



GALLERY MASKARA

New Works by Shine Shivan

Date: December 17 2009 – January 23 2010

Location: 'Warehouse on 3rd Pasta' 6/7, 3rd Pasta Lane, Colaba, Mumbai

Gallery Maskara is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition of Shine Shivan.

Shivan grapples with the plight of the male in a Post-Feminism context and his works attempt to raise consciousness regarding the issues that the contemporary male faces. Through his sculptural, photographic and video works Shine attempts to excavate and redefine the psychological constructs, experiences and roles attached to masculinity.

Shivan references nature and natural forms, South Indian temple architecture, the science of *Vastushastra*, Carl Jung's Phallus theories and Jacques Derrida's Performance theories.

Shivan's sculptural works use natural, organic, as well as architectural forms. Found biological elements, and sacred or religious materials are painstakingly stitched and assembled to create works like *Used Dicks* (2009). These works have a psychological and physiological presence and display delicate visual complexity.

Shivan's video, photographic and performance works, especially his *Sperm Weaver* Series (2009), serve to depict an aggressively male, yet often gender-bending and homoerotic identity. It is one which operates in the slippages between stereotype and abnormality. Other works, namely, the *Angel* series (2009) play up and accentuate the classical beauty of the masculine figure, as construed through Renaissance art. In these, Shivan brings out, principally through body language and posturing, the inherent grace of the male form.



Used Dicks, 2009, Baya Weaver nests, sacred grass, coconut extracts, human hair (belonging to artist's mother), cotton, thread, natural gum for binding



Sperm Weaver, 2009. digital c-print

Shine Shivan is based in Faridabad, India. He has a Bachelor in Fine Arts from the College of Arts, Delhi (2005-06) and a Master in Visual Arts from Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar University, Agra (2008). He was a recent participant in *Khoj Peers* (2009) and was the recipient of a Lalit Kala Academy Scholarship in 2008.

Other selected works



Second-hand Pepe, 2009

human teeth, human hair, artificial feathers, fur, bones, glass lenses, aluminum wires, used fabric, jute, coconut thread



(detail)



Night Fall, 2009

Chirchita seeds, silk, resin, wooden frame.



Angel, 2009

Digital C-Prints on Archival Paper

Mission Statement:

Abhay Maskara has a clear and compelling mission to taking a global and multidisciplinary approach to art that responds to the cultural fabric of our time thus fueling critical dialogue, collaboration, and public engagement. More simply put it is to EXHIBIT AND PROMOTE ART OF THE PRESENT.

The project space known as 'Warehouse on 3rd Pasta' is democratically located in the heart of downtown Mumbai between 2nd and 3rd Pasta lane in Colaba, and functions as a hub for the exploration of emerging ideas in the contemporary art.

The freestanding 3,250 square foot building served as a cotton godown during India's pre independence era and it has been renovated by noted conservation architect Rahul Mehrotra to maintain its historic character. With nearly 50 feet ceiling height and walls that run 100 feet in length the cavernous space marks a shift from the typical white cube neutral space and is raw yet flexible, making the building extremely well-suited for contemporary art practices



Installation view of the space

www.gallerymaskara.com

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Open Sundays, closed Mondays

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