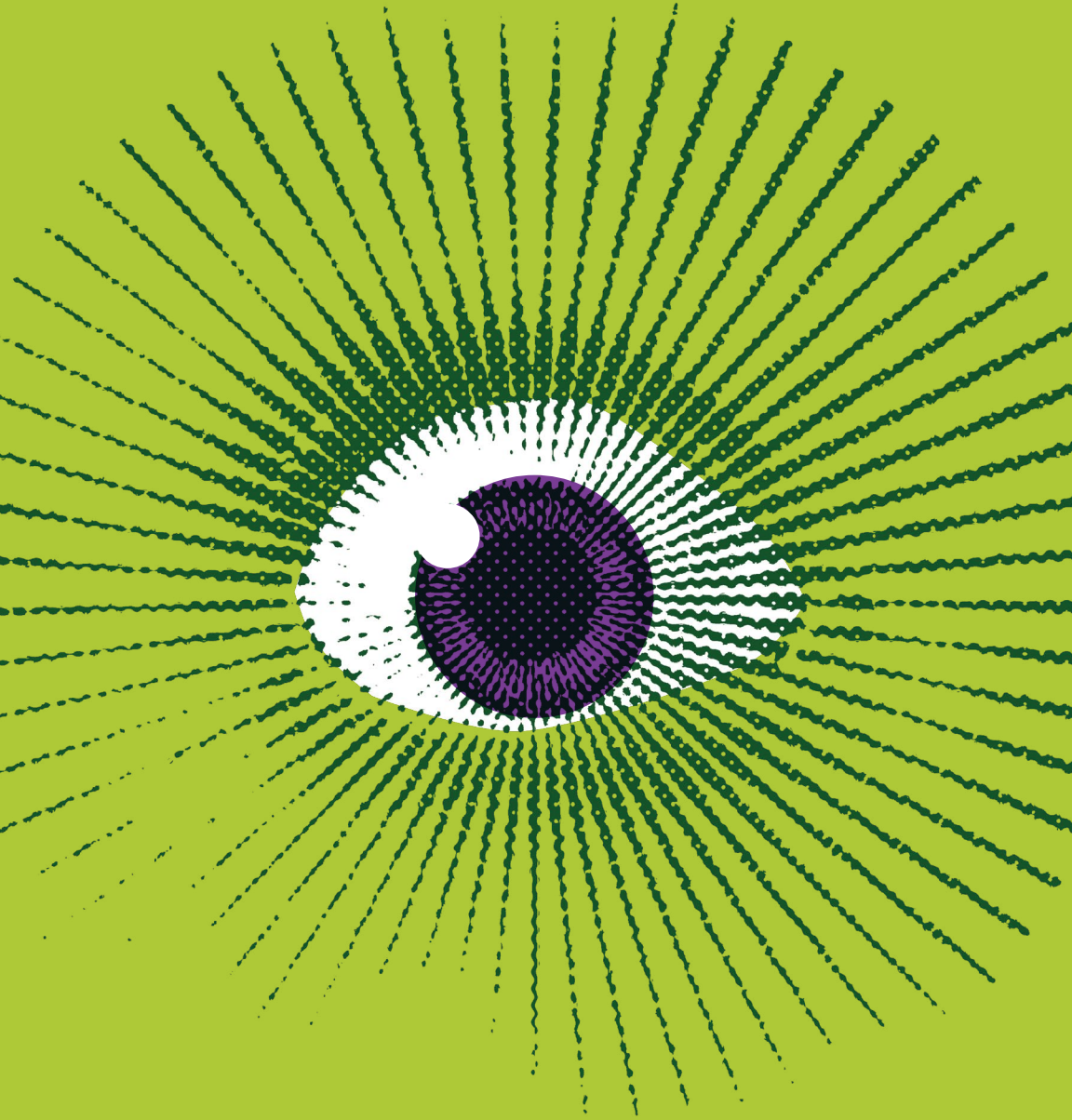


GOA
OPEN
ARTS
FESTIVAL
2024

Festival Catalogue





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The Goa Open Arts Festival was a gathering of creative energies and ideas from across the state of Goa, coming together in the form of art exhibitions, performing arts events, live music, film screenings, and interactive workshops and walk-throughs. The second edition brought with it an expanded vision and a greatly expanded scale - this time growing to include a multi-day film programme, extensive music and live performances, and a thriving festival market.

The Old Goa Medical College, housed in the historic Maquinez Palace, was the perfect location for our festival's new avatar. The historic building with its labyrinthine rooms and moulded ceramic tiles speaks of the building's past and brings new meaning to the artworks displayed within. One such serendipitous moment was the discovery that Eulanda and Rustica, the twin protagonists of Pretika Menon's photo series *Don (Two)*, were born in the maternity ward of the very same building.

As a Goa-based event, it's somewhat inevitable that stories of local histories and resonances find a place within the curation. Master graphic novelist Orijit Sen gave audiences a sneak peek of *Mapusa Mogi* with an immersive graphic installation featuring stories and anecdotes from the north Goa city. The long project will ultimately be a major public installation in Mapusa. Siddhant Pillai presented the *Khayal Map of Goa*, which through a series of audio installations, explored Goa's relationship and contribution to Hindustani Classical Music, recognizing stalwarts like Mogu Bai and others.

The exhibition also provided space for lament and for the many young artists who are bearing witness to the rapid transformation of Goa's natural landscape and expressing their conflicted emotions through their art. Niharika Chauhan's photo and multimedia installation *Second Home* and Rajendra Mardolkar's performative installation *A Piece of the Mountain* were both incisive commentaries on the real estate boom and its ecological consequences.

Our four guest curators were an immense addition to the festival's broadened scope. **Sachin Chatte** put together an extensive film programme that ranged from thrillers to comedies and included short films and documentaries. We were privileged to have a director or cast member present to represent each film, including a very special presentation by Kalki Koechlin for her mother-daughter drama *Goldfish*. **Aviv Pereira** had the audience grooving each night with his selection of musical acts, with a wide variety of genres representing Goa's incredible talent pool. Raw and riveting poetry and spoken word curated by **Rochelle Dsilva** were the perfect complement to the stage acts. The heart of the event was the lively food and flea market, put together by **Insia Lacewalla**, Goa's star culinary consultant. The exhibition, complemented by the live programs and inviting marketplace, made this a perfect weekend hangout for families, friends, and students, and we were overjoyed to see visitors returning time and again over the festival.

Art education and access to creative thinking remain core components of what we wish to offer through Goa Open Arts. Throughout the days of the festival, adults and children alike could take part in a range of beginner-friendly creative workshops from poetry, linocut, and bookmaking. We also partnered with two Panjim high schools to offer free creative workshops for local youth, in theatre (*by Theatre Flamingo*), animation (*by Studio Button*), and expressive claymaking (*by Natalia Marynenko*). Each of these workshops took place over three successive days, culminating in a final collaborative student project.

The success of the Goa Open Arts Festival would not have been possible without the support of our many partners, collaborators, and well-wishers. We are grateful to our key sponsors, the **Entertainment Society of Goa**, **IFB**, and the **Takshila Education Society** for recognizing and standing by our vision. Our gratitude extends to the many other organisations and individuals who have supported Goa Open Arts through our crowdfunding campaign, loaned equipment and resources, and attended our events with positivity and enthusiasm.

Glimpses



Huge congratulations to this ace team of curators for the stellar, sparkling GOA OPEN ARTS Festival underway in the Old GMC + Maquinez Palace. together they have essayed an exemplary use of these wonderful heritage spaces, that is filled with relevant and meaningful artworks and activities. do not miss it #highlyrecommended.

Vivek Menezes



"I've been hearing about Goa Open Arts for the past three years. I'm really stunned with the way they come up and help the artists. I was never going to miss this - no way! The work that really struck me was Sumit Naik's little miniatures that you have to observe with magnifying glasses. I'm amazed... they're so tiny and the portraits are in detail!"

Dr Achina Joglekar



I loved the art exhibition and I shared my happy experience with my friends and family as well. I would love to visit such open art exhibitions more frequently.

Shweta Tiwari



"Please continue with THE GOA OPEN ARTS FESTIVAL ...love the fact that the OLD GMC is being put to good use !!!"

Emma Kamat



Artists



Aaron Monteiro
Afrah Shafiq
Agneya Singh
Aki Spadaro Trio
Akshay Parvatkar
Akshay Singh
Aldona Community
Collaborative
Ali Monis Naqvi, Rah
Naqvi & Srishti Roshan
Anwasha Singbal
Archival Matter &
Angana Jhaveri
Asavari Gurav
Ashish Ulhas Phaldesai
Avril Stormy Unger
Ayappa KM
Ayesha Seth
BGirls
Bharat Sikka
Brian Mendonca
Debi K
Deepali Sutar
Dhaee Aakhar
Diptej Vernekar
Elvis Lobo & Friends
evildog
Goa Artists Collective:
*Bhisaji Gadekar, Kalidas
Mhamal, Nimmy Joshi,
Prabhav Gaonkar,
Pradeep Naik, Rajendra
Mardolkar, Sanayvi Naik,*

*Shilpa Mayenkar, Rishi
Chandna, Siddhesh
Chari, Subodh Kerkar*
Gopika Chowfla
Ivan Cordo
Jenn Steeves Trio
Karan Tejpal
Katerina Kubareva
Kristian Bent Band
Laila Vaziralli
Manjari Manoharan
Mansi Bhatia
Mansi Trivedi &
Tenzin Gopal
Merak
Moda Goa
Natalia Marynenko
Natalie Lycops
Niharika Chauhan
Nikhil Chopra
Nilankur Das
Ohara
Orijit Sen
Otherworlds
Pradeep Naik
Pragya Bhagat
Prashant Nageshkar
Pretika Menon
Priyanka Mishra
Purvai Aranya
Pushan Kripalani
Raavi Jaltare
Rai

Rajaram Naik
Rajendra Mardolkar
Rishi Chandana
Ritesh Sharma
Rochelle D'Silva &
Zane Rodrigues
Ryle Faustino Souto
Safdar Rahman
Sainath Uscaikar
Sanayvi Naik
Savyasachi Anju Prabir
& Rai
Shaliesh Singh
Shido
Shreejith Karanavar
Siddhant Pillai
Siddharth Kerkar
Subhash Sajja
Subodh Kerkar
Sumit Naik
Suraj Jagan Band
Swapnesh Vaigankar
Theatre Flamingo
UnSchool (Hafsa
Bukhary & Rashmi
Baruah)
Urna Sinha
Vinita Barretto
Wumbaya
Yash Korat
Zane Rodrigues

A Tale of Two Sisters

2020

Sculptural object with sound

Using the form of the grinding stone to churn together religious iconography, folk literature, songs, myths, religious and cultural practices, testimonies, historical data and academic writing from Goa, this work looks at the syncretic nature of worship in Goa and the connections between two of its most prominent female deities, Mother Mary and Shantadurga.



Afrah Shafiq is a multi-disciplinary artist based in Goa, India. Her work takes hybrid forms that brings together text, sound, animation, code, and sculpture to create interactive, sometimes simulated atmospheres to experience and unlearn. She often seeks ways to retain the tactile within the digital and the poetry within technology.

A Tale of Two Sisters was created with the support of the first Goa Open Arts CATALYST Grant 2020-21

Island of Memories and Dreams

2024

Film with stereo sound

Chorao Island's memory starts from the coming of Pisso Ravalnath on a white horse to construct the levees in 4000 BC, to the arrival of Shenvi Brahmins in the 3rd Century BC, to the Jesuits settling in the 16th Century AD. Later, the island went from an 'Ilhas dos Fidalgos', an Island of Noblemen, to an abandoned one after 19th-century epidemics. Akshay produced a workshop wherein 8 filmmakers collaborated with Kamal Swaroop to create one film with eight chapters, delving into Chorao's identity and collective consciousness. The project attempts to break through the frozen, mono-thematic images of nostalgia and give space to the narratives of its inhabitants. The film will be presented as a looping audio-visual film, with projection on a wall and stereo sound.



Akshay Singh is a writer and producer based in Goa. His feature film 'Mehsampur' (2018), premiered at the Sydney Film Festival and won the Grand Jury Prize at MAMI. His second feature - 'The Gold-Laden Sheep and The Sacred Mountain' (2019), premiered at Rotterdam (IFFR), then went on to win at MAMI (Silver Gateway Award). In 2023, he wrote and produced 'Aiz Maka Falea Tuka,' a supernatural mystery Konkani film set in Goa, which premiered at Jio MAMI 2023, and is also screening as part of the Goa Open Arts Festival.

