



Vibha Galhotra

Orbis Unum-II Haein Art Project:

A biennial public art project hosted by the Haeinsa Temple
a UNESCO World Heritage site and Buddhist Temple.- South Korea- 2013



WAR to
all the WARS

around AND around

林雲印海

Orbis Unum ("one world" in Latin) presents a reinterpretation of the flags of the 197 existing countries, where any characterizing trait has been substituted by the purity of the color white. The work tries to create a world without borders, orders or differences communicated through words and symbols inspired from the eight testimonies of Buddhism, revisited and transferred onto the fabric of the flags.

Drawn by the utopian ideal of One World without physical divisions, Galhotra attempts to replace, deconstruct and dissolve the religious and cultural differences, the physical and mental boundaries between nations and human beings informing the world geopolitical map.

하나의 세계 - II Orbis Unum - II

2013, 깃발 천, 가변설치
2013, flag fabric, variable installation

〈하나의 세계-2〉는 총 197 개의 하얀 깃발들로 구성된 작품이다. 전세계 국가의 수만큼 만들어진 깃발들에는 야광실로 수놓아진 단어와 그림들이 있다. 정체성을 의미하는 아주 작은 흔적마저도 순백의 하얀색으로 대체됨으로써 사회, 종교, 국가간의 벽을 허무는, 경계가 없는 하나의 세계를 표현한다. 팔정도를 모티프로 삼아 현대사회를 반영하는 단어들을 나열하여 제작한 작품에서 작가가 추구하는 유토피아와 이상적인 세계는 단어, 심볼들을 통해 각각 해체되며 국가, 종교, 문화, 생각, 사람과 사람 사이의 벽 등 모든 것에 대한 경계선이 허물어져 온전히 하나됨을 느끼게 한다.

Orbis Unum II ('one world' in Latin) presents a reinterpretation of the flags of the 197 existing countries, where any characterizing trait has been substituted by the purity of the color white. The work tries to create a world without borders, orders or differences communicated through words and symbols inspired from the eight testimonies of Buddhism, revisited and transferred onto the fabric of the flags. Drawn by the utopian ideal of One World without physical divisions, Galhotra attempts to replace, deconstruct and dissolve the religious and cultural differences, the physical and mental boundaries between nations and human beings informing the world geopolitical map.

비파 갈로트라
Vibha Galhotra



another hour is gone

why
I find it

WORLD

???

Rosa

Have a love

truth AND trust

BURST

Self

Self

\$\$\$

IMPORTANCE
OF
IMPOTENCE

EVOLUTION

NOTHING IS
NEW

Make the water

COMPLEX







林雲印海





The work comprises 197 flags (pertaining to the number of countries worldwide). Each flag is white in color purposely to bleed all the colors of exiting country flags representing the power, pride and difference from one another, to maintaining a status of purity and oneness except the differences, borders and orders. Thus, the work tries to create a world without borders, orders or differences. Each flag is inscribed with a word linked to Buddhist teachings. Generated from the eight testimonies of Buddhism, the words aim to carry meanings as the new symbols and situation of the world.

The work focuses on the philosophy of Orbis Unum (One World), Orbis Unum in Latin means One World. Artist refers to the world's physical division. Each flag representing each country carries words to mirror the socio-political structures and humanity of the present times to question desperate utopias. Work attempts to replace, deconstruct and dissolve the existential thought of the world of differences, religion, hierarchy, borders and power. The artist proposes the extension of the series UTOPIAN DREAM - Orbis Unum. The idea actually takes its inspiration from ancient philosophy and predictions where it is said the world will become one again

The initial project done in the series is drawn from the chastity of white (symbol of peace and pure) to re-design the flags for One World, where the cultural and social symbols of geo-political places are denoted but not differentiated. By removing the colours of the flags, countries become unrecognizable, though their cultural and social symbolism remains intact

The poetics of the words is arranged in a simple manner and are a reflection of our mental sufferings, dissatisfaction and greed."



TALKED ABOUT...

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HOPELESS

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Vibha Galhotra's art addresses transcultural in the global local specificity. Galhotra's work focuses on the context of displacement, nostalgia, identity, existence construction or deconstruction, the banal cultural condition in, around environment of negotiations in the new constant changing urban atmosphere.

Her work crosses the dimensions of art, ecology, economy, science, spirituality and activism. though she claims that she is an artist but not an activist, but i feel there is an hint of activism or should say social responsibility. Galhotra's works in varied mediums through photography, animation, found object, per formative objects, installation and sculpture to create experiential spaces.

