mumbai's busiest, public cultural spaces, the Museum offers targeted opportunities to a diverse range of audience groups to engage with the city's historic legacies, contemporary art practices, and craft traditions. In conjunction with this exhibition, the Museum will organise special tours, workshops and events curated around the collection on display open to the public. Free public tours of the exhibition will be conducted every weekend in English, Hindi and Marathi. We also offer programming for school and college groups on request.



For more information on Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum, please visit:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BDLMuseum](http://www.facebook.com/BDLMuseum)

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

Website: [www.bdlmuseum.org](http://www.bdlmuseum.org)

E-mail: [enquiry@bdlmuseum.org](mailto:enquiry@bdlmuseum.org)

Telephone: +91 22 23731234

### **For Listings**

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum, in collaboration with the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre in Mumbai, presents, **‘Italian Palimpsest: A selection of 12 artworks from the Collezione Farnesina’**.

**30th March – 30th April 2019**

### **Exhibition Venue:**

Special Project Space

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum

91A Rani Baug, Veer Mata Jijabai Bhonsle Udyan

Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar 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 outreach and press enquiries, please contact**

Ruta Waghmare | [rwaghmare@bdlmuseum.org](mailto:rwaghmare@bdlmuseum.org) | +91 22 23731234