Tree of Life

2022

Digital print of the mural

Collaborators from the village of Aldona came together to create a community mural which was painted the wall of a local park. The mural resulted from a series of workshops that actively involved children and students from local schools, conducted in collaboration with the Bookworm's Little Library. The children, prompted to reflect on the natural, rural, and urban blend in the village, actively developed their imaginative mural. The Tree of Life theme prompted collaborators to delve deeply into their connection to the local environment, while also actively encouraging local authorities to revitalize the children's park, creating a secure and accessible space for recreation and play.

The Aldona Community Collaborative is a group of artists and educators from the village of Aldona, led by Isa Hinojosa, Conrad Pinto, Flavia Lobo, Eveny Luis and Blaise D'sa.

The Tree of Life mural was created with the support of the first Goa Open Arts ENGAGE Grant for community art practices 2021-22

Visit the Tree of Life Mural at the Aldona Park, behind the Statue of Edward Soares



Trespassers Will Be Prosecuted

2023

Installation, video, sound, ceramic sculpture

Trespassers will be Prosecuted is a project that looks into the ideas of belonging and territory. It explores how people connect to land and examines the concepts of possession and ownership, both tangible and intangible. The goal was to create an installation with two short films and ceramic sculptures that explore diverse ways of archiving ongoing history. The main objective was to promote unity and amplify dissent by trying out new methods across different disciplines.

Rah Naqvi, Srishti Roshan and Ali Monis Naqvi are three collaborative artists, whose overlapping interests have culminated in exchanges that enrich their practices collectively. A major incentive for the artists in creating this project is to initiate and create a means of knowledge production, and circulation, that is accessible and buildable.

Ali Monis Naqvi (he/him): A lens-based artist in Goa, Ali explores the unseen aspects of daily life. His personal work reflects his connection to the places he grew up and travels to, subtly commenting on the political climate in India. His work has been featured in publications like The Caravan, Vogue India, and others

Rah Naqvi (they/he): An Indian artist in Mumbai/Amsterdam, Rah's work focuses on narratives around religious and societal polarization, using art as a tool for activism.

Srishti Roshan (they/them): Based in Goa, Srishti is a potter and sculptor creating realistic and tactile art with clay, highlighting its versatility in a time of hyper-digital consumption.





Nayana Jhaveri: A Life in Lasya

2024

Photos, documents, objects and video

This project is an archival presentation of documents surrounding the life of Nayana Jhaveri. Born in 1927 into a traditional Jain family in Bombay, Nayana, along with her three sisters, formed the renowned Jhaveri Sisters Classical Manipuri Dance Company in 1957. She devoted her life to creating a classical dance repertoire, preserving and performing the traditional temple Raslila form of Manipur during the 1940's - 1960's. The repertoire traveled globally, actively performing for world leaders and establishing institutions to teach Manipuri dance. The Jhaveri Sisters, along with their gurus, played a crucial role in bringing Manipuri dance from the temple to the stage.



Archival Matter was founded in 2022 by Alakananda Nag, with the purpose to discover history beyond history books. Alakananda's interest lies at the intersection of what is known and what can be learned from the under-documented. The main aim of Archival Matter is to turn research into memorable films, multi-media installations, books and publications, social media content, and a whole lot more - relegating history from dusty archives and bringing into a contemporary narrative.

Angana Jhaveri is an independent filmmaker, arts patron, former Manipuri dancer and the daughter of Nayana Jhaveri. She has written extensively on the temple tradition of Raslila in Manipur and has produced over 20 films. She was awarded the JDR 3rd Fund for a PhD in Theater Arts in Michigan State University. She started Illumine Films with an objective to produce and direct films that promoted the work of NGOs and threw light on Indian and Asian Heritage arts.

Garden of Hope

2023-24
Sizes variable
Various media

Garden of Hope is an installation comprising woodcuts, screen-printed fabrics, and etchings to depict fluid and imaginary creatures, inspired by modern myths, fiction, and the artist's poems. The artworks reflect a fictional space - a glimpse from a secret garden where hope still survives - against the times in which hate, violence, urbanisation, climate change and socio-political turmoil overwhelms all public narratives. Through oil paintings and etching prints, Asavari explores a poetic journey, drawing inspiration from illustrations, advertisements, theatricality, body performativity, and sounds to create an interactive space.



Asavari Gurav is a multidisciplinary artist, writer-performer and educator. She keeps exploring various facets of the performative and spends her time compiling them on Instagram to be then turned into a book. She recently had her first solo exhibition titled, "Ballad of the known and unknown" at IIC center, Delhi.

Asavari Gurav was the recipient of first Goa Open Arts CATALYST Grant 2020-21

In Search of Gold We Lost Nature

2024

Sizes variable

Through paintings and performance photos inspired by Goa's landscape, Ashish highlights the interaction between humans and the mysterious plant Ketaki, underscoring the need for harmony with the environment. The Ketaki plant symbolizes nature's resilience and inherent beauty, persisting despite the encroachment of human activities. The project seeks to celebrate and raise awareness about the need to preserve and appreciate the delicate balance between human endeavors and the natural world. By intertwining watercolor paintings

and performance photography, the project seeks to tell a compelling story about the contradiction between the desire for wealth and the intrinsic value of the natural world, using the Ketaki flower and plant as poignant symbols in this narrative.

Ashish Ulhas Phaldesai is a photographer, visual & performance artist. He works around the themes of ecology and landscapes infusing them with surrealism. His work seeks to transport viewers into a realm where reality merges with the intangible, inviting them to immerse themselves in the enchantment and contemplation of the natural world. Ashish's artistic process involves meticulous attention to the interplay of light and shadow, as well as the delicate balance between form and atmosphere.



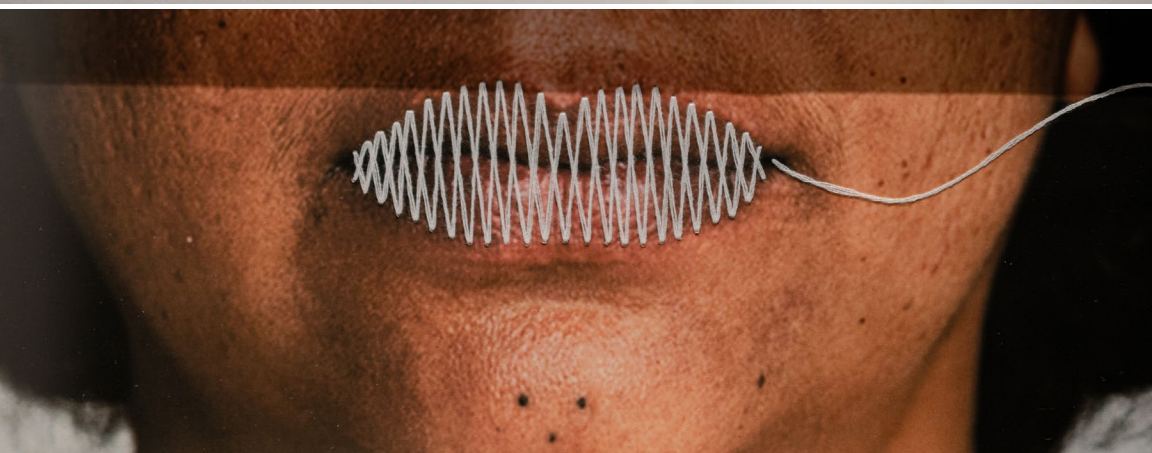
Unguent

2024

Sizes variable

Avril Stormy Unger's artwork, *Unguent* explores the tension between conforming to societal norms and embracing queerness. The title suggests both discomfort and healing. This retrospective piece symbolizes the body's resistance to norms through symbolic S&M roleplay, using thread to depict control and repair. The artist stitches eyes, lips, and folds, symbolizing struggles, with the thread tension representing these challenges. The video *Don't Explain* complements *Unguent*, portraying the artist reenacting daily hardships. Together, these artworks aim to process the burden of disbelief and silence in the face of emotional abuse.

Avril Stormy Unger is a performance and live artist who uses a multi-sensory approach and draws on personal experiences to address recurring traumas through her practice. Exploring themes of queerness, gender, sexuality, abuse, religious oppression, and pattern-based behaviors within her cultural context, she shapes the language of her work. Carework, co-creation, and community play crucial roles in her artistic approach. Unger challenges societal constructs and gender roles by placing the queer female body in both public and private spaces, viewing performance as an act of resistance.



Chemica Fertilis

2023

Mixed media collage on wood

Chemica Fertilis is a mixed media collage work reflecting on complex narratives of fertility and womanhood. This collage narrates the journey of a woman aspiring to be a “choice mother” and depicts the story of IVF through the use of medical packaging for pills and injections. The artwork aims to raise awareness about reproductive choices that not only women - but those outside a stereotypical heteronormative family structure may encounter - and initiate a conversation on a topic often overlooked.



Ayesha Seth is a mixed media collage artist and avid collector, incorporating diverse elements into her artwork to narrate the intricacies of her life. Her artistic practice revolves around telling compelling stories, with a particular focus on her own experiences. She sees storytelling as a means of introspection, aiding her in understanding and navigating her inner self.

Salvador do Mundo

2009

Photographic prints

Salvador do Mundo consists of images captured in or near the small Goan village of the same name. The images span a wide range of genres: landscapes, portraits, interiors and still lifes. What links all of the photographs together is both a mood and a perspective. The photographer presents the atmosphere and the inhabitants of this hamlet as characters in an on-going and evolving drama, multiple narratives are suggested but never revealed, connections are implied but always cryptic. The colours of the photographs are richly seductive, communicating the lush vegetation of the tropics but also an elaborated psychological foreboding.



And I wander golden grasslands, as I am painted with sweat, I am painted with rain, only through

After studying photography at the Parsons School of Design, New York City, Bharat Sikka returned to his native India, turning his attention to the cultural contradictions of a fast-changing nation, questioning conventional visual perspectives while playing with notions of subjectivity and intimacy. His subjects vary from the mundane to the peculiar. In Matter, Sikka delved into an India opened up to the forces of globalisation, while Indian Men addressed shifting narratives of masculinity. His analytic eye and rigorous sense of composition move effortlessly from the epic to the banal, always sensitive to the tensions between modernity and tradition, between the striving for autonomy and the consolations of tradition. His work has been exhibited in various exhibitions and institutions: Where the Flowers Still Grow, focussing on Kashmir, opened at the Kochi Muziris Biennale 2016; Sikka's project on queer identity in Brighton, The Marlborough Theatre, premiered at the Brighton Photo Biennale 2016 as part of a collaborative show, Reimagine. The Sapper, and extended meditation on his relationship to his father, was published by FW books in 2022.



Presence in Present

Duration - 11 hours

Bhisaji's performance explores the struggle between fixating on the future and dwelling on the past, often neglecting the present moment's essence. It reflects how humans can lose touch with life's vitality by getting caught up in planning ahead or reminiscing, forgetting the spontaneity of now. Through curated vignettes, Bhisaji reveals humanity's challenge in balancing shifting roles and identities, using mirrors and reflections to create the multiplicities that people are trapped in. The performance invites viewers to let go of the illusion of control and embrace the present which is real and where life's true richness resides. Experience the power of presence in the present moment.

Bhisaji Gadekar

Bhisaji Gadekar experiments with articulations on and around gender and its performativity, building an energetic, inventive vocabulary around performance and the body. With a background in sculpture and an art practice that maintains a strong footing in Goa, his work functions in collaboration with local artists and communities, extending commentaries on craftsmanship, artisanal livelihoods and cultural traditions. It positions itself at the intersection of durational play, participatory experience, and extensive research.

The Guardian of the Forest

2023

Charcoal on Linen

Charcoal is the chosen medium to represent the narrative in Diptej's work. Through his deliberate and consistent sweeping and wiping of the charcoal, he symbolizes the fundamental errors and the transformative nature of stories as they are retold, resulting in visually captivating abstract imagery. Rather than aiming to convey a fixed idea, Diptej is intrigued by the notion of designing accidents within his creative process. This approach aims to evoke memories or a sense of familiarity within the viewers, inviting them to explore their interpretations.

Diptej Vernekar is Inspired by the marine environments that surrounded him during his upbringing. Using charcoal as a primary medium, he recreates the patterns found in the sea while simultaneously reinventing captivating new landscapes. Diptej graduated with an MFA from S N School of Arts and Communication Dept. of Fine Arts, University of Hyderabad, India. His works have been exhibited in group shows across India. He was recently awarded the Fundacao Oriente Visual Arts Award (2023), and is also the recipient of the Public Art Grant by Serendipity Arts Festival (2022) and Forbes 30 Under30. Diptej is a member of Goa Artists Collective and a co-founder of Goa Open Arts.

