

GALERIE KRINZINGER

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OPENING HOURS: TUESDAY – FRIDAY 12 – 6 PM, SATURDAY 11 AM – 4 PM

SAKSHI GUPTA AVINASH VEERARAGHAVAN

»CRAZY JANE AND JACK THE JOURNEYMAN«

OPENING: THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011, FROM 7 PM
EXHIBITION DURATION: MARCH 31 – APRIL 30, 2011

Two young Indian artists, Avinash Veeraraghavan and Sakshi Gupta will exhibit their new works at Galerie Krinzinger in a two-person show titled, Crazy Jane and Jack the Journeyman.

Inherently distinct in their formal choices, their conceptual enquiries often come together with both providing an ingenious and poetic commentary on deep-rooted and recurrent themes with which they grapple. The emotional turbulence of day to day living with its simultaneous chaos and joy, the aching consolations of the past, and the struggle to maintain sanity, dignity and centeredness in the midst of modern life is a thread that connects their work.

Sakshi Gupta is trained as a sculptor and in the exhibition she shows an assembly of five works that are inter-connected, much like a constellation. The suite titled, “Lavish Absence” is an exercise in a wrecked space, one of perplexity and torment. Shifting uneasily between affirmation, question and negation, the body of work presented here is fundamentally at war with itself.

The five works, individually and together deal with the recognition of the absurdity of the universe, and the desire to share in, and understand it - trying to grapple with the abundance of things that are often not within the grasp of understanding, of transience, of time, of eternity, of the gravity of the present and the power of the imagination. The idea of absence is often articulated through the physical world of materials. In the heavy materiality lies the fragility of experience where the unfolding of the mindscape – sometimes revealing with clarity, at times a struggling cacophony of chaos, and at other times suspended in space and time –is often drawn towards things that can be attractive and repulsive, tangible yet elusive.

A sculptor based in Delhi, India, her work looks at the contradictions that are inherent in day-to-day living. Her approach involves reconstitution of materials thereby allowing them to escape the associations they are branded with. Her works are often composed from discarded scrap, re-engendering this ‘waste’ to make works in which the material transcends it’s mundane, often industrial origins. The environment and space in which they are created become forces that have a deliberate impact on the work as it develops through improvisation. In bringing together real with potential, lasting with ephemeral, solitude with chaos her work searches for ways to find an intellectual and emotional equilibrium.

Her work is currently part of Indian Highway curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Julia Peyton-Jones and Gunnar B Kvaran which was presented at the Serpentine Gallery in London (2008), the Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo (2009), and the HEART Herning Museum of Contemporary Art in Denmark (2010) and the Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon(2011). Gupta has previously shown work at the Belvedere Museum, Vienna (2009) and Galerie Krinzinger Projekte (2008). Her most recent solo exhibition was presented at GALLERYYSKE, Bangalore (2009). In 2007, she won the prestigious Inlaks International Scholarship which lead to her participation in a residency at Cittadellarte-Fondazione Pistoletto, Italy. In 2011, Gupta's work will be shown at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, MAXXI, the National Museum of XXI Century Arts, Rome and the Prague Biennale. She has also been awarded the Civitella Ranieri Fellowship for 2011/2012. Sakshi Gupta lives and works in New Delhi.

In the work presented in this show **Avinash Veeraraghavan** has used media like wood inlay and embroidery with beads as well as digital prints and a video installation to continue his explorations of a journey of the mind where dreams and reality overlap and sometimes converge - an introspective and psychological exploration dealing with fears - known and unknown. The artist examines the multi-faceted and often incomprehensible layers of the self that can pose both as the hunter and the hunted, the perpetrator and the victim. A journey through consciousness, that has the possibility of going horribly wrong and ending in a wreaking crash.

Avinash Veeraraghavan has previously shown work as part of Krinzinger Projektes in Vienna, Austria and in the travelling exhibition Indian Highway that was presented at The HEART Museum of Contemporary Art, Herning, Denmark and The Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo. His first project was an interactive graphic book titled 'I Love My India - stories for a city' published in 2004 by Tara Publishing, Chennai and Dewi Lewis Publishing, London. In 2009 Veeraraghavan was the recipient of the Illy Sustain Art prize presented by IllyCaffè (in collaboration with ARCOmadrid) for his work, The Deafening. His most recent solo Toy Story was presented at GALLERYYSKE in Bangalore.

Veeeraraghavan's oeuvre has been defined mostly by image construction through meticulously manipulated digital prints that are skillfully layered and juxtaposed to open up new possibilities of meaning. Veeraraghavan draws on his interest in kitsch, popular culture and digital imaging to create graphic books, layered photo prints, and multi-channel video installations.