

SHALMALI SHETTY

Curator | Writer

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Born in 1992, Kundapura, Karnataka, India

Shalmali Shetty is a curator, writer and researcher working between India and the UK. She is a recent graduate with an MLitt in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) from the Glasgow School of Art (2019-2020) supported by the Charles Wallace India Trust Scholarship. Her research interests include themes of archives, memories, hauntology and material culture studies. She intends to coalesce her background in art practice and theory in the production of the curatorial. She is currently a Project Advisor and mentor at Mindcraft Studios, Mangalore and a member on the Committee of Transmission Gallery, Glasgow.

EDUCATIONAL DETAILS

December 2020 | MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art), Glasgow School of Art and University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK

May 2017 | MA in Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi
Visual Studies, Cinema and New Media Studies, Theater and Performance Studies, Critical Writing

May 2015 | BVA from the Department of Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, MS University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat
Painting, Printmaking, Art History

April 2011 | PUC (+2) in Commerce, St Aloysius Pre-University College Mangalore, Karnataka
English, French (1st Level), Basic Mathematics, Economics, Business Studies, Accountancy

April 2009 | SSE (Class 10 CBSE), Sloka – The Hyderabad Steiner Waldorf School, Hyderabad, Telangana (Then affiliated to Shivaji Vidyapeeth School, Hyderabad)
English, Hindi, Mathematics, Science, Social Science

Awards and Achievements

- Awarded the full-time, one-year Charles Wallace India Trust Research Grant (British Council) 2019-2020 to pursue higher education with an MLitt in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) at the Glasgow School of Art, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom (April 2019)
- First runner-up for the Art Scribes' Award, Prameya Art Foundation, New Delhi and Le Napoule Art Foundation, France (2018-19)

- Passed the CBSE-UGC National Eligibility Test in Visual Arts and qualified for Assistant Professor at the all-India university level, New Delhi (December 2017)
- Received a Travel Grant to participate in *Critical Writing in Collaboration: Curating a Dream Project* – a workshop conducted by Rustom Bharucha, TAKE on Art Magazine in collaboration with Piramal Art Foundation, Mumbai (September 2017)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Transmission Gallery | Glasgow | transmissiongallery.org

Committee Member (January 2021 – ongoing)

Overseeing the organizational and curatorial tasks for the running of the gallery and its events.

Mindcraft Studios and Art Kanara Trust | Mangalore | mindcraftstudios.in

Project Advisor and Mentor (January 2019 – ongoing)

Overseeing the projects and events organized by the space; building collaborations with various heritage, research, and archival organizations; mentoring interns/ students and supervising their research and curatorial projects; content creator and co-designer for the website.

Art Dose | Vikram Singh, New Delhi | artdose.in

Associate Editor and Writer (March 2018 – July 2019)

Started in December 2017, Art Dose is both an online magazine and a 'zine' available in print. As Associate Editor I was responsible for the development of the platform – to gather writers, coordinate, edit and proof-read articles for both online and print versions. As a writer I contributed interviews, reviews and research-based articles.

Projects

- Project development, editing and publishing of *Zine Issue 3: Music and Photography* (December 2018)
- Editing and publishing of *Zine Issue 2* (August 2018)
- Development of *The Bray*, a podcast series. Interviewed the following:
 - Photography: *Chandan Gomes* (May 2019) artdose.in/chandan-gomes/
 - Pedagogy: *Instituting Otherwise - Meenakshi Thirukode* (May 2019) artdose.in/interview-meenakshi-thirukode/
 - Gallery: *Art Heritage - In conversation with Tariq Allana* (2018)
 - Festival: *Delhi Contemporary Art Week* (2018)

TAKE on Art Magazine | Bhavna Kakar, New Delhi | takeonartmagazine.com

Consulting Editor (February 2019 – July 2019; discontinued due to having received a scholarship for further studies)

I was invited to assist with *Issue 25: TAKE Bengal* (2020). My position here involved developing the theme through regular communication with guest editors, inviting contributions, planning and structuring the publication, writing and editing.

I have previously contributed articles for the magazine since my participation in the two *TAKE on Writing*

workshops, in *Issue 23: TAKE Architecture* (February 2018) and *Issue 24: TAKE Fashion* (January 2019). I was also involved with the sister company Gallery Latitude 28 that offered the opportunity to co-write a curatorial essay as well as co-curate a group exhibition.

Big Art Magazine | Online magazine, an initiative by Art Explore, New Delhi | **defunct**
Writer (April 2017 – December 2018)

I was required to write reviews of art exhibitions, events and festivals, and interview the arts fraternity for the purpose of the online magazine. Additionally, I was involved in the ideation process and writing for some of Gallery Art Explore's shows.

