

Anju Dodiya :

Bibliography: <http://www.bosepacia.com/artists/anju-dodiya/>

Country: India

1. **Dates:** 1964, Mumbai, India
2. **Lives and works:** The Artist lives and works in Mumbai
3. **Education:** Studied in 1986, B.F.A Sir JJ School of Art, Mumbai
4. **Medium of Work:** Anju Dodiya is one of the few contemporary artists whose works are essentially an extension of paintings. She uses a variety of materials for her canvas, including mattresses and various fabrics, to create a feminine, theatrical essence. With her background in collage work, she juxtaposes dramatic elements of human nature through materials and faces in her canvas. Her works also feature a consistently thematic exploration of the self.

Solo Exhibitions:

2012

Room for Erasures, Chemould Prescott Road, Mumbai

2011

Cloud Hunter and other works, Kalakriti Art Gallery, Hyderabad

2010

Face off (After Kuniyoshi), Galerie Daniel Templon, Paris.

“Necklace of Echoes”, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

“2009

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2008

‘All Night I shall Gallop’, Bodhi Art, Mumbai

All Night I Shall Gallop, Singapore Tyler Print Institute, Singapore

2007

“Lukshmi Villas Palace”, Baroda

“The Throne of Frost’ Bodhi Art, Mumbai

2006

‘Recent works by Anju Dodiya’, Bose Pacia, New York

2005

“The Cloud Hunt”, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

2001

Gallery Chemould, Mumbai

1999

Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

Max Mueller Bhavan, Mumbai

1996

Gallery Chemould, Mumbai

1991

Gallery Chemould, Mumbai

Group Exhibitions:

2013

"Freedom to March: Rediscovering Gandhi through Dandi", Ojas Art, New Delhi

"Ideas of the Sublime", Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

"IDEAS OF THE SUBLIME", Lalit Kala Akademi Galleries - New Delhi

"Mapmakers II - The Evolution of Contemporary Indian Art (Part Two)", AICON GALLERY - New York

2012

"GALLERY COLLECTION, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

Fifth Beijing International Art Biennale, National Museum of China, Beijing.

A Further Global Encounter, Grosvenor Vadehra, London.

Voicing a Presence: Women Artists, in the Jehangir Nicholson

Collection, The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai

Inscribing the Female Body, Vadehra Art Gallery, Delhi.

To Let the World In: Narrative and Beyond in Contemporary Indian Art, curated by Chaitanya Sambrani, Lalit Kala Akademi, Chennai.

Narratives of the Self, Gallery Espace, Delhi.

2011

Roots in the Air, Branches Below, Modern and Contemporary Art from India, San Jose Museum of Art, California.

Right to Dissent, Mohile Parikh Center - The Contemporary & ClarkHouse, Mumbai.

Six Decades, Celebrating the Bombay Artists from the Jehangir

Nicholson Art Collection, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu

Sangrahalaya, Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation, Mumbai

Natural Bodies, Subverted Canons, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

"India: Take Three"- Kings Road Gallery, Chelsea

2010

Modern Art of India: The Ethos of Modernity, Sichuan Museum, Shenzhen Museum, Zhejiang Provincial Museum, China.

Art Celebrates 2010: Sports and the City, curated by Rupika Chawla, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, presented by Vadehra Art Gallery.

Changing Skin, curated by Marta Jakimowicz, Coomaraswamy Hall, Mumbai.

Looking Glass -The Existence of Difference, curated by Gayatri Sinha, Religare Art Gallery, New Delhi.

2009

Making Worlds curated by Daniel Birnbaum, 53rd Venice Biennale, Venice.

SPECTRUM Indian Art in Abu Dhabi 2009, curated by Saryu Doshi, organized by Indian Embassy in UAE and Abu Dhabi Culture & Heritage, Abu Dhabi.

India Xianzai: Contemporary Indian Art, curated by Alexander Keafe, Diana Freundl, MoCA Shanghai.

