



CULTURE & LIVING

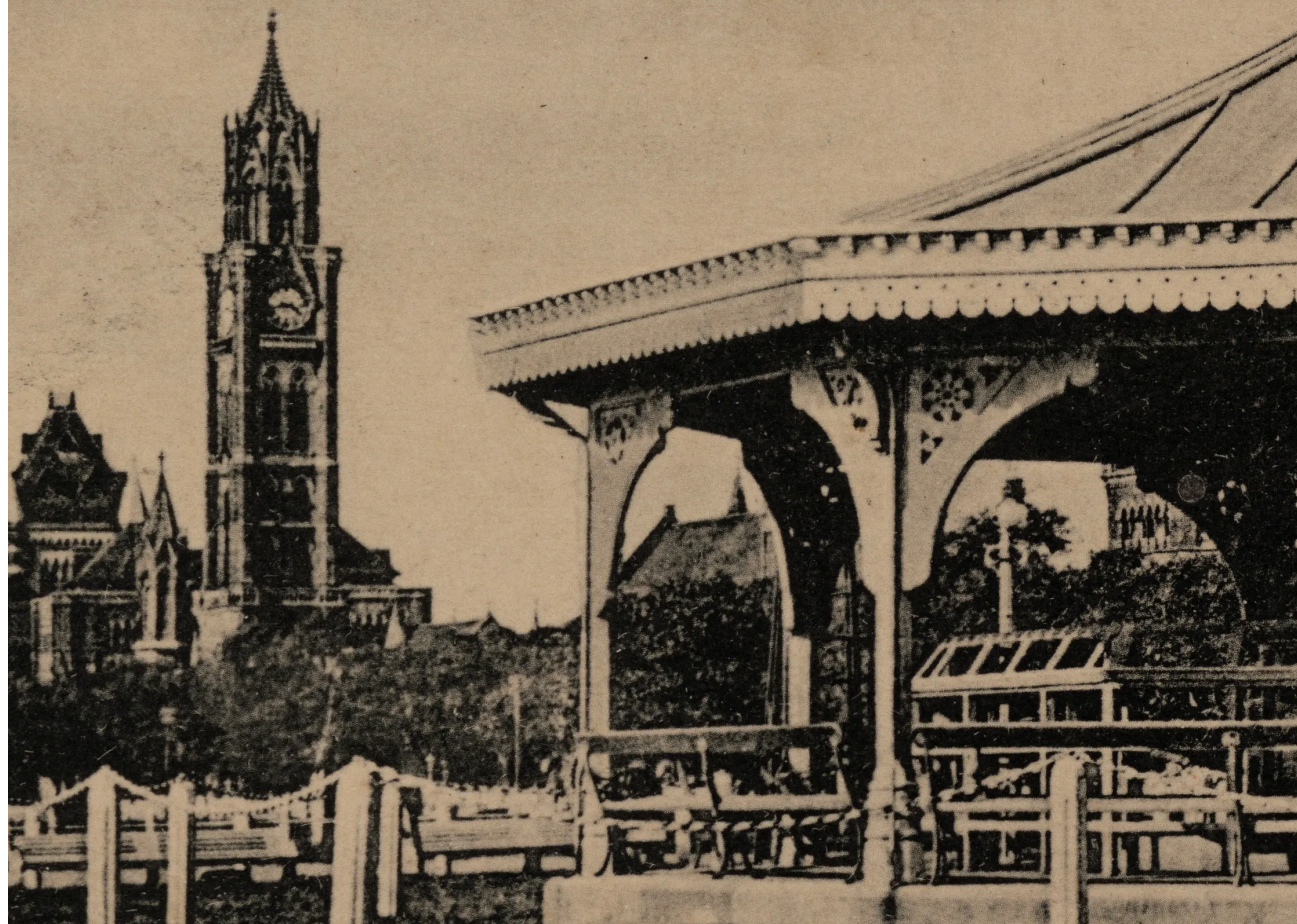
9 new art shows in India to add to your June 2024 calendar

