

Ranbir Kaleka :

Biography :

- <http://www.rkaleka.com/>
- <http://www.bosepacia.com/artists/ranbir-kaleka/artist-cv/>

Country : India

- 1. Dates :** Born in Patiala, Punjab, India, 1953
- 2. Lives and works:** The Artist Lives and works in Delhi , India
- 3. Education:** Five Year Diploma in Painting, College of Art, Punjab University, Chandigarh, 1970-75
Teaching position for fine art at the Fine Arts Department, College for Women, Punjabi University, Patiala, India. 1980-77
Teaching position for fine art at the Delhi College of Art, New Delhi, 1980-85
M.A. Painting, Royal College of Art, London Charles Wallace Scholarship, 1985-87
- 4. Medium and Technique :**

Solo Exhibitions :

2012 Volte Gallery & Saffron Art Gallery, 'Ranbir Kaleka "Fables"', Delhi

2010 Volte Gallery, 'Sweet Unease', Mumbai

2009 Bose Pacia Gallery, 'Reading Man', New York

2008 Bose Pacia Gallery, 'Fables from the House of Ibaan: stage - I', New York

2007 Spertus Museum, 'Consider', Multi-media installation commissioned for permanent display, Chicago

2005 Bose Pacia Gallery, 'Crossings', New York

1995 ArtToday Gallery, New Delhi, India

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2012

Volte Gallery, 'Your Name is different there', Mumbai

Art Stage Singapore, Special Project, Singapore

Tel Aviv Museum of Art, 'Deconstructing India', Isreal

Lalit Kala Regional Centre, 'To Let the World In: Narrative and Beyond in Contemporary Indian Art', Chennai, India

2011

Guangdon Museum, 'Back to Basics", 4th Guangzhou Triennial, Guangzhou, China

Pearl Lam Fine Art, 'Window in the Wall: India and China – Imaginary Conversations', Shanghai, China

Latitude 28 'In the Illusion of Each Day', Delhi, India

MediaArtLab, Expanded Cinema, Moscow

Prague Biennale 5, Prague Biennale Photo 2, 'Crossroads: India Escalate', Prague, Czech Republic

Lalit Kala Akademi, 'Tolstoy Farm - Archive of Utopia', New Delhi

Vancouver Biennale and Surrey Art Gallery, 'In Transition: New Art from India', Vancouver, Canada

Singapore Art Museum, 'Comtemporary Masterpieces from Private Collection', Singapore

The New Asia Pacific Contemporary Art Fair, Singapore

India Art Summit, respresented by Volte Gallery, New Delhi

2010

MOCA Taipei, 'Finding India, Art for the New Century', Taipei, Taiwan

Sakshi Annual Exhibition, Taipei, Taiwan

Hong Kong Art Fair, represented by Sakshi Gallery, Hong Kong

Arario Gallery, 'Weight of Floating Time', Cheonan, Korea, Seoul

'Project' 35', (selection by 35 international curators, touring internationally), Dec 2010 - Feb 2011

Cervantes Institute, 'Imaging Asia', New Delhi

Lalit Kala Akademi (National Academy of Art), 'Delhi', New Delhi

Lalit Kala Akademi, Gallery Espace, 'Marvelous Reality', New Delhi

2009

Seoul Convention Centre, Sakshi Gallery, Korea

ESSL Museum, 'Chalo! India: A New Era of Indian Art', Vienna, Austria

National Museum of Contemporary Art, 'Chalo! India: A New Era of Indian Art', Korea

Mori Art Museum, 'Chalo! India: A New Era of Indian Art', Tokyo, Japan

**Museo Fundación Cristóbal Gabarrón, 'Indi Dialogue. Arte experimental de la India',
Valladolid, Spain**

IVAM - Institut Valencià d'Art Modern, 'India Moderna', Valencia, Spain

**CASA ASIA, 'Indian Narrative in the 21st Century: Between Memory and History', Madrid &
Barcelona, Spain**

Birla Academy of Art and Culture, 'Astonishment of Being', Kolkata

2008

16th Biennale of Sydney, Revolutions-Forms That Turn, Sydney, Australia.

Mori Art Museum, 'Chalo! India - A New Era of Indian Art', Tokyo, (tour: National Museum of Contemporary Art,

Korea; 2009: ESSL Museum, Vienna, Austria)

Asian Contemporary Art Fair, New York, 'Simulasian: Refiguring "Asia" for the 21st Century', New York

Devi Art Foundation, 'Still Moving Image', Gurgaon, Harayana, India.

