

## Resume

### **Gunjan Chawla Kumar**

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### **Overview**

Gunjan Kumar is an artist based in Chicago originally from Punjab, India. She has spent last 15 years traveling through rural parts of India and other countries in south east Asia, observing age-old practices in art, visiting archaeological sites, observing prehistoric caving paintings and other tribal arts. All these experiences form the undertone of her art practice. The artist's process involves ground earth and minerals like shell oysters, clay, calcium carbonate and turmeric as core mediums applied on mulberry paper, wood and other materials. She uses self-developed techniques inspired by traditional methods. Her works have been showcased at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, the Donnelley Foundation, Chicago; Governors State University, IL; Olivet Nazarene University, IL; Gallery Exhibit 320 and India Art Fair, Delhi amongst others. Kumar graduated in textiles from National Institute of Design and Technology, New Delhi.

### **Education**

2001-03 Post Graduate Diploma in Knitwear and Textiles, National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), New Delhi, India

1999-01 Bachelor of Arts-Economics (Honors), MCM DAV College, Chandigarh, India

### **Independent Study**

2014 Workshop – *Nihonga* – Then and Now with artist Judith Kruger, Litchfield, Connecticut, USA

2005-2013 – Research trips to various parts of India to study natural dyes, weaving, folk art making, traditional forms of dyeing, traditional sculpture making, traditional paper making, old forms of pottery etc.

### **Exhibitions**

2020 *Collectively Shifting* Juried Group Show, Women Caucus of Art National Exhibition curated by Cecilia Vargas, Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, USA

2019 *A Language of Form – Stories for Memory and Time* curated by VeeranganaKumari Solanki, Invitational Group Show, Gallery Exhibit 320, New Delhi, India

2019 *MANIFESTATIONS*, Three Person Show, Gallery One after 909, Chicago, USA

2018 *INVISIBILIA*, Juried Group Show at the Governors State University, University Park, USA

2017 *I Have Vivid Memories of Lightning* curated by Kate Pollasch, Donnelley Foundation in collaboration with Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, USA

2017 *Comma*, Solo Show, Victorian House Art Gallery, Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, USA

2017 *What Lies Beneath*, Two-Person Show, Chicago Art Department, Chicago, USA

2017 *SEDIMENTED*, Four Person Show, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, USA

2017 *UNEARTH* curated by Kanika Anand, Gallery Exhibit 320, New Delhi, India

2016 *Expanding Borders: 2nd Biennial ONU Regional Art Exhibition*, Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, USA

2016 Tall Grass Association Annual Gallery Artist Exhibition, Juried Show, Park Forest, USA

2016 *Nine – A Window to Contemporary India* – Show of select works by Nine Indian Artists, Hubbard Street Lofts, Chicago, USA

2016 *Home is where I am*, Juried Group Show, ARNA, Skane, Sweden

2016 *One Inspired Evening* Benefit Auction for Inspiration Corporation Juried by Stan Klein, Deborah Maris Lader and Steven E. Gross, Chicago, USA

2015 *Unfolding Matter*, Three-Person Show, Fulton Street Collective, Chicago, USA

2015 *Far Flung – Contemporary Art of the Mid West*, Juried Show, Arts on Elston Gallery, Chicago, USA

### **Art Fair**

India Art Fair, New Delhi, India

### **Residency Awarded**

2016 - 2017 The Edward F. Albee Foundation, Montauk, NY, USA

### **Honors & Awards**

2017 Among 20 Nominations for the Amol Vadehra Art Grant 2017-2018, Foundation for Indian Contemporary Art (FICA), New Delhi, India.

2014 Tip Coleman Scholarship for *Nihonga* – A workshop demonstrating age-old Japanese painting techniques using natural mineral pigments.

2003 Awarded the *Most Creative Knitwear Design Collection* at college Level and at National level Confluence '03, NIFT, New Delhi, India

The design collection was made out of organic and eco-friendly fibers – cotton, jute, linen etc. dyed in vegetable dyes. It is now a part of the Resource Center of National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi.

### Select Permanent Collections

The Currell Collection, London, UK

The Edward Albee Foundation, New York, USA

Charles Katzenmeyer, Vice President, Field Museum, Chicago, USA

BML Munjal University, New Delhi, India

Other Private Collections, China, USA, UK, India, Australia

### Select Publications

Indian Express, India, Show Review, New Delhi, India, November 2019

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/delhi/2019/nov/19/symphony-of-time-and-memory-2063704.html>

The Currell Collection, UK

<https://www.currellcollection.com/artists/81-gunjan-kumar/overview/>

Art Review, New Art Examiner, Chicago, USA, May 2017

<http://newartexaminer.org/archive.html>

Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, USA, February 2017

<https://uima-chicago.org/new-blog/2017/2/1/sedimented>

Unfolding Matter - Show Review, USA, October 2015

<https://philiphartiganpraeterita.blogspot.com/2015/10/unfolding-matter-exhibition-at-hubbard.html?sref=fb>

### Related Experience

2017 Visiting Artist Lecturer, Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, USA

2017 Guest Speaker, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, USA

2017 Juror for incoming artist residents (2017-2108), The Edward Albee Foundation Residency, Montauk, NY, USA

2016 Developed and conducted an Art Workshop ‘Nature – Inside Out’, Skylight Counseling, Chicago, USA. This workshop focused on certain nature inspired art practices and their role in psychotherapy as a tool for healing.

Gunjan Chawla Kumar  
2020