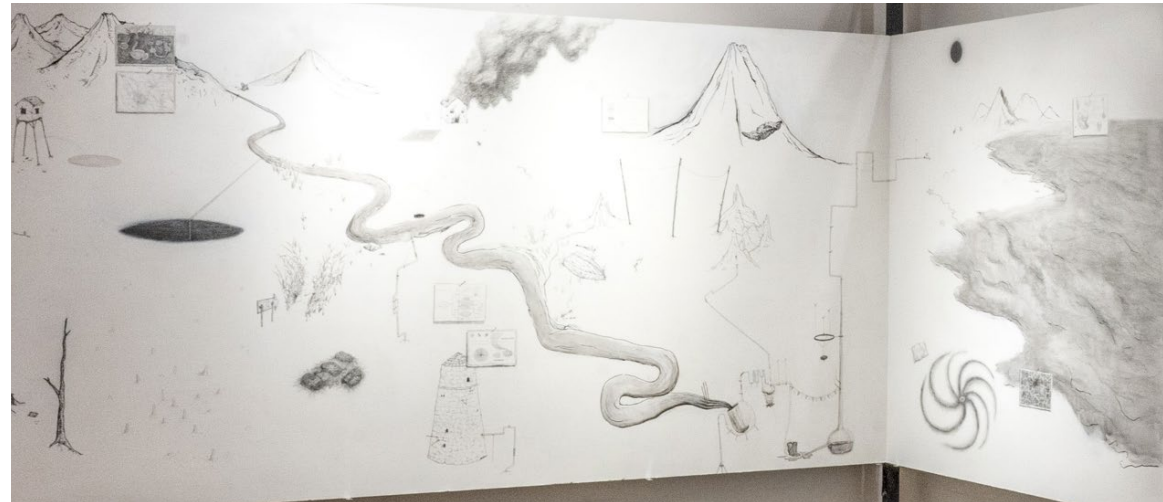
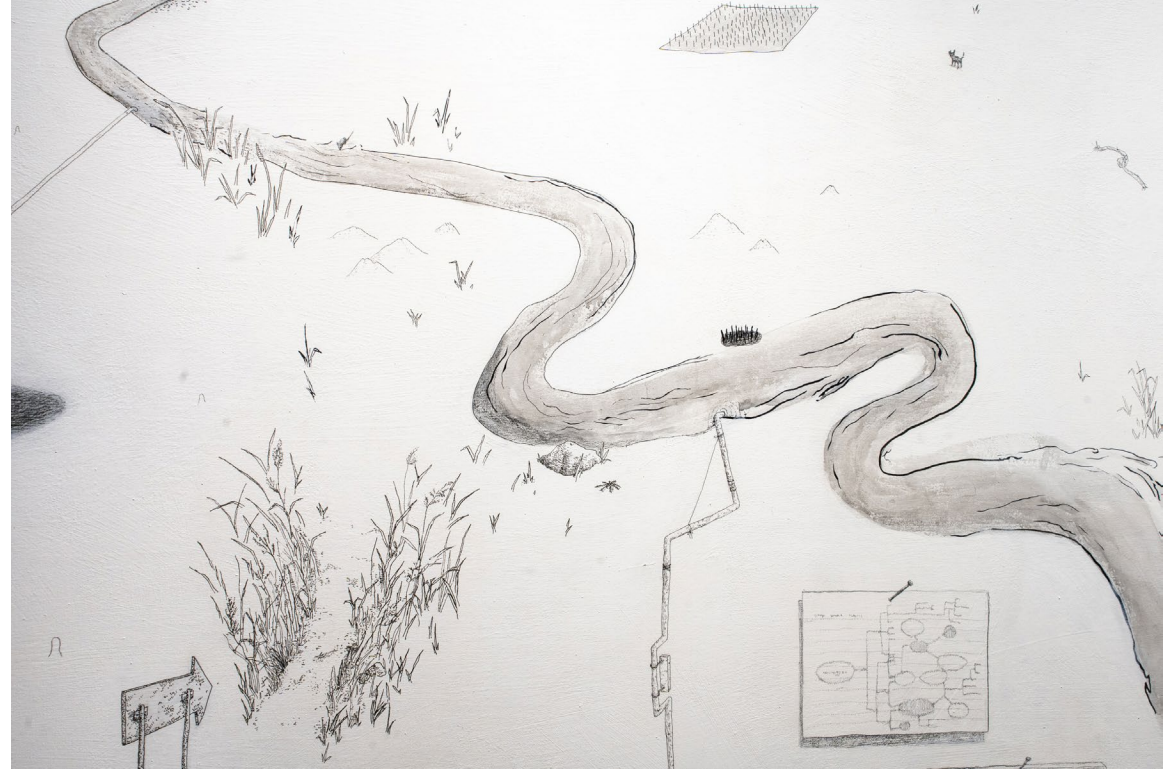


O, Sweet Nowheres

2024

Ink on board

O, Sweet Nowheres explores the proximity of the familiar and otherworldly, blurring them together in a large, rambling landscape. Land is the foreground – a world-making entity that disturbs fixed notions of science and sentimentality, real and imagined, organic and artificial. Through multi-layered drawing and painting, O, Sweet Nowheres is a visual experiment in holding together questions, feelings, and confrontations around land as simultaneously dream and material.



evildog works with images and texts. They've previously worked on themes like meta-biology, alchemic time, heartbreak euphoria, and emotional mayonnaise (an emulsion of feelings), amongst many others. Through through multi-layered drawing, collage, and poetics, evildog creates visual experiment in holding questions (sometimes sweet, sometimes sad, sometimes tense) around land as simultaneously an imaginary and a Very Real Thing.

Bhisaji Gadekar
Kalidas Mhamal
Nimmy Joshi
Prabhav Gaonkar Pradeep Naik
Rajendra Mardolkar
Sanayvi Naik
Shilpa Mayenkar
Siddhesh Chari
Subodh Kerkar

Museum of Temples

2023-24

Sculpture installation (ceramics and terracotta)

The essence of this project is to embrace the plurality of religions, traditions, cultures, worship practices, and rituals that coexist in our diverse society. These rituals vary across geographies and social groups. Whether it's a community temple or a small place of worship in a home, there is a multitude of objects intimately associated with these practices. All the artists have worked together in terracotta and ceramic to make a collective artwork related to such objects. The unconventional display within the exhibition transforms the space into a room filled with small objects. Each piece is imbued with personal stories, cultural anecdotes, and reflections unique worship practices. The space serves as a testament to the beauty that arises when diverse voices come together and are present in harmony.



Goa Artists Collective is an artist's driven group established in 2018, to promote artistic experimentation and exchange. It aims to stand at the forefront of promoting contemporary art practices by holding exhibitions/ projects aspiring to engage with the local community and alternative spaces for a dialogue, thus creating opportunities for public interactions and dissemination.



Bhisaji Gadekar - Rakhondar
2024, Ceramic and terracotta
Various sizes



Kalidas Mhamal - Ghumti
2024, Ceramic, clay and metal
Various sizes



Nimmy Joshi - *Spirits of the forest*
2024, Ceramic and terracotta
Various sizes



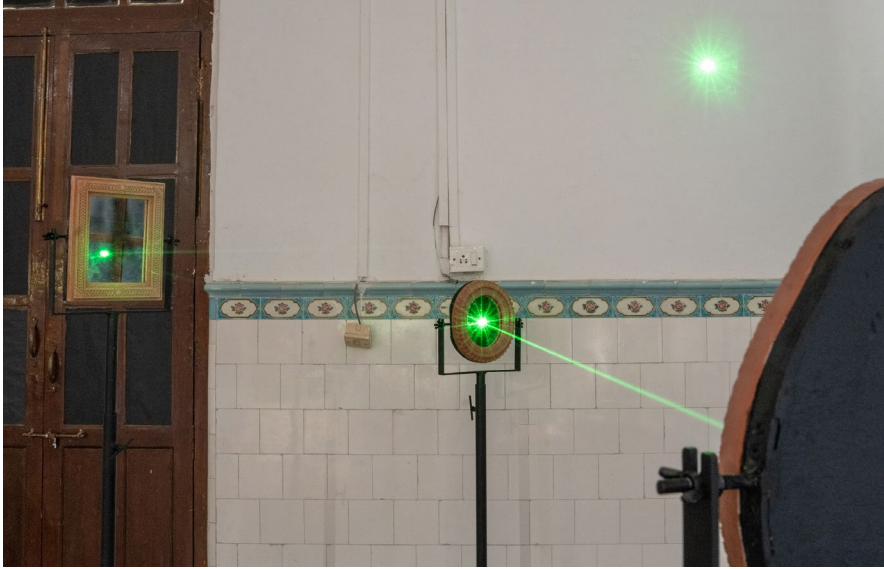
Prabhav Gaonkar - *Avayav*
2024, Ceramic and terracotta
Various sizes



Pradeep Naik - Reminiscence
2024, Terracotta, terracotta crushed powder, sand, cement.
Various sizes



Rajendra Mardolkar - Pavni
2024, Terracotta and ceramics
25 Pieces, Various sizes



Sanayvi Naik - Self reflection
2024, Terracotta, mirror glass, plywood, spot light.
Various sizes



Shilpa Mayenkar - Jodve
2024, Glazed ceramics



Siddesh Chari - Sacred Objects
2024, Terracotta, ceramic, copper utensils, wood, glass and lights.
Various sizes



Subodh Kerkar - Untitled
2024, Glazed ceramic and terracotta
Various sizes

Offering

2018 - 2024

Thread and beads on textile (6 embroideries)

In 2015 a man was killed under the suspicion of consuming the flesh of a sacred animal. As retribution, a human life was sacrificed. And one more, and more over the years – as this became a repeating pattern. Offering is a counter to the brutality of male aggression with the meditative act of embroidery, a medium that has traditionally resided in the feminine domain. This artistic exploration becomes a symbolic act that challenges the prevailing violence with the tranquil rhythm of needle and thread. Through this work, Gopika attempts to unravel a paradoxical narrative in which violence and death swirl around the consumption of forbidden flesh — where the forbidden becomes both a source of sustenance and a trigger for societal upheaval.

The series of vivid, tactile and visceral embroideries representing flesh yet obscuring its source, serve as a contemplative reflection on the dualities within societal norms, the fragility of our ethical constructs and the potential for transformative dialogue through artistic expression.

Gopika Chowfla is a graphic designer and visual artist. Her work is informed by her experience in design and communication as she draws on the narratives of a post-modern society to create installations and experiences that open dialogues within the context of our contemporary social and cultural framework. She works across a range of media including painting, sculpture, photography and mixed-media projects. Born in Mumbai, she earned a degree from MSU Baroda and lived for periods of time in different Indian cities. Gopika lives and works in Goa and is a co-founder of Goa Open Arts.



*"Here is the meat
and fat and bone
of the day. The smoke
too for the god of recognition."*

Excerpt from Donita Kelly's poem "Offering"



My Inner Self

2023
Video

My Inner Self is an animated film created by a group of talented Russian-speaking children based in Goa. This film delves into the profound theme of the inner self, offering unique reflections and personal opinions from each child involved. Executed entirely by these children, the film is a product of dedicated workshops facilitated by Button Animation Studio.

Katerina Kubareva, Director and teacher at the animation studio "Da" since 2014, is a professional video editor with experience at "Mosfilm" Moscow. She actively organizes and participates in children's events at various festivals, including "Stereo leto" and "Colors of Childhood" in St. Petersburg. Dmitry Ivanov, a psychology graduate, works at SPBGIPSR and has been teaching at studio "Da" since 2012. He is a professional photographer since 2008 and serves as a jury member at the International Animation and Short Film Festival "Vkratse."

Button Animation Studio is a Goa-based project that originated from several years of collaboration with the St. Petersburg animation studio "Da." They share the values of participatory art, where all participants in the process become co-authors of the film. The team goes through all stages of creation together, from working on the story and storyboard to determining the visual style of the future film, creating characters, and finally, filming and recording voices. The belief at Button Animation Studio is that creativity is a natural need for every person, regardless of age, experience, or social status. The workshops are guided by Katerina Kubareva and Dmitry Ivanov, teachers of the Animation Studio "Button."