Anant Art Gallery, 'Machanisms of Motion', New Delhi

Soulflower Gallery, 'The Ethics of Encounter', Bangkok, Thailand

2007

Kunstmuseum Bern, 'Horn Please - The Narrative in Contemporary Indian Art', Switzerland

Hangar Bicocca, spazio d'arte contemporanea, 'Urban Manners', Milan

Chicago Cultural Institute, 'New Narratives - Contemporary Art from India', Chicago, (toured:

Salina Art Center, Salina, Kansas; Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, N.Brunswick, New Jersey)

Newark Museum, 'Public Places, Private Spaces', Contemporary Photography and Video Art

New Jersey, (toured: Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis)

2006

Art Basel, 'Art Video Lounge', curated show by Michael Rush, Maimi Beach

Arario Gallery, 'Hungry God', Beijing, China, (Museum of Modern Art, Busan, Korea; Art

Gallery of Ontario, Toronto)

National Gallery of Modern Art, 'Edge of Desire', New Delhi, (toured: Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, , California)

2005

Venice Biennale, 'iCon - India Contemporary', Venice, Italy

Lalit Kala Akademi, Golden Jubilee, New Delhi

Osians, 'Revisualising India', New Delhi

Gallery ArtsIndia, 'Herwitz 100', New York

2004

Residency at Sally & Don Lucas Artists Programs, Montalvo Arts Center, California

Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles 'LA FREEWAVES 9th Biennial Festival of Film, Video and New Media - How Can You Resist?' Geffen Contemporary, Los Angeles; (toured: Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv, Israel; cheLA(Corriente

Hipermediatica Experimental Latinoamericana), Buenos Aires, Argentina; Huffmans House, Encuentro

Internacional de Espacios Independientes; Valparaiso, Chile)

The Art Gallery Of Western Australia, 'Edge Desire', Perth, Australia, (toured: Queens

Museum of Modern Art, Queens NY; The Asia Society, New York; Museo Tamayo, Mexico City; Marco, Monterrey/MX; National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai)

Culturgest-Lisbon, 'Zoom!', Portugal

Walsh Gallery, Visual Performance, curated by WuHung and Julie Walsh, Chicago

Sakshi Gallery, 'After Dark', Mumbai

2003

10th Biennial of Moving Images, Centre for Contemporary Images, Saint-Gervais, Genève, Switzerland

Nation Museum of Modern Art, 'diVERGE', Mumbai

Apeejay Media Gallery, 'Liminal Zones', Delhi

House of World Culture, 'BODY•CITY, Siting Contemporary Culture in India', Berlin, Germany

Museum of Contemporary Art, Merida, 'Interactive A03', Biennale for New Media Art, Yucatan, Mexico

Grantpirrie, 'An Apparent Calm', Sidney

Video Roadshow, Mumbai

British Council, 'Root en Route', New Delhi, Chennai; Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai, Bangalore

2002

KHOJ, International Workshop in Mysore, India

Kunsthalle Wien, 'Kapital & Karma', Vienna

Apeeyay Media Gallery, 'Private Mythologies - Sound and video works of the personal and the political', New Delhi

Nature Morte, 'PhotoSphere', New Delhi

2001

Art Today, 'Rare and Unusual Paintings', New Delhi

2000

Alliance Francaise, 'Silen TV video lounge', (with Michel Mallard, Olivier Reneau & Denis Chevalier), New Delhi

Public Art Project, 'Images for a Hundred Lamp Posts', Ealing, London

Indo-Austrian Art Projects in Public Space, 'Boxwallahs', The DeEgo-Cube, Gurgaon, Haryana

Sakshi Gallery, 'Embarkations-The Millennium Show', Mumbai

Max Mueller, 'Art and Technology', Mumbai

1999

Expo 2000, artistic consultant, Basic Needs Pavilion, Hannover Germany

British Council, 'Edge of the Century', New Delhi

1998

Public mural for Thames Trains at Southall Station, London commission - Ealing and the European, Union Fund

1997

Open Drawing Competition Exhibition, Cheltenham and North England

1996

Smith Jariwala Gallery, 'Indian Winter', London

Pitshanger Manor Gallery, 'First Sight', London

1994

Royal Academy, 'Summer Exhibition', invited Artist, London

Gallery Espace, 'Drawing'94', New Delhi

Connaught Brown Gallery, The Affordable Art Company Exhibition, London

1988

Gallery Chemould, 'Seventeen Indian Painters', Bombay

1987

Robert Hull Fleming Museum, 'Contemporary Indian Art', University of Vermont, Burlington, USA

Halle Sud, 'Coup De Coeur, Festival of Indian Art', Geneva, Switzerland

1986

Bucknell University, Contemporary Indian Art, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

1985

Grey Art Gallery, Contemporary Indian Art, New York University, New York

1984

Sahitya Kala Akademi, Painting Camp, Sohna, Haryana, India

1983

World Punjabi Writers Conference, Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture, New Delhi

