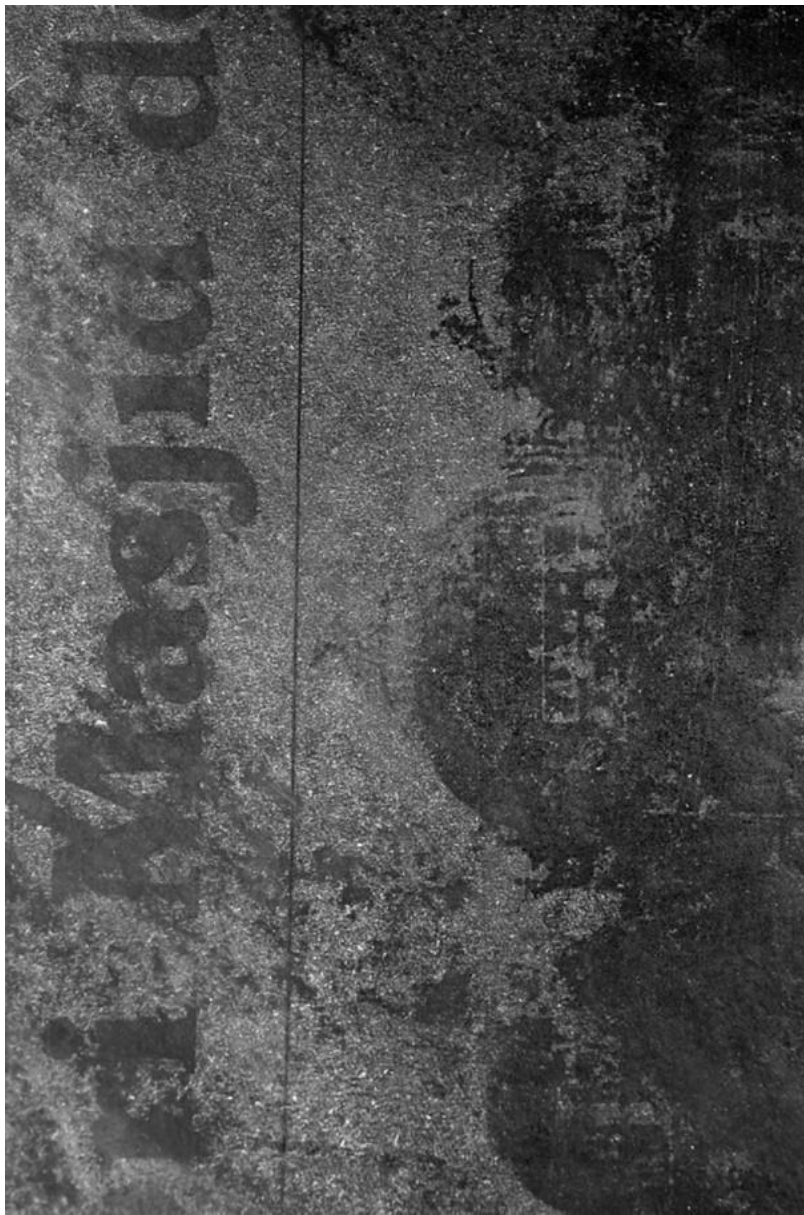


ARTnews

**ARTnews in Brief: Metropolitan Museum of Art
Acquires Works by Lala Rukh—and More from
January 9, 2020**



Lala Rukh, *Mirror Image 1, 2, 3* (detail), 1997, mixed media on graph paper.

COURTESY OF THE ESTATE OF LALA RUKH AND GREY NOISE, DUBAI

Thursday, January 9

Metropolitan Museum of Art Acquires Works by Lala Rukh

The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York has acquired two important works by the Pakistani artist and women's rights activist Lala Rukh—Mirror Image, 1, 2, 3 (1997), a collage comprised of newspaper clippings from the destruction of the Babri Masjid Mosque in India, and the stop-motion animation Rupak (2016). Commissioned for Documenta 14, the 12-second video was Rukh's final work before her death in 2017. In it, a series of percussive measures—a rupak tal, or a beat common in Indian music—is translated into a single flickering white dot. The artist's estate has also gifted the Met six posters Rukh created for the Women's Action Forum (WAF), the Pakistani advocacy group that she cofounded in 1981.

