



SHARMISTHA RAY

Born 1978, Kolkata, India

M.S. Art History / M.F.A. Painting, Pratt Institute, New York, 2001-2005

B.A., Art, Williams College, Williamstown, MA, 1997-2001 (cum laude)

Lives and works in Mumbai.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS & PROJECTS

- 2016 we are all islands . . . , Nine Fish Gallery, Mumbai, India (Catalogue with Essay by Nancy Adajania)
- 2015 On the Seashore of Endless Worlds, Public Art Work sponsored by JSW, Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Mumbai, India
- 2014 Sweet Surrender: Studies in Abstraction, Galerie Steph, Singapore (Catalogue)
- 2013 Reflections + Transformations, Aicon Gallery, New York (Catalogue with Interview with Kit White)
- 2012 hidden geographies, Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke, Mumbai, India (E-Catalogue with Essay by Nancy Adajania)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 Studio Picks, The Loft at Lower Parel and Mojarto presented by NDTV, Mumbai, India
- 2016 Art for Concern Annual Charity Exhibition & Auction, Taj Mahal Palace & Tower, Mumbai, India
- 2015 Sparsh/Tactile, Kala Ghoda Arts Festival 2015, Mumbai, India, Feb. 2015
- 2015 The 377191 Wall: A New Window to Understanding, in support of 6th Ed. KASHISH Mumbai International Queer Film Festival, Gallery Beyond, Mumbai, India
- 2015 Reviving the Retinal, Curated by Dr. Kathleen Wyma, Gallery OED, Kochi, India, Feb.
- 2015 India Art Fair (art fair), New Delhi, India, Jan. 2015
- 2014 Asia Contemporary Art Show (art fair), Hong Kong, Oct. 2-5.
- 2014 Noir/Blanc, The Loft at Lower Parel, Mumbai, India, Aug. 28-Sept. 30
- 2013 Vikhroli Skins, an initiative by Godrej India Culture Lab, Mumbai, 15 Dec.
- 2013 Touched by Bhupen, Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke, Mumbai, India (catalogue)
- 2013 OUT/OFF: Out of the gallery and off the walls, curated by Chameleon Art Projects, Mumbai
- 2013 RESIST, Engendered Gallery, travelling exhibition Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Feb-May.
- 2013 India Art Fair, 5th Edition, New Delhi, India, Jan-Feb
- 2012 Open Studios, Space 118, Wadibunder, Mumbai.
- 2012 Museum of Memories, site-specific installation, Godrej India Culture Lab, Mumbai, Dec.
- 2012 Mumbai Galleries Weekend, sponsored by Citibank, Taj Land's End, Mumbai, Mar 31-Apr 1
- 2012 Can You See Me?, Engendered Gallery, New Delhi, India (e-catalogue essay by Deepanjana Pal)
- 2010 Hope for Haiti-India Cares, Grand Hyatt, Mumbai, India, March 19-21
- 2007 In-si-der, Bodhi Art, Mumbai, India. Curated by Sonal Singh and Brinda Kumar
- 2006 Joan Mitchell M.F.A. Grant Recipients, CUE Art Foundation, New York, USA (catalogue)
- 2004 Territories, Aicon Gallery, Organized by the South Asian Women's Creative Collective, New York (cat.)
- 2004 2004 CAC Juried Exhibition, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, USA
- 2004 Explorations/Innovations, Kingsborough Community College, New York
- 2004 2004 Annual Pratt MFA Exhibition, Pratt Manhattan Gallery, New York
- 2004 Grand Group Show, Danny Simmons Corridor Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2004 Drawing Show, Parsons Institute, New York
- 2004 MFAs Colliding, New York University, New York
- 2002 Extreme Existence, Schafler Gallery, New York
- 2002 9/11: Artists Respond, Schafler Gallery, New York
- 2000 B.A. Thesis Exhibition, Williams College Museum of Art, Williamstown, USA
- 2000 Berkshire Artisans Association Juried Show, Lichtenstein Art Center, Pittsfield, USA

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2014 Civitella Ranieri Fellowship, Visual Arts, Nominee, Umbria, Italy
- 2013 L'Oreal Paris Femina Women Awards, Nominee, Artist of the Year
- 2012 Montblanc Young Artist World Patronage Project
- 2009 TED Fellowship, TEDIndia, Mysore
- 2004 Joan Mitchell M.F.A. Grant, USA
- 2005 Pratt Circle Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Pratt Institute
- 2005 Certificate of Excellence Award for Outstanding Merit in Graduate Fine Arts, Pratt Institute
- 2005 Certificate of Excellence Award for Outstanding Merit in Graduate Art History, Pratt Institute
- 2000 Berkshire Artisans Association Fellowship, Pittsfield, USA
- 2000 Class 1960 Scholars in Art, Williams College, USA
- 1998 BiGLaTA Fellowship, Williams College, USA