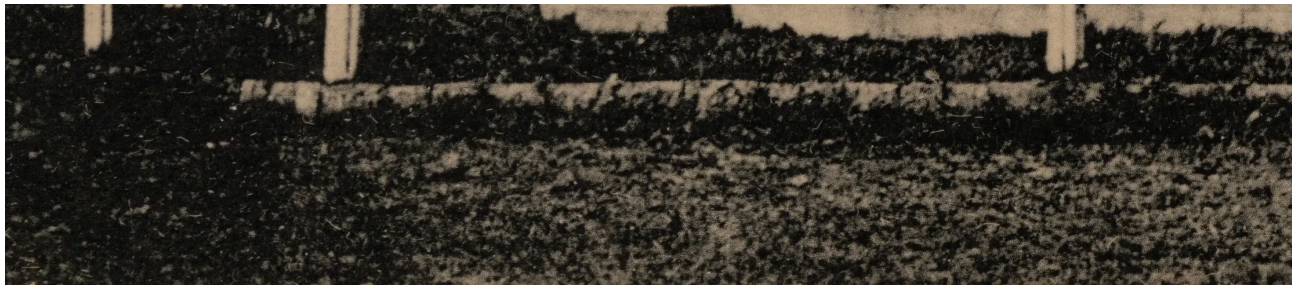
Tributes to forests, mountainous regions and indigenous communities, a retrospective of South Indian art and a peek into the art of postcards...
catch the best shows of the season

BY HUZAN TATA

3 June 2024

Esplanade Band Stand, Bombay





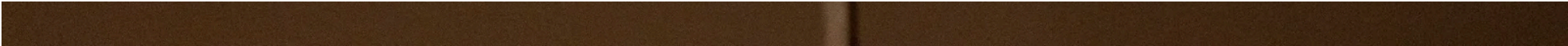
Esplanade Bandstand, Bombay, 1900s, India. Courtesy of: MAP Bengaluru

Like every month, the new art shows in India continue to beckon us to the country's many galleries. *Vogue's* pick? Head to Method at Kala Ghoda for this year's edition of the Affordable Art Show until 9th June, where you can select from a diverse range of artworks to take home. For those still enjoying summer vacations, catch the show *Ahmedabad 1992* by the late John Baldessari at the Sprüth Magers gallery in London, or explore *Alchemies* by Bharti Kher at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in UK. More below:

***A Forest in the City* at Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation, Mumbai**







Warli art on mushroom

The result of a three-year research project on the Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Aarey Colony, this exhibition aims to explore the relationship between objects, culture and environment through ‘folk’, ‘tribal’ and ‘contemporary’ art, as well as maps and documents of the changing lands of the city. Presented by the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya and the Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation in collaboration with Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture and Environmental Studies and the Pani Haq Samiti, the thought-provoking showcase brings forth questions of identity, culture and rights of forest communities.

On view at Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation, CSMVS Museum, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Kala Ghoda, Mumbai until 17th July 2024

***Weather Report* by Tenzing Dakpa at Experimenter, Kolkata**

Mornings at Naikavaddo

The effects of global warming, climate change and ecological disturbances are secret to no one today, and it's sadly the way that humans have treated the world that has got us to this stage. In this solo show, artist Tenzing Dakpa is exhibiting a recent body of photographic works, *Manifest* and *Weather Report*, that showcase the human impact on our ecological world. While *Manifest* depicts the aftermath of forest fires in North Goa, the latter includes a series of installations that showcase how drastic changes in our natural environment can affect places.

On view at Experimenter, 2/1, Hindustan Road, Kolkata until 27th July 2024

Witness and Evidence: deliberations on ruins by Sajid Wajid Shaikh and Jofre Oliveras at Gallery XXL, Mumbai

Sajid Wajid Shaikh

Our past, whether tangible or intangible, deserves to be preserved well but rarely is it so. This dual exhibition that uses the gallery as a site, features works by Indian artist Sajid Wajid Shaikh and Spanish artist Jofre Oliveras, who investigate through their creations the cultural ruins surrounding us. Including drawings, sculptures, canvases and digital media, the exhibition highlights how conflicts lead to the ruin of not just lives but the cultural and social world around us.

