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The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art and Christie's Unveil

The Meeting Ground

SCENES FROM THE KNMA COLLECTION

*A major institutional exhibition from The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
16th July – 21st August 2026*



LN Tallur, *Interference*, 2019, 4K video

Interference was made in partnership with the Junagadh Museum in Gujarat, India.

Special thanks to the Junagadh Museum; Varia Kiran, Videography; Vandita Jain, sound engineer; and Bhanu Pratap Singh.

NEW DELHI | LONDON | 22 MAY 2026 – The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), New Delhi and Christie's London announce *The Meeting Ground: Scenes from the KNMA Collection*. This major institutional exhibition will take place at Christie's King Street, London, from 16th July to 21st August 2026, as part of Christie's summer exhibition series. Presenting this exhibition in London extends KNMA's ongoing international programme, bringing South Asian artistic histories to wider audiences and creating new contexts for engagement with the collection.

Kiran Nadar, Chairperson of Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, said: *"Since its founding, KNMA has been committed to situating South Asian artistic practices within broader international conversations. Presented during a pivotal moment of institutional expansion, The Meeting Ground reflects both the depth of the collection and the evolving role of KNMA as a multidisciplinary cultural institution speaking with the world from South Asia. International engagement is a pillar of our vision, opening up new frameworks for dialogue and scholarship."*

Anthea Peers, President, Christie's EMEA, shared: *"We are thrilled to collaborate with the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art on The Meeting Ground: Scenes from the KNMA Collection, a landmark exhibition for Christie's London and for our summer programme at King Street. KNMA is a leading museum in India with an important place in the development and presentation of modern and contemporary art from South Asia. It's been a real pleasure collaborating with Kiran Nadar and her team on bringing this project to life here in London."*

Founded in 2010, KNMA is currently undergoing a transformative expansion with the development of its new standalone museum complex in New Delhi. Envisioned as India's largest multidisciplinary cultural space at more than one million square feet, this new home will be a global destination for the visual and performing arts. *The Meeting Ground* offers a rare glimpse into the museum's growing collection and its mission to connect diverse artistic histories in South Asia, through sustained processes of acquisition, research, and curatorial engagement.

Presented in collaboration with Christie's, *The Meeting Ground* is curated by Akansha Rastogi with Preeti Bahadur, Avijna Bhattacharya, Premjish Achari and Srinivas Aditya Mopidevi. The exhibition will bring together works across modern and contemporary practices alongside folk and indigenous artistic expressions from South Asia.

The Meeting Ground invites viewers into an unfolding of several 'scenes'. It begins as dialogue and contestations between modernists including **M.F. Husain, S.H. Raza, Jeram Patel, K.C.S. Paniker, K.G. Subramanyan** and **K. Ramanujam** and different centres of artistic creation in India from the 1950s to today.

This historical focus from the early twentieth century expands into a scene offering performative metaphors, where artists such as **Neha Choksi, LN Tallur, and Simryn Gill** reflect on how individuals and institutions hold forms of listening and mark-making to keep memories agile.

The third strand of the exhibition foregrounds protagonists like **Zainul Abedin, Anwar Jalal Shemza, Zarina Hashmi, F.N. Souza, Bani Abidi and others** who inhabit multiple homelands and shared worlds, often refusing to belong to places defined by the severity of modern maps.

Interwoven with these movements are masters of indigenous traditions, such as **Jangarh Singh Shyam, Jivya Soma Mashe**, and the collaboration between **Gauri Gill** and **Rajesh Vangad**.

With these embedded narratives of desire, belonging, and loss, the exhibition invites viewers to rethink the 'institutional' and opens up new possibilities for how a collection may be experienced. In bringing these dialogues to audiences beyond the KNMA's walls, the exhibition also reflects a commitment to widening access to art, and creating greater visibility for South Asian artistic practices within a global cultural conversation.

Akansha Rastogi, Lead Curator of the exhibition, and Associate Director, Visual Arts, KNMA, notes: *"The region of South Asia is connected through a shared visual history and deep cultural resonances, and the exhibition presents these rich and complex conversations through an intergenerational mix of artists. The exhibition represents how we think about the museum and the possibilities within the collection, while also offering a slice of the museum's 15 years of exhibition history, which has evolved under the artistic direction of Roobina Karode."*

Damian Vesey, International Specialist, South Asian Modern and Contemporary Art, Christie's, adds: *"We are profoundly grateful to Kiran Nadar for her vision in bringing this exceptional and exciting range of works from the museum's remarkable collection to Christie's London at such a pivotal moment in its evolution. As a leading museum in India, KNMA has been instrumental in advancing the global exposure and education of South Asian art. This exhibition marks the first time Christie's London has dedicated its summer exhibition to South Asia, as well as to a single institution. I look forward to welcoming audiences to Christie's this summer to experience the extraordinary breadth and vitality of practices that cut across disciplines and media firsthand."*

KNMA and [Christie's Education](#) will be hosting a 3-day, in-person course (28th to 30th July) aligned with the opening of *The Meeting Ground: Scenes from the KNMA Collection*. Through lectures, excursions, and exhibition visits, the course offers an introduction to South Asian art and the ideas explored in the exhibition. Guest speakers to be announced. For more information, please see [here](#).

