

SHARMISTHA RAY

ARTIST / WRITER / EDUCATOR

www.sharmistharay.com

EDUCATION

2001-2005 Pratt Institute, Dual degree: Master of Sciences (Art History) and Master of Fine Arts (Painting). Brooklyn, NY

1997-2001 Williams College, Bachelor of Art (Art). Williamstown, MA. Concentration: Printmaking

SOLO EXHIBITIONS / PROJECTS

2017 "we are all islands 2," Mill Hall, Kochi, India

2016 "we are all islands," Nine Fish Art Gallery, Mumbai, India

2015 "On the Seashore of Endless Worlds," Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Mumbai, India

2014 "Sweet Surrender," Galerie Steph, Singapore

2013 "Reflections + Transformations," Aicon Gallery, New York, NY

2012 "hidden geographies," Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke, Mumbai, India

2004 "Crossroads," M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition, Pratt Institute, NY

1998 "Queer Series," WLS Spencer Gallery, Williamstown, MA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS / ART FAIRS

2020 "Abstract Notations," curated by Jesal Thacker, Gallery Espace, New Delhi

2020 "Art Off-Screen," curated by Eileen Jeng Lynch

2020 "Streaming," <https://s-t-r-e-a-m-i-n-g.com>, curated by Mike Childs and Melissa Staiger

2020 "Now, more than ever." Wassaic Project, wassaicproject.org

2020 Leslie Lohman Museum, Curated by Osman Can Yerebakan, New York, NY (Postponed to '21)

2020 Pen + Brush Gallery, curated by Bina Sarkar Ellias, New York, NY (Postponed to '21)

2019 "Making Space," Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai, NY

2019 "Outdoorsy Love," FTP Art Salon, Brooklyn, NY

2019 India Art Fair, Booth: Emami Art, New Delhi, India

2018 Untitled Art Fair, Booth: Pratt Fine Arts Alumni, Miami Beach, Miami

2018 "Thinking Collections: Open Studios," Asia Contemporary Art Week, New York, NY

2018 Open Studio, Elizabeth Foundation, New York, NY

2018 "What was ours?" The Loft at Lower Parel, Organized by AMAA, Mumbai, India

2016 "Studio Picks," The Loft at Lower Parel, Mumbai, India

2016 "Art for Concern Annual Charity Exhibition & Auction," Mumbai, India

2015 "Sparsh/Tactile," Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Mumbai, India

2015 "The 377191 Wall: A New Window to Understanding," Gallery Beyond, Mumbai, India

2015 "Reviving the Retinal," Curated by Kathleen Wyma, Gallery OED, Kochi, India

2015 India Art Fair, Booth: The Loft at Lower Parel, New Delhi, India

2014 "Cursory Glances," Curated by What About Arts?, Palladium Mall, Mumbai, India

2014 Asia Contemporary Art Show, Hong Kong, China

2014 "Noir/Blanc," The Loft at Lower Parel, Mumbai, India

2013 "Touched by Bhupen," Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke, Mumbai, India

2013 "Vikhroli Skins," Curated by India Culture Lab, Godrej Industries, Mumbai, India

2013 "OUT/OFF: Out of the gallery and off the walls," Curated by Chameleon Art Projects, Mumbai

2013 "RESIST," Engendered, New Delhi; Gallery Beyond, Mumbai; Forum Art, Chennai, India

2013 India Art Fair, Booth: Aicon Gallery, New Delhi, India

2012 Open Studio, Space 118, Mumbai, India

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- 2012 "Museum of Memories," Curated by India Culture Lab, Godrej Industries, Mumbai, India
- 2012 Mumbai Galleries Weekend, sponsored by Citibank. Mumbai, India
- 2012 "Can You See Me?," Engendered Gallery, New Delhi, India
- 2010 "Hope for Haiti-India Cares," Grand Hyatt, Mumbai, India
- 2007 "In-si-der," Curated by Sonal Singh and Brinda Kumar, Bodhi Art, Mumbai, India
- 2006 Joan Mitchell M.F.A. Grant Recipients, CUE Art Foundation, New York, NY
- 2004 "Territories," Aicon Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004 2004 CAC Juried Exhibition, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, NY
- 2004 "Explorations/Innovations," Kingsborough Community College, New York, NY
- 2004 Annual Pratt MFA Exhibition, Pratt Manhattan Gallery, New York, NY
- 2004 "Grand Group Show," Danny Simmons Corridor Gallery, Brooklyn, New York, NY
- 2004 "Drawing Show," Parsons Institute, New York, NY
- 2004 "MFAs Colliding," New York University, New York, NY
- 2002 "Extreme Existence," Schafler Gallery, Pratt Institute, New York, NY
- 2002 "9/11: Artists Respond," Schafler Gallery, Pratt Institute, New York, NY
- 2000 B.A. Thesis Exhibition, Williams College Museum of Art, MA
- 2000 Berkshire Artisans Association Juried Show, Lichtenstein Art Center, MA

AWARDS

- 2014 Civitella Ranieri Fellowship, Nominee, Visual Arts, Italy
- 2013 L'Oreal Paris Femina Women Awards, Nominee, Artist of the Year, India
- 2012 Montblanc Young Artist World Patronage Award, Germany
- 2009 TED Fellowship, TED, New York, NY
- 2005 Pratt Circle Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Pratt Institute, NY
- 2005 Certificate of Excellence Award for Outstanding Merit in Graduate Fine Arts, Pratt Institute
- 2005 Certificate of Excellence Award for Outstanding Merit in Graduate Art History, Pratt Institute
- 2004 Joan Mitchell M.F.A. Grant, Joan Mitchell Foundation. Cash Award: \$10,000
- 2001 cum laude, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
- 1997-2000 Dean's List, Williams College, MA
- 2000 Berkshire Artisans Association Fellowship, Berkshire Artisans Association, MA
- 2000 Class 1960 Scholars in Art, Williams College, MA
- 1998 BiGLaTA Fellowship, Williams College. Cash Award: \$2,500

ART CRITICISM / WRITING / INTERVIEWS

- 2021 Sharmistha Ray, "evidence," *Where is Art?: Space, Time, and Location in Contemporary Art*, Routledge Advances in Art and Visual Studies, Routledge: New York (forthcoming 2021)
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[When the Arts Resist Imperialism](#)," Hyperallergic, 7 Sep
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[An Indian Master of Fiber, Clay, and Bronze](#)," Hyperallergic, