

Pilgrims
in SPACE, TIME,
Identity

September – October 2019

the 20th
ART MUSINGS



MAYA BURMAN

Maya Burman's watercolours and pen-and-ink works are peopled by pneumatic figures, usually depicted in moments of play, festivity or ceremonial, expressive of an abundant *joie de vivre* or what, in the Indic tradition, would be celebrated as *lila*, the cosmic spirit of play and creativity. The dancer, a key protagonist in Burman's art, draws on diverse genealogies, among them Degas' ballerinas and the folk and classical dancers of eastern India. This is consonant with Burman's transcultural background: her mother is the French artist Maïte Delteil; her father is the Indian artist Sakti Burman, long resident in France.

Burman (born Villeneuve sur Lot, France, 1971) has a versatile artistic practice that embraces diverse media and projects, including painting and drawing, as well as mural commissions, posters, and illustrations for books such as *Fatik et le Jongleur de Calcutta*, the French translation of Satyajit Ray's novel, *Phatik Chand*. Burman was trained as an architect at the Ecole Nationale d'Architecture Paris-Villemin and the Ecole Nationale d'Architecture Paris-Belleville during the 1990s. She spent a gap year at the Centre for Built Environment, Kolkata, working on a survey of the historic North Kolkata residential quarter, associated with the Bengal Renaissance.

The artist's immersion in the European and Indic civilisations manifests itself, as does her lifelong exposure to the history of art, through the details of her work. She returns, in her present works, to the form of the *tondo*, a circular painting developed during the Renaissance. In a return to the approaches that were integral to her architectural education, she invokes monuments, both Indian and European, which have been important to her imagination. Maya Burman has held several solo exhibitions with Art Musings, including 'Once Upon a Time' (2007), 'A Dreamer's Labyrinth' (2010) and 'Rhapsody' (2014). The artist lives and works in Paris.



The Sublime Lightness of Being - 2, Watercolor, Pen & Ink on Paper, 32" x 32", 2018



The Sublime Lightness of Being - 3, Watercolor, Pen & Ink on Paper, 32" Diameter, 2018



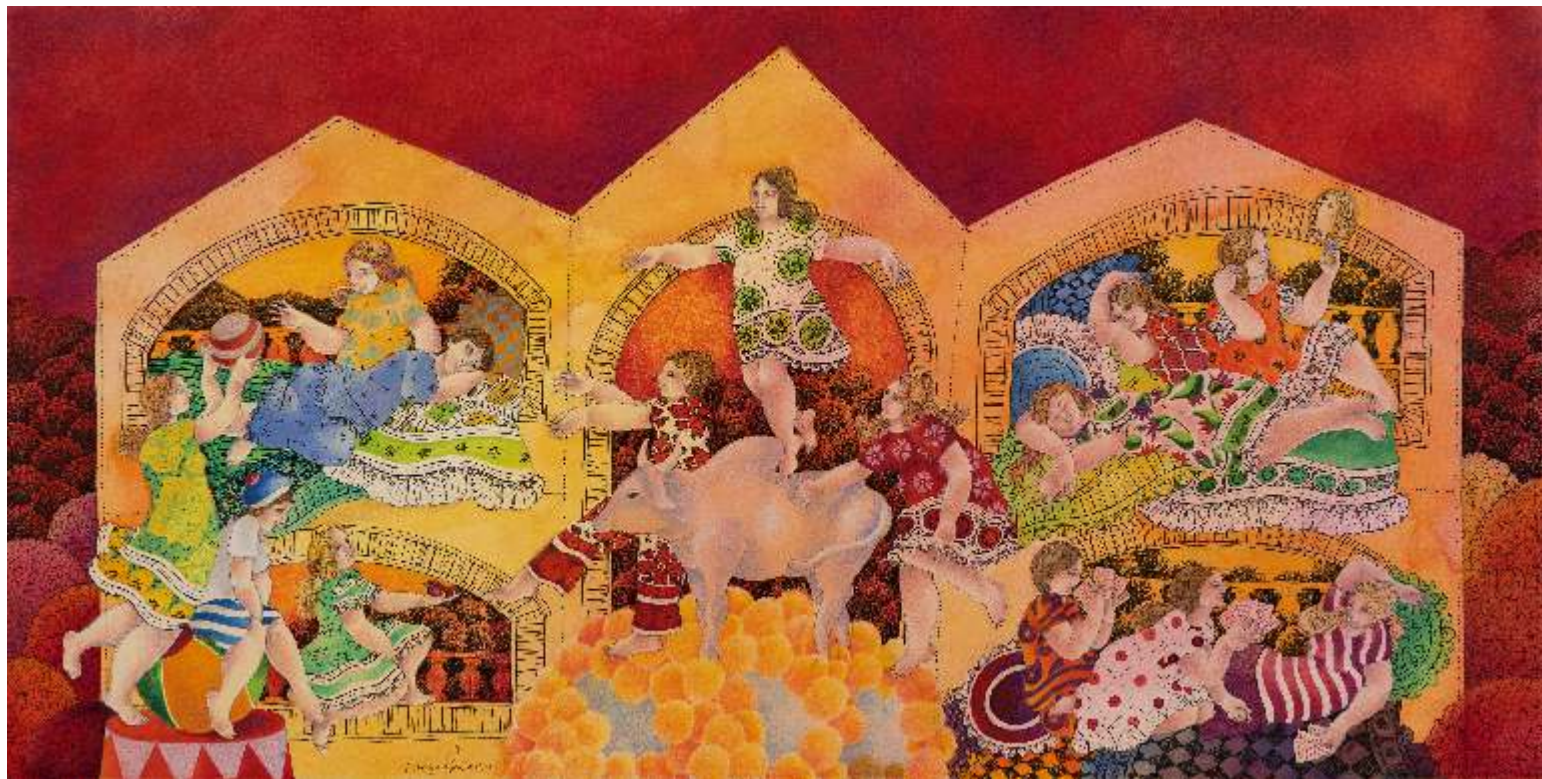
The Sublime Lightness of Being - 5, Watercolor, Pen & Ink on Paper, 32" Diameter, 2018



The Sublime Lightness of Being - 6, Watercolor, Pen & Ink on Paper, 32" Diameter, 2018



Watercolor Pen & Ink On Paper, 16" x 32", 2016



Watercolor Pen & Ink On Paper, 16" x 32", 2016



NALINI MALANI

Nalini Malani (born Karachi, Undivided India, 1946) is one of India's best-known contemporary artists, active on the global art scene. Malani received a Diploma in Fine Arts from the Sir J J School of Arts, Bombay (1969) and secured a French Government scholarship to study art in Paris (1970–1972). A pioneer of video art in India, her constantly self-renewing practice encompasses painting, stop motion animation, theatre, film, camera-less photography, and forms that the artist terms 'wall drawing/erasure performances', 'video plays' and 'video/shadow plays'. The exhibited series here, 'I am the Angel of Despair', resonates with the five-decade-long testimony that Malani has borne, to the discursive and physical violence visited by political hegemonies on the female subjectivity and on subaltern, marginal, minority and dissenting groups.

Major international solo museum exhibitions include 'Hamletmachine' (New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, 2002-2003), 'Nalini Malani' (Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, 2007), 'Splitting the Other' (Musée des Beaux Arts, Lausanne, 2010), 'You Can't Keep Acid in a Paper Bag', (Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi, 2014), 'In Search of Vanished Blood' (ICA, Boston, 2016), 'Transgressions' (Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, 2017) and 'The Rebellion of the Dead, Parts I and II' (Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2017-2018 and Castello di Rivoli, Torino-Rivoli 2018-19).

Malani's work is in thirty museum collections including the British Museum and the Tate Modern, London, Centre Pompidou, Paris, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi. At Art Musings, Malani has initiated the three person women's exhibition, 'Excavation: Memory/Myth/Membrane' with Reena Kallat and Jayashree Chakravarty (2008) and held a solo exhibition, 'Womantime' (2013).



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A. Malani 2015

I am the Angel of Despair - 1, Pigment Prints, 21" x 33", 2015



L. Makin 2015

I am the Angel of Despair - 2, Pigment Prints, 21" x 33", 2015



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C. McLean 2015

I am the Angel of Despair - 3, Pigment Prints, 21" x 33", 2015



A. Malan 2015

I am the Angel of Despair - 4, Pigment Prints, 21" x 33", 2015



The Dada of Bombay, Acrylic, ink and enamel reverse painting on acrylic sheet, 21.5" x 15.5", 2007



The Dada of Bombay, Acrylic, ink and enamel reverse painting on acrylic sheet, 21.5" x 15.5", 2007



RAGHAVA KK

Raghava K K (born Bengaluru, 1980) is a multidisciplinary artist and entrepreneur. His paintings, presented here, orchestrate a scintillating interplay between the Dutch still life and the psychedelic proliferation of imagery in the digital media, shot through with quirky, tongue-in-cheek adaptations of various genres including the portrait and the history painting, which Raghava updates for the epoch of cyber-surveillance and digital warfare. Apart from painting, installation and performance, Raghava's art practice involves inventing media such as iPad art, neuro-feedback art and algorithm art, by means of which to express post-human existential realities in a time of planetary collapse.

Committed to refiguring the notions of transcendence and the Sublime in a historical period when subjectivity is distributed widely both offline and online, Raghava designs and participates in experiments using science and technology. He is a five-time TED speaker and a National Geographic Emerging Explorer. He has lectured at several art institutions and universities, including New York University, Kellogg, Carnegie Mellon, the New Hampshire Institute of Art (Manchester, NH) and the École des Beaux-Arts, Nimes. He was a visiting artist at the Indian School of Business and the Copenhagen Business School. He is on the advisory board of the INK Conference and NuVu Studios, a radical education program founded at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Boston. His iPad art-book *Pop-it* won a Best of 2011 award from Kirkus Books.

Raghava has engaged in international collaborations with artists in various genres, including singer Paul Simon, chef Dan Barber, and singer/activist Erykah Badu. Raghava's solo exhibitions with Art Musings include 'Drawn and Quartered' (2008), 'Brooklyn Bound R-Train' (2009-2010), 'Exquisite Cadaver' (2011), 'That's All Folks' (2013) and 'Ridiculous Copycats' (2015). He has also shown with Art Musings at the 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 editions of the India Art Fair, New Delhi.



Fake News, Acrylic on Canvas, 72" x 152", 2019



Impossible Bouquet - 2, Acrylic on Canvas, 84" x 60", 2019



Impossible Bouquet - 3, Acrylic on Canvas, 84" x 60", 2019



SHILO SHIV SULEMAN

Shilo Shiv Suleman (born Bengaluru, 1989) is an artist whose work is sustained by commitments to poetry, technology and social justice. She articulates her work across several platforms, including exhibitions, festivals and conferences. In the work shown here, she fuses self-portraiture with the iconography of a once-and-future goddess, guardian of the 'fertility belt', presiding over a tropical exuberance that is both literal and figurative. This work image, text and gesture, subordinating the protocols of anthropological investigation to a celebration of the sensuous imagination, reclaiming a plenitude of experience from the Cartesian mind/body, participant/ observer dualisms that continue to constrain us. Shilo is the founder-director of the Fearless Collective, a movement that aims to replace fear with love in public space. She has worked with communities across the world by facilitating and leading public art interventions, for instance, with indigenous communities in Brazil, displaced and migrant communities in Beirut, queer activists in South Africa, and transgender activists in Pakistan. She has created large-scale installations for The Burning Man Festival and apps that respond to human brainwaves, which have been featured on TED. She was chosen as one of three pioneering Indian women at TED Global, and has spoken at conferences like WIRED, DLD in London and Munich.

In 2014, Shilo received several grants and residencies – including two honorarium grants from Burning Man for the interactive art installations: Pulse & Bloom, and Grove – for her collaborations with a neuroscientist, aimed at creating art that interacts with human brainwaves and other biofeedback sensors. These biofeedback installations have brought together artists, architects, entrepreneurs, builders and neurotechnologists, and have been featured on international media including BBC, Rolling Stone, MSNBC, Tech Crunch, The Guardian and WIRED, and have been exhibited at the Southbank Centre, London. Shilo's solo exhibitions include 'Beloved' (2015) with Art Musings.



Hymn for the Deathless, Acrylic, wood and mirror, 120" x 96", 2019

Fertility Belt (Every time I worship you may Mouth is Filled)





The Lovers, Mixed Media on Canvas 58" x 34", 2019



Fire Breathing, Mixed Media on Wood, 33" x 25", 2019

Pollination, Mixed Media on Canvas, 71" x 33", 2019





(I am) softness incarnate, Embroidery, 48" x 20", 2019

the celebration continues...

If on a Winter's Night a Traveller

1 November - 31 December 2019

Anjolie Ela Menon | Jayasri Burman | Milburn Cherian | Sakti Burman

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