1982

Lalit Kala Academy, Fifth Triennale India, New Delhi

Royal Academy of Arts, Contemporary Indian Art, London

Museum of Modern Art, 'India - Myth and Reality', Oxford

Awards

1986 Sanskriti Award, New Delhi

1979 National Award, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi

SEE MORE:

1. **Press Release** :http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-01-24/art-culture/30658978_1_art-show-rare-paintings-kiran-nadar-museum
2. **Review** :<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/india-art-fair-day-4/1/171052.html>
3. **Review** : http://www.business-standard.com/article/beyond-business/-i-do-love-donkeys-very-much-112010700046_1.html
4. **Review** : <http://www.frieze.com/issue/review/ranbir-kaleka/>
5. **Overview** :<https://artvantage.collectorsystems.com/public/20/9>
6. **Overview**:<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.415453965157179.84262.415425691826673&type=1>
7. **Press Release** : <http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/plumage/entry/art-hk-10>
8. **Press Release** : <http://www.livemint.com/Leisure/XYvCGRJutvD2A080lta4zL/No-solace-in-the-imagined.html>
9. **Review** :http://www.rkaleka.com/press/geeta_kapur_07.pdf
10. **Review** :<http://www.rkaleka.com/press/pcsmith.pdf>
11. **PressRelease**:<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9C04E5DD133FF932A15753C1A9639C8B63>
12. **Review** :http://www.rkaleka.com/press/meera_menezes.pdf this is a good link however can you find it on the artindia website?
13. <http://www.anothersubcontinent.com/kaleka.html>
14. **Review** :<http://www.rkaleka.com/press/abhay.pdf>
15. **Review** :<http://www.hindu.com/mag/2004/06/06/stories/2004060600560700.htm>
16. **Review** :<http://www.frieze.com/issue/review/ranbir-kaleka/>
17. **Overview** :http://www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk/artists/In_tallur.htm?section_name=new_india
18. **Review** :<http://www.aaa.org.hk/Collection/CollectionOnline/SpecialCollectionItem/3943>
19. **Review** <http://www.bosepacia.com/artists/ranbir-kaleka/reviews/> can you find these in the actual publishing?
20. **Review** :<http://www.art-agenda.com/shows/ranbir-kaleka-at-arario-gallery-cheonan/>**Overview** :<http://www.saffronart.com/artists/ranbir-kaleka>
21. **Review** :<http://www.art-agenda.com/shows/ranbir-kalekas-sweet-unease/> please cross check if this exists in the exhibition. It is a press release
22. **Overview** : <http://www.walshgallery.com/ranbir-kaleka-bio/>
23. **Review** :<http://artexpoindia.blogspot.in/2011/12/new-solo-of-works-by-ranbir-kaleka.html>
24. **Interview** :http://www.timeoutdelhi.net/art/features/three-questions-ranbir-kaleka*
25. **Review** :http://www.theartstrust.com/Magazine_article.aspx?articleid=184
26. **Review** : http://www.theartstrust.com/Magazine_article.aspx?articleid=184
27. **PressRelease**:http://www.timescrest.com/culture/rahttp://www.theartstrust.com/Magazine_article.aspx?articleid=184nbir-kalekas-beautiful-world-4559 not being able to open this link
28. **Review** :<http://www.timeoutmumbai.net/art/features/take-one>
29. **Opinion** :<http://www.cartanart.com/2012/11/17/ranbir-kalekas-fluid-frames/>

30. **Review** :<http://www.villagevoice.com/2005-10-04/art/painter-ranbir-kaleka-dreams-his-characters-into-action/full/>
31. **Review**:<http://archive.dailypioneer.com/vivacity/28249-ranbir-kalekas-moving-still-life.html>
32. **Press Release** :http://artforum.com/uploads/guide.001/id28104/press_release.pdf

Text :

Ranbir Kaleka developed a unique technique in the 1990s and has been experimenting with the same for over two decades. He projects a video on painted canvas such that the painting 'moves,' allowing for a narrative to develop, rendering the work a layered meaning. The physical attributes of painting, like weight and texture, and the accumulation of colour pigment render the work stability and permanence. On the other hand, video—which has a spatial element as an image made of light—has opposite characteristics of being intangible, fleeting, and temporary. By mixing the two contradictory mediums, the artist amplifies the inherent nature of each medium, at times layering or overlapping them, and forging a new image. By overlaying two different notions of time—the 'still' time in painting and 'transforming' time in video—the artist devises ways of knowing and meaning-making.

