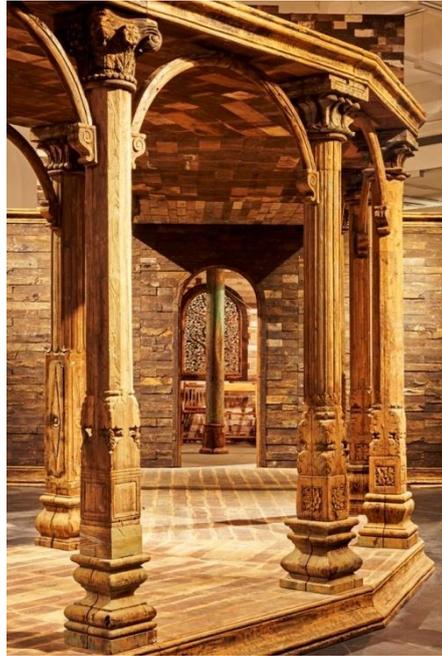


Shoonya Ghar

Sudarshan Shetty

7 November 2017 – 26 December 2017



The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum presents '**Shoonya Ghar**', an exhibition by **Sudarshan Shetty**. The exhibition is on view from **7 November 2017 – 26 December 2017**.

This is Sudarshan Shetty's first exhibition in Mumbai in 7 years, following his last solo show at the Museum in 2010.

About the Exhibition

Who is asleep and who is awake in this city, this home, this settlement, and this fortress of nothingness? Sudarshan's exhibition 'Shoonya Ghar' is titled after a poetic work by 12th century poet Gorakhnath who also influenced his celebrated successor Kabir. The exhibition features a large-scale multimedia installation piece that draws on sculpture, found objects and film. The sculptural piece in the outdoor plaza is constructed like an architectural set, while the film involves building and construction of the set alongside characters enacting scenes in which dramatic action mobilizes conventions of representing birth, death, dance, play and violence in local traditions of story-telling. Thus the set becomes the mise-en-scene for viewing the film.

The film reflects the construction of the set or the stage, musical score and performance, and the viewer is offered these components in various states of construction and has the opportunity to put these modular pieces together in constructing a narrative that may draw upon their experience, imagination and history.

About the Artist

Sudarshan Shetty, best known for his enigmatic sculptural installations, has long been recognized as one of his generation's most innovative artists in India. Sudarshan Shetty was the curator of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2016. He was also a participating artist in the inaugural edition of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale curated by Bose Krishnamachari and Riyas Komu in 2012.

Shetty (b. 1961) completed his BFA in painting from Sir JJ School of Art, Mumbai in 1985. Moving from painting exclusively to installation early on in his career, Shetty explores the fundamental ontological challenges presented by our immersion in a world of objects. His installations are developed around a rigorous grammar of materials, mechanical exposure and unlikely juxtapositions of things that may belong to culturally distinct spheres. Moreover, Shetty's object language eschews narrative as well as established symbolism. He has exhibited widely in India and around the world. His recent shows include 'A Song A Story' for the Rolls-Royce Art Programme, 2016, 'Shoonya Ghar – Empty Is This House', NGMA, New Delhi and at the 20th Biennale of Sydney, 2016, 'Mimic Momento', Galerie Daniel Templon, Brussels, 2015, 'Constructs Constructions', curated by Roobina Karode, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi, 2015, 'A Passage' Staatliche Museum, Schwerin, Germany, 2015 'every broken moment, piece by piece', GALLERY SKE, New Delhi, 2014, 'The pieces earth took away', Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, 2012, 'Critical Mass', Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, 2012, 'Indian Highway', Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, 2012, 'The Matters Within: New Contemporary Art of India', curated by Betti-Sue Hertz, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, 2011, 'Paris-Delhi-Bombay', Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2011, 'Sympathy for the Devil', curated by Walter Vanhaerents and Pierre-Olivier Rollin, Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels, 2011, 'India Inclusive', World Economic Forum, Davos, 2011, 'Contemplating the Void', curated by Nancy Spector, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, 2010, Vancouver Biennale, Vancouver, 2009, and several others.

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.

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

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

Website: www.bdlmuseum.org

E-mail: enquiry@bdlmuseum.org

Telephone: +91 22 23731234

For Listings

The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Mumbai City Museum presents 'Shoonya Ghar' by Sudarshan Shetty

Exhibition Dates: 7 November – 26 December 2017

Exhibition Venue: Museum Plaza and 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

Mandir Tendolkar | mtendolkar@bdlmuseum.org | +91 22 23731234