The Tel Aviv Museum of Art

Critical Mass
Contemporary Art from India

Opening: May 31, 2012

Curators:
Tami Katz-Freiman and Rotem Ruff
מוזיאון תל אביב לאמנות
צפיפות החומר
אמנות עכשווית מהודו
הפתיחה: 31 במאי 2011
אוצרות: תמי צ'ירימות ורותם רופ
הפתיחה: 31 במאי 2011
אוצרות: תמי צ'ירימות ורותם רופ
• **Critical Mass** is a group show scheduled to take place at the new wing of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art in the spring of 2012. The exhibition will expose the Israeli public to the thriving contemporary Indian art scene, which is currently enjoying a growing degree of global interest.

• The show will include established artists as well as emerging cutting-edge young artists, and will aim to present a cross section of contemporary Indian art, which is characterized by an unprecedented creative and intellectual reaction to the major economical, technological and social changes to which the sub-continent has been subjected to over the past decade.
• **Critical Mass** will provide a window to the chaotic, colorful, often mind-shattering dissonances that are inseparable part of India’s visual landscape, and will reflect the conflicts between old and new, between local traditions and global influences. The show also wishes to explore India’s relationship with western values and culture, as well as to question the prevalent paradigm of an East-West dichotomy.

• **Critical Mass** will deal with the density and intensity of urban India. It will formally try to capture the intensity and multiplicity of materials, objects, issues, and people.

• **Critical Mass** will feature works that use stereotypes and clichés of India in order to deconstruct and comment on them and to bring fresh ideas and ways of interpretations while using both new and old visual techniques and referring to India’s rich history of visual arts and cinema.
why in Israel?

• While this is an especially important and exciting time for Indian art, an exhibition of Indian art in Israel is long due; apart from the ever-growing interest of Israelis in India, the histories of these two states shares some similarities. Both are relatively young democracies with ancient cultures that came into being following a period of British rule.

• The colonial rule ended abruptly sending both into a war and bifurcating them into two contrasting ethnic and religious groups whose conflicts still shape their respective identities to this day. In both cases much of the artistic activity has been a commentator on these issues as well as an attempt to escape them.
impact:

- **Critical Mass** will be the first major exhibition of Contemporary Indian Art in Israel and will provide the Israeli public a unique opportunity to observe this dynamic and fascinating art scene.

- The show will be accompanied by a Hebrew-English 200-page catalog with three essays by scholars and curators comments on the artists.
artists will include (not final):

- Ravi Agarwal
- Atul Bhalla
- Sakshi Gupta
- Shilpa Gupta
- Subodh Gupta
- Ranbir Kaleka
- Rashmi Kaleka
- Jitish Kallat
- Bharti Kher
- Riyas Komu
- Raqs Media Collective
- T.V. Santhosh
- Gigi Scaria
- Shanthamani Muddaiah
- Sudarshan Shetty
- L.N. Tallur
- Lochan Upadhyay
about the curators:

**Tami Katz-Freiman** is an art historian, curator and critic. Until recently, she served as the Chief Curator of the Haifa Museum of Art (2005-2010). She has curated numerous group and solo exhibitions in prominent museums in Israel and the US, where she lived and worked between 1994 and 1999. In the last two years she was teaching at the Art History Department at Tel Aviv University and at the Kalisher Art School’s International Curatorial Program. She has published extensively in books, catalogues and magazines devoted to contemporary art. Recently she was relocated to Miami, Florida.

