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Moving Focus, India

New Perspectives on Modern & Contemporary Art

Mortimer Chatterjee

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- This two-volume slipcased set is a major survey, providing new perspectives on contemporary Indian art
- Gathers a diverse cross-section of voices in the world of Indian art
- Offers an overview of Indian art across the last century and signposts future trends
- Over 250 iconic artworks chosen by an intergenerational group of 54 artists, curators, historians and writers

From long lost paintings to ephemeral sculptures; from whimsical performances to iconic public murals; and from independent films to landmark design objects, the surprising and provocative contents of ***Moving Focus, India*** have been provided by a varied group of experts. A first of its kind, this book invited 54 artists, curators, historians and writers to each create a list of five works of art, made at any time since 1900, by artists living in India or identifying as part of its diaspora.

With over 250 individual nominations, including artists whose works have been exhibited at venues as various as Houghton Hall (Anish Kapoor, 2020), the Asia Society Museum, New York (MF Husain, 2019) and the Piramal Museum of Art, Mumbai (SH Raza, 2018), the exercise produced thrilling and unexpected choices across many mediums. Drawing from a wide range of private and public collections, the selections reveal the diversity and inclusiveness of today's art scene: an art scene that has embraced the progressive changes evident in society at large. In addition to these lists, the book includes reflections on collecting, curating and canon-formation from a range of important voices, by way of a roundtable discussion and a series of essays.

Spread over two volumes and marked by an innovative and fresh design sensibility, whether you are familiar with modern and contemporary art from the subcontinent or looking for an introduction, ***Moving Focus, India*** contains a wealth of information. Lavishly illustrated with over 1,000 archival and freshly commissioned photographs, this book is an important and timely addition to the global art discourse and a key source of reference.

Nominated artists include Ramkinkar Baij, Chittaprosad, VS Gaitonde, Amrita Sher Gil, Rummana Hussain, Bhupen Khakhar, Nasreen Mohamedi, Benode Behari Mukherjee, Meera Mukherjee, Mrinalini Mukherjee, Gieve Patel, Sudhir Patwardhan, Nilima Sheikh, Jangarh Singh Shyam, KG Subramanyan, Vivan Sundaram, Zarina and many more.

Having completed his studies in art history in the UK, London-born **Mortimer Chatterjee** moved to India to pursue his interest in art from the subcontinent. He co-founded Chatterjee & Lal in 2003 and, today, the gallery is an important node in Mumbai's maturing art scene. In 2010, Chatterjee co-authored a publication on the art collection of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), and also curated an exhibition of the collection at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai. In addition to his columns on art and culture in *GQ* India and *Mumbai Mirror*, he has contributed articles to the Indian editions of journals such as *Architectural Digest* and *Domus*.






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