PROJECTS & RESIDENCIES

- 2016 Juror, Piramal Art Residency, Mumbai, India.
- 2016 Visiting Artist, Piramal Art Residency, Mumbai, India.
- 2015 Swimming Against the Tide, TED Fellows Retreat, Monterey, California, August 2015
- 2015 Mythic Beings, Bellevue Salons, 4th edition, Open Studio, Mumbai, India. Art + Music collaboration with Joi Barua and Geetu Unplugged, July 2015
- 2015 Mahindra Blues Festival 2015, Special Edition Poster for music festival, Mumbai, India, Feb
- 2014 City of Eros, Bellevue Brunches, Open Studio Project, Sharmistha Ray Studio, Mumbai, India
- 2014 Cursory Glances, Site-specific Installation, Palladium Mall, Mumbai, Sept. 2014
- 2014 A.R. Rahman Meets Berklee, Artistic collaboration with Berklee College of Music to commemorate Grammy and Academy-Award winning composer A.R. Rahman, Boston.
- 2014 Artistic collaboration with Fine Acts Foundation to generate visual content as part of artist & activist lab by TED Fellows for Peace.
- 2014 Co-founded and launched online blog Politics of Art: Critical Conversations on Art from India. (wordpress.politicsofart.com)
- 2014 Liberation, video project Gaysi Family for YouTube campaign end violence against Women.
- 2013 TED Fellows Retreat, Whistler, Canada, Aug 17-21.
- 2012 Engendered Artist Residency, New Delhi, India, January.
- 2011 Curator, Art Conversations, Art Chennai, 1st edition, Chennai, India.
- 2010 Artistic Director, The Art of Travel, Conde Nast Traveler India, Oberoi Hotel, Mumbai.
- 2010 Curator, A Place of Their Own, Group Exhibition of Diaspora South Asian-American Artists, Gallery BMB, Mumbai.
- 2010 Curators' Residency, Art Basel and ProHelvetia's Curator's Tour to Switzerland during ArtBasel41

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 Salon Curator, Body Politics: Deconstructing the Male Gaze in the Visual, Literary and Performative Arts, Bellevue Salons, Piramal Museum of Art, Mumbai. Conversation with author and columnist Rosalyn D'Mello followed by traditional Lavani performance.
- 2016 Salon Curator, Genesis Eternal: Art Production, Sustainable Materials and the Environment, Bellevue Salons, Museum of Goa, Goa. Collaboration with Chameleon Art Projects.
- 2016 Salon Curator, Sentient Objects, Second Lives, Bellevue Salons, Presentations by designer Jorge Mañes Rubio and industrial designer Tamar Akov, Artisans' Gallery, Mumbai; part of Kala Ghoda Arts Festival 2016. Feb 2016.
- 2016 "Masterclass: Painting with Words," CSMVS (Museum), Kala Ghoda Arts Festival & Workshops with Avid Learning, Mumbai.
- 2016 "When Words Imitate Art," Moderator for conversation with Dr. Alka Pande, Shanta Gokhale and V. Sanjay Kumar, David Sassoon Library Garden, Literature @ Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Mumbai.
- 2016 Salon Curator, Pushing Boundaries: Design on the Edge, Bellevue Salons, TARQ, Mumbai. Outreach partner: Gaysi Family.
- 2015 Facilitated Tape: The King of Drag through Bellevue Salons, India's first public drag king show, in collaboration with Gaysi Family and Patchworks Ensemble. By Vikram Phukan.
- 2015 La Mer, Bellevue Salons, 3rd ed., Collaboration with Secret Supper Project, a Food + Art Exhibition & Salon, Mumbai, India.
- 2015 Lecture, "Second Wave Feminism," Max Mueller Bhavan, Goethe-Institut, Mumbai, India, March 25. Part of programming for In Order to Join: The Political in a Historical Moment, CSMVS, Curated by Susanne Titz and Swapnaa Tamhane.
- 2014 Writer as Shaman: A Conversation between Anupa Mehta & Ranjit Hoskote, Bellevue Salons, 2nd ed., Literary Salon, Sharmistha Ray Studio, Mumbai, India.
- 2014 Special Guest, FIELD MEETING, Asian Contemporary Art Week, Asia Society, New York, October 26-27.
- 2014 Conversations, Bellevue Salons, 1st ed., Sharmistha Ray Studio, Mumbai, India. Moderated by Elise Foster Vander Elst (Asia Art Projects) with curator Gitanjali Dang (Khanabadosh) and Ashok Sukumaran (CAMP).
- 2014 Presentation, Distilling Culture, INK Salon, Four Seasons Hotel, Mumbai, 25 February.
- 2013 Visiting Artist lecture, Williams College, Williamstown, MA, October 2013. Organized by Art History & Studio Art Department.
- 2013 TED Talk, TED Fellows Retreat, Whistler, Canada, August.
- 2012 Moderator, "Leaps of Faith: Collector's Narratives," as part of Art Chennai To Let the World In: Narrative and Beyond in Contemporary Indian Art curated by Chaitanya Sambrani.
- 2011 Panelist, "The Persistent Question of Indianness in Shifting Global Scenarios," India Art Festival, Mumbai.
- 2011 Panelist, "The Art Critic," Art Conversations, Art Chennai, Chennai India.
- 2010 Speaker, Young President's Organization, Mumbai, India, 14th May.
- 2010 Moderator, "Sources of Departure, Sites of No-Return," Emami Chisel, Kolkata, India.
- 2009 Chairperson, Symposium, "Global and Romani," Kolkata, India.
- 2009 Panelist, "Creating Value – Asian Art on Western Circuits of Exchange," International Speakers' Forum, India Art Summit, New Delhi, August 2009 (with Hans Ulrich-Obrist, Yuko Hasegawa and Ranjit Hoskote).
- 2009 Panelist, "India – Personal and Political," with Ranjit Hoskote & Bina Sarkar Ellias, Cross word Bookstore, Mumbai.
- 2009 Public lecture, "From Post-colonialism to Globalization: Mapping South Asian Diaspora Art over the past decade," Cymroza Gallery, Mumbai, India, June 2009 (in conversation with Ranjit Hoskote)
- 2006 Public lecture, "Indian Artists and the Flat World," Prince of Wales Museum, Mumbai, India, September.