"India: Take Three"- Kings Road Gallery, Chelsea

Progressive to Altermodern: 62 Years of Indian Modern Art, Grosvenor Gallery, London

2008

Expanding Horizons, curated by Sudhir Patwardhan; Bodhi Art; Mumbai, Amravati, Nagpur, Aurangabad, Sholapur, Kolhapur, Pune and Nasik.

Modern and Contemporary Indian Art, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

Everywhere is War (And Rumours of War), curated by Shaheen Merali, Bodhi Art, Mumbai.

Material/Im-material, Gallery Collection, Bodhi Art, Gurgaon

2007-08

Tiger by the Tail! Women Artists of India Transforming Culture, -Women's Studies Research Center, Brandies University, Massachusetts.

2007

New Narratives: Contemporary Art from India, curated by Betty Seid, Chicago Cultural Centre, Chicago Mabel Douglas Galleries, Rutgers University, New Jersey

Here and Now: Young Voices from India, Grosvenor Vadehra, London

2006

Harmony Show, organized by Reliance Industries, Nehru Centre, Mumbai

A Work of Art - A Work on Paper - 35th Anniversary show, Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai

2005

Bhupen Among Friends, A tribute to Bhupen Khakhar by friends, organized by Gallery Chemould at Museum Gallery, Mumbai.

The Artist Lives and Works in Baroda/Bombay/Calcutta/Mysore/Rotterdam/Trivandrum, organised by Galerie Mirchandani Steinruecke; House of World Cultures, Berlin.

Endless Terrain, curated by Yashodhara Dalmia, Rabindra Bhavan, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.

Angkor- the silent centuries, Bodhi Art, New Delhi, Singapore

2004

Face to Face, 19th century to contemporary portraiture, CIMA Gallery, Kolkata
Stree, Bodhi Art, Singapore.

A Tribute to Bhupen Khakhar, Tao Art Gallery, Mumbai

After Dark, curated by Gayatri Sinha, Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai.

The Search, Paintings from National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai, curated by
Saryu Doshi, Omni Society for Fine Arts, Muscat.

Interlude in Sri Lanka, The Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai.

2003

**Crossing generations: diVERGE, Forty years of Gallery Chemould – an exhibition
spanning four generations of Indian artists curated by Geeta**

Kapur & Chaitanya Sambrani, National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai.

Portraits of a Decade, 10th anniversary show, CIMA Gallery, Kolkata.

Inside the Whale, Gasser & Grunert Inc., New York.

2002

Leela, Artists' response to Haridwar, with Amit Ambalal, Atul Dodiya, Bhupen
Khakhar, Gallery Espace, New Delhi.

Real in Realism, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi.

Brahma to Bapu icons and symbols in Indian art, organised by CIMA, India Habitat
Centre, New Delhi.

Transfiguration, curated by Yashodhara Dalmia, Art Inc. India Habitat
Gallery, New Delhi.

2001

ARS 01, Unfolding Perspectives, Museum of Contemporary Art,
Kiasma, Helsinki, Finland.

Bodied Self, a show curated by Ranjit Haskote, Sans Tache Gallery, Mumbai

In Conversation, sketchbooks and works on paper, a show curated by Gayatri Sinha,
Gallery Espace, New Delhi

2000

Art in the World 2000, curated by Fabrice Bousteau, organized by Beaux Art
magazine, Paris, (representing 'The Art News Magazine, India').

Mumbai Magazine Show – Artist's Choice section curated by Saryu Doshi, selected by
Akbar Padamsee, National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai.

A Global View – Indian Artists at Home in the World, curated by Bernhard Steinrucke
sponsored by The Fine Art Resource, Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai.

Once Upon a Time, curated by Shireen Gandhi, Gallery Chemould, Mumbai.

Transpositions, with Nalini Malani and Gulammohammed Sheikh, Lakeeren Gallery, Mumbai.