Mithu Sen Studio | Mithu Sen, New Delhi | **mithusen.com**

Research Assistant and Studio Manager (May 2018 – December 2018)

Mithu Sen is one of India's leading contemporary artists. As Studio Manager, I was required to manage the logistics and administrative tasks. As Research Assistant I conducted research for the artist's works; wrote abstracts and proposals and contributed to ideating for her projects.

Projects

- *Mit y Sny (Myth and Dreams)*; solo show at Galeria Miejska Arsenal, Poznan, Poland (August 2018) (Research, writing, editing and development of the project; published in the exhibition catalogue)
- *Asia Pacific Triennale 9*, QAGOMA; Queensland, Australia (November 2018) (Research, writing and editing)

Delhi Art Gallery (DAG) | New Delhi | **dagworld.com**

Executive - Collections Management and Research (August 2017 – April 2018)

I was required to work between the Detailing/ Inventory team and the Provenance/ Documentation team. This has given me an immense amount of technical and hands-on experience; and a fair sense of the physical history and the economy of these artworks.

India Art Fair | New Delhi | **indiaartfair.in**

Intern (2-5 February 2017)

I was required to conduct *Curated Walks* for the Contemporary Arts Section. This necessitated me to interview contemporary artists, curators and galleries, before designing a route-map. I then led groups of art enthusiasts, students and viewers on guided tours.

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- *this cloud may burst: thoughts on the loss and preservation of memory*; a publication comprising text and visuals contributed by four practitioners Jenny Brownrigg, Debi Banerjee, Sean Patrick Campbell and Katri Heinämäki; Curatorial Practice under the supervision of James Bell; Glasgow (December 2020)
- Selected for the Hunterian Project 2020 and co-curated *In/Visibility: Presence in Performance*, a collaborative project between Curatorial Practice GSA and the Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow; under the supervision of Alexandra Ross and Dominic Paterson; Kelvin Hall, Glasgow (March 2020 - cancelled due to COVID-19)
- Work placement with Glasgow School of Art Exhibitions under the supervision of director and curator

Jenny Brownrigg. Involved in the preparation towards the exhibition titled *Practicing Landscape: Land, Histories and Transformation*; The Lighthouse, Glasgow (January – March 2020)

- Co-curated the group show *My Truth is Your Story* under the collective 'The Bricolage'; Curatorial Practice under the supervision of Judit Bodor; Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow (November 2019) (Instagram page: *the_bricolage*)

- Co-curated the exhibition *Cartography of Narratives*, a group show hosted by Gallery Latitude 28; Bikaner House, New Delhi (April 2019)

WRITING

Online

- *Reliable Copy* (June 2019) artdose.in/reliable-copy/
- *India Art Fair: Focusing on six contemporary Indian artists* (February 2019) artdose.in/india-art-fair-focusing-on-six-contemporary-indian-artists
- *Curating Photography: Ravi Agarwal* (January 2019) artdose.in/curating-photography-ravi-agarwal/
- *Multifarious*; Big Art (October 2018)
- *apple in dream mode* (July 2018) artdose.in/apple-in-dream-mode/
- *India at the Art Basel* (June 2018) artdose.in/india-at-the-art-basel/
- *'First-Draft': A two-day Pop-Up Show* (May 2018) emergentartspace.org/forum/54443/
- *Water Has Memory | Meera Devidayal*; Big Art (May 2018)
- *Khirkee Voice* (April 2018) artdose.in/khirkee-voice/
- *Shifting Realities*; Big Art (August 2017)
- *Tarka | Shailesh B R*; Big Art (July 2017)
- *Dissensus*; Big Art (July 2017)
- *An Afternoon in Kochi*; Big Art (June 2017)
- *Variety*; Big Art (June 2017)
- *Feminine Gaze*; Big Art (June 2017)
- *Young Turks*; Big Art (May 2017)
- *Drifting Canvas*; Big Art (May 2017)

In Print

- "Shrine Empire Gallery's Tenth Year Anniversary", in *Art & Deal*, Issue 129, Vol, 15, No. 95; June 2019, p. 40-45 (Review)
- "The City – Janus-Faced", in Bhavna Kakar (ed.), *TAKE on India: Fashion*, Vol. 4, Issue 2; January-June 2019, p. 124-125 (Review)
- "Ronny Sen: Framing Narratives", in *Art Dose: Music and Photography*, Issue 3; December 2018, p.24-27 (Review)
- "Raghu Rai's Short Take on Modes of Photography", in *Art Dose: Music and Photography*, Issue 3; December 2018, p. 17-19 (Review)
- "Print(mak)ing the Graphical", in *Art Dose*, Issue 2; August 2018 (Research)