Mogri

2024

Sizes variable

Mogri is an exploratory project looking at botany through personal memories, local stories, indigenous folktales and poetry resulting in works that are inspired by our rich understanding of plants and flowers that go beyond western taxonomy. Mogri/Jasmine is a culturally significant flower making an appearance in Sufi poetry, mythology, tribal folklore, ancient ayurvedic text, and everyday lives.

Laila Vaziralli is an artist and curator based in Goa. Laila studied Art from the London College of communications and has completed a botanical illustration course from The Kew Gardens, London. Her work is largely inspired by the botanical world, especially local and indigenous plant knowledge. Her recent work approaches the world of botany in an artistic style that draws from Mughal miniature botanical artists and Persian patterns, using mediums like watercolor, gouache and more recently acrylic on canvas.



Untitled
2024
Acrylic on canvas
100 x 100 cm

Untitled
2024
Acrylic on canvas
100 x 100 cm



What Life is Made Of

2024

Digital photographic prints

What Life Is Made Of constitutes a lifelong photographic venture for Manjari. The series, close to her heart, encapsulates life's unavoidable duality – embracing both positive and negative elements such as love, happiness, relief, faith, change, and grief. Recognizing the fleeting nature of moments, the series emerged from an epiphany about overlooking life's simplicity. Despite initial creative stagnation, the artist found depth in the mundane, drawing inspiration from family, animals, and the village. Love permeates every photo, offering depth and meaning. During challenging times, focusing on the simplicity of home reignited passion, unveiling profound layers in the overlooked aspects of everyday life.

Manjari Manoharan is a Goa-based photographer who specializes in capturing emotive visual stories, particularly those close to her heart, starting at home. She values the depth and emotion inherent in everyday moments, finding beauty in the mundane. From mornings shared with loved ones to caring for animals and witnessing her grandmother's authenticity, Manjari's lens captures the essence of these cherished experiences. Her photography expresses a profound appreciation for life's simple yet precious aspects. Through her work, she communicates the emotions tied to these moments, providing depth and authenticity, even during challenging times that fuel her passion and exploration into analog photography.



Two Sides of the Same Coin

2023

Installation (Visuals + Sound)

The fetus, responding primarily through sound within the womb, experiences the mother's heartbeat before gaining sight, making sound and sight the core of this installation. Drawing inspiration from life's five elements – void, air, fire, water and earth – the piece explores form, color, texture, and associations through selected materials. Each layer, representing an element, is visible from both sides, juxtaposed with human skin and its textures. A curated mix of natural and man-made sound recordings integrates with the piece, highlighting the correlation between organic responses and inorganic stimulations. The installation portrays a deep human connection with nature through auditory and visual elements.

Mansi Trivedi explores forms, shapes, and patterns inspired by nature. Ocean, land, and sky serve as her muse, guiding her experimentation with various materials, including papers, cotton threads, and paper pulp. Engaging with relief forms and layering, she discovered a playful aspect in print-related techniques. Incorporating watercolors, inks, charcoals, and pastels, Mansi's work explores limitless combinations, adding fluidity to her pieces. The creative journey involves continuous experimentation, ensuring her art remains dynamic and ever-evolving.

Tenzin Gopal specializes in sculpture and mural making, incorporating technologically based media to enrich the creative process. The fusion of traditional forms with new media creates a captivating exploration, resulting in a holistic vision. This convergence is valuable for translating data into visually plausible forms. Beyond traditional expressions, Gopal aims to create immersive atmospheres through technology, fostering interactions between the audience and art. He explores themes of the human form, delving into the interplay of senses, body movements, and reflections on birth and death, providing insights into emotions across different states.



The Steel Skirt

2024

Sizes variable

This installation is an ode to the Late Wendell Rodricks and his vision to create the Moda Goa Museum & Research Centre. The Steel Skirt, designed by Wendell, was showcased at the Lakme Fashion Week Summer 2008 Grand Finale. Fish and wave motifs have been laser cut into this masterpiece which weighs nearly 12 kgs, and was deftly carried by Jesse Randhawa for the show. The Steel Skirt will eventually be displayed in the Moda Goa Museum as a part of a permanent display. The skirt was chosen as it was the perfect blend of modern and classic to represent the museum at the Goa Open Arts Festival 2024. The skirt is suspended on a ramp made of almost 200 sunflowers, which represent the life of Wendell.

Wendell Rodricks (1960-2020), a renowned fashion designer, studied Fashion Designing in the USA and France from 1986 to 1988. His debut collection in Goa earned him the title 'Guru of Minimalism,' while his 1995 collection pioneered 'resort wear' and 'eco-friendly' garments in India. Rodricks gained international recognition by showcasing his unique garments inspired by Goa and India at prestigious events worldwide.

As an influential figure, he played a pivotal role in organizing the first Lakmé Fashion Week in 2000 and served as the 'finale' artist in 2000, 2003, and 2008. Wendell revived the traditional Goan Kunbi Sari in 2010. In 2012, he authored 'Moda Goa - History and Style' and published his memoir, 'The Green Room.' Wendell, recognized with India's Padma Shri in 2014, passed away in Goa on 12 February 2020, leaving behind a lasting legacy in the world of fashion.

Satyajit Vetoskar is an architect and product designer whose expertise and interest lies in exploring various materials and in understanding the application of new technologies. In 2018, he founded the award winning brand Bandit. With sustainable design and repurposing at its core, Bandit has reclaimed waste and excess materials like tarpaulin, aircraft aluminium, copper etc to create a range of unique products. By celebrating the ordinary, Bandit seeks to create a definitive niche in Indian product design.



Birth of Brainfly

2008
Video (6mins)

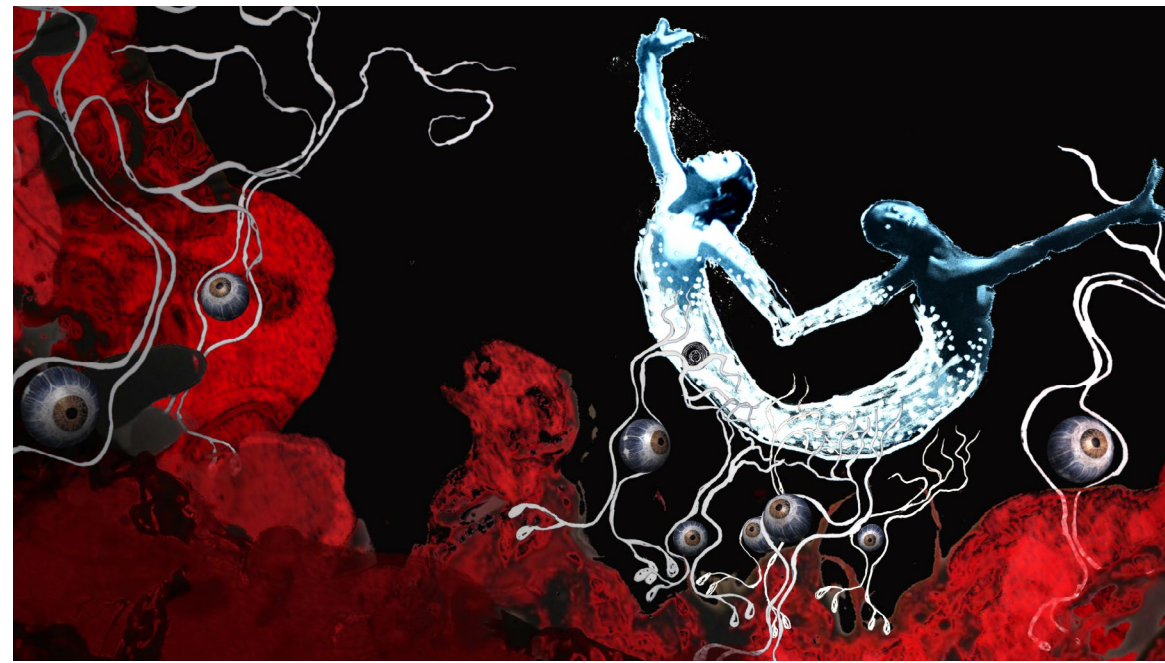
Tentacles of Dimensions

2009
Video (14 mins)

Birth of Brainfly is a surreal narrative that navigates the individuation process within the mind's invisible landscape. The visual journey explores Self, the constructed labyrinths of Ego, and the creative transcendence of mental limitations. Comprising collage, live action, paint on film and multi-plane elements, the story reflects the evolution of the psyche. Inspired by the artist's own migration from India to New Zealand, the project delves into fragmentation and individuation—a transformative self-analysis and discovery process influenced by Carl Gustav Jung. The birth symbolizes the emergence of an evolved, conscious, and creatively liberated thinker.

Tentacles of Dimensions is a journey of a brain that decides to unplug its cultural programming(or awakens to the fact of constant programming), and purely indulges in the senses. It accepts its sexuality and duality of existence and evolves with each painful birth. It goes through acceptance of life as it is, in its naturalness, and lives in its totality. This journey is the unlearning of fear and prejudices, and progressing past fragmentation and the acceptance of love. It is within this body of blood, flesh and bones that is hidden that is beyond the body. In the form lives the formless; in the visible lives the invisible.

Nandita Kumar was a recipient of the first Goa Open Arts CATALYST Grant 2020-21



Nandita Kumar is a new media artist who works at the intersection of art, science, technology and community to create interactive installations. She explores the elemental process through which human beings construct meaning from their experiences, by creating sensory narratives through sound, video/animation and performance, smartphone apps, customized motherboards, and solar/microwave sensors. Through her installations, interactive sculptures, paintings and animations, which seamlessly integrate new media and materiality, Nandita reflects on the striking contradictions within the industrial and natural landscape.

Manifestation

2019
Clay and VR set

This project shares an artistic interpretation of Indian cultural values, illustrating how digital technologies can preserve cultural heritage. The concept originated from repurposing an old boat house, once an underground art gallery facing demolition. Through virtual reality (VR) technology, visitors can explore the gallery, witness graffiti on the walls, and experience a larger-than-life sculpture of 'the goddess' by Natalia. Despite the physical gallery's absence, the project immortalizes it, symbolizing the goddess's blessing and elevating the old gallery to the status of ART.



Natalia Marynenko is a Ukrainian sculptor residing in Goa. Formerly collaborating with Dakh Theatre in Kiev, she specializes in ceramics, with her debut in 1997. Marynenko has showcased her work internationally and held personal exhibitions in Ukraine and India. Her recent exhibition was at Thomas the Potter Gallery in Panaji, Goa. In India, she briefly worked with the Museum of Goa, presented her sculpting and VR project at BHU (Varanasi), and conducted workshops and talks nationwide. A skilled restorer, Marynenko managed a clay sculpting studio for children in Odessa before relocating to Goa. Currently teaching sculpting in Goa, she brings a wealth of experience and expertise to her artistic pursuits and educational endeavors.

Somewhere Along the Way

2018 - 2023

Sizes variable

Digital photographic prints

Whatever the day-to-day brings, one can find solace in noticing the remarkable in unexpected places. Natalie photographs sights, irregularities, grids and lines, textures, and creatures. Her photographs show both her sense of wonder and humour and hold the paradoxes around us gently, and with care. There is no grand overarching theme here, only an attempt to find belonging and point out the fantastic that already exists around us.

Natalie Lycops is a visual artist, photographer, and graphic designer and has experimented with various mediums. Her heart travels between Belgium and Goa, and is sometimes ripped between the two. Growing up in the countryside has instilled a sense of slowness, grounding, and oneness in her. Qualities that leave space for observation. In her photography, looking for beauty, and noticing the remarkable in her surroundings gives her a sense of belonging, and eases the mind.



Remembering Being There

2020
Video

A framed painting hangs on a wall to imitate a window. In the tradition of landscape painting, the artwork aspires to puncture the wall and give us a glimpse of what lies behind and beyond its surface, while the marks on its surface allude to its object-ness. As we stand in front of it and gaze at it we are caught in the cross-fire of what it reminds us of and what it is. Memory then becomes a vital tool to allow for any suspension of disbelief that is required to plunge into the world of the painting.

Nikhil Chopra's artistic practice ranges between live art, theatre, painting, photography, sculpture and installations. His performances, in large part improvised, dwell on issues such as identity, the role of autobiography, the pose and self-portraiture, reflecting on the process of transformation and the part played by the duration of performance. Taking autobiographical elements as his starting point, Chopra combines everyday life and collective history; daily acts such as eating, resting, washing and dressing, but also drawing and making clothes, acquire the value of ritual, becoming an essential part of the show.



