

## Mumbai Return

Journeys beyond the city

1 July 2017 – 31 July 2017



Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum in collaboration with *urbz*, an experimental urban collective based in Mumbai presents, **Mumbai Return: Journeys beyond the city**. The exhibition will be on view at the Special Project Space, Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum from 1 July 2017 – 31 July 2017.



## **About the Exhibition**

For many Mumbaikars, home is here and there, stretched between two inescapable and complementary polarities. The exhibition depicts the circulatory journey of urban families between their neighbourhoods in Mumbai and their villages in the Konkan. It brings together traditional artistic renderings, architectural drawings of vernacular houses and settlements, portraits of families and model homes made by contemporary artisans, along with interactive digital installations and videos.

The mass exodus from rural India does not end in hyper-dense centres but loops back to villages, which are transforming as rapidly as cities. The railways help millions of city dwellers maintain active links with their ancestral regions and villages. These belong as much to the future as to the past.

'Mumbai Return' explores the relationship between the urban and the rural, the city and the country. It invites Mumbaikars to reflect on their connections with rural India.

## **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 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. A series of curated exhibitions titled, ‘Engaging Traditions,’ invites artists to respond to the Museum’s collection, history and archives, addressing issues that speak directly to the traditions and issues that underlie the founding of the Museum, yet evoke the present by challenging orthodoxies and questioning assumptions. Several distinguished contemporary artists have participated in this programme such as Sudarshan Shetty, Jitish Kallat, Atul Dodiya, L. N. Tallur, Ranjini Shettar, Sheba Chhachhi, CAMP, Thukral and Tagra, Dayanita Singh, and Praneet Soi.

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, Ermenegildo Zegna 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, art and cultural developments.

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



## **About urbz**

*urbz* is a collective of urban researchers, anthropologists, architects, designers and activists specialized in local development, mobility, participatory planning and governance. We are based in Mumbai, Goa, Geneva, Bogota, Sao Paulo and Seoul. Our multidisciplinary team brings various skills to shape projects and places from these diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

For more information on *urbz* please visit:

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

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

Website: <https://urbz.net/>.



## **For Listings**

Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum in collaboration with *urbz*, an experimental urban collective based in Mumbai presents,

**Mumbai Return: Journeys beyond the city.**

**Exhibition Dates:** 1 July 2017 – 31 July 2017

### **Exhibition Venue:**

The 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 press enquiries, please contact**

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