This will be the fourth annual non-selling summer exhibition at Christie's King Street, preceded by *Modern and Contemporary Art of the Arab World* in 2023, *Ahmed Mater: Chronicles* in 2024, and *Marwan: A Soul in Exile* in 2025.

The Meeting Ground: Scenes from the KNMA Collection is made possible with generous support from Harrods.

The Meeting Ground: Scenes from the KNMA Collection

Christie's London
16th July – 21st August 2026
Entry free to all visitors

Further details and programming will be announced in due course.

Image Highlights



Gauri Gill and Rajesh C. Vangad
 Factory and River II (From the series Fields of Sight), 2014-2016, Ink on archival pigment print, 110 x 158 cm (43.3 x 62.2 in.). Collection: Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
 Image courtesy: Gauri Gill, Rajesh C. Vangad and KNMA



F.N. Souza
 Man and Woman Grinding Their Teeth, 1957
 Oil on board
 152 x 121 cm, (59.8 x 47.6 in.).
 Collection: Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
 Image courtesy: KNMA



Raqib Shaw
 When the Thing with Feathers Turned Red (after Tintoretto), 2021-2022, Acrylic liner and enamel on birch wood, 79 x 60 cm, (31.1 x 23.6 in.)
 Collection: Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
 Image courtesy: Raqib Shaw and KNMA



M.F. Husain
 Birds in a tree, 1973, Oil on canvas, 116.5 x 175.5 cm (45.9 x 69.1 in.).
 Collection: Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
 Image courtesy: KNMA



Neha Choksi
 Iceboat, 2013
 HD video, colour, stereo sound
 Duration: 13 minutes 17 seconds
 Dimension: Variable
 Image courtesy: Neha Choksi
 Credits



Jivya Soma Mashe
 Untitled, 1990, Rice paste and cow dung on paper, 58.4 x 91 cm (23 x 35.8 in.).
 Collection: Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
 Image courtesy: KNMA

Camera: Prasann Jain, Hiroo Keswani,
Malay Kumar Ray, Madhusudan Shi, Vikram
Kumar Amladi (underwater) | Editor: Arindam
Ghatak | Assistant Editor: Neha Choksi |
Sound Design: Neha Choksi | Costume:
Suzie Vickery | Thanks to the Shroff Family
for the location at Lake Pawna

Notes to Editors:

About Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA)

Established through the initiative of avid art collector Kiran Nadar, the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) opened to the public in January 2010 as India's first private museum dedicated to modern and contemporary art from the subcontinent. KNMA is a non-commercial, not-for-profit institution supported by the Shiv Nadar Foundation. It seeks to foster a dynamic relationship between art and culture through its exhibitions, publications, educational initiatives, and public programs. Committed to institutional collaborations and artist support networks, KNMA actively engages with diverse audiences through its wide-ranging programming. KNMA supports artists whose work engages with social and political questions while expanding global understanding of South Asian art.

KNMA has presented major exhibitions by artists including Nalini Malani, Zarina, Nasreen Mohamedi, Raqs Media Collective, and regularly collaborates with leading international institutions like Barbican Centre and Tate Modern in London, Qatar Museums in Doha, the Public Art Fund, Museum of Modern Art, and Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid, among others. The museum's ever-expanding collection of over 16,000 artworks from South Asia features some of the most significant modernist and contemporary works. Now broadening its scope to include classical, folk, and indigenous art, the collection spans from the 3rd century CE to the 20th century, tracing historical trajectories in Indian art alongside the experimental practices of young contemporaries.

KNMA is set to evolve into a landmark cultural destination with a new location, an expansive 100,000-square-meter (over 1 million square feet) architectural marvel, near the Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi. It will feature multiple exhibition spaces, a performance arts centre, an education block, an archive centre, a library, restaurants, and a members' room. Strengthening its role as a cultural epicentre, this expansion will further KNMA's mission to be a vibrant hub for visual and performing arts, fostering artistic innovation and cultural dialogue.

www.knma.org



Auction Information

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About Christie's

Founded in 1766, Christie's is a world-leading art and luxury business with a physical presence in 46 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, and flagship [international sales hubs](#) in New York, London, Hong Kong, Paris and Geneva. Renowned and trusted for our expert live and online-only auctions, as well as bespoke [Private Sales](#), Christie's unparalleled network of specialists offers our clients a full portfolio of [global services](#), including art appraisal, art financing, international real estate and education. Christie's [auctions](#) span more than [80 art and luxury categories](#), at price points ranging from \$500 to over \$100 million. Christie's has sold 6 of the 10 most important single-owner collections in history, achieved the world record price for an artwork at auction, launched the first [fully on-chain auction platform](#) dedicated to exceptional NFT art and manages [an investment fund](#) to support innovative startups in the art market. Christie's is also committed to advancing [responsible culture](#) throughout its business and communities worldwide. To [learn more](#), browse, bid, [discover](#), and join us for the best of art and luxury at [christies.com](#) or by downloading Christie's apps.



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