

# LATITUDE 28

PRESS RELEASE

Latitude 28's participation at

## HUB INDIA

Curated by Myna Mukherjee and Davide Quadrio

### Maximum Minimum

Artissima, Oval Lingotto Fiere, Torino, Italy  
5–7 November 2021

### Classical Radical

Palazzo Madama, MAO, and Accademia Albertina in Italy  
5 November–5 December 2021

Latitude 28 is pleased to announce its participation in the Indo-Italian collaborative multi-part project that includes two shows: *Maximum Minimum*, an exhibition at Artissima the International Fair of Contemporary Art Torino, and *Classical Radical*, a tripartite museum show in collaboration with Fondazione Torino Musei that will host the project in its museum facilities.

### About Hub India

*Hub India* is a prolific exploration of the many registers that frame Contemporary art from the Indian sub-continent, a region of central importance to South Asia and increasing significance to the global world. The multi-part project which was initiated originally for Artissima to provide an overview of the eco-system comprising galleries, institutions and artists active in India, has subsequently grown into an intelligently expansive curation that encompasses several variegations. These include *Maximum Minimum*, an exhibition at Artissima; *Classical Radical*, a tripartite museum show in collaboration with Fondazione Torino Musei—that will host the project in its museum facilities, Palazzo Madama Museo Civico d'Arte Antica and MAO Museo d'Arte Orientale—and with the Accademia Albertina di Belle Arti di Torino hosting the premiere of *Sama: Symbols and Gestures in Contemporary Art Practices (Italy and India vol. 1)*, a film on contemporary art in Italy and India presented as a moving images installation.

Featuring over 65 artists from 10 of India's leading contemporary galleries and foremost museum, supported by the Consulate General of India, Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), and in collaboration with Artissima, Fondazione Torino Musei, Emami Art, Engendered and Arthub, *Hub India* is poised to be the largest and most significant conversation that contemporary art from India has had with the Western world in recent times.

Crossing the cultural rubicon between modern and contemporary art, these curations reject the colonial attitude of linear progress, rather use tradition as a means of innovation, a continuous re-birth. They understand contemporaneity as a telescoping of politics, civilizations and the global times we live in. The artworks can respond to the viewer's desire to think about the multitudes of history,

time and geo-politics of the region or focus entirely on its abundant aesthetics. The works are a diverse cross-section of genre, medium and process, ranging from line-drawings and paintings to miniatures and sculptures; terracotta and metal to paper works and canvas, prints and etchings to digital and AI works. They fire on all cylinders, blurring polarities of religion, caste or race, Asia and Europe, figurative representation or abstraction. These are a radiantly broad spectrum of voices ranging from modern and contemporary masters, superstars and icons to cutting edge and freewheeling narratives fresh for discovery. Far more layered and complex than a survey show, these curations provide a kaleidoscopic lens through complex, evocative and never reductive ways. It is then left to the viewer to decide the gaze, to decide what they will finally see.

#### • **Hub India – Maximum Minimum**

Artissima, OVAL Lingotto Fiere

*Maximum Minimum* is the new geographic focus of the fair dedicated to the Indian subcontinent. The exhibition offers a panoramic look at the startling visual culture that reflects the abounding polarities, contradictions and dualities that comprise India. From the country's ancient spiritualism to its modern materialism, its colonial past to its growing global centrality, its migratory flows from largely agrarian and rural towards rapid urbanisation, from dogma to technology, from marginal to mainstream, from historical monuments to contemporary architecture, from normative to radical, the curated show will look through myriad histories and representation in the subcontinent.