- Shalmali Shetty and Shrinjita Biswas, "Through the Black Box: Rewriting the Conversation with the Curators of the India Arch Dialogue, 2018", in ed. Bhavna Kakar, *TAKE on India: Architecture*, Vol. 4, Issue 1; January-June, 2018, p. 116-119 (Interview/Review)

Catalogue writing and editorial work

- Catalogue writing for Mohit Kant Mishra, *Black or White* (June 2019)
- Curatorial essay for artist Sunil Yadav's solo show titled *An Archaeology of a New Identity*; presented at Shridharani Gallery, New Delhi (July 2019)
- Co-wrote and edited the curatorial essay for *Cartography of Narratives*, a group show presented by Gallery Latitude 28, New Delhi (April 2019)
- Wrote and edited Mithu Sen's project *Mit i sny (Myth and Dreams)*, published in the exhibition catalogue; Galeria Miejska Arsenal, Poland (August 2018)
- Catalogue writing for *Shifting Ground, Perception Pixelated*; presented by Sixth Dimension, Mumbai (January 2018)
- Curatorial note published in the catalog for *International Art Show, Silent Metaphors: Art Beyond Borders*; presented by Sixth Dimension, Kolkata (March 2017)

SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, EXHIBITIONS & INTERVIEWS

Seminar Presented

Retracing History in Contemporary Visual Language: An analysis of the works of Sudarshan Shetty, L. N. Tallur and B. Manjunath Kamath, Karnataka Lalithakala Academy and Mangalore University's "National Seminar: Art and Cultural Heritage of Coastal Karnataka and Evolution of Modern Art in Coastal District of Karnataka", Mangalore (6-7 April 2018)

Workshops Conducted

- Invited to conduct a *Creative Writing Workshop*, for grade 9th and 10th as part of their course in Fine Arts, by the Art Department at my alma-mater Sloka - The Hyderabad Steiner Waldorf School, Hyderabad (4-5 July 2019)
- *Creative Writing Workshop* (including Critical Writing and Documentation), for the first and second year Bachelor's students of the Institute of Architecture, NITTE University, Mangalore (8-9 March 2018)

Workshops Participated

- Selected to participate in *Critical Writing in Collaboration: Curating a Dream Project* – a workshop conducted by Rustom Bharucha; TAKE on Art Magazine in collaboration with Piramal Art Foundation, Mumbai (September 2017)
- Selected and participated in *The Book – The New Writing Group* – a writing workshop conceived by Bhavna Kakar and Anushka Rajendran, led by curators Chus Martinez and Ingo Niermann; TAKE on Art Magazine in collaboration with Pro Helvetia and Inlaks Shivdasani Foundation, New Delhi (December 2016)
- *Paper Making and Book Binding* – a workshop conducted by Anupam Chakraborty (Nirupama Academy of Handmade Paper, Kolkata); Department of Mural, Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU Baroda (September 2013)

- *Alternative Photographic Processes and Contemporary Practice* – a workshop conducted by Prof Kate Copeland (Fulbright Scholar, Oregon); Department of Photography, Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU Baroda (September 2013)
- *Sound Art Workshop* – conducted by Igal Myrtenbaum (Israel); Department of Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU Baroda (February 2013)
- *Art & Visual Thinking Process* – a workshop conducted by LN Tallur (contemporary visual artist, India); Hasta Gallery Projects, Mangalore (2010)

Exhibitions Participated

- *Annual Display of Art by Outgoing Students*; Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU Baroda (May 2015)
- *PhotoRact* – an exhibition of photographs; organized by the Rotaract Club of Vadodara Sayajinagari, Vadodara (April 2015)
- *First Act* – collectively curated in two parts by the Bachelors' Fourth Year students; Faculty of Fine Arts Exhibition Hall, MSU and May Fair Art Gallery, Vadodara (March 2015)
- *Mini Print Show* – an exhibition of prints; Department of Art & Culture, Panaji, Goa (January 2015)
- *Mini Print Show* – an exhibition of prints; Department of Art & Culture, Panaji, Goa (January 2014)
- *Inter-Art International Print show/ Stefan Balog* – an exhibition of prints; Aiud, Romania (2014)
- *Mindspace* – an exhibition of photographs; Galerie Crescent, Bangalore (March 2013)

Interview Conducted

A studio interview with LN Tallur for a video series; Department of Media and Communication, NITTE University, Mangalore (August 2019)

OTHER DETAILS

Languages Known: English, Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Tulu, French (1st level)

Technical Skills: Photography; Microsoft Office; competitive skills in Adobe Creative Cloud and WordPress; social media