

MADI ACHARYA-BASKERVILLE

Madi Acharya-Baskerville MRSS is an award-winning Asian-born diaspora artist, now living and working in the UK. She uses found elements to voice her themes in environmental concerns, migration and exile, gender issues and cultural diversity as a reflection of the world we live in.

Acharya-Baskerville is the winner of the Royal Society of Sculptors' First Plinth Public Art Award. Her sculpture, *The Double Act* debuted in June 2024 with her exhibition, *Caught in the Act*, at Dora House, Kensington, London. She is a recipient of National Lottery Project Grant from Arts Council England for the project, *I Dream a Palace*, at The Lightbox, Woking. She also won The Primary Residency Prize award following selection for the New Art Exchange Open 2023.

Acharya-Baskerville's paintings explore a sense of longing, a nostalgia for lost origins but also aspire to new beginnings. Her process begins with going for a walk, encountering different environments through places she visits. This ranges from her native motherland, India where she has close emotional ties through to forests and coastline within the UK where she lives. The found wood surface itself has a past, textured and weather worn hence marking time whilst the irregular edges suggest continuity beyond what can be viewed.

Dungeness Series

This series of paintings were inspired by a visit to Derek Jarman's garden in Dungeness during a really hot summers' day one year. The paintings are created on found wood which has been initially primed with gesso and then the first layer is a pale wash which reflects the colour of the stones in the garden. The patterns incorporated into some aspects reference Asian textile patterns.



Dreaming of Violet

2024

Oil on found wood

21 x 14 cm

£600

Dress to be Unnoticed

2024

Oil on found wood 20

x 20 cm

£700

Bus Garden

2024

Oil on found wood

14.5 x 10 cm

£600

Sunny Day Prospect

2024

Oil on found wood

27 x 13.5 cm

£700

Time Spent

2024

Oil on found wood

24 x 17.5 cm

£700



Can't wait to hear your manly words

This work is inspired by a peeling Indian billboard on an urban wall. The mask like image resonates with the form and blemishes within the wood itself. The Bengali text on the original billboard translates as 'manly words' as reflected in the title of the work.

Can't wait to hear your manly words

2024
Oil on found wood
27 x 16.5 cm
£800

Swimming in Secret

Moving through water somehow washes away what is a mundane, routine and restrictive. Swimming in secret describes exactly this kind of escape into water when all else is momentarily suspended.



Swimming In Secret

2024
Oil on found wood
14 x 26 cm
£800



Conversation with Peacock

2021

Oil on found wood, framed

49 x 35 cm

£800

When We Got to Angle Tarn

2020

Oil on found wood

33 x 30.5 cm

£700



Mariko in the Cave

2020

Oil on found wood, framed

33 x 43.5 cm

£800



Green Love

2021

Oil on wood panel

22 x 25 cm

£700

Foreshore Lilies

2023

Oil on wood panel

33 x 37.5 cm

£800



Curtain Call

2017

Oil on found wood

32.5 x 25.5 cm

£700

Magnolia Windows

2020

oil on found wood

33 x 30.5 cm

£700

AWARDS, EXHIBITIONS AND AQUISITIONS

AWARDS

- 2023 First Plinth Award, Royal Society of Sculptors, London
- 2023 National Lottery Project Grant, Arts Council England
- 2021 Developing Your Creative Practice, Arts Council England

SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Caught in the Act, Royal Society of Sculptors
- 2024 I Dream a Palace, (solo) The Lightbox, Woking
- 2022 Creek Dreams, Seager Gallery, London
- 2021 My life as a bird, (solo) Darl-e-and the Bear, Oxfordshire

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 'Fragments of our time', British Textile Biennial 2023, The Whitaker, Blackburn
- 2023 The Stuff of Life The Life of Stuff, Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia
- 2022 'Exchanges: Recent Additions to the Collection' The Whitworth, Manchester
- 2021 Displace, Bloc Projects, Sheffield
- 2021 Absent Authors, APT Gallery, London
- 2013 'Sanctuary' Home, Away and Common Ground, Part 2, Brunei Gallery, SOAS, University of London
- 2011 2011 'Sanctuary' Home, Away and Common Ground, Part 1, National Museum of Kenya, Nairobi

PRIZES & OPEN SUBMISSIONS

- 2023 The Primary Residency Prize awarded following selection for New Art Exchange Open
- 2023 New Art Exchange Open, New Art Exchange, Nottingham
- 2022 Selected for UAL Decolonising Art Institute 20/20 Program, Residency and
- 2022 Commission Exeter Contemporary Open, Phoenix Gallery, Exeter
- 2022 Summer Exhibition, Royal Society of Sculptors, Cromwell Place, London
- 2021 Summer Exhibition, Royal Society of Sculptors, London
- 2020 Summer Exhibition, Royal Society of Sculptors, London
- 2016 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London

ACQUISITIONS

- The Lightbox, Woking
- Whitworth, Manchester
- Private Collections: London, Oxford, France