

Sagarika Sundaram



Artist Bio

Sagarika Sundaram (b. 1986, Kolkata, India) creates sculpture, relief works and installation using raw natural fiber and dyes. She is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Pratt Institute, and a Senior Fellow at Silver Art Projects in New York City. Drawing extensively on natural imagery, the work meditates on the impossibility of separating the human from the natural and the interior from the exterior, suggesting the intertwined nature of reality. In 2023, Sundaram exhibited at the Al Held Foundation with River Valley Arts Collective, the Moody Center for the Arts at Rice University, the British Textile Biennial and Chicago Architecture Biennial. In 2024 she will participate in Bronx Calling: The Seventh AIM Biennial at The Bronx Museum of the Arts. Sundaram's work has been presented at The Armory Show in New York (2022, 2023) and at Frieze London 2023 with Nature Morte Gallery. Sundaram graduated with an MFA in Textiles from Parsons / The New School, NY. She studied at the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad and at MICA in Baltimore. Her work has been reviewed by the New York Times and ARTnews, while her practice has been featured on PBS, Artnet News, and the cover of Fiber Art Now Journal.

Sundaram creates felted tapestries that investigate the materiality of wool and its relationship to human biology and psyche. She treats textile like a body – rupturing the flat surface, revealing what lies beneath layers – the sexual, painful, ugly, beautiful – interrogating what it means to be both of, and alien to this world. She uses abstraction to reinterpret textile as mutant, botanical, and psychedelic forms. By estranging what is familiar, Sundaram creates work that possesses its own unique life.

Exhibition History

Solo Exhibitions

2023

Source, Palo Gallery, New York, NY.

Form/Symbol, Frestonian Gallery, London, UK.

Two-Person Exhibitions

2023

On the Grounds, River Valley Arts Collective / Al Held, Boiceville, NY.

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 *Maison Palo*, Palo Gallery, New York, NY.
Narrative Threads: Fiber Art Today, Moody Center, Rice University, Houston, TX.
Provenance, Visitor Center Gallery, Newburgh, NY.
- 2022 *Anthem X*, Malin Gallery, Miami, FL.
Color in Perspective, Studio Artego, Queens, NY.
Art Omi Open Studios, Art Omi, Ghent, NY.
How to Love in Many Ways, Iron Velvet Gallery, New York, NY.
New Forms of Thought, Nature Morte Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2021 *In/Between 2022*, New York Live Arts, NYFA IAP, New York, NY. *Materialistic*, Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ.
Textiles, Ace Hotel Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY.
Elements, West Harlem Art Fund, Governors Island, NY.
Let's Go Out and Play, Roulette Intermedium, Brooklyn, NY.
Hanging Gardens, Nature Morte Gallery, New Delhi, India.
- 2020 *Industrial Bodies*, Urban Zen Gallery, New York, NY.
- 2019 *Hybrid*, Mana Contemporary, Jersey City, NJ.
TEXTO, Casa Pedregal, Mexico City, MX.
The Collaborative Clarinet in Concert, Mannes School of Music, New York, NY.
Small Works, Webster University, Surface Design Association, St. Louis, MO.

Art Fairs

- 2023 The Armory Show, Frieze London, Nature Morte Gallery
- 2022 The Armory Show, Nature Morte Gallery
- 2021 Frieze New York OVR, Jhaveri Contemporary

Fellowships and Residencies

- 2022 - 2023 Silver Arts Residency, New York, NY
- 2022 Art Omi Residency, Ghent, NY
Bronx Museum AIM Fellow, Bronx, NY
- 2022 New York Foundation for the Arts IAP Program: Visual and Multidisciplinary Arts Fellow, New York, NY
- 2016 Walkin Studios Residency, Bangalore, India
- 2011 Gray Area Foundation for the Arts Residency, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 Palomar 5 Technology and Design Residency, Berlin, Germany
- 2007 Project M Residency, Hale County, AL

Awards and Grants

- 2022 The Hopper Prize
- 2021 South Asia Art Prize Finalist, UC Berkeley South Asia Initiative, Berkeley, CA

2020 South Asian Arts Resiliency Fund, The India Center
Foundation, Brooklyn, NY
Michael Kalil Endowment for Smart Design, Parsons School of
Constructed Environments, New York, NY
Tishman Award for Excellence in Climate Justice and
Sustainability, The New School, New York, NY
Graduate Student Research Award, The New School, New York, NY
2019 Dorothy Waxman Textile Design Prize Finalist, New York, NY
2018 President's Scholarship, The New School, NY

Selected Press

2023 "Sagarika Sundaram's New Textile Pieces Come to Palo Gallery in
New York", Widewalls
"The Armory Show, in a Back-to-School Edition", New York Times
"Free, tactile fiber art exhibit opens at Rice Moody Center", Houston
Chronicle
2022 "The Armory Show 2022: Textured works", Cool Hunting
"The 10 Best Booths at The Armory Show 2022", Artnet
2021 Studio Visit: Textile Artist Sagarika Sundaram on Working in Silence
2020 PBS.org, Rising Artist Video Feature
Talking Textiles Magazine, Cover Feature, New York, NY