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Biographies

Abeer Gupta is a Filmmaker and Visual Anthropologist, and Assistant Professor, School of Design, Ambedkar University, Delhi. Abeer has worked as an executive producer of feature films, director of documentary films, and has participated in various public art and community media projects. His research is focused in the western Himalayas, in Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir around oral histories, material cultures, and visual archives. He is Director, Achi Association India, an organisation that works for the preservation and conservation of the cultural heritage in the Himalayan region.

Afrah Shafiq is a Multimedia Artist who lives and works in the world of documentary film and visual art. She has a special interest in animation, multimedia, remix, folklore and dreams. When she is not glued to a computer, she makes glass mosaics. She received an Archival and Museum Fellowship from IFA to work on the archives at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.

Anuja Ghosalkar is a Theatre Actor, Writer, and Director based in Bangalore. Drama Queen, her documentary theatre company, focusses on personal histories and archives. Its debut show, *Lady Anandi* was written while she was artist-in-residence at Art Lab Gnesta, Sweden. Her latest performance, *The Reading Room* blurs the boundary between audience and performer, where 10 strangers read personal letters alongside public ones. In the past, Anuja has worked at India Foundation for the Arts and Experimenta in Bangalore in curating, teaching, and researching cinema. As Sarai Fellow she documented the oral narratives of her grandfather, the oldest living make-up artist in India. She is an Art Think South Asia Fellow (2017-18).

Amlan Das Gupta is Professor, Department of English and Director, the School of Cultural Texts and Records, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. His areas of specialisation are classical Greek and Latin literature, Christian thought, John Milton, Renaissance literature, digital archiving and music history. He is co-founder, Archive of North Indian Classical Music, a large digital resource held at the School of Cultural Texts and Records. He has directed a number of major archiving projects and pioneered the course in digital humanities offered by the School.

Avni Sethi is a Dancer and Interdisciplinary Practitioner with primary interests in culture, memory, space, and the body. She conceptualised and designed Conflictorium, a museum of conflict. The museum has been home to critical explorations on conflict transformation and art practice. Trained in multiple dance idioms, her performances are largely inspired by syncretic faith traditions as well as sites of contested narratives. She is interested in exploring the relationship between intimate audiences and the performing body.

Bhavini Shukla is an Architect and Educator based in Ahmedabad. He is co-founder of 'The Design Toolbox', a hybrid practice oriented towards collaborative architecture and urban design. As a Teaching Associate at Centre for Environment Planning and Technology University, he has been involved in teaching architecture design studios, history and theory of architecture and visual studies. His interests are in exploring the role of design, history and theory in the Indian context. He received an Archival and Museum Fellowship from IFA to curate an exhibition of the Delhi Visual Archive housed at the Centre for Community Knowledge, Ambedkar University, Delhi.

G Sundar is Director, Roja Muthaiah Research Library, Chennai. He studied History at the University of Madras and has a degree in Library and Information Science. He trained as an archivist from the Wellcome Institute and is consultant to a number of archives, libraries, and institutions in South Asia such as the Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya, Nepal; Tamil Nadu State Archives, Chennai; Satyajit Ray Foundation, Kolkata; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Tata Institute For Fundamental Research, Mumbai and IIT Kanpur. His Doctoral work is on text book culture in colonial Tamil Nadu. His book, *The Tall Man: Biju Patnaik* was released in January 2018.

Jahnvi Phalkey is Founding Director, Science Gallery, Bengaluru. A historian of science and filmmaker formerly based at King's College London, she is the author of *Atomic State: Big Science in Twentieth-Century India* (2013) and has directed the documentary film *Cyclotron*.

Joyoti Roy is an Arts and Museum Manager, and presently a consultant with the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai and British Council, New Delhi. Until August 2017, she was Head of Outreach, National Museum, New Delhi. Between 2011 and 2013, she was with the National Culture Fund, New Delhi and in 2017, an International Clore Fellow, UK. She has been part of the street theatre group Jana Natya Manch since 1999. She is also an Honorary Director, Achi Association India, an organisation that works for the preservation and conservation of the cultural heritage in the Himalayan region.

Latika Gupta is a Curator; Doctoral Candidate, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and Associate Editor, MARG Publications. She was curator, National Gallery of Modern Art and KHOJ International Artists' Association in New Delhi, besides curating independent exhibitions of South Asian contemporary art, and touring exhibitions commissioned by the British Council UK and the Wellcome Collection. Her recent publications include an essay in the *Journal of Ritual Studies*, and essays in *Postdate: Photography and Inherited History in India* (2015). She has received fellowships from the Charles Wallace India Trust and the Nehru Trust for research projects on Himalayan art; and an Archival and Museum Fellowship from IFA to curate a permanent exhibition at the Munshi Aziz Bhat Museum, Kargil.

