



Chemould Prescott Road

CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY

Queens Mansion | 3rd Floor | G. Talwatkar Marg | Fort | Mumbai 400 001 | www.gallerychemould.com



Synonym | 2018 | performance video | 10mins 50 secs

Yardena Kurulkar | So It Goes

Multi media exhibition of digital prints, sculptural installation & video

Preview: Monday, October 22, 2018

Exhibition view until November 22, 2018

We, at Chemould Prescott Road, are pleased to present, '*So It Goes*', a new body of work by artist Yardena Kurulkar. Opening on Monday, 22nd October 2018. This will be her first solo exhibition with Chemould Prescott Road. We first showed her work as part of Chemould's 50th anniversary exhibition, curated in one of five exhibitions curated by Geeta Kapur – Aesthetic Bind: Cabinet Closet, Wunderkammer in 2014.

Yardena confronted death at the age of 8 when her father passed away. If the grief of loosing her father has not consumed her, the event of death has played a continuous role through her life.

Positioned on the proposition of erosion, resurrection and elusiveness of human life, Yardena explores the cycle of life transforming it into contemplation, through inherently personal subjects

and objects, including her own body. This leitmotif is variedly captured through mediums to create moments of confrontation between life and death.

Relaying the *idée fixe* of 'Transience', Yardená's first solo show in 2011, that decodes the precarious liaison between mortality and death, her new exhibition, '**So It Goes**' reveals the ways mortality collides with quotidian life. Through the existing panel of memories, she subversively opens the withheld dialogue of immortality. The eventuality of death is not seen as a cataclysmic event as it is already in motion, in a continuous almost circadian rhythm. Offering classified perspectives from numerous vantage points, Kurulkar encapsulates the continued waltz between existence and obliteration, no matter the direction, lens or portion of her identity. Being Bene Israeli – a rare and disappearing Jewish sect in India, a central work in the exhibition harks back to her Jewish ethnicity to a moving tune from a Jewish funeral that was performed specially for the work titled 'Earworm'.

To term her current work, Kurulkar appropriates Kurt Vonnegut's seminal work, **Slaughterhouse Five**. '*So It Goes*', as a phrase and body of work, captures death as nomadic, pitching its tents along the way, along the path. As a provocateur, Kurulkar facilitates an avenue to meet the darkest corners of our own minds. With each work, one enters a labyrinth, beginning as an amorphous cloud, physical and metaphysical in nature. What lies at the end of this, however, is pellucid clarity.

Born in 1971, Yardená Elhanan Kurulkar is an alumnus of Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai and went on to pursue her Masters in Ceramics at University of Wales Institute, Cardiff. Her first solo-show, Transience, was long listed for the prestigious 'Skoda Prize' in India, and shortlisted for the 'Art India Breakthrough Artist Award'.

The first Indian to win the prestigious 'The Blake Prize', 2016, Kurulkar is also the winner of the Power Show, organised by the Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei, Taiwan. A recipient of the Charles Wallace Scholarship, she was also an Artist in Residence at the Living Arts Centre, Toronto. Her work has been exhibited at the Kochi Muziris Biennale 2016, HOTA, Australia, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, Australia, The Queen Gallery, Toronto, Kinross Arts Centre, Australia and NGMA, New Delhi, amongst many others.