**Rotem Ruff** is a curator at the Haifa Museum of Art. Before her return to Israel in 2008 she was located in New York where she held positions in major art institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) and PS1. As an independent curator she has organized numerous exhibitions in the US and Israel, and has been writing for leading art magazines. Her expertise in contemporary Indian art was cultivated during a year of residency in Delhi, working as a consultant to galleries, collectors and curators in NYC and London.
The new Herta & Paul Amir Building at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, designed by Preston Scott Cohen, photo by Amit Geron
The new Herta & Paul Amir Building at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, designed by Preston Scott Cohen, photo by Amit Geron
The TAM new wing:
Ravi Agarwal
Immersion.Emergence, 2006
Digital photographic print mounted on aluminum
152.4 x 91.4 cm
Courtesy of the artist
Ravi Agarwal
Alien Waters, 2004-2006
Digital photographic print
152.4 x 102 cm
Courtesy of the artist
Ravi Agarwal
Impossibility of Being Feminine, 2007
31 color prints
20 x 28 cm each
Courtesy of the artist and Gallery Espace, Delhi
Ravi Agarwal
Impossibility of Being Feminine, 2007
Six photographs in light box
20 x 28 cm each
Courtesy of the artist
Atul Bhalla
Submerged Again, 2005
Archival pigment print, diptych
114 x 170 cm each
Framed: 126 x 182 cm
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Atul Bhalla
Mumbai Walk, 21 July, 10:20 am – 12:54 pm, 2007
Archival Pigment Print
109 x 229 cm
Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, Delhi
Sakshi Gupta
Freedom is Everything, 2007
Plywood, metal scraps, 4 x 360 x 210
Courtesy of Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, Delhi
Sakshi Gupta
Freedom is Everything, 2007 (detail)
Plywood, metal scraps, 4 x 360 x 210
Courtesy of Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, Delhi
Sakshi Gupta
Freedom is Everything, 2007
Installation at Centre Pompidou
Sakshi Gupta
Crow Work, from the series "Lavish Absence", 2011
Fiberglas, cast iron, magnets, iron dust
111 x 38 x 38cm
 Courtesy Krinzinger Gallery, Vienna
Sakshi Gupta
Untitled, 2009
Metal scrap
227.5 x 88.5 x 43
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd
Sakshi Gupta
Untitled, 2009
Metal scrap
227.5 x 88.5 x 43
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd
Shilpa Gupta
Untitled (Shadow 3), 2007
Interactive video projection
Courtesy of the artist
Shilpa Gupta
Untitled (Shadow 3), 2007
Interactive video projection
Courtesy of the artist
Subodh Gupta
Curry, 2004
Stainless steel, stainless steel utensils
220 x 138 x 40 cm
Courtesy of Frank Cohen Collection, Great Britain
Subodh Gupta
Oman to Madras, 2006
Cast bronze with gold patina and aluminum
115 x 69 x 90
Courtesy of Micky Tiroche Fine Arts
Subodh Gupta
Three Rounds, 2010
Brass, 178 x 63 x 61
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd
Jitish Kallat
Sweatopia 1, 2008
Acrylic on canvas
274.3 x 518.2 cm (three panels)
Frank Cohen Collection, Great Britain
Jitish Kallat
The Cry of the Gland, 2009
108 c-prints installation
60 x 45 cm each
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Jitish Kallat
Annexation, 2009
Painted black lead and steel
183 x 150 x 130 cm
Courtesy the artist
Jitish Kallat
Annexation, 2009 (details)
Painted black lead and steel
183 x 150 x 130 cm
 Courtesy the artist
Ranbir Kaleka
Cul-de-sac in Taxila, 2010
Single channel HD video projection on painted canvas, pedestal
3 minute 55 second loop, sound
185 x 244 cm
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Ranbir Kaleka

Cul-de-sac in Taxila, 2010

Single channel HD video projection on painted canvas, pedestal

3 minute 55 second loop, sound

185 x 244 cm

Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Ranbir Kaleka
Man with Cockerel 2, 2004
Single channel video projected on a plexi
6 minutes, sound
Back projection on screen fitted in a constructed wall
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Ranbir Kaleka
Man with Cockerel 2, 2004
Single channel video projected on a plexi
6 minutes, sound
Back projection on screen fitted in a constructed wall
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Rashmi Kaleka
A Place for Hawkers, 2006-2010
Video and sound installation
6:28 minutes, sound
Courtesy of the artist
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Video and sound installation
6:28 minutes, sound
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A Place for Hawkers, 2006-2010
Video and sound installation
6:28 minutes, sound
Courtesy of the artist
Bharti Kher

Make up (As You Go Along), 2010
Wood, mirror, bindis, glass bricks
172 x 130 x 71

Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Bharti Kher
Make up (As You Go Along), 2010
Wood, mirror, bindis, glass bricks
172 x 130 x 71
Courtesy of Serge Tirosh and Art Vantage Collection
Bharti Kher
Perrotan Gallery (Roey and Bracha?)
Bharti Kher

