

## Engaging with Art Today

In India as elsewhere, the field of art includes many participants beyond artists. These include private galleries that show and sell works by a select group of artists, collectors who buy art — supporting artists and galleries, and different kinds of institutions that develop exhibitions and programmes, shape collections, and create contexts, narratives, and histories of art. At physical institutions, biennials, and beyond, curators, who often have advanced training in art history, are one of the key drivers of what is presented and how it is shared.

The past decade has been critical in the push towards a truer globalism and in the development of long-needed infrastructure in India that could meet higher standards vis-a-vis its global aspirations. In this lesson, we will look at examples of public and private institutions that have created spaces for discourse in the past decade, before we look at an example of an important once-every-two-years exhibition called a biennial. We will survey such institutions and key exhibitions which continue to grow in spite of different forms of censorship being exerted. We will then turn to look at the climate for emerging artists in India today through newer platforms.

This document is part of an online course on Modern & Contemporary Indian Art. Click [here](#) to access.

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