Second Home Series

2022
Photo Series

Second Home represents a visual extension of Rem Koolhaas' 'Generic City' adapted to the local context. Upon relocating to Goa, Niharika found herself inadvertently part of a larger trend – the migration of urban dwellers to Aldona. The architectural familiarity struck, mirroring city living with big French windows, a fiddle leaf in the living room, and ubiquitous Ikea paper lamps. This uncanny resemblance between a small Goan village and a neighborhood in New Delhi, 1890 km away, fuels the exploration, prompting the question: What is the convergence of these aesthetics?

The film reflects on how the interplay of violent disruption on land and body unveils the fragility of our existence and environment, prompting reflection on the transient nature of life amidst relentless transformation.

Niharika Chauhan is a photographer who draws her understanding of the environment from past relocations during childhood. Influenced by the transient nature of home and belonging, her reflections delve into questions of family history and personal identity, shaping her perspective and current work. Evolving from photography to incorporating collages, cyanotypes, anthotypes, and films, Chauhan embraces flexibility for experimental narratives, exploring and creating without constraints.



fluxUS

2024

Mild steel, film on acrylic, mirror

Otherworlds current project explores the ever-changing identity of Goa within its urban context. The installation serves as a temporal vessel, encapsulating shared experiences of the state's identity and absorbing the constant influx of new ones. Goa grapples with "placelessness," losing its distinctiveness amid tourism-driven homogenization and gentrification. The installation, constructed from discarded metal grills and recycled materials, provokes and celebrates community amidst the uncertainty of the current state. It incorporates vibrant hues inspired by Goa's skies, wrapped in dichroic fins that dynamically change color, mirroring the state's fluctuating condition.



Otherworlds is a multidisciplinary design practice directed by Arko in 2021 in Goa. Arko aims to defy conventional spatial norms, exploring unconventional opportunities at the intersection of art and architecture in real, virtual, and speculative realms. The practice is rooted in creating a queer-affirmative society, challenging hierarchical power structures in design with values of inclusivity and co-creation.

Sohil Soni, a freelance writer and architect with experience at renowned firms, including Sou Fujimoto and The Busride Design Lab/Studio, collaborates with Arko at Otherworlds.

FluxUS was created with the support of the fourth Goa Open Arts CATALYST Grant 2023-24

Mapusa Mogi

2023 - 2024

Digital Print

This is a presentation of a work-in-progress

A hundred-meters-long concrete retaining wall next to the St. Jerome's Church in Mapusa is the site for the artists' work about the past, present and possible futures of this market town. It takes forward Orijit's long and continuing association with Mapusa as an artist, teacher and documentarian. The artwork is being created by a team that brings together young artists from Mapusa and elsewhere in Goa. The process of realising this project has involved a series of public consultations with citizens through meetings, workshops and on-ground research. The objective is to bring the potential power of public art to spark a process of public dialogue and urban renewal.

The depiction of Mapusa here is map-like, but the group extends the language of mapping into a polycentric, multi-dimensional and temporally layered form of storytelling – bringing together personal and oral histories with social documentation, environmental studies and even science fiction. Planned as a ceramic mural, it will be one of the largest of such works in Goa.



Orijit Sen is a graphic artist, muralist, and designer based in Goa, India. He trained as a graphic designer at the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. He is a co-founder People Tree – a collaborative studio and store for artists, designers and craftspeople. Along with his partner Gurpreet Sidhu he leads People Tree's design studio, developing in-house projects as well as partnerships with organisations working in the arts and the social sectors.

Comics and visual storytelling have been an important strand in his diverse set of practices as a visual artist. His book River Of Stories came out in 1994, and is thought to be the first Indian graphic novel. He is also co-founder of the Pao Collective of graphic artists, and chief editor of Comixense—a comics quarterly for young readers. Orijit is a Mario Miranda Chair visiting professor at Goa University, where he has initiated an experimental arts and research project entitled 'Mapping Mapusa Market Project', involving students, educationists and artists. In 2021-22, he also served as visiting professor at the Visual Arts Department of Ashoka University. His work has been extensively published, exhibited and installed in India as well as internationally.



Landscape

2024

Wood carving

Pradeep Naik's art speaks the quiet language of the landscapes. The shift in language came with noticing the empty surroundings during covid-19 which were overlooked before due to busy pace of lives. As Pradeep explored the Landscape series, he realised it's not just about what's visible around him; but how the vistas allow him to tap into his childhood memories of less crowded landscapes.

The series captures a time when nature was untouched by our busy lives. The empty spaces now serve as reminders of a temporary pause, inviting viewers to reflect on their own pasts. Pradeep invites viewers to explore the landscapes as more than physical spaces, but as windows into their own memories.

Pradeep Naik draws inspiration from his upbringing surrounded by construction sites and the craftsmanship of his mason-father. Having honed his skills at Goa College of Art and Sarojini Naidu School of Fine Arts, his artistic journey seamlessly intertwines with architecture. Naik's unique touch includes divine surfaces using cement, marble-dust, and pigments, reminiscent of Pernem's masons. Beyond art, he excels in interior design, with his creations adorning places like Casa Colvale and Artist Cottages on Morjim Beach. Passionate about preserving Goa's aesthetic, Naik's work blends art and architecture, rekindling the timeless union that modern education often neglects.



Reminiscence

2020-2023

Mixed media on paper

Prashant Nageshkar's practice revolves around drawing, painting, prints, and mixed media. The work involves detailed research on forms and imagery from everyday life. The artist distorts common forms into interesting shapes, reconstructing or deconstructing images based on the situation. This approach creates multidimensional narratives easily understood by viewers. The artist's sketchbook captures subtle changes, reflecting the evolving psychological makeup during the creative process. By documenting these nuances and juxtaposing them in collages, he aims to create an imaginary world, offering a glimpse into the evolving psyche.



Prashant Nageshkar completed his art education at North Maharashtra University and M.S. University of Baroda. Participating in national and international art events, including Lalit Kala Academy and the International French Biennale, he showcased his work in various group shows like 'Introspection', 'Opus Tinta', and 'FormaTiONE'. His achievements include the Bendre Husain Scholarship in 2009 and multiple State Art Awards from 2002 to 2021.

Pretika Menon

Don (Two) (Konkani)

2023

Photo prints, Size variable

This is a story of origin, a love story of a family and their home. The lens follows twins Eulanda and Rustica and their mother Eugene around their home in Goa. A tale that floats gently between documentary and the staged image.

Pretika Menon is a photographer based in Goa. Inspired by cinema, street life and childhood stories, Pretika's works capture the dramatic in the everyday for her characters. Her stories weave boldness and the surreal into the fabric of cultural identity. She has been featured in Proud South, a global index on trends in fashion and culture in the Southern Hemisphere, as well as Kidz Paris 2022, a showcase of 50 young creatives across the globe. Pretika is the recipient of the PHmuseum 2024 Women Photographers Grant.



Sleep will find me soon

2024

Mixed media on fabric

Priyanka's work features a handcrafted quilt showcasing various texts, drawings of leaves, and flower studies. The elements are arranged in an artistic pattern using hand-drawn illustrations and embroidery, resulting in a visually striking ensemble. Typically, a quilt is a symbol of comfort, security, and familiarity within the home, offering warmth and solace. However, for those enduring chronic insomnia and disrupted sleep, the quilt takes on a different significance. It becomes a silent witness to a myriad of emotions and experiences, providing warmth during moments of profound solitude and distress. Here, the quilt symbolizes the interconnectedness of life cycles and the unyielding march of time, even amid sleeplessness. It reflects the perpetual internal battle as one oscillates between vulnerability and the pursuit of refuge.

Priyanka Mishra is an artist whose current work explores themes of motherhood, mental health and societal stigmatisation within the domestic realm. Drawing from her own personal experiences of grappling with insomnia, anxiety, overthinking and postpartum depression, she has adopted a cathartic approach in her recent practice. By constructing an extensive compilation of thoughts, including personal memoirs, phrases, questions, and doubts, she aims to initiate a broader dialogue about mental health and the human experience



Waterlog

2023

Sizes variable

Painting, mixed media, print and collage

Waterlog is a mixed-media, project about death, madness, grief, and water. The artist has been using this project to grapple with their grandparents' illnesses and deaths. Somehow, water became the thread-carrier of this story. The artist was caught in a Bombay monsoon when their grandfather fell into a mysterious delirium a week before his death, repeatedly asking for water. Water became the question.

The artist coped with the immensity of grief by trying to make meaning of it, of the water and the loss and the cruelties of time and the permanence of death.

The exhibition follows the movements of water through these questions, putting together watercolor and acrylic paintings, linocut prints and collages, with poems, prose, and archival materials like their grandfather's letters. The ghosts in this work slip through boundaries like water can, change form yet continue to exist. Grief moves the same way. In the artist's incessant meaning-making from experiences that are fated to remain mysterious, perhaps we can find new routes into our own grieving and our own loving.

Purvai Aranya is a writer and artist, both gender-fluid and genre-fluid. They have an MFA in Poetry from the University of Minnesota, and are currently working in Goa as a writer and editor at a new graphic narratives publication. Purvai's work is published in The Indian Quarterly, The Pind Collective, Vayavya, and The Bombay Literary Magazine, among others.



Waterlog was created with the support of the third Goa Open Arts CATALYST Grant 2022-23

The View from Nowhen

2024

Size variable

The View from Nowhen explores ideas around time, space, and one's relation to these entities. The title of the project is a reference to a philosophy around time that says the past and the future are just as real as the present. It speaks about observing the space-time dimensional block from a point that is outside of the grid and hence lets you perceive everything on an equal footing. This important facet always reminded the artist to have an equitable stance toward everything they encountered. The project attempts to speculate on different aspects of time, how we understand it in the physical world, and its emotional and psychological implications.

Raavi is a visual artist based out of Goa. She is a recent Master's graduate of the Photography Design Department at the National Institute of Design, Gandhinagar. She holds a Bachelor's degree in painting from Sir J.J. School of Art, Mumbai. She is interested in observing, understanding, and representing, through her work, phenomenons of the daily that go unseen in the busy everyday. Drawing from her experience and training as a painter and then as a photography student, her mediums of expression vary with the flow of the process.

and the
blurry
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realities,
untouched,
unkno



Excerpts from Ngan and Nilnil

2024

Size variable

Ngan and Nilnil, friends, investigators, are two voices of soup-time. In some ways, Ngan is a river and Nilnil is the ocean. This is about the place where the two meet, the Goan estuary, in times of chaotic weather shifts and a forgetful world with sullied memories. The work delves into tidal sluice gates in Goa through a combination of paintings, photographs, and texts. The works intricately explore the architecture, maintenance, materials, and stories related to these structures, intertwined with Rai's fascination for speculative fiction, Indian Ocean histories, travelogues, and cartography. Living amidst the sluice networks, Rai slowly constructs a personal archive comprising stories, recordings, drawings, and found objects. Ngan, symbolising a river, and Nilnil, representing the ocean, become the narrative voices. Their convergence occurs at the junction where shifts in the climate unfold, encapsulating the essence of the place. Rai envisions this ongoing process manifesting in diverse forms over time, offering a nuanced perspective on the environment and interspecies narrativity.

Rai engages with making as a way to absorb and ruminate. In her practice often found materials, research, memories, weather, fantasy and fiction intermix to create speculations. Using image, text, site-responsive installations as approaches her work tends to move around themes of spatial negotiations and permeability. Rai is an alumnus of National Institute of Design with an MDes in Animation Film Design (2020) and Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan with a BFA in Art History (2016). She lives and works in Goa.



Wrapping the unwrapped

2023

Size variable

Installation (artworks, video, kinetic sculpture)

Wrapping the Unwrapped explores the complex interplay of fabric, technology, and societal dynamics. A seemingly ordinary green cloth transforms into a potent symbol, challenging conventions and prompting a reevaluation of our perceptions of reality. The artist delves into concealed narratives within the folds of materiality, capturing the essence of time and contemplating the intricate meanings woven into the fabrics of the world. The work invites viewers to ponder impressions and existence.

Rajaram Naik, an interdisciplinary artist hailing from Goa, completed his Bachelor of Fine Arts at Goa College of Art and obtained his Masters of Fine Arts from MIT, Pune. His artistic endeavours span various mediums, including photographs, video works, installations, and sculptures. Currently, Naik's focus lies in archiving Dashavatara, an ancient traditional drama in the Konkan belt. Through research and community-led artworks, he documents ritualistic and gender-based narratives, particularly exploring the male actors who portray diverse genders in the depiction of mythology. The artist's objective is to archive this rich history for future generations through meticulous documentation



A Piece of The Mountain

2024

2.5' x 1' x 1'

Installation and live performance

A Piece of The Mountain is a performative installation in which the artist sheds light on the harsh human exploitation of natural resources for short-term economic gains. By drawing a parallel between consuming a cake for luxurious satisfaction and our exploitation of nature for temporary goals, Rajendra underscores the lasting damage inflicted on the environment and coexisting beings. The narrative delves into the consequences of deforestation, climate change, and the adverse impact on oceans, rivers, lakes, and polar icebergs. The artist emphasises the urgent need to address these issues to avoid a catastrophic future for all living beings.