Wednesday, January 8

Artadia Names Recipients of Houston Awards and Fellowship for Immigrant Artists

Artists Adriana Corral and Vincent Valdez are the recipients of Artadia's eleventh Houston awards. Corral and Valdez will each get an unrestricted \$10,000 cash prize. Corral's installations, performances, and sculptures explore loss, memory, and historical erasures, and Valdez is known for his politically resonant drawings and paintings. The nonprofit has also announced that Betirri Bengtson, Gao Hang, Veronica Ibarguengoitia, Valentina Jager, and Ling-lin Ku have been awarded its second annual Houston Artadia Fellowship for Immigrant Artists. They will each receive \$2,500 in unrestricted funds.

Tuesday, January 7

Ken Lum Wins \$50,000 Artist Prize from Art Gallery of Ontario

The Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto has named Ken Lum the winner of its 2019 Gershon Iskowitz Prize, which comes with a \$50,000 purse and a solo exhibition at the museum. The award, which is administered by the late Canadian artist's eponymous foundation, is presented annually to a Canadian artist. Lum is best known for his canvases that pair images with text and his reconfigurations of motel and mini-mall signs. The artist, who was born in Vancouver, has been a professor at several arts colleges around the world, including the University of

British Columbia, and currently teaches at the University of Pennsylvania. His work was the subject of a solo exhibition at CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts in San Francisco in 2018 and has been included in the 2014 Whitney Biennial, Documenta 11 in 2002, and the 2001 Venice Biennale, among others.

VIA Art Fund Awards Over \$1 M. in 2019 Grants

The Boston-based nonprofit VIA Art Fund has named its 2019 grant recipients, who will receive grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$100,000. Its artistic production grants total \$845,000, with Lynn Hershman Leeson, Kahlil Joseph, Jeffrey Gibson, and Sarah Sze among the nine winners. The VIA Art Fund also gifted or partially gifted artworks by Charlotte Posenenske, Isaac Julien, Zanele Muholi, and Tavares Strachan to various public collections around the U.S. Lumi Tan, curator at the Kitchen in New York, was selected as the recipient of the 2020 VIA Curatorial Fellowship.

Monday, January 6

[Foundation for Contemporary Arts](#) Establishes New Painting Prize

The New York-based Foundation for Contemporary Arts has named artist Kerstin Brätsch as the recipient of its inaugural Helen Frankenthaler Award for Painting, which comes with \$40,000. The award is underwritten by the Helen Frankenthaler Foundation and administered through the FCA's Grants to Artists program. Brätsch, whose work has been shown at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the New Museum, the 2011 Venice Biennale, and other venues, said in a release, "My attitude to art-making at large, and in particular the role of experimentation in my practice, is profoundly indebted to Helen Frankenthaler." In selecting the first recipient of the award the directors of the FCA—Cecily Brown, Anne Collier, Anthony B. Creamer III, Anne Dias, Jasper Johns, Jennie C. Jones, Julian Lethbridge, Dean Moss, Emily Wei Rales, and James Welling—were joined by panelists Bettina Funcke, an art historian; musician Jenny Lin; Matthew Lyons, curator at the Kitchen in New York; and playwright, director, and New York City Players artistic director Richard Maxwell.

Hirshhorn Details Upcoming 'Infinity Mirror Room' Exhibition

The [Hirshhorn Museum](#) and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C. announced on Monday that its next [Yayoi Kusama](#) presentation, titled "One With Eternity: Yayoi

Kusama in the Hirshhorn Collection,” will open on April 4. Running through September 19, the show will feature three works by the artist held in the museum’s permanent collection, with the 1965 “Infinity Mirror Room” Phalli’s Field among them. “One With Eternity” follows the Hirshhorn’s blockbuster 2017 Kusama retrospective, which drew record crowds throughout its five-city tour.

Smithsonian American Art Museum Names Curator of Craft

The Smithsonian American Art Museum’s Renwick Gallery in Washington, D.C., has appointed Mary Savig as its new curator of craft. Savig previously served as the curator of manuscripts at the Smithsonian’s Archives of American Art, where she oversaw exhibits including “What is Feminist Art?” (2019). She also organized the exhibition “Ephemeral and Eternal: The Archive of Lenore Tawney” (2019) at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

The Lahore Biennale Foundation Reveals Commissioned Artists for Second Edition

The Lahore Biennale, which runs from January 26 to February 29 in Lahore, Pakistan, will feature works by more than 70 artists, including 20 newly commissioned pieces. Among the commissioned works, which will be installed in cultural and heritage sites across the city, are a film by Alia Farid, an installation and publication by Reem Falaknaz, and a series of bronze sculptures by Tau Makhacheva accompanied by sound and poetry by female writers, including Rachida Madani and Warsan Shire. Other participating artists include Diana Al-Hadid, Hassan Hajjaj and Haroon Mirza. A complete list of commissioned and participating artists can be found [here](#).

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