Her work comes as a satire on the contemporary living situations. Being from the age of complex globalization and capitalism, she concentrate on the present day to day issues, complexities and compromises through her work, she goes through a complex research and thought process of serious issues, and consciously expresses them into a simple non complex and fun manner to bring the contradiction and create a dialogue, like she attempted in her traveling project Neo Monster, where she makes an inflatable earth mover and travels in the public spaces to record the reaction of people towards this new age alien moving all over to continuously digging and raping the bed of globe. She narrates the story of her times in a fun manner but with complex thought behind, through her vibrant artistic and intellectual expression.

Galhotra's work expresses the fusion of science and spirituality through the collective concern of schizophrenic spaces and effects on culture and human values. She employs various medium and found material in her work which conceptually and symbolically fits her practice to achieve conscious subconscious effort to create her work .

Her constant thirst for learning she manages to engage different mediums and materials together in her practice keeping her concept in line. She mentions that exploration of different mediums in her work gives her challenge and keeps a charm of new learning to keep her engaged with the work.

Her work always, is inspired from her social existence and her concern towards this fast growing urban development and depleting living environment. Her engagement with the city - Delhi, which is, growing fastly and sometimes it feels like we cant match the pace of this growth or in her words de-growth.

Vibha makes her own stories around and also try to balance the beat and aesthetics of her art making, she say its (Art)an only source for her to make her voice hear in this busy ,bizarre and complex times. so within her form she want to find the pleasure and agony at the same time for the viewer and for herself .

Vibha, (b 1978), received her B.F.A from Government College of Arts, Chandigarh and Masters from Kala-Bhavan, Santiniketan. She had presented in biennials as well as national and international solo exhibitions and collaborations. She has been awarded with Inlaks Foundation Award, HRD National Scholarship, Artist Under 30Yr Award, Chandigarh State Lalit Kala Academy award and number

of residencies, solo shows and group shows in India and abroad.

Her first Museum solo exhibition displayed at **South Eastern Centre Contemporary Art (SECCA),USA**, has just concluded. Her work is been collected and displayed at **Gates foundation, USA, Essl Museum, Austria, Singapore Art Museum, SanJose Museum, USA.**

She is been invited for participation in, **Kathmandu International Art Festival-2102, Nepal Colombo Art Biennial, 2012, 4th Aluminum BAKU biennial, Azerbaijan, 2009. She was part of Best of Discovery, ShContemporary 2008, Shanghai. She's been invited to number of Artists Residencies and Symposiums, Contemporary Renaissance Casa Masaccio, San Giovanni Valdarno ,Italy. BAG FACTORY, South Africa, BRAZIERS, England, GUT GASTIEIL-an organization for art in landscape. Austria, EUROPAS PARKAS, Lithunia.**

She's has participated in number of group shows national and international, Souvenir, curated by Lucie Fontaine, Gallerie Perrotin, Paris, Contemporary Sultanate, curated by Veeranganakumari solonki, Exhibit 320,india, The Indian Parallax or the Doubling of Happiness curated by Shaheen Merali at Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Calcutta ,India. Miami Art Basel, Jack Shainman Gallery USA 2012,11,10, Armory Show, Jack Shainman Gallery, USA. By George,Curated by Geetanjali Dang, Alliance Francaise New Delhi, 2010, India Xianzai, curated by Alexander Keefe and Diana Freundi at Museum of Contemporary Art China, 2009, Mutant Beauty, curated by Gayatri Sinha, Anant Art Gallery, New Delhi,2008, International Sculpture workshop, ITM Universe, Gwalior, 2008-2009,Everywhere Is War (and rumours of war) Curated by Shaheen Merali, Bodhi Art ,Mumbai 2008, Destination Asia: Flying over Stereotypes' Conversation-1 artists from Central Asia and SouthAsia: Elementa, Dubai,2008, Walk The Line:.,Avanthy Contemporary, Zurich, Switzerland, 2008, 07-08, Destination Asia: Non-strict correspondence – artists from Central Asia and South Asia organized by Soros Center for contemporary art, Kazakhstan, Bronze a group show with metal sculptures by gallery Espace, New Delhi-2006, Her work is the collections of Casa Masaccio Arte Contemporanea, Gates Foundation, USA. Singapore Art Museum, Singapore, Essl Museum, Austria, Devi Art Foundation, India, Casoria Contemporary Art Museum, Italy. Gut Gasteil, an open-air Art Museum, Austria, besides other public and private collections in India and abroad.

Her work is been covered in lot of news papers, magazines nationally and internationally including, the Sculpture magazine, the Installation magazine, The Guardian UK, The Art Newspaper USA, Village Voice, e magazine, USA, Art Info, Modern Painters, USA, Art in America, USA, Art India, Art & Deal magazine, India, Asia Art News Magazine, India Today etc...

Vibha had a successful solo exhibition '**Utopia of Difference 'at Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA in 2012.** Recently she was been invited with her participation at **ICASTICA, glocal- a first women biennial at Arezzo, ITALY.**