Rajendra Mardolkar is a visual artist based in Goa. He holds a BFA from Goa College of Art (2012) and an MFA from SN School, Hyderabad Central University (2016). Specialising in sculpture, Mardolkar enjoys exploring a range of both conventional and non-conventional mediums in artistic experimentation.

Origins

2022

Sizes variable

Paper mache sculpture

The work is formed out of bits of paper that the artist tears randomly, shuffling them so that it is difficult to identify what they originally represented. The fragility of the paper is symbolically used to sculpt what would otherwise be solid stone pieces. The sculptures are further modified with the use of mechanisms that enable them to glide independently, thereby displacing the idea of the 'solidity' of a boundary marker, and introducing an interactive element into the work.



Sanayvi Naik's practice is concerned with issues of land, ownership and symbols of control & authority. He frequently works with paper as it is often used as a medium to preserve legal documents. As representations of memory, each piece of paper carries forward a certain part of history. Naik presents an interactive sculpture incorporating the technique of paper-mâché to construct 'boundary marker stones'.

Origins was created with the support of the third Goa Open Art's CATALYST Art production Grant 2021-22

Altodi Poltodi (This Shore That Shore)

2021
Video

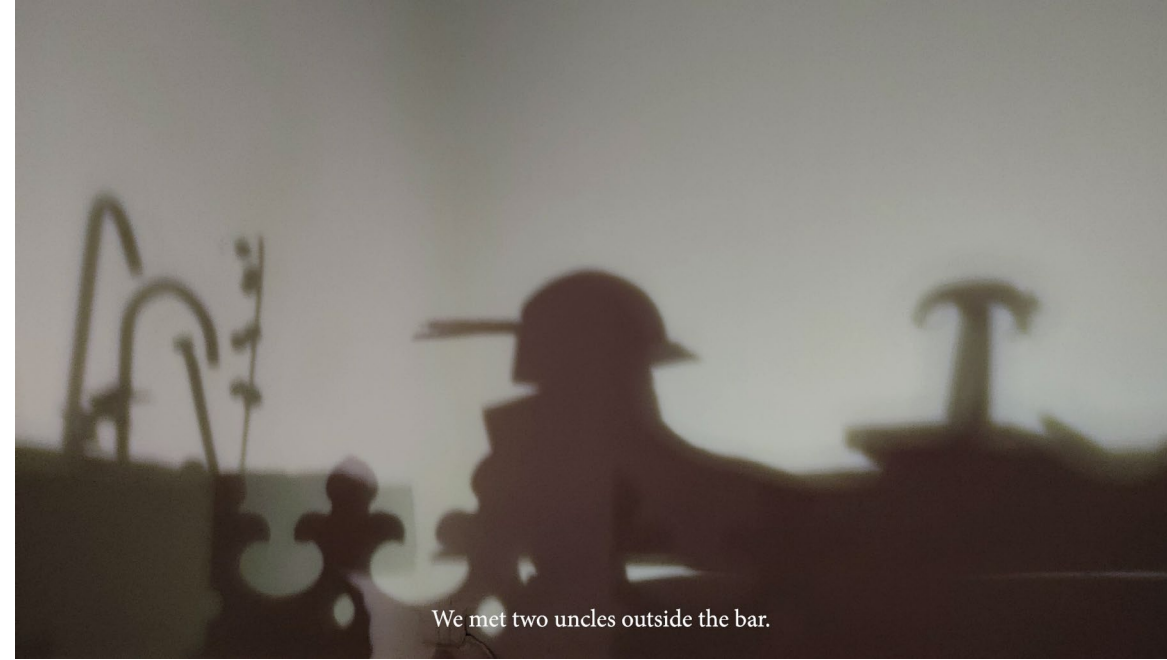
It began with the story of Rakhondars, spirit-protectors in Goa, and asking around about them. In the process, the artists were often confronted by the question of insider-outsider politics in Goa. The mythical spirit protector protects the 'inside' from 'outside' exploitation and walks along the periphery of the village to keep watch every night. The project brings together their thinking about that invisible dividing line through their own experiences and about what could be gathered from people who still carry these myths within themselves. Eventually, the research took the form of an installation and an essay.

The installation was placed in Sunaparanta Goa Centre for the Arts, supported by the Goa Open Arts' Catalyst Grant in 2021. It was a cluster of four islands and their reflected shadow world. The audience could move around them in a circular path – metaphorically put in the shoes of Rakhondars circumambulating peripheries of villages. The landscape was altered each time they built or broke structures within these islands and the shadows of these alterations were cast on the four walls of the gallery space.

The essay along with images from the installation in a video form is on view here.



A house I know is up for rent.



We met two uncles outside the bar.

Rai engages with making as a way to absorb and ruminate. In her practice often found materials, research, memories, weather, fantasy and fiction intermix to create speculations. Using image, text, site-responsive installations as approaches her work tends to move around themes of spatial negotiations and permeability. Rai is an alumnus of National Institute of Design with an MDes in Animation Film Design (2020) and Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan with a BFA in Art History (2016). She lives and works in Goa.

Savyasachi is keen on using text, sound and image to create multimodal works and bring a reflexive and collaborative methodology to academic and artistic practice. Drawing inspiration from the circadian rhythms of his environment, he wishes to arrive at new artistic research and production methods. There is a pronounced overlap between his artistic practice and teaching methodology that he intends to carve and sculpt in the coming years. Savyasachi holds a B.Cr.A in Film and Contemporary Arts Practice from the Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bengaluru and an MA in Visual Anthropology from the University of Muenster, Germany. Savyasachi is teaching in the Department of Film and Video Communication at the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

Altodi Poltodi was created with the support of the second Goa Open Arts CATALYST Grant 2021-22

Bread and Circuses / The Bigger Picture

2023- 2024

Size variable

Installation (Multiple videos and rat traps)

Bread and Circuses / The Bigger Picture explores societal distractions and the duality of attention between the virtual and real worlds. Rooted in the ancient metaphor “bread and circuses,” the video collage symbolises our addiction to social media and entertainment, emphasising the allure of the virtual realm. A rat trap, a metaphor for societal pitfalls, features a captivating video, embodying “bread and circuses.” Simultaneously, a subdued background video reveals the overlooked miseries in the real world. Accompanied by wall-mounted rat traps adorned with social media icons, the installation prompts reflection on societal priorities and the impact of technological distractions.



Shido (Guido Wolfram) is a versatile artist of German origin who has called Goa, India, home for over 20 years. With a background in carpentry from Germany, Shido has honed his craftsmanship for more than 30 years, specializing in working with wood and various materials. His fascination with tactile materials has led him to adopt a multimedia approach to his art, blending organic and inorganic elements. Shido makes a living as a designer and craftsman, creating furniture, bar and club interiors, decorative lighting, and percussion instruments. Beyond his professional work, Shido's passion for art is diverse. As a DJ, graphic designer of political illustrations and videos, he has also delved into the world of sculpting.

The Khayal Map of Goa

2024

Multiple audio excerpts

Audio Installation

The Khayal Map of Goa traces the journey that would take 8 legendary musicians from their bucolic Goan hamlets right to the epicentre of the Hindustani classical canvas. With nearly 60 minutes of recorded content on continuous play, the featured audio excerpts have been carefully handpicked to give a glimpse of the technical wizardry, intellectual approach and the emotional depth of their music.

Collaborators: Sound-Aditya Kapoor, Design-Schulen Fernandes, Illustrations-Kaushalya Chowgule

Note : It would take approximately 15 minutes to listen to all 8 artists.

For over a decade, Siddhant Pillai [he/him], has been an integral part of editorial teams at music streaming giants like Saavn and Resso/TikTok Music. While work demands that his finger is firmly placed on the ever-changing modern music landscape, its in Hindustani Classical Music where he truly finds his footing. Early in his music career, Siddhant curated the Indian Classical section at Air-India and Jet Airways and recalls how Namita Devidayal's heartfelt memoir 'The Music Room' gave him a new understanding of this enigmatic yet elusive genre. Ever since Pop stars have been yielding their place to Khayal maestros in his personal playlist.

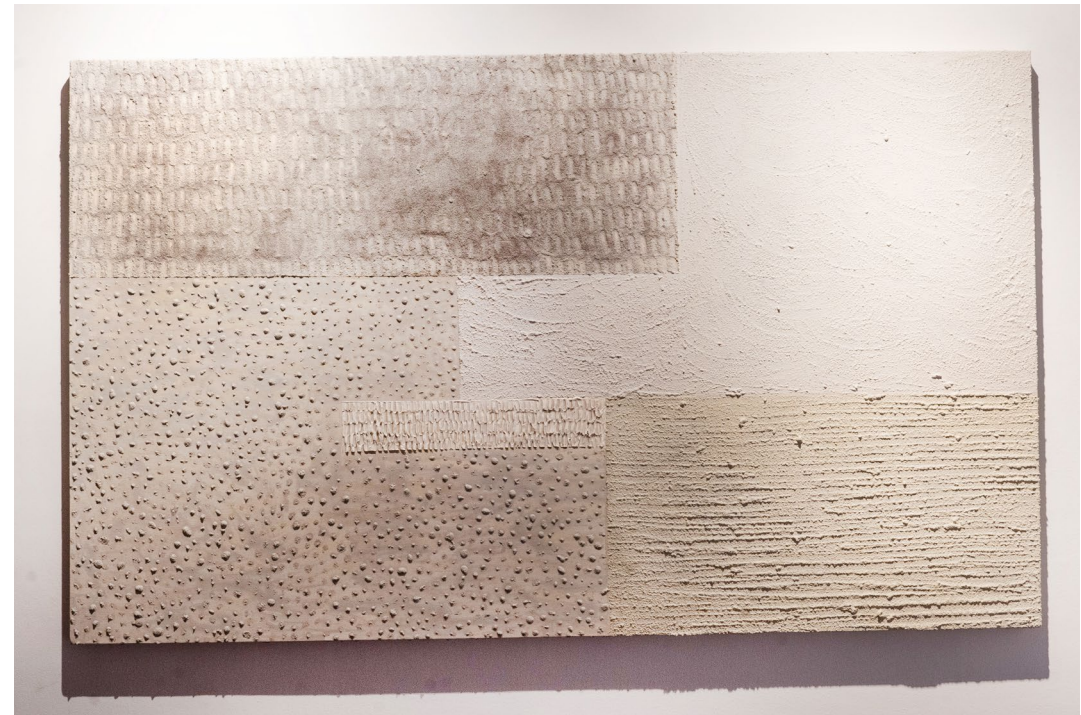


Untitled

2023

Acrylic on canvas

Siddharth Kerkar connects with art that exists on the edge of representation and non-representation, offering viewers an opportunity to explore the mysteries of the visual frontier. Utilizing found and recycled materials, he navigates his chosen areas of visual exploration. Growing up by the seaside, the ocean has been a crucial source of materials and inspiration for his practice, both in the physical and metaphysical realms. Kerkar blends the physical with the metaphysical, transforming everyday items like driftwood, broken wooden canoes, bubble wrap, nets, sawdust, sand, cement, or copper plates into abstract visual plays. This process signifies a metamorphosis, as these materials shed their original identities to become integral parts of a larger artistic narrative.



Siddharth Kerkar's materials are recycled or repurposed, often considered as junk. Through his work, he realises the potential to create art using virtually anything, emphasising the importance of providing new visual content to ordinary objects. His creative process serves as a rebellion against established norms and a statement for sustainability. While he acknowledges that using a few pieces of plastic junk may not significantly impact the planet, the resulting works convey a message. Kerkar believes that art plays a vital role in spreading new ideas, and his commitment to using recycled materials aligns with a broader statement towards sustainability. He finished his Art foundation course at the Central Saint Martins in London and has completed his Graduation in Fine Art from Chelsea College of Art, (University of The Arts London). He has exhibited in galleries in India and abroad he is also the founder of the Goa Affordable Art Fest which is India's largest affordable art event in India.

Evolution

2022

Charcoal and graphite on paper

Sumit Naik specialises in large-sized human figurative drawings, characterised by intricate details and textures. His artwork, "Evolution," is an unrevealed masterpiece that promises to captivate viewers with its unprecedented level of realism. The 4ft-long pieces are designed for indoor exhibitions, aiming to provoke interest in traditional art and hyperrealism, offering a unique and engaging experience for the audience.

