

ALEXANDER GORLIZKI



BIOGRAPHY

Alexander Gorlizki was born in London in 1967 and studied Fine Art at Bristol Polytechnic, followed by an MFA in Sculpture at the Slade, London. He lives and works between Brooklyn, New York and Jaipur, Rajasthan

Gorlizki has been fascinated with traditional artisanal techniques for the past 25 years, looking for ways to combine disparate visual languages and iconography with highly specialized forms of craftsmanship. Having worked across India and Pakistan, Gorlizki has collaborated with and commissioned artists and craftsmen including stone carvers, embroiderers, sand-casters, spectacle repairers, shoemakers and forgers amongst others. In 1996 Alexander established an atelier with master miniature painter Riyaz Uddin, in the Muslim quarter of Jaipur's Old City and this 700-year-old tradition has been the primary focus of his work ever since. Gorlizki conceptualizes and designs all the elements of the paintings that are then rendered with astonishing skill by Riyaz and his assistants. When Gorlizki isn't in the studio in Jaipur, each work is sent back and forth between New York and Rajasthan, sometimes over a period of several years, accumulating layer upon layer of notes, revisions and additions.

Gorlizki's imagery draws on a wide and varied range of sources, from Eastern and Western art historical references to cartoon and

pop iconography, as well as a keen scrutiny of commonplace objects. This crosscurrent of influences surfaces in infinitesimally detailed works on paper that reveal the artist's longstanding obsession with Indian miniature painting. The compositions move between geometric abstraction and whimsical narratives that incorporate such diverse elements as Uzbek textiles, Etruscan sculpture, designs from 1940s American advertising, and Syrian ceramics. Ambiguity plays a part too, as varying styles and schools of traditional imagery appear side by side and antique papers act as a backdrop for contemporary references.

Gorlizki's work is featured in several museum collections, including the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, The Aspen Art Museum in Colorado, The Museum Kunstpalast in Düsseldorf, The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Virginia and Humboldt Forum, Berlin.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023

Conversation Pieces, Lyndsey Ingram, London, UK
Distractions, Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, USA

2020

Otherworldly Interiors, Gallery Ark, Valdodara, India

2019

Your Eyes, So Beautiful, Like Washing Machines (But Not As Big), Kentler International Drawing Space, New York, USA

2018

Together, Forever, For Now, Berggruen Gallery, San Francisco, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022

Parsec, Gallery Ark, Valdodara, India

2021

Gardens In The Sky, Humboldt Forum, Berlin, Germany

2019

The Size of Thoughts, White Conduit Projects, London, UK

2018

Living a Dream: Alexander Gorlizki, Magic Markings, Gugging Artists, Galerie Gugging, Vienna, Austria
Luminously Between Eternities: The Contemporary Miniature as Evolution, Gallery Ark, Valdodara, India
And per se and XXIV/XXV, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland
Re Present: Photography from South Asia, Kamloops Art Gallery, British Columbia

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