Embarkations, curated by Yashodhara Dalmia, Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai.

Family Resemblance, curated by Ranjit Hoskote, Birla Century Gallery, Mumbai

Celebration of the Human Image, Gallery 42, New Delhi

1999

Legatee – Sir J.J. School of Art, The Fine Art Company, Mumbai

Icons of the Millennium, organised by Lakeeren Gallery at Nehru Centre, Mumbai

Watermark, watercolor show organised by the Fine Art Resource, at Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

Two for Two Thousand Art Today, New Delhi

1998

Contemporary Indian Art, The Sotheby's Prize exhibition, Jehangir Nicholson Gallery, Mumbai.

A Collector's Eye – Jehangir Nicholson Collection, National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai, New Delhi.

The Looking Glass Self, Lakeeren Gallery, Mumbai

'Artists for a sustainable World', Gallery Chemould, Mumbai

Indian Contemporary Art, organised by Vadehra Art Gallery, Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

1997

50 Years of Art in Mumbai, 1947-1997, National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai.

Indian Contemporary Art, Post Independence, National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, organised by Vadehra Art Gallery.

Years of Art in Mumbai, 1947-1997, NGMA, Mumbai

Gift for India, show organized by SAHMAT, LKA Galleries, Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi

1996

Cinemascape, An artists' Tribute to 100 years of cinema, Lakeeren Gallery, Mumbai

Indian Contemporary Art, Post Independence, NGMA, New Delhi, organised by Vadehra Art Gallery

1995

Recent Trends in Contemporary Indian Art, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

'Portraits', Sakshi Art Gallery, Mumbai, Bangalore

1994

Art for Cry, Bombay, New Delhi

1990

Works on Paper, Gallery Chemould, Mumbai.

1986

Monsoon Show, sponsored by Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai.

Text

See More:

Text

Giving voice to the nayika she introduced and imaged in her inaugural solo exhibition at Gallery Chemould in Bombay 1991, Anju Dodiya wrote, "in this other world, she suffers only an artist's insomnia." **In the subsequent 15 years, Dodiya has composed visual poems tinged in shades of both night and day, effecting layered works that narrate a balanced dualism of the unconscious.** Though she adapts art historical sources as varied as Japanese ukiyo-e prints, medieval French tapestries, and Kiki Smith's contemporary figuration, the artist's own interiority and self-reflection are the primary catalysts for her imagination.

Born in Bombay, Dodiya graduated from the JJ School of Art in 1986, refining her talent with watercolors while still a student there. Since then, Dodiya's exhibitions have unfolded a textured, thoughtful story with an intuitively feminine orientation and an elegant simplicity. After years of producing beauty with her watercolors, Dodiya tempered her work in by drawing in gray for a 2001 exhibition at Chemould; she said, "I no longer wanted to make the image so precious. I fought it with charcoal."

Dodiya's 2005 exhibition *The Cloud Hunt* initiated a series painted on mattresses, reaffirming the artist's full-time preoccupations from all hours and adding a mythological element to the tensions inherent in her vision. This material base cushioned the aggression her protagonist would hope to inflict, reflective also of the inherent futility in the pursuit of hunting clouds. The artist's first, self-titled solo exhibition in New York in 2006 developed this medium further, visualizing the themes of sleep and night in some of her mattress-as-canvas works.

With both monumentality and precise attention to detail, Dodiya staged *Throne of Frost* in the darbar hall at Baroda's historic 19th century Laxmi Vilas Palace in 2007.

Complementing motifs and themes already present in the architecture, Dodiya's paintings

for this exhibition were set against rich, embroidered fabric and transformed into an installation - a circular, group conversation dancing around carefully lain shards of mirror.