On view at Gallery XXL, 21, Arsiwala Mansion, Wodehouse Road, Colaba, Mumbai until 29th June 2024

Madras Modern: Regionalism and Identity at DAG, New Delhi

J. Sultan Ali, Muria Maiden

When one thinks of Indian artist collectives, the ones in Baroda and Calcutta (Kolkata) instantly come to mind, and the South usually remains forgotten. A new exhibition aims to change that. *Madras Modern* takes a deep dive into the Madras Art Movement and the Cholamandal Artists' Village, the largest artist commune of India and the movement that brought modern art to the southern states. Featuring paintings and sculptural works by celebrated creators including D. P. Roy Chowdhury, J. Sultan Ali, L.

Munuswamy, P. Gopinath, P. V. Jankiram and S. Nandagopal, the exhibition treats viewers to a monumental showcase of South India's cultural heritage.

On view at DAG, 22A Janpath Road, Windsor Place, New Delhi from 2nd June – 6th July 2024

***Simple Tales: Attend* at Chatterjee & Lal, Mumbai**

Nikhil Chopra, Gedankenfreiheit, 2012

Now in its fifteenth year, Chatterjee & Lal's periodic exhibit *Simple Tales* continues to showcase objects and artefacts from different artistic timelines and in diverse media, believing this to be an enriching and productive process in the art world. The objects included in the show are featured both for their aesthetic beauty as well as the stories they convey about culture, people and lives in the subcontinent, making for a splendid exhibit of our region's art and design histories.

On view at Chatterjee & Lal, 01/18 Kamal Mansion, Arthur Bunder Road, Colaba, Mumbai until 22nd June 2024

***Walking Through a Songline* at KNMA, Saket**

Little is known in India about Australian history, including that the country is home to the world's oldest continuous Indigenous culture. To showcase these ancient stories, the Australian High Commission in India and the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art present a special immersive multimedia installation *Walking Through a Songline* that takes viewers on a journey through First Nations' art, culture and history. This innovative exhibit, which will travel to Bengaluru in the coming months, provides viewers with the unique opportunity of experiencing an age-old culture and learning more about Aboriginal communities.

On view at KNMA, No. 145, DLF South Court Mall, Saket until 30th June 2024

***Parallel Cities II* at Nature Morte, Mumbai**

Dayanita Singh

Serving as a platform for personal narratives and an exploration of human life, this group exhibition showcases how shared spaces and narratives can bind people together in parallel ways. Curated by Andrea Anastasio and featuring artworks by Stefano Arienti, Mayank Austen Soofi, Alice Cattaneo, Elisabetta Di Maggio, Parul Gupta, Martand Khosla, Ayesha Singh, Dayanita Singh, Diwik Singh and Viswanadhan, the show offers a glimpse into how different identities combine within the boundaries of real and imagined cities.

On view at Nature Morte, 3rd Floor, Dhanraj Mahal, Apollo Bunder, Mumbai until 6th July 2024

Hello & Goodbye: Postcards from the Early 20th Century at MAP,
Bengaluru

Public Buildings, Bombay, Unknown c. 1907

Handwritten letters, stamps, telegrams and postcards may be elements of a bygone era, but their historical, social and cultural values hold strong and tell many stories of past generations even today. This exhibition features around 80 postcards from colonial times from both European and Indian printing presses, showcasing the differences in their imagery and quality while also throwing light on the forgotten but endearing method of postcard communication. The show also includes interactive experiences where viewers can create their own postcard souvenirs to take home.

On view at MAP, 22, Kasturba Road, Ashok Nagar, Bengaluru until 18th August 2024

Cracks and Folds – Landscapes of Southern Rajasthan at 47A, Mumbai

The Aravali mountain range, one of the oldest geological formations in the world, forms the backdrop of many regions of Western India including Rajasthan. This intriguing art show curated by Abhijeet Karwa features works by several artists who have painted a unique portrait of the region by showcasing its changing ecologies through various materials and media.

On view at 47A, Khotachiwadi, Girgaum, Mumbai from 7th June – 7th July 2024



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