Invisible People, 2006

Bindis on aluminum composite panel

Four panels: 264 x 132 cm each

Collection of Adu Advaney
Bharti Kher
Invisible People, 2006
Bindis on aluminum composite panel
Four panels: 264 x 132 cm each
Collection of Adu Advaney
Bharti Kher
Drunken Frenzy of Love, 2010
Bindis on painted board
Triptych: 244 x 183 cm each
Kiran Nadar collection
Riyas Komu
Blood Brothers, 2010
Aluminum, low relief
135 x 724 cm / 53.2 in x 285 in
Courtesy of the artists and The Guild Gallery, Mumbai
Riyas Komu
Blood Brothers, 2010
Aluminum, low relief
135 x 724 cm / 53.2 in x 285 in
Courtesy of the artists and The Guild Gallery, Mumbai
Riyas Komu
Untitled, 2011
Recycled wood, engraving
152 x 112 x 8 cm
Courtesy of the artist
Raqs Media Collective
REVOLTAGE, 2010
Text sculpture with light bulbs and electricity, 3 parts
91.4 x 63.5 x 10, 183 x 63.5 x 10, 152.5 x 63.5 x 10 cm
Courtesy of the Tiroche DeLeon Collection & Art Vantage Ltd.
Raqs Media Collective

Revoltage, 2010

Text sculpture with light bulbs and electricity, 3 parts

91.4 x 63.5 x 10, 183 x 63.5 x 10, 152.5 x 63.5 x 10 cm

Courtesy of Serge Tirosh and Art Vantage Collection
Raqs Media Collective
New Delhi Junction, 2002
Sound work, 5 minutes
Courtesy of the artists
T.V. Santhosh
Fear, Nation and False Promises, 2004
Oil on canvas (diptych)
120 x 304
Courtesy of the artists and The Guild Gallery, Mumbai
Gigi Scaria
Elevator from the Subcontinent, 2011
3-screen video installation, elevator cabin, steel construction
Courtesy of the artist, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi and GalleryChemould, Bombay
Gigi Scaria
Elevator from the Subcontinent, 2011
3-screen video installation, elevator cabin, steel construction
Courtesy of the artist, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi and GalleryChemould, Bombay
Shanthamani Muddaiah
Icarus / Jatayu, 2010
Charcoal with cotton rag pulp
180 x 90 x 45
Courtesy of the artist
Sudarshan Shetty

Taj Mahal, 2007
Multi part installation: Aluminum and stainless steel fastenings, mild steel
Wall: 213 x 427 x 71; Taj pedestal with video: 107 x 25 x 25; Video: 5:32 minutes
Courtesy of Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, New Delhi
Sudarshan Shetty
Taj Mahal, 2007
Multi part installation:
Aluminum and stainless steel fastenings, mild steel
Wall: 213 x 427 x 71; Taj pedestal with video: 107 x 25 x 25;
Video: 5:32 minutes
Courtesy of Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, New Delhi
Sudarshan Shetty
Untitled (Double Cow, from the show "Love"), 2006
Aluminum, brass, hammer with electric motor and mechanical device
274 x 277 x 55
Courtesy of Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, New Delhi
Sudarshan Shetty
Untitled (Double Cow, from the show "Love"), 2006
Aluminum, brass, hammer with electric motor and mechanical device; 274 x 277 x 55
Courtesy of Lekha & Anupam Poddar Collection, New Delhi
L.N. Tallur
Saving Face!, 2006
Wood, silver, industrial paint
170 x 60 x 60
Courtesy of Frank Cohen Collection, Great Britain
L.N. Tallur
Saving Face!, 2006 (details)
Wood, silver, industrial paint
170 x 60 x 60
Courtesy of Frank Cohen Collection, Great Britain
L.N. Tallur

*Saving Face!*, 2006

Wood, silver, industrial paint

170 x 60 x 60

Courtesy of Frank Cohen Collection, Great Britain
Lochan Upadhyay
Power of Cloth, 2009
Two wedding chairs:
Wood, steel's armatures, pieces of clothes, cushions
240 x 120 x 120 cm each
Lochan Upadhyay
Power of Cloth, 2009
Two wedding chairs:
Wood, steel's armatures, pieces of clothes, cushions
240 x 120 x 120 cm each