<http://www.gallerychemould.com/artists-about/anju-home.html>

The present lot, one of the first mattresses the artist painted, began as a portrayal of the marriage of Shiva and Parvati, with their tresses entwined, albeit through Dodiya's characteristic dramatization of the self. As artist and surface interacted, however, the piece took on a more personal aspect, echoing the artist's concern with arduous escapes, particularly from the violence of her own creative process. **In this context, the artist juxtaposes the restrained state of insomnia with the freedom of dreams in this three dimensional piece, perhaps suggesting that the former is a necessary, albeit unpleasant step in the direction of the latter.** Here, Dodiya's sleep has taken flight like Shiva's golden deer at the upper left, and the fingerprint-like whorls of the mattress' velvet surface engage the different iterations of the artist-protagonist in their sleepless labyrinth.

<http://www.saffronart.com/auctions/PostWork.aspx?l=2560>

Press Release

http://www.arts-up.info/JPGP/JPGP_Dodiya_Anju.htm

[http://www.paris-art.com/agenda-culturel-](http://www.paris-art.com/agenda-culturel-paris/Face%20%C3%A0%20face%20(d%E2%80%99apr%C3%A8s%20Kuniyoshi)/Dodiya-Anju/11127.html)

[paris/Face%20%C3%A0%20face%20\(d%E2%80%99apr%C3%A8s%20Kuniyoshi\)/Dodiya-Anju/11127.html](http://www.paris-art.com/agenda-culturel-paris/Face%20%C3%A0%20face%20(d%E2%80%99apr%C3%A8s%20Kuniyoshi)/Dodiya-Anju/11127.html)

Review <http://www.gallerychemould.com/artists-about/anju-home.html>

<http://www.timeoutmumbai.net/art/features/centre-stage>

<http://www.itsaveer.com/artsmart/articles/contemporary-young-masters/artworks-of-anju-dodiya>

<http://tehelka.com/a-heroine-of-the-peripheral/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/friday-review/art/the-drama-called-life/article3941722.ece>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/throne-of-frost-art-display-by-anju-dodiya/1/155871.html>

<http://www.sunday-guardian.com/artbeat/echoes-of-dodiyas-conceptual-style-resonate-in-vivid-hues>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/NewDelhi/Women-in-colour/Article1-498006.aspx>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/20/arts/design/20dodi.html?pagewanted=all& r=0>

http://www.artindiamag.com/quarter_02_02_13/panic_station.html

<http://www.mid-day.com/lifestyle/2012/oct/141012-She-wants-you-to-erase-her-art.htm>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/theatre-of-a-mind/1007497/0>

<http://www.openthemagazine.com/article/arts/frida-s-shadow>

<http://www.timescrest.com/culture/pass-me-an-eraser-please-9030>

<http://www.hindu.com/fr/2005/05/20/stories/2005052002100300.htm>

<http://www.artnewsnviews.com/view-article.php?article=the-image-spectacle-and-the-self&iid=18&articleid=429>

Interview

<http://m.mumbaimirror.com/index.aspx?Page=article§name=Columnists%20-%20Others§id=47&contentid=200802242008022402340253224136808>

In Conversation

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2013/20130225/ttlife1.htm>

<http://archives.digitaltoday.in/indiatoday/20070402/art.html>

Overview

<http://thinkworks.in/art-for-freedom-the-challenge-of-liberty/>

http://www.theartstrust.com/Magazine_article.aspx?articleid=250

<http://ocula.com/art-galleries/chemould-prescott-road/artists/anju-dodiya/>

<http://www.gallerychemould.com/artists-about/anju-home.html>

<http://grosvenorgallery.com/artists/dodiya-anju-anju/>

Videos

Panel Discussion: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=umhTPW9LQng>

Awards and Scholarships

2007 Zee Astitva Award, by Archana trust Suburban with Zee TV

**2001 Indo-American Society's 'Young Achiever Award' in
2000 nominated for the Sotheby's prize
1999 Harmony award by Reliance Industries, Mumbai,
1989 she was also nominated twice for the Sotheby's prize**