Sumit Naik is a 23-year-old hyperrealistic figurative artist from Goa, India. With a dedicated focus on charcoal and graphite drawing for the past five years, Naik is entirely self-taught through online research. Having dropped out of art college after the third year, he prioritises personal improvement and believes in his competitive nature to excel in the hyper realistic charcoal drawing field globally. Utilising a self-developed layering technique, his work is easily relatable, addressing topics related to human emotions. Naik aspires to create large-sized works, aiming to inspire others to pursue their dreams and build a community that encourages self-belief and inspiration.



The Oscillation Orchestra

2024

Sound and video installation

Imagine being the conductor of your own music experience! The Oscillation Orchestra is a unique blend of generative magic and gestural control. Using a modular synth, Subhash crafted a masterpiece where pseudo-random voltages brought the music to life, creating a one-of-a-kind journey for each listener. The sound palette consists of 4 instruments namely the French Horn, Violin, Trumpet and Trombone. The above orchestral voices are also accompanied as well as modulated (phase modulation) by 3 voices of analog oscillators generated by the modular synthesiser. The idea was to create a piece of music that's composed and written by the artist, yet collaboratively generated or manipulated by the computer, and which can also be gesturally controlled and played back by every one who engages with it.

Subhash Sajja is a music composer who uses the modular synthesiser as a primary instrument for composition and improvisation. After taking the role of a lead guitarist and touring with various bands for many years, he took a step back to study music and composition from Berklee School of Music online and earned a certificate in Orchestration for Film and Television. His journey into the world of modular synthesisers followed his study in orchestration as he felt it was a logical next step for widening his palette of tonal exploration. He has been composing music on the synthesisers for short films and recently debuted as a music director for a full-length feature film.

The Oscillation Orchestra was created with the support of the third Goa Open Art's CATALYST Grant 2022-23



Bench Populi

2018
Steel

In Subodh Kerkar's creative journey, he has been using the form of the human head as a subject of exploration and expression. In this sculptural experiment, he merges the human form with utilitarian design to create an anthropomorphic bench, crafting a unique synthesis of art and function. Using stainless steel nuts, he crafts a piece that appears surprisingly light despite its solid form. The result is an artwork that is imbued with a sense of playfulness, inviting the visitor to engage with the artwork and even sit on it, offering a perfect opportunity for captivating photos.



Subodh Kerkar, born in the picturesque village of Keri, transitioned from a qualified medical professional to a renowned artist and activist three decades ago. Specialising in conceptual and land art, his installations, heavily influenced by the ocean, incorporate mussel shells, pebbles, palm leaves, boats, fishermen, and sand. As the Founding Director of the Museum of Goa (MOG) and the Mario Miranda Chair at Goa University, Kerkar's global presence is marked by exhibitions in galleries, museums, and biennales worldwide. Residing in Goa, he is celebrated not only for his artistic prowess but also as an esteemed orator on social, political, and religious issues.

Sightseeing

2023
Etching

Swapnesh Vaigankar's etchings are a captivating exploration of Goan Flora & Fauna. The artwork intricately weaves harmonious depictions of landscapes, fisherman spaces, farmers, animals, village scenes, rivers, sluice gates, churches, and coconut trees. Each etched element serves as a visual ode to the diverse facets of Goan life. Beyond mere observation, Vaigankar's artistic journey becomes a quest for both personal introspection and collective understanding, inviting viewers to delve into the nuanced layers of Goan culture and identity through the lens of his meticulous and evocative imagery.



Swapnesh Vaigankar is a distinguished visual artist with a profound academic background. He earned his BFA from Goa College of Art (Goa University, 2005) in painting, followed by an MFA in printmaking from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Maharaja Sayajirao University Baroda. Noteworthy not just for his awards and international engagements, Vaigankar's commitment to printmaking contributes to the medium's resurgence, reflecting the evolving landscape of contemporary art. His proficiency in both painting and printmaking underscores his versatile artistic prowess, marking him as a significant figure in the dynamic realm of visual arts.

BGirls Jo (Johanna Rodrigues), FlowRaw (Deepa Singh) and Others

2024

Video and photo documentation of the project

The BGirl Project passionately believes in the transformative power of women connecting with one another through movement. The leaders of the project have personally experienced the inspiration derived from witnessing female bodies engage in the expressive elements of 'Breaking' (commercially known as Breakdancing), a pillar of HipHop and the debuting DanceSport in the upcoming Paris Olympics 2024. Recognizing the historical sidelining of women to the private sphere, This BGirl Project asserts that art and movement are not luxuries but necessities for spiritual growth.

The BGirls spread awareness and invited the Aldona community to 'break' over three months of dance classes taught by female instructors culminating in a weekend of workshops and a full- fledged HipHop jam on 27th & 28th January. Focused particularly at spreading the artform of 'Breaking' among those less likely to give it a try, the project aims to change perspectives and empower the community. The presentation includes a 3-minute film delving into sociocultural aspects of being a female in sport and Hip-hop in India. By offering free Breaking classes and hosting a Female-oriented HipHop jam, The BGirl Project fulfils a long-term dream of uniting the movement and beauty and power across diverse geographies, traditions, and philosophies. Beyond empowering participants through HipHop, the project serves as a crucial step in fostering collaboration, inspiration, and a safe space, especially for girls, within the growing community.

This BGirl Project was made possible with the support of the third Goa Open Arts ENGAGE Grant for community art practices 2023-24



BGirls FlowRaw and Jo, both integral members of the early generations of BGirls in India, have joined forces for this project. Navigating a decade filled with competitions, comparisons, mutual inspiration, and quickly growing sisterhood, they are honoured to be able to have celebrated Bgirling in India with the Aldona community. Representing India internationally, they have been learning, competing, contributing, and judging across the country since 2014, accumulating numerous titles individually. This BGirl Project marks their first collective endeavour, presenting an opportunity to lay the foundation for the growing community of BGirls. They envision this initiative as a means to create a framework allowing women to continually experience, expand, and express themselves within the realm of Hip-hop.

Art Is Not What You See

2023

Film

Exhibitions of children’s art are often emphasised on the “product” rather than the “process”. Unschool, Goa Open Arts’ Engage partner, aims to document the process of building this platform for children to elevate their voices, express themselves, and communicate via art. Through mediums of clay, charcoal, art, dance, pieces of nature, and music, these children cultivate a love for learning, and they learn key skills such as communication, collaboration, perseverance, imagination and critical thinking that will help them thrive creatively, socially and emotionally.



Hafsa Bukhary is a passionate educator, poet and aspiring filmmaker. She develops curriculum for students and trains teachers in under-resourced government schools. Her firm belief in “it takes a village to raise a child” led her to work with community centers across the country, and build UnSchool in Goa.

Rashmi is the co-creator and presence behind Unschool. She brings a decade of experience in fundraising, communications, strategy and operations across non-profits, start-ups, and corporates. Currently, she is the Director, Fundraising at Latika, an NGO working with disabled children in Dehradun. At the intersection of budgets and literature, and many beginnings (of practices, projects and places), she has built an inventory of cross-disciplinary interests spanning art, photography, hobbies, design, and psychology.

Hafsa and Rashmi founded Unschool in 2022.

Art is Not What You See was created with the support of the third Goa Open Art’s CATALYST Grant 2022-23

Wandering/Wondering

2024

Sizes variable

Mixed media

Wandering/Wondering is a collection of images, drawings, thoughts and object experiments exploring emotional, material and situational clues tied to the geographical placement of objects. These clues, arising from processes of dissection and decay, along with stray information, weave a history and mythology around the object, forming an architecture of movement and navigation.

The work delves into the distance between a map and its destination, highlighting the individuality of the journey despite the map's guidance. To wander is to deconstruct oneself, blurring the line between knowing and not knowing. As the artist repeatedly draws a coral inherited from their grandfather, the object reveals multiple languages of navigation, prompting a constant zooming in and out to understand one's position. The object, a relic of history, offers a potential future through interpretation. The conceptual distance between map and destination mirrors how an image transforms into an unknown terrain, raising questions about the layers of absence that can be uncovered through repetitive gestures.



Urna Sinha, originally from Santiniketan, began her art education with a fascination for collecting objects, letters, and biological remnants. Her practice revolves around the instinct to 'keep' and understand time. Urna views printmaking as a means of revisiting and 'going back,' aligning with her interest in collecting memories through impressions. Bookmaking became integral to her practice as she explored sequential representation and observed human hand movements. In Goa, she focuses on understanding local life, navigating daily experiences, and fostering community engagement. Sinha invites viewers to intimately engage with her work, emphasising the importance of 'looking closely' in a digitally dominated world. Her collaborative approach in making books serves as an act of co-creation, emphasising the significance of hand movements in an untactile society.

Urna Sinha was a recipient of the second Goa Open Art's CATALYST Grant 2021-22

One of these days

2018-2023

Video Montage

“One of these days” encapsulates a visual diary, blending the familiar and embracing the enigmatic. In this ongoing practice, the artist, driven by an instinctive desire, chronicles moments and objects that captivate attention. The exploration extends to places and people, offering a profound self-discovery through the surrounding elements. This narrative unfolds as the tale of an unsettled heart seeking significance within the ordinary memories of daily life, weaving a visual narrative that transcends the mundane into a reflective and introspective journey.



Vinita Barretto resides in a serene South Goa village, embracing a simple life with her parents and pets. Through an intuitive approach to photography, she captures fleeting moments, evoking memories and emotions. Her work, devoid of a specific style, surprises her upon reflection, offering a present-moment calmness. Storytelling is inherent in her practice, weaving narratives of light, mood, and personal experiences. As part of a women photographers' collective, she finds sisterhood in a shared love for photography. Barretto, immersed in documenting the personal and intimate, invites viewers to interpret the universal stories within the four walls of home, celebrating the beauty of everyday life.

Vinita Barretto was a recipient of the second Goa Open Art's CATALYST Grant 2021-22

Field Of Notion

2022-2023

Charcoal painting and light sculptures

Field of Notion delves into the dichotomies of light and shadows, life and death, creating a series that explores the non-incidences between meaning and being, man and object, movement and space. The works deliberately juxtapose binary oppositions, presenting a set of disjunctions distilled to black and white. Arranged intentionally, the series doesn't necessarily convey a narrative or illustrate buildings but seeks the underlying ideas. It aims to offer an alternative understanding of space, capturing light for perception, not only in paintings but also in the mechanics of space devised to interpret specific works alongside light sculptures.



Yash Korat, immersed in the metaphysics of Art and Architecture, primarily functions as an observer and researcher. Trained in Architecture, he occupies the intersection of diverse fields of knowledge. His current artistic pursuits span from figurative and abstract paintings to wooden sculptures, focusing on the interplay of Presence and Absence, encapsulated as 'Binary Oppositions.' His work navigates the realms of use, form, and social values, delving into the disjunctions among them. The exploration extends to the nature of Space and the interplay of light, where materials such as charcoal on paper and light sculptures serve as mediums of perception. These endeavors, theoretical and abstract, aim to push the boundaries of architectural form and delve into the human condition.

Live Events

Live performances and stage programming at the Goa Open Arts Festival injected vibrant energy, showcasing a myriad of talents across diverse genres. From electrifying music sets to captivating theatrical acts, the festival consistently offered something for everyone, ensuring audiences kept coming back for more!





Elvis Lobo & Friends

Experimental music with genres of funk rock jazz and fusion

Aki Sparado Trio

Electric Ethno Jazz trio curates diverse repertoire blending original and traditional tunes, emphasising improvisation. Led by Aki Spadaro, with Jonathan Furtado and Judah Lobo.

Jenn Steeves

Canadian singer-songwriter with an intimate electro-acoustic. Singer-songwriters Anika and Tabitha join on backing vocals, weaving the magic of three-part harmony through Jenn's songs.

Kristian Bent Band

Americana/Blues-Rock musician blending vintage and modern sound.

Merak

Alt indie fusion band blending rock, pop, jazz, and electronica, formed by sibling Brandon and Belinda Mendes.

Ohara

A live-looping experience by Martin and Nevin. The music they make is created on the spot, all improvised depending on the mood... From An easy listening sundowner set to a hard dancing style.

Suraj Jagan Band

Versatile Indie Rock singer, songwriter, performer, actor with 36-year career span.

Wumbaya

Wumbaya, a versatile singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, leads a Reggae Folkrock band with seasoned members from Goa's live music scene.