Participating artist from Latitude 28: Sudipta Das, Niyeti Chadha Kannal, Chandan Bez Baruah, Noor Ali Chagani

#### • **Hub India – Classical Radical** (a tripartite museum show)

–Palazzo Madama – Museo Civico d'Arte Antica

–MAO (Museo d'Arte Orientale)

–Accademia Albertina di Belle Arti di Torino

*Classical Radical* will feature contemporary and modern Art from the Indian subcontinent that explores legacy and antiquity in the sociological here and now. How do contemporary artworks illuminate, complicate and re-appropriate heritage? The generation of new knowledge is and must be part of our relationship to our ancient visual traditions. How does contemporary art set against India's variegated religiosities and plural histories carry residues of motifs, styles and ideas through millennia to come to this cultural moment? The exhibition will be an attempt to look at the classical and traditional legacy through a fresh lens. This is the first time that an invited project for the Artissima Art Fair expands to this incredible opportunity to inhabit three locations in the city and connect major institutions and museums. The show is divided into three sub-groups:

##### 1. **Residues and Resonance | MAO (Museo d'Arte Orientale)**

The exhibition in MAO comprises of contemporary renaissance composites that both iconize and obliterate the very classicism they reference. The works are rooted in heritage examining traditional styles, schools, and genre, and going beyond to develop a relationship, a language, a dialogue with it. While the concerns have travelled with the vagaries of time, the forms of these works have retained hauntingly similar patterns resonant with residues of the past. Like a Philip Glass concert, each iteration sounds familiar but the cumulation of successive iterations makes each a different and unique experience. One of the highlights of the exhibition is a radical section of neo-miniaturists, who borrow from the evocative stylized and gemlike ornamentation of traditional miniature styles and vasli paintings but are subversive and explore ways to stretch and pull apart the vocabulary of a seemingly insular style.

Participating artist from Latitude 28: Sudipta Das, Khadim Ali, Priyanka D'Souza, Waswo X. Waswo, Waseem Ahmed

## 2. Multitudes and Assemblages | Accademia Albertina di Belle Arti

The trajectory of visual art in India is one of multiple transitions; it spans and internalizes the wider discourses of colonialism, nationalism and International modernism. It relates to visual traditions in the light of postmodernism and seeks to validate its position in the contemporary arena of visual art making. Multiple narratives unfold simultaneously in this exhibition. These artistic narratives are like haptic elements, refusing to lose their reality, presence, speed, heat or humidity even while being an incongruous evidentiary of a connective focal point in a curation towards a community of possibilities. Evoking more nostalgia than history, these voices rise sometimes in unison and sometimes in tension with each other at opposite sides of time, like a mirror, reversing the gaze upon a new familiar but radical pastiche of liberation, ecology, urbanisation, migration, feminism, gender, subjectivity and sensation.

Participating artist from Latitude 28: Sudipta Das, Priyanka D'Souza, Wardha Shabbir, Rahul Kumar, Gopa Trivedi

## 3. Disruptive Confluences | Palazzo Madama – Museo Civico d'Arte Antica

The exhibition in Palazzo Madama explore syncretism and hybridity through mostly three-dimensional works, that connect and juxtapose the outstanding collection in the Palace with the history of the Indian subcontinent, suggesting complicated histories of trading, religious exchange and dominations, imperialist remains and syncretic evolutions. Creating a hybrid imagery that is both veiled and provocative ultimately reveals narratives and relationship with a Eurasian perspective.

## About Latitude 28

Since its inception in 2010, Latitude 28 has been promoting creative dialogue and presenting dynamic exhibitions that focus on contemporary art from South Asia. Founded by art historian Bhavna Kakar, Latitude 28 has become synonymous with cutting edge art from the region, seeking fresh perspectives and innovative thinking in its attempt to stimulate interest in new waves of art making and provides a horizontal environment where artists are encouraged to contextualize and experiment with medium and material, positioning them within historical and contemporary frameworks that critically respond to the canon. When making programmatic decisions, Latitude 28 seeks to promote diversity through building a community and culture that is inclusive of all groups and individuals. Keeping with its wider role as an institution dedicated to the arts, Latitude 28 has paved the way for active collaborations between artists from Iran, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India through its curated shows and outreach events. The gallery, thus, continues to work towards making art accessible and inclusive to larger audiences and our patrons, with exhibitions strategically located at the nexus where artists, their work, art institutions, collectors and many different publics intersect.

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