

NITIN MUKUL

Born 1969 in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

In Nitin Mukul's practice, the process of erasure and incremental distance from one generation to the next manifests through the use of areas of intense color and texture alongside ornamental patterns, motifs and structures that fade in and out of the surface of the canvases. The paintings are situated on physical as well as psychological planes, a palimpsest where fading memories are screened through a present moment that feels less than stable in some ways. His video work bridges the painting process and motion pictures to arrive at a new format for painting as an event. The process is called "durational painting." These pieces begin by layering paint in sheets of ice, freezing each layer of acrylic and material so that they accumulate layers of color and texture. Placing the frozen mass outside, I allow it to melt according to natural weather conditions, filming the process with a tight zoom. The entropic process gives way to a microcosmic glimpse of elapsing geologic time. They reflect the ambient conditions of the site they are made in: light, temperatures, time of day, location, our climate at large, and a historic resonance. This is a new context for understanding abstract painting that calls for deep viewing and appreciating the potential of materials used to act with their own agency.

In 2020 he was awarded an Artist Residency at the Caldera Arts Center in Sisters, Oregon, and is the recipient of a 2020 New Works Grant from the Queens Council on the Arts. In 2019 he completed video installations at The Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pioneer Works, Brooklyn and Lincoln Center, NYC. His work was included in the 2013 Queens Biennial at the Queens Museum. Mukul was an assistant to the late artist Sol Lewitt, and a former creative director of the Indocenter of Art & Culture in Chelsea. His work was recently acquired by the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art in New Delhi.

The artist lives and works in NYC.

Education

University of Massachusetts at Amherst – B.F.A. Painting

Hogeschool voor de Kunsten, Netherlands – Graphic Design, Photography, Printmaking and Painting

Select Exhibitions

- 2021 *Best Laid Plans*, Aicon Contemporary, New York
- 2019 Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia
Durational paintings at Pioneer Works, Brooklyn
- 2018 International Print Biennale, New Delhi
Hyperreal, Aicon Contemporary, New York
- 2017 *Sown Together*, Aicon Gallery, New York
Video Installation at Lincoln Center, NYC for Outside (In)dia,

aicon CONTEMPORARY

- 2016 Visual score for Terry Riley's 'In C' with Brooklyn Raga Massive
Sown Together, Aicon Gallery, New York
- 2015 Satellite Art Show, Art Basel Miami, Parisian Hotel, Miami Beach
Poetic Research Bureau, @SEA, Los Angeles
Consulate General of India, Aerogramme, New York
Drexel University, 12 Gates Gallery Film Festival, Philadelphia
- 2014 *Those that blossom and the blossomless*, Aicon Gallery, New York
Queens International, Queens Museum of Art
- 2013 *Splintering Signals* | Chitra Ganesh and Nitin Mukul, UMASS, Amherst
Queens International, Queens Museum of Art, New York
Scope Art Fair, New York
Fact/Fission Curated by Nitin Mukul, Aicon Gallery, New York
- 2011 *Reprise* (Aicon Gallery), New Delhi
India Art Summit (Aicon Gallery), New Delhi
- 2010 *Of Filmi Love and Other Demons*, Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia, PA
Screening of 'Red Raga' and 'Kali', Monkeytown, Williamsburg, Brooklyn
Malleable Memory, Curated by Nitin Mukul, Aicon Gallery, New York
What Matters Most, Exit Art, New York
Discerning Form, Aicon Gallery, New York
- 2009 India Art Summit (Gallery Espace), Delhi
Scope Basel (Primo Marella Gallery)
Art Hong Kong (Primo Marella Gallery)
Asian Contemporary Art Week, Asia Society, New York
The Nature of the City | Nitin Mukul & Alexander Keefe, Gallery Arts, Delhi
- 2008 Art Asia Miami (The Guild), Miami, FL
Video Wednesday, Gallery Espace, Delhi
I Woke Up Somewhere Else, The Guild, New York
The Affordable Art Fair, New York
EnGendered, Lincoln Center, New York
Nature Morte Annex, Delhi
- 2007 *House of the Rising Sun*, India Habitat Centre, Delhi
Americaura, Hampden Gallery, University of Massachusetts at Amherst
The Monsoon Show, Red Earth India, Delhi
Making History Our Own, SAHMAT, Delhi
- 2006 *Remix: East-West Currents in Contemporary Art*, Arlington Arts Center, Virginia
Neither Here Nor There, Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia
- 2005 *Edge of Desire / Fatal Love*, Queens Museum of Art, New York
- 2004 *Blow the Conch* curated by Nitin Mukul, P.S. 122, New York
Peace Taxi, SAVAC, Toronto
- 2003 *Auracle*, Kanoria Centre for Art, Ahmedabad, India
- 2001 Art Under the Bridge Festival, DUMBO, Brooklyn

Selected Media & Reviews

- 2013 White Hot Magazine, by Susannah Edelbaum
Al Jazeera, by Dinesh Sharma
- 2012 The New York Press, by Melissa Stern
- 2011 The Philadelphia Inquirer, by Victoria Donohoe
- 2010 *Malleable Memory*, The Wall Street Journal, by Vibhuti Patel
- 2008 *I Woke Up Somewhere Else*, Asian Art News, by Priya Malhotra
Platform magazine
- 2007 Time Out magazine (Delhi edition), by Sonal Shah
- 2006 Fallonandros.com
- 2005 Art in Review, New York Times, by Holland Cotter
Ego Magazine, by Kiran Chandra
- 2003 Art India Magazine, Peace Taxi by Nitin Deckha