Zane Rodrigues

Singer/songwriter seeking wisdom through experiences of song.



Aaron Monteiro

Aaron is a visual artist and poet from Bastora who has been writing poetry since age 10. Initially private, his work now seeks to share his personal reflections, often intertwined with photography, to offer unique perspectives and voices.

Anwasha Singbal

Anwasha Singbal, recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Sahitya Puraskar 2016, is a writer from Goa. She has four books of poetry, a children's book and several translations of children's books to her credit.

Brian Mendonca

Brian Mendonca, a poet and media professional, explores the cultural dichotomy between Goa and Delhi through his verses. With multiple published volumes and contributions to anthologies, his poetry reflects his diverse experiences and academic background.

Deepali Sutar

Deepali Sutar, an Assistant Professor of Hindi, explores human experiences through poetry and short stories. Her work delves into emotions and the human spirit, reflecting her deep engagement with existence.

Ivan Cordo

Ivan Cordo, a poet and teacher from Calangute, sees poetry as a coded expression of unspoken thoughts and feelings, offering readers a glimpse into his inner world.

Mansi Bhatia

Mansi Bhatia, known as Vyznn, is a writer, musician, and creative director. Co-founder of The Blahcksheep, her work intertwines introspection with creative expression, reflecting her background in screenwriting and passion for change.

Pragya Bhagat

Pragya Bhagat is a spoken word poet, essayist, and author of two books. Her work explores the intersections between mental health, belonging, and the body. She is the founder of the Poetry Circle, a fortnightly community space based in North Goa.

Rochelle D'Silva & Zane Rodrigues

Rochelle D'Silva, a Spoken Word Poet from Goa, uses her poetry to articulate feelings of displacement, love, and identity. With acclaimed albums and a solo collection, she also runs a poetry retreat and merges poetry with mental health counselling for healing and expression.



Curated by Rochelle D'Silva

Performances

XAKTI: A BGIRL PROJECT | BGirls Jo (Johanna Rodrigues), FlowRaw (Deepa Singh) and Others

The BGirl Project passionately believes in the transformative power of female connections through movement, particularly in 'Breaking' (Breakdancing). Addressing historical gender sidelining, the project asserts that art and movement are essential for spiritual growth, offering free Breaking classes and a Female-oriented HipHop jam to the Aldona community. Led by BGirls FlowRaw and Jo, representing India internationally, the project aims to change perspectives, empower the community, and foster collaboration. Supported by the Goa Open Arts ENGAGE Grant, it marks a collective endeavor to unite movement, beauty, and power across diverse communities.

Dear Didu | Debi K

A performance that delved into themes of gender, queerness, and shame. This instalment is part of a series chronicling Debi's journey toward identifying as nonbinary and embracing they/them pronouns in their forties. Through scripted monologues and devised movement, Debi explored the impact of cis women who reinforce caste and patriarchal structures in their lives.

Debi K (they/them) is a queer storyteller, writer and anti-caste activist currently based in north Goa.

Mukbhat | Theatre Flamingo

"Mukbhat" is an innovative adaptation of Shakespeare's timeless tragedy, "Macbeth," weaving together contemporary theatrical techniques with ritualistic elements, all within the backdrop of a Goan village. Through the character's tragic journey, "Mukbhat" sheds light on the complexities of human nature and the consequences of unchecked ambition within the framework of caste, religion, and cultural traditions.

Theatre Flamingo is a caravan of like-minded artist, performer's & enthusiasts who share a common drive to promote theatre among youth - all drive a change in grass root theatre across the country.



Performances

Dhaee Aakhar Goa | Response to Red

'Response to Red' is a poetic response to the color red and the emotions it evokes. Red is used as a metaphor for love, violence, desire, and resilience. The poems touch upon a range of subjects, from internal struggles to social unrest, patriarchy, and environmental issues.

Directed by Ramita Gurav, the performance is a collage of poems in Hindi, Konkani written by Mamata Verlekar and in English by Asavari Gurav.

Ryle Faustino Soto | The Perfection

The Perfection is a drag performance about how we as humans model ourselves after someone or something else in order to be our perfect selves. How we take pieces of things around us and attach them to ourselves to be the perfect versions of ourselves.

Artrysis, also known as Ryle, is a Goa-based drag artist who pushes gender boundaries, delving into various performance forms like dance and music. Embracing creativity, Artrysis creates visually stunning looks, aiming to elevate drag as an art form. Beyond glamour, Artrysis emphasizes drag's societal impact, challenging gender norms and sparking meaningful discussions.





Still from Melody Day



Still from Stolen



Still from Ready Steady

SHORTS

Hanging by a Thread
Akshay Parvatkar | 2024
(Konkani, Drama)

KUNDE
Ayappa KM | 2021
(Kannada/Kuruba,
Documentary)

Melody Day
Shailesh Singh | 2022
(Polish/English, Drama)

Tungrus
Rishi Chandna | 2017
(English/Hindi, Documentary)

FEATURE

Aiz Maka Falea Tuka
Sreejith Karanavar | 2023
(Konkani, Mystery)

Goldfish
Pushan Kripalani | 2023
(English, Drama)

Jhini Bini Chadariya
Ritesh Sharma | 2021
(English/Hindi, Drama)

M Cream
Agneya Singh | 2014
(English/Hindi, Adventure Drama)

Ready Steady
Safdar Rahman | 2023
(Hindi, Coming of age/Drama)

Stolen
Karan Tejpal | 2023
(English/Hindi, Thriller/Action)

Vaat
Miransha Naik | 2022
(Marathi, Drama)

Curated by Sachin Chatte

Workshops

School Workshops

Free 3-day Art Workshops

The Progress High School & Kasturba Matoshri High School, Panaji

We believe that all children are inherently creative, and need platforms in which their imaginations can flourish. Opportunities to express themselves through art, music, movement and other creative actions can aid young children in their growth and development, help them communicate with their peers, explore and learn about new ideas and concepts, encourage a sense of curiosity about the world - and help them to gain confidence in their abilities. For these reasons, art education is a key component of the Goa Open Arts festival!





Clay Making

Natalya conducted a three day workshop where the students learnt how to kneed and mould a lump of clay into an earthen pot which was eventually fired. The earthen pot was created with the intention of growing a plant in it and by this act elaborate on the importance of nurturing and protecting the earth and the natural environment.

Each child's pot was unique and an expression of their individual artistic talent and expression.



Natalia Marynenko is a Ukrainian sculptor, living in Goa. She has collaborated with Dakh Theatre(Kiev) as a set designer, and has participated in a number of shows in India and Ukraine. Her ceramic work was exhibited at Thomas the Potter Gallery in February 2023.

She briefly worked with the Museum of Goa, and exhibited her sculpting and VR project at BHU (Varanasi), along with numerous workshops and talks across the country.

Natalia organised and managed a state-of-the-art ceramic studio for teaching clay sculpting to kids in Odessa, before the war. She is currently teaching sculpting in Goa.

Unlocking Imagination

This theatre based workshop aimed to ignite the creative spark within each child, fostering self-expression, teamwork, and confidence through the medium of theatre. The activities included improvisation, storytelling, basic acting techniques, and collaborative performance creation. Led by mentors Prajakta Kavlekar and Shraavan Fondekar who are experienced in Children's Theatre, the workshop was designed as a hands-on experience that could enhance the children's artistic skills thereby contributing to their overall personal development.

Prajakta Kavlekar and Shraavan Fondekar bring a wealth of expertise to the Children's Theatre Workshop. Prajakta boasts a commendable five years of experience in teaching at a BEd college, specializing in hosting engaging workshops tailored for children. On the other hand, Shraavan has personally worked with children through Theatre Flamingo Workshops, showcasing his dedication to nurturing young talent. Together, their dynamic skills, coupled with their strengths, form an exceptional team ready to inspire and guide the young participants of the workshop



Animation Workshop

Participants of Studio Button's workshop had the opportunity to engage in a comprehensive exploration of stop-motion animation. Students were first guided in imagining and visualising their layouts, using sights and landscape of Panjim as their inspiration. Utilising collage techniques, the group worked together to make a fun and playful short animated film which highlighted the Goa Open Arts Festival logo.

Button Animation Studio, led by Katarina Kubareva and Dmitriy Ivanov implements projects in the field of inclusive art and social support for vulnerable groups, by creating animations, music, and conducting interactive games with children and adults. They travel to different regions, participate in international film festivals, share their experiences, and train specialists – educators, artists, musicians, and anyone who wants to create experiences based on their values and methods



Screenwriting

by Anjum Rajabali

Over two rigorous days, screenwriter and teacher Anjum Rajabali offered a compact intensive groundbreaking in the basics of the craft of screenwriting, referencing sterling examples that one can be inspired by and learn from.

Ugly Plasticine Project

by Natalia Marynenko

A workshop for children and adults to create air clay jewellery and then sell their products to audiences at the festival. The workshop encouraged creativity and also explored the basics of marketing in the form of a game.

Doodle Art *by Mamta Singh*

A free and expressive workshop that encouraged participants to tap into their subconscious minds and let their imaginations run wild!

Puzzle Fish Mural Art

by Isa Flores

A collaborative on-site mural making project in which participants collectively painted a puzzle, symbolising Goa life. They painted individual pieces, forming animals, plants, or feelings, inspired by prompts and clues.

Scrapbook Binding

by LAFA Lab -

A fun introductory workshop on how to make beautiful and one-of-a-kind notebooks using simple repurposed materials and leftover paper. The participants created custom book covers and learned the basics of straight or chain stitch binding.

The Theatre of Drawing

by Baadalghar

A live drawing workshop that took place over two days, Theatre of Drawing focussed on performance, movement and dialogue and enabled participants to engage with mediums of drawing and mark making.



Poetry appreciation

by Rochelle D'Silva

Open to aspiring poets and writers from ages 16 and up, Rochelle's workshop is aimed at beginners who wish to get a better understanding of poetry as an art form and as a tool for expression.

Mobile Photography

by Vinita Barretto

An opportunity to harness the power of mobile photography! This walk and workshop focussed on giving participants a basic understanding of lighting, framing and editing.

Linocut Printmaking

by Leticia Alvares

A beginner friendly opportunity to learn the art of linocut through a manually intensive process of ideating, designing and carving blocks for printmaking.

Montage de Goa

by Shruti Narayan

A creative way to learn and explore multimedia possibilities of paper. Participants tore and remixed scrap paper to create bright and colourful montages of Goa's landscapes.

Sketch Walk

by Urban Sketchers

A fun interactive walking tour of Goa's historic Campal area in Panjim, in which participants could discover the nuances of different elements that make up the city, sketching on the go.



Team and Organisers

Goa Open Arts Festival is organised by Open Arts Initiative - a platform to support the arts in Goa. We believe that arts and culture are an essential part of a healthy society, and that creativity and imagination belong to everyone. We engage with Goa and its artistic community through our annual program of art grants, public exhibitions and events, art education workshops, and live events. Goa Open Arts Festival is our flagship program that brings all together our wild ideas and aspirations, and creates a stage for Goa's incredible art, music, film, dance, food and other creative talents.

Open Arts Initiative is a group of creative professionals who live and work in Goa, and lovingly come together to create the festival and other projects.

Core Team

Diptej Vernekar, Prashant Panjiar, Gopika Chowfla, Gurpreet Sidhu & Sitara Chowfla



Curators

Music Curator - *Aviv Pereira*

Film Curator - *Sachin Chatte*

Poetry & Spoken Word Curator - *Rochelle D'Silva*

Food & Market Curator - *Insia Lacewalla*

Festival Team

Design & Communications - *Shelly Sharma*

Festival Coordinator - *Sanah Rahman*

Workshop & Volunteer Coordinator - *Aru Bose*

Schools Coordinator - *Flavia Lobo*

Video Documentation - *Pixel Brew Media / Ankur Dingne*

Photo Documentation - *Niharika Chauhan & Vinita Barretto*

Production - *The Art Factory / Siddhesh Chari*

Ticketing - *Mariola Mendes*

Thank you

Partners and Supporters



The Goa Open arts festival could not have been possible without the generous and unquestioning support of our donors and partners. We thank you all, including all the art loving supporters around the world who gave generously through our crowd funding effort.

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And our many wonderful contributors who wish to remain anonymous!



Contact Details

www.goaopenarts.com

info@goaopenarts.com

Follows us

www.instagram.com/goaopenarts

www.facebook.com/goaopenarts

Registered Address

Open Arts Initiative

782/2 Sataporio, Moira

Bardez 403 507, Goa



open arts
initiative