

Artist Statement and Biography

Sukeshi Sondhi is a multidisciplinary artist whose oeuvre includes mixed media works involving painting and collage, gestural drawings, short videos, installation, sculpture and performance art. Her artistic practice is informed by gender, identity, migration, and domesticity through performativity of the object in the everyday. Her works allude to the dualities of vulnerability/strength, presence/absence, and personal/political. Her research, contextualized in the philosophies of feminist writers and artists, seeks to deconstruct domesticity through embodied gestures in drawings, found object installations, fiber sculptures and performance. The underlying objective is to transform the everyday and elevate the mundane to make visible the invisible.

Sukeshi's approach to art making is fluid and influenced by the pulse of her surroundings and interactions. Memories of incidents and conversations trigger a response that results in making preliminary sketches and notes, researching processes, experimenting with materials and forms. The process is cumulative and reflexive and remains an integral part of the end-product.

Sukeshi's works, in particular the installations and sculptures convey the invisible presence of the marginalized female. Violence and tension is implicit in the poetics and visual language of the objects and gestures. By creating a sensorial experience, her work elicits reflection and response from the viewer in the hope of negotiating attitudinal and perceptual change.

In January 2017, Sukeshi was invited to hold a solo exhibition, *Angels in the Room* (2017) at the Indian Heritage Centre (a national heritage museum in Singapore). The show comprised of her latest installation works as well as multiple shows of her interactive performance work *Hug Me!*

She has exhibited in solo and group shows in Singapore at Indigo Blue Gallery, ICAS (Lasalle College), Societe Generale Bank, Affordable Art Fair (2012-15), ArtWalk@Wessex, ArtOne21, Gallery Belvedere, Culture Square Gallery and others.. Her solo exhibition, "LKY: An Icon and a Legend" (2013) was a tribute to the late Prime Minister Lee and Singapore on becoming a citizen. Sukeshi's art works are held in corporate and private collections in Singapore, Mumbai, New York, Paris, and New Delhi. . She also continues to donate works for worthy charitable cause.

Sukeshi is currently living in Cambridge, Massachusetts and affiliated to the Women's Studies Research Centre (WSRC) at Brandeis University (USA) as a visiting artist-scholar since January 2017. At the WSRC, she participated in a symposium, *Women's Sense of Place* in March 2017 by performing a variation of the interactive performance piece *Hug Me!* In November 2017, Sukeshi exhibited her works-in-progress and gave a talk about her process in a presentation titled, *Art in the everyday: the daily reimagined*. The talk was followed by a performance of her latest work *Chrysalis*.

Sukeshi has been invited by the non-profit organisation, Tasveer to give a performance of *Hug Me!* at the annual *Aaina* festival at Seattle University (USA) in March 2018.

At present, Sukeshi is spearheading the *Campus Art Project* by curating their inaugural exhibition, *Stillness:Transformation* scheduled to open in April 2018 at Brandeis University (USA).

www.sukeshisondhi.com, www.facebook.com/ArtOne21