

Curatorial Team

The Meeting Ground: Scenes from the KNMA Collection

16th July to 21st August 2026

Christie's London

Curatorial Lead

Akansha Rastogi, Senior Curator and Associate Director, Visual Arts, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA)

Akansha Rastogi has been part of the core instituting team of the museum since 2011. As a creative practitioner, she is the founding member of artist collective WALA (formed in 2009), and is intensely involved with many artists-led initiatives and forums in New Delhi. Her research and writing focuses on exhibition histories of modern and contemporary Indian art, institutional memory, museum studies and storytelling. She studied Art History at National Museum Institute and English Literature at Delhi University. She is an alumni of MoMA International Curatorial Institute 2025 cohort, organised by The Centre of Curatorial Leadership and MoMA.

Akansha's exhibitions, *'Hangar for the Passerby'* (2017), *'Zones of Contact/Grazing'* (2013), *'Inhabiting the Museum'* (2011-15) and *'Archiving the Studio'* (2011) have been ingenious for their curatorial thinking, approaches and conceptual rigour. Each one positioning and imagining contemporary art museum space in South Asia as an incremental site for the undigested materials and histories.

She served as associate curator of India Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale (2019). Since 2019, she is leading a multi-year program at KNMA under the framework of *'Young Artists of Our Times'* (YAOT), under which she has curated four exhibitions and thought-forms, the most recent one was *'Very Small Feelings'* co-curated with Diana Campbell and presented at Dhaka Art Summit 2023, and others are *'Right to laziness... No, strike that! Sidewalking with the man saying sorry'* (2020), *Summer's Children* (2019), *Smell Assembly* (2019).

Through its exhibitions, books, institutional partnerships and assemblies, YAOT explores a range of artistry, approaching the 'young' as a sensory body, not simply as an age, but as transformative, restless, and a critical space of inquiry and experimentation.

Dr. Preeti Bahadur Ramaswami, Senior Curator and Head, Indian Classical and Folk and Tribal Arts, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA)

Dr. Preeti Bahadur Ramaswami is the Senior Curator and Head for Indian Classical and Folk and Tribal Arts at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA). She has been leading the development of programming and collection for the Indian Classical, Folk and Tribal Arts wing of the museum since August 2024, focussing on aligning museum objects with scholarly data and with planning exhibitions, publications and programs.

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As an art historian and curator specializing in Indian miniature painting and manuscript illustrations, her focus is on interweaving aesthetic, literary and performative traditions. Her work is interdisciplinary; apart from manuscript illustrations she has also worked on vernacular and indigenous artistic practices from Central India.

With a PhD on Ragamala miniatures in 2002, she has since taught art history at various prestigious institutes including the School of Arts and Aesthetics, JNU, and at Ashoka University. Her curatorial projects include *Nauras: The Many Arts of the Deccan* (National Museum, New Delhi 2015), and *The Figure of Sound* (Anant Art gallery, New Delhi, 2023).

She is the recipient of fellowships from the India Foundation for the Arts and the Nehru Trust for Indian Collections at the V&A. Dr. Bahadur Ramaswami is passionate about classical Indian music and jazz. In her free time she also enjoys cooking.

Avijna Bhattacharya, Senior Curator, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA)

Avijna Bhattacharya is a curator, researcher, and art writer focused on Modern and Contemporary South Asian art. She is currently associated with the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) as Curator of Exhibitions & Research.

Her areas of interest include intertextuality and methodological overlaps in artistic productions. Her most recent curation explores artistic practices within institutional art pedagogy through the exhibition '*Purvae – Evoking Pedagogic Lineages*' (2024) at KNMA Noida. She assisted in curating *The Rooted Nomad: MF Husain* (2024) at the 60th La Biennale di Venezia and co-authored the exhibition essay with Roobina Karode. She had co-curated *Mirror/Maze: Echoes of Song, Space, Spectre* (2023) at KNMA (Saket and Noida) and was the Associate Curator of *Pop-South Asia – Artistic Exploration in the Popular* (2022- 2023), curated by Iftikhar Dadi and Roobina Karode at Sharjah Art Foundation (2022) and Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (2023). She curated a solo exhibition of photographs by Gireesh GV, titled '*Walking the Line – Living Together/Apart*' (2021).