PRESS & BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Basu, Indira, "Redefining body politics," The Hindu, 29 Apr 2016
- Fernando, Benita, "Women gaze back at Raja Ravi Varma," Midday, 24 Apr 2016
- "The Warhol Effect," Malavika's Mumbai, Midday, 26 Nov 2015
- "Art in Motion," Verve, August 2015
- Louis, Maria, "Being Woman," Architect and Interiors India, August 2015
- "Artist Sharmistha Ray Unveils First Figurative Painting Mythic Beings," Gaysi Family, www.gaysifamily.com, July 24, 2015
- Sangghvi, Malavika, "Soulful Salon," Midday, July 21, 2015
- Tata, Huzan, "Three's Company," Verve, July 2015, pp. 62-63
- Sangghvi, Malavika, "The Sunny Side Up Breakfast Project," Midday, July 13, 2015
- "Indian Artists Who Are Exploring Sex & Sexuality in Important Ways," Homegrown, www.homegrown.co.in, June 22, 2015
- "8 Things I'd Do If I Weren't Me," Alter Ego, Women's Health, May 2015
- "Crescent of a Woman," Architect and Interiors India, March 2015
- "Painting the Town Blue," Times of India, Feb. 2015
- Shah, Lajja, Art India Magazine
- Chevalwala, Arshie, "Sharmistha Ray Images a Painting in 3D," Elle India, www.elle.in, Feb. 2015
- Doshi, Riddhi, "Visitors get up close and personal with art," Hindustan Times, Mumbai, Feb. 9, 2015
- Baweja, Rhea, "Review: 3rd Edition of The Gaysi Zine is a marvel in visual expression," www.homegrown.co.in, Nov 2014
- "Art Party," Elle India, Nov 2014
- Chandarana, Nittal, "Arty Hearty," Verve India, www.vervemagazine.in, Oct 7, 2014
- "Host with the Most," Mumbai Mirror, Pune Mirror & Ahmedabad Mirror, October 2014
- Sangghvi, Malavika, "The Maestro with a Thousand Crystals," Midday, November 24, 2014
- Chandarana, Nittal, "Arty Hearty," Verve India, October 2014
- Sangghvi, Malavika, "Smart Art Move," Midday, October 2014
- Sangghvi, Malavika, "Revisiting the Masters," Midday, August 2014
- Shah, Siddhartha, "Space between Spaces," Solo exh. review for, Art India Magazine (Volume 18, Issue 4), 2014
- Mehta, Samanta Batra, "In her own voice," Solo exh. review, Take on Art, 2014
- Catalogue, Touched by Bhupen, 2014
- "Critic's Choice" listing for Solo exhibition Sweet Surrender, TimeOut Singapore, Jan 2014
- White, Kit, Interview with the Artist, catalogue for Reflections + Transformations, 2013
- "Alpha Female," Elle India Magazine, Oct. 2013
- "Panorama: Auction of Modern and Contemporary Art in Aid of Rotary Club of Madras," Catalogue, January 2013
- "Delhi Spread," Art + Auction Magazine, Jan. 2013
- Cover Focus, Femina, India, May 2012
- Pal, Deepanjana, "The Act of Seeing," e-catalogue essay for Can You See Me?, 2012
- Adajania, Nancy, "How the Nomad Holds, Grasps and Moulds the Shape of her Location," e-catalogue essay for Hidden Geographies, 2012
- Banerjee, Olina, "Global Art Comes Home," India Today, 13 Feb 2012
- Bhalla, Simran, "Spaced, out," Time Out Delhi, Feb 2012
- Shahani, Parmesh, "Geographies of Being," Verve (Vol. 20 Issue 2), Feb 2012
- Dixit-Hathi, Nirali, "Look hues here," Bombay Times, Feb 9, 2012.
- Sahani, Alaka, "Bold and Colourful," The Indian Express, Feb 5, 2012
- Mazumder, Jayeeta, "Beauty always resides in the mundane: Sharmistha Ray," DNA, Jan 17, 2012
- Campbell, Diana, "Show and Tell," Vogue India (Vol. 5 Issue 4), Jan 2012, pp. 93-94
- Ratnam, Dhamini, "The Art of Peeling Pink," Sunday Midday, Dec 25, 2011
- Thani Daswani, Divia (editor), Conde Nast Traveller (Indian Ed.), Dec 2010
- Dixit-Hathi, Nirali, "Beyond borders," Bombay Times, November 20, 2010, pp. 16
- Nagree, Zeenat, "Homeward Bound," TimeOut Mumbai (Vol. 7, Issue 4), Oct 15, 2010, pp. 67
- Maddox, Georgina, "Diaspora and the Arts," Indian Express, 18 Jun 2009

