

Bio

ATUL DODIYA

b. 1959, in Mumbai, India

Born in 1959 in Mumbai, Atul Dodiya trained at the Sir J.J. School of Art, 1982, and École des Beaux-Arts, Paris, 1991–92, and is regarded as one of India's most significant artists. He has engaged with a spectrum of artistic contexts including the revitalised history painting, the retrieval of popular imagery and the sculpture installation. His work is richly informed by diverse traditions, including Euro-American modernism, French and Gujarati literature, and the stories of Bhakti as well as Christian saints. Encyclopaedic in its range, Dodiya's art is in constant dialogue with the figure and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, and is encoded with autobiographical narratives.

Dodiya has shown extensively in India and internationally. His solo exhibitions have been held in India at Gallery Chemould, Chemould Prescott Road and Vadehra Art Gallery, and overseas at Galerie Templon, Paris and Brussels, Bose Pacia, New York, the Singapore Tyler Print Institute, the Walsh Gallery, Chicago, and the Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati. A solo show curated by Enrique Juncosa, was held at Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid (2002), a mid-career retrospective curated by Ranjit Hoskote titled 'Atul Dodiya: Bombay, Labyrinth/ Laboratory', was held at the Japan Foundation Asia Center, Tokyo (2001), a major monographic survey curated by Ranjit Hoskote titled 'Experiments with Truth: Atul Dodiya, Works 1981—2013', was held at the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi (2013). Other significant exhibitions include '7000 Museums: A Project for the Republic of India', curated by Tasneem Zakaria Mehta at Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai (2014—2015), 'The Fragrance of a Paper Rose' at Galerie Templon, Paris (2018), 'Seven Minutes of Blackmail' at Chemould Prescott Road, Mumbai (2019), 'Stammer in the Shade' at Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi (2020), 'Walking with the Waves' at Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi (2022) and 'Dr. Banerjee in Dr. Kulkarni's Nursing Home and Other Painting 2020—2022' at Chemould Prescott Road, Mumbai (2023).

Dodiya has participated in the 1st Yokohoma Triennale (2001), the 51st Venice Biennale (2005), Documenta 12 (2007), the 7th Gwangju Biennale (2008), the 3rd Moscow Biennale (2009), the Jogja Biennale XI (2011), the 7th Asia Pacific Triennale, Brisbane (2012), the 1st Kochi Muziris Biennale (2012), and India Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale (2019).

Dodiya's work has been featured in 'Century City: Bombay/ Mumbai', curated by Geeta Kapur and Ashish Rajadhyaksha at Tate Modern, London (2001), 'Capital & Karma', curated by Angelika Fitz and Michael Wörgötter at Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna (2002), 'ZOOM!', curated by Nancy Adajania and Luis Serpa at Culturgest Museum, Lisbon (2004), 'New Narratives', curated by Betty Seid at Chicago Cultural Centre,

Chicago (2007), 'Horn Please', curated by Bernhard Fibischer and Suman Gopinath at Kunstmuseum Bern, Bern (2007), 'Chalo! India: A New Era of Indian Art', curated by Akiko Miki at Mori Art Museum, Tokyo (2008), National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, and The Essl Museum, Vienna (2009), 'Paris-Delhi-Bombay', curated by Sophie Duplaix and Fabrice Bousteau, Centre Pompidou, Paris (2011), 'India: Art Now' curated by Dorthe Juul Rugaard, Arken Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen (2012), 'Post-Picasso: Contemporary Reactions' curated by Michael FitzGerald, Museu Picasso, Barcelona (2014), 'After Midnight' curated by Dr. Arshiya Lokandwala, Queens Museum, New York (2015—2016), 'Mobile Worlds', curated by Roger M. Buergel, Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany (2018), 'Vision Exchange: Perspectives from India to Canada', co-curated by Catherine Crowston and Jonathan Shaughnessy, Art Gallery of Alberta, Canada and National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (2018—2019).

Dodiya has received many awards and honours including the Gold Medal of Maharashtra Government (1982) and Fellowship at Sir JJ School of Art (1982—1983), the French Government Scholarship (1991—1992), the Sanskriti Award (1995), Sotheby's Prize (1999), the S H Raza Award for Art (2009), India Today Artist of the year Award (2020), and Kailash Lalit Kala Award (2022). He has attended various residencies including the Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellowship, Italy (1999) and the FIND Residency Programme, India-Europe Foundation for New Dialogues, Zagarolo, Rome (2015), Teaching position for Master class 'Photography II' at the International Summer Academy of Fine Arts and Media, Venice. In 2017, 'ATUL' (A 52 minutes film on Atul Dodiya), directed by Kamal Swaroop, was presented by Public Service Broadcasting Trust in partnership with Doordarshan Prasar Bharati Corporation, and in 2017 he held the S H Raza Chair at the Nantes Institute for Advanced Study (IAS- Nantes), France. A major monograph on Atul Dodiya was published by Prestel in 2014 with contributions by Thomas McEvelley, Enrique Juncosa, Nancy Adajania and Ranjit Hoskote.

His work is in several private and public collections in India and internationally including National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi and Mumbai, Kiran Nadar Museum, New Delhi, Devi Art Foundation, Gurgaon, Contemporary Art Gallery of Bihar Museum, Patna, Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai, Museum of Art and Photography (MAP), Bangalore, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), Tasmania, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Pompidou Centre, Paris, Tate Modern, London, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, M+, Hong Kong, Kunsthaus Museum, Zurich, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan, National Gallery of Canada, Detroit Institute of Art, Michigan, The Private Museum, Singapore, Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, Ishara Art Foundation and the Prabhakar Collection, Dubai and the Herwitz Collection, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, amongst others.

Atul Dodiya lives and works in Mumbai.