One of her earliest curations is Chitpur Revisited, a socially engaged art initiative with *Hamdasti* (2014) and a bi-national video art project between India and Switzerland (2011-2012) showcasing video art practices of artists from both countries, which was generated from a curatorial residency that she received from Pro Helvetia.

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Her writings on art have been published in various online and physical publications since 2006. Born in Kolkata, Avijna completed her graduation in History of Art from Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan (2003) and Post-graduation in Art Criticism from the Faculty of Fine Arts, MS University, Baroda (2005). She lives and works in New Delhi.

Srinivas Aditya Mopidevi, Curator, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA)

Srinivas Aditya Mopidevi is a writer and curator based in New Delhi. He is currently the Curator of Visual Arts at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, India. In over a year of his role at KNMA, Mopidevi has curated *Kulpreet Singh - Extinction Archive*, and closely worked on *Tyeb Mehta: Bearing Weight (with the lightness of being)*, a centennial retrospective, and *Nalini Malani: Of Woman Born*, official collateral of Venice Biennale 2026 curated by Roobina Karode.

Over his 15-year career, Mopidevi held research and curatorial projects with the Park Avenue Armoury and Asia Society in New York. He held positions with the Devi Art Foundation, Raqs Media Collective, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Terrain.art, Nature Morte, and Pollinator.io, New Delhi.

Mopidevi is also a visiting professor at the Department of Visual Arts, Ashoka University, India, and the co-curator of *Climate Recipes*, an itinerant research project that documents intergenerational wisdom on the land and environment. His selected curatorial projects include *All Stories are About Us*, 2025 (co-curated with Srinivas Mangipudi) at Sunaparanta Goa Center for the Arts, *Highly Grainy, In Defense of Intuition* at Dhi Contemporary, Hyderabad (2023-2024), *Sustaina 1 - Ears to the Ground, Heart to the Horizon, Sustaina 2 - With Each Seed We Sing* (curated with Thukral and Tagra), New Delhi (2023-2024,) *Infinite Reminders*, and *Non-Fungible Speculations* at Nature Morte, New Delhi (2022,) *Terrain Offline*, Bikaner House, New Delhi (2021), *Missing Hue of the Rainbow*, Hessel Museum of Art, NY (2019). Mopidevi is a graduate of the M.S. University of Baroda, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and the Centre for Curatorial Studies, Bard, NY.

Premjish Achari, Curator, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA)

Premjish Achari is a curator and writer based in Delhi, whose curatorial practice spans exhibitions including *“Imperial Silhouettes: Shadows of Sovereignty”* (Abu Dhabi, 2024–25), *“Luminous Reveries”* (Delhi, 2024), *“Inscapes: In Search of a Place”* (New Delhi, 2023), *“Things are vanishing before us”* (New Delhi, 2023), *“All Canaries Bear Watching”* (GRID Heritage Project, JNU, 2022), the Student’s Biennale for the Kochi Biennale (2022–23), and *“A Time for Farewells”* (Haverford College, Pennsylvania and Prameya Art Foundation, New Delhi, 2019).

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He served as Editorial Supervisor and Programme Head for “*Lokame Tharavadu*” (2021), the major contemporary art survey by the Kochi Biennale Foundation.

Premjish received the Pro Helvetia Art Writers’ Award 2021, leading to a residency at Atelier Mondial, Basel, and the publication of “*Lure of Collaboration: Dissecting Consensus.*” He was also honoured with the Prameya Art Foundation’s Art Scribes Award, with a residency at Château de La Napoule, France. His writings appear in the Journal for Artistic Research (2022), *Altaf: Early Drawings*, *Iconic: Masterpieces of Indian Modern Art* by Delhi Art Gallery (2023), and *Unframed* (2023).

He has presented his research at the Historical Materialism Conference 2025 at SOAS London, and the 60 Years of the Tricontinental Conference organised by the Universities of Havana and Nottingham. Beyond exhibitions, he conceptualised the Kae Kolkata City Lab and the Odisha Craft Odyssey. He previously taught at Shiv Nadar University for seven years and currently serves as Curator at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Delhi.