Martin Groh is a Research Associate, documenta archiv - documenta und Museum Fridericianum gGmbH. Between 1993 and 1998 he was member of the founding staff and lecturer for German cultural history, regional studies and literature at the Baltic Sea Academy, Aabenraa, Denmark. He was a freelance historian and art historian from 1999 to 2005 for, among others, the Verein der Berliner Künstlerinnen, the Max-Lingner-Archivim Archiv der Akademie der Künste, Berlin, the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, the documenta Archive of the City of Kassel and documenta gGmbH. He was a freelance researcher for the project 'mediaartbase.de' of the Federal Cultural Foundation at the documenta Archive of the City of Kassel, among others from 2006 to 2015.

Moinak Biswas is Professor, Film Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. He is also Coordinator, Media Lab, a centre for experiments in digital forms, at Jadavpur. He writes on Indian cinema and culture. His edited publications include *Apu and After—Revisiting Ray's Cinema* (2005), and *Ujan Gang Baiya—Hemango Biswas* (1990, 2018). He edits the *Journal of the Moving Image* and was co-founding editor, *BioScope: South Asian Screen Studies* journal. He has written and co-directed the award-winning Bengali feature film *Sthaniya Sambaad* (2010) and has recently created the installation 'Across the Burning Track', for the 11th Shanghai Biennale, 2016.

Muzammil Hussain is Head of Research and Outreach, Munshi Aziz Bhat Museum, Kargil. He studied strategic design at the MIT Institute of Design, Pune and worked as a design research in Delhi and Pune. Subsequently, he returned to Kargil and is co-founder, Roots Ladakh, an organisation working to restore the cultural heritage and promoting community-based tourism initiatives in Ladakh.

Naman P Ahuja is a Curator; Professor, Visual Studies, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and Co-Editor, MARG Publications. He curated *The Body in Indian Art and Thought* at the Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels and the National Museum, New Delhi (2013-2014). His publications include *The Making of the Modern Indian Artist—Craftsman: Devi Prasad* (2011); *The Body in Indian Art and Thought* (2013) and *The Arts and Interiors of Rashtrapati Bhavan: Lutyens and Beyond* (2016). His latest curatorial venture is *India and the World: A History in Nine Stories* at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai and National Museum, New Delhi.

Priya Sen is a Filmmaker and Artist working across film/video, sound, and installation. Her work has screened at festivals including the BFI London Film Festival; Forum Expanded Berlinale; Experimenta: International Festival of Moving Image Art; and Monitor: South Asian Experimental Film + Video, among others. She has worked with non-fictional genres and experimental media practices at Sarai—CSDS, Delhi; Srishti Institute of Art, Design and

Communication, New Delhi. She is currently working on a documentary around love, marriage, and queerness in a resettlement colony in South Delhi. She received an Archival and Museum Fellowship from IFA to curate an exhibition at the Archives and Research Center for Ethnomusicology (2016-2017).

Rahul Gore is an Architect and Co-Founder, _OPOLIS architects, Mumbai in 2001 with Sonal Sancheti. He studied architecture at the Centre for Environment Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad and urban design at the University of California, Los Angeles. Rahul led the Bihar Museum, Patna project along with Maki and Associates, Tokyo. In addition, _OPOLIS and Steven Holl Architects won the competition for the Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai extension. More recently, his firm along with Maki and Associates, won the Amaravati Capital City Complex competition.

Rongili Biswas is an Economist, Writer, and Musician. For the past few years, she has been creating an archive of her father—the legendary writer, singer, composer, and activist Hemango Biswas. She received an Archival and Museum Fellowship to conduct research on the Assam Indian People's Theatre Association and the role of Hemango Biswas and Bhupen Hazarika in resisting the Assam linguistic riots of the 1950s and 1960s.

Romila Thapar is Emeritus Professor in History, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She was General President, Indian History Congress and is a Fellow, British Academy. She holds an Hon D.Lit. each from the Universities of Calcutta, Oxford, and Chicago. She is an Honorary Fellow, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford; and School of Oriental and African Studies, London. In 2008, Professor Thapar was awarded the Kluge Prize of the US Library of Congress, which honours lifetime achievement in studies such as history that are not covered by the Nobel Prize. Her latest publication is *Indian Cultures as Heritage: Contemporary Pasts* (2018).