The essential focus in Kaleka's work is not just his unique methodology in working with video and painting, but the narrative of the work, which usually focus on daily issues that arise across India. *Not From Here* (2009) is one of Kaleka's most important works and one that most clearly demonstrates the unique traits of his oeuvre. It is a six-minute video projected on painting which deals with the issue of migrant workers in India. The people that appear in the work are laborers, who are daily wage-earners without a permanent home, with barely noticeable presence and no records of existence. They walk out of their own bodies, vanishing after having left only their physical trace. Their bodies are painted silhouettes but their luggage is depicted in great detail. This deliberate contrast highlights the replaceable nature of these workers whose possessions are their sole mark of existence. As the piece draws to a close, a whistle of the train forecasts their re-appearance.

Kaleka's paintings, both on paper and canvas, in oils as well as mixed media, are almost surrealist in their treatment of scenes from everyday life. The lines are suggested, rather than sharply traced, and the colours almost deliberately restrained. Kaleka's interest in cinema also lead to the advent of his video art, where he explores the effects of combining the physicality of the painted image with an image made out of light. The result is a 'sort of hyperimage', which achieves an intensity and subtlety of colour, and imbues the static with a sense of movement through the superimposition of sound and movement. The artist's movement into video art has been an essential endeavor for his further exploration of the 'psychological event', an event that can only take place outside the physical confines of the frame of the painting, through the usage of light to create the image and the subsequent aura of the image. Kaleka has also created and exhibited photographs and installations.

<http://www.saffronart.com/artists/ranbir-kaleka>

Ranbir Kaleka celebrates the poetics of the liminal moment: that threshold of potentialities at which, as Victor Turner has pointed out, the self becomes transitive, poised to metamorphose into any of several others. During the last 12 years, Kaleka has orchestrated a number of arrangements of the painted image and the projected image, arranged so as to cohabit in the same space. However, he does not embrace the simple juxtaposition, superimposition or mixed use of media to achieve a pluralising effect. On the contrary, he produces a meticulously calibrated adjacency of media, with which to disrupt the civilities of the layered image. Kaleka's images are only apparently simultaneous and palimpsestual. In experienced actuality, they are asynchronous: they lag behind one another,

snag at one another, hold together in a spectral shimmer only to split apart in brief bursts before regaining a deceptive stability. In the subtle gap between the manifestations of these images, Kaleka breaks open a difference of spatiality, temporality, sensation and significance, making us intensely alive to the condition of viewerly reception.

<http://www.art-agenda.com/shows/ranbir-kalekas-sweet-unease/>

Videos :

<http://vimeo.com/45898864>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&v=K9Z2vD8w0Ag&NR=1>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_7LGGqBoxc

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMLT3AIVD8c>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zs98zciKTg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJLz1CgFkko>

<http://vimeo.com/31356523>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DpFrhmSqpt8>

Bibliography :

2010 Michael Rush NEW MEDIA IN LATE 20TH-CENTURY ART Thames and Hudson

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/2010_michael_rush_videoart_thames_hudson.pdf

2008 Chaitanya Sambrani HUNGRY GOD, INDIAN CONTEMPORARY ART Arario Gallery

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/2008_arario_sambrani.pdf

2005 Chaitanya Sambrani ON THE DOUBLE EDGE OF DESIRE (EXCERPT) Art Asia Society and Gallery of Western Australia

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/chaitanya_sambrani.pdf

2005 David Olivant SOLO SHOW: RANBIR KALEKA Bose Pacia Gallery, New York

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/DAVID_OLIVANT_ARTICLE.pdf

2005 Michael Wörgötter CASTING ANCHORS IN THE DIGITAL FLOOD OF IMAGES Bose Pacia Gallery, New York

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/M_WORGOTTER.pdf

2004 Gayatri Sinha AFTER DARK Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/GAYATRI_SINHA.pdf

2004 Nancy Adajania ZOOM! ART IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA Culturgest-Lisbon, Portugal

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/N_ADJANIA%20FINAL.pdf

2003 Geeta Kapur BODY•CITY SITING CONTEMPORARY CULTURE IN INDIA The House of World Cultures, Berlin, Tulika Books, India

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/bodycity_pub.pdf

2002 Kunsthalle Wien Hatje Cantz ANGELIKA FITZ, MICHAEL WÖRGÖTTER: GLIMPSES OF A CONVERSATION WITH RANBIR KALEKA

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/ANG_FRITZ_M%20WORGOTTER.pdf

2002 Kunsthalle Wien Hatje Cantz MADAN GOPAL SINGH ON RANBIR KALEKA

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/Kapital&Karma_mgopal_pwdroom.pdf

1997 Neville Tuli THE FLAMED MOSAIC INDIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTING

http://www.rkaleka.com/press/N_TULI_FINAL.pdf