WRITINGS & VISUAL ESSAYS

- "In India, Choosing a Hairstyle is an Act of Social Revolt," Medium.com, Apr 25, 2016
- "Hit List: Artist Sharmistha Ray Picks the Names You Need to Catch at the India Art Fair," Elle India, Jan 2016
- "The Mumbai of Howard Hodgkin," Mint Lounge & Live Mint, Feb 7, 2015
- "Kochi-Muziris Biennale: Inspiration from a Port," www.livemint.com, Dec 22, 2014
- "Kochi-Muziris Biennale: Seven artists you must see at Kochi, www.livemint.com, Dec 17, 2014
- "Kochi-Muziris Biennale creates a vortex near the sea," www.livemint.com, Dec 14, 2014
- "Anish Kapoor: Home Truths," Elle India, Dec 2014
- "States of Arousal," visual essay, Gaysi Zine, Third Edition, November 2014
- "Curators Lounge: Artist-turned-Curator Jitish Kallat engages with Politics of Art on the Kochi-Muziris Biennial, Politics of Art, blog: politicsofart.wordpress.com, October 2014 (co-author: Anupa Mehta).
- "Faking It," Politics of Art, September 2014 (co-author: Anupa Mehta).
- "Speaking Out: The Still Small Voice," Politics of Art (blog), June 2014 (co-author: Anupa Mehta).
- "Are the politics of exclusion restricting the growth of contemporary Indian art?" Politics of Art, April 2014 (co-author: Anupa Mehta).
- "Media Frenzy," emerging artist features for Elle India Magazine, March 2014
- "The Vanhaerents Art Collection: Conversation with Walter Vanhaerents," Collectors II, Take On Art (Volume IV, Issue 14), 2014
- "Conversation with Uli Sigg," Collectors II, Take On Art (Volume IV, Issue 14), 2014
- "Conversation with Sandeep Reddy," Collectors I, Take On Art, 2012
- "Walking the Razor's Edge," Art India Magazine (Volume 15, Issue 4), Dec 2010, pp. 60
- "Curating in the Ghetto," Indian Contemporary Art Journal (Vol. 2, Issue 4), 2010, pp. 50-51
- "Artistic Trail," Vogue India (Vol. 3, Issue 12), Sept 2010, pp. 105-108
- "Indian art auctions signal recovery," The Economic Times, 6 Apr 2010
- "Young artists lay new foundations," The Economic Times, 10 Mar 2010
- "Get back to the Drawing Board," The Economic Times, 24 Jan 2010
- "When Indian art went global: The artists, curators and patrons who made an impact," MW Magazine, 2010
- "Review: L.N. Tallur," Art Asia Pacific Magazine, Sept 2009
- "A Place of Their Own," Art Pulse Magazine, Oct-Nov '09, Vol.1, No.1
- "A Way in the World," Art India Magazine, Jun 2009
- Weaving Memory, intro. exhib. catalogue (Bodhi Art), Zarina Hashmi, 2007
- "In touch with the Indian inside," The Telegraph, Nov. 9, 2006