Rustom Bharucha is Professor, Theatre and Performance Studies, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He is the author of *Theatre and the World; The Question of Faith; In the Name of the Secular; The Politics of Cultural Practice; Rajasthan: An Oral History; Another Asia: Rabindranath Tagore and Okakura Tenshin; and Terror and Performance*. He was an advisor to the Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development, Netherland; and has served as a consultant for the Arts Council, Ireland and for Ford Foundation, US. Recently, he was Project Director, Arna-Jharna: The Desert Museum of Rajasthan and Festival Director, Inter-Asian Ramayana Festival, Adishakti Laboratory for Theatre Research, Pondicherry.

Sabih Ahmed is a Researcher, Asia Art Archive, based in New Delhi. He conceptualises and leads research initiatives on modern and contemporary art, has led projects digitising artist archives and creating digital bibliographies of art across multiple languages, and has organised colloquia and seminars around archiving and educational resources. He was a Visiting Faculty, School of Culture and Creative Expression, Ambedkar University, Delhi. His recent writings have been published by *Mousse Publications, The Whitworth, and Oncurating*. He was a member, Curatorial Collegiate, the 11th Shanghai Biennale, curated by Raqs Media Collective (2016).

Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri is Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal. He studied Anthropology at the University of Calcutta, has a PhD from Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, Arunachal Rajiv Gandhi University. As Director of IGRMS, Bhopal, he has initiated and chaired on more than 85 Pradesh and was postdoctoral Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. He worked at the Anthropological Survey of India and was Founder Professor and Head, Department of Anthropology, projects covering ethnographic field studies, collections, documentation, workshops, seminars, lectures, exhibitions, among others

Shubha Chaudhuri is Associate Director General (Academic), The Archives and Research Center for Ethnomusicology, American Institute of Indian Studies, Gurgaon. Her interests are database applications, research archives and ethnomusicology, Intellectual Property Rights, and community archives. She is co-author of *Bards, Ballads and Boundaries: An Ethnographic Atlas of Music in West Rajasthan* (2007), co-editor, *Archives for the Future: Global Perspectives on Audiovisual Archives in the 21st Century* (2004) and *Remembered Rhythms: Essays on Diaspora and the Music of India* (2010).

Shuddhabrata Sengupta is Artist and Curator, Raqs Media Collective with Monica Narula and Jeebesh Bagchi since it was founded in 1992 in New Delhi. Their works have exhibited at *Documenta*, and the Venice, Istanbul, Taipei, Liverpool, Shanghai, Sydney and Sao Paulo Biennales. They also have had solo shows in museums, educational and independent art spaces in Boston, Brussels, Madrid, Mexico City, New Delhi, Shanghai, London, New York, Toronto, among others. Their works are part of contemporary art collections and museums and essays, published in numerous anthologies. Raqs curated 'The Rest of Now', *Manifesta 7*, Bolzano (2008), *Sarai Reader 09*, Gurgaon (2012-2013), *INSERT*, New Delhi (2014) and 'Why Not Ask Again', the 11th Shanghai Biennale (2016).

Sita Reddy is an Independent Scholar and Museum Practitioner who writes, researches and curates on topics that range from the visual history of Ayurveda, Yoga, and botanical art to museum and archival practices such as the decolonisation of heritage archives and music repatriation. She is currently Research Fellow, Wellcome Library, where she was also curatorial advisor for the exhibition "Ayurvedic Man: Encounters with Indian Medicine". She blogs very occasionally at ajeebghar.com. She received an Arts and Research Documentation grant from IFA for her project documenting Company School botanical art.

Sonal Jain is Co-Founder, Desire Machine Collective, Guwahati with Mriganka Madhukaillya. They work at the intersection of film, art, ecology, technology, and activism. Their ongoing project 'Periferry' is an interdisciplinary laboratory on the river Brahmaputra in Guwahati. Their works have been featured in group shows at the New Museum of Contemporary Art and Solomon Guggenheim Museum, New York; Indian Pavilion, Venice Biennale (2011); and the Grey Art Gallery, New York University (2015), among others. Their solo shows include *Noise Life* at Galerie Max Mueller and Project 88 in Mumbai (2014). Their recent shows were at the British Museum, London (2016); 11th Shanghai Biennale, China (2016) and Artist's Film International with Whitechapel Gallery, London (2017).

Srijan Deshpande is Manager and Curator, Samvaad Foundation, Mumbai and Saptak Archives, Ahmedabad. His interests in music span stage performance, teaching, heritage preservation, research, music technology, and musical instruments. He currently divides his time between learning and performing Hindustani Vocal Music and teaching it at Ahmedabad University and the Saptak School of music.

Suchitra Balasubrahmanyam is Professor, School of Design, Ambedkar University, Delhi. Her research interests are 19th and 20th craft and design in the Indian subcontinent from historical and sociological perspectives. She is author of "Design in India" in *The Bloomsbury Encyclopaedia of Design Volume II* (2016); co-author of *The Shaping of Modern Gujarat: Plurality, Hindutva and Beyond* (2005), *Ahmedabad: From Royal City to Megacity* (2011) and co-editor, *Ahmedabad 600: Portraits of City* (MARG 2011) and *Atoot Dor/Unbroken Thread: Banarasi Brocade Saris at Home and in the World* (2016). She received an Archival and Museum Fellowship from IFA to engage with and curate an exhibition on the Decorative Arts Department, National Museum, New Delhi.

Sudhanva Deshpande is an Actor, Theatre Director, and Publisher. He has been with the street theatre group Jana Natya Manch since 1987. He has performed and led workshops in Palestine, South Africa, the US, UK, Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, among others. Since 1999, he has been Managing Editor, LeftWord Books. He has co-directed documentary films on the theatre legend Habib Tanvir and his group Naya Theatre, and has taught at National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, and AJK Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. He is part of the Core Team for SMART, one of India's only theatre management training programmes.

Surajit Sarkar is Associate Professor, and Coordinator, Centre for Community Knowledge, Ambedkar University, Delhi. He is President, Oral History Association of India; Executive Member of the International Association of Agricultural Museums; and member, Public Advisory Board, Society for Cultural Anthropology, US. Surajit has been a photocopier, salesman, a bank officer, a primary school teacher and developer of curriculum for primary schools. He has created weekly television programmes, as well as award-winning documentary and educational films. He has worked as a video artist for theatre and dance productions, and has created multimedia installations in museums and galleries in India and abroad.

Susie Tharu was Professor, Departments of Literature and Cultural Studies, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad. She is a founding member, Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies in 1984, and member, Subaltern Studies Collective. She co-edited two volumes of *Women Writing in India: 600 BC to the Present* (1991 and 1993); and two dossiers of new Dalit writing, *No Alphabet in Sight*, (in Tamil and Malayalam, 2011) and *Steel Nibs are Sprouting* (in Kannada and Telugu, 2013). Recently, she co-authored *A World of Equals: A Bilingual Textbook on Gender* with Anveshi (2016).

Swathi Sukumar is an Intellectual Property lawyer based in New Delhi. She works on a wide variety of disputes before various courts and tribunals in India such as the case under the Copyright Act by publishers against the University of Delhi, seeking to prevent photocopying of materials for instructional use. The case resulted in landmark concurring judgments of the Delhi High Court on the interpretation of the "education exception" in the Copyright Act. Swathi is also co-founder, iProbono India that provides pro bono legal assistance to disadvantaged individuals.

Tapati Guha-Thakurta is Professor in History and was Director, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC). She is the author of *The Making of a New 'Indian' Art: Artists, Aesthetics and Nationalism in Bengal* (Cambridge University Press, 1992) and *Monuments, Objects, Histories: Institutions of Art in Colonial and Postcolonial India* (2004). She is also the author of the exhibition monographs *Visual Worlds of Modern Bengal: An introduction to the documentation archive of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta* (2002), *The Aesthetics of the Popular Print: Lithographs and Oleographs from 19th and 20th Century India* (2006) and *The City in the Archive: Calcutta's Visual Histories* (2011). She co-edited *Theorising the Present: Essays for Partha Chatterjee* (2011) and *New Cultural Histories of India: Materiality and Practices* (2013). Her latest publication is *In the Name of the Goddess: The Durga Pujas of Contemporary Kolkata* (2015).

Venu Vasudevan is Principal Secretary, Tourism, Kerala; and has served as Secretary, Cultural Affairs, Government of Kerala (2007-2011). He was instrumental in founding and curating Keralam, a new museum. As Director General of the National Museum, Delhi (2013- 2015), he headed a team that worked on museum's revival.

Vishwajyoti Ghosh is a Graphic Novelist, Cartoonist and Artist, based in New Delhi. His interests are social, educational, and political themes. He is the author of *Delhi Calm* (2010), a graphic novel which brings together comic passages with political commentaries and fantastical elements, with reference to 'The Emergency' in India. In 2013, he curated *This Side That Side: Restorying Partition*, an anthology of graphic narratives by 48 illustrators and authors from South Asia on the Partition. He received an Archival and Museum Fellowship from IFA to work on the archives at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.

Y S Wunglengton is Director of Museums, Assam. He was a curator in Arunachal Pradesh and has trained in museology at the Indian Museum, Kolkata and British Museum, London. He set up the Tibetan Thangka Gallery in 2006, and conceived and developed the Heritage Pavilion at Shilpagram, Guwahati in 2008. He has hosted and organised a conference on museums in 2013 and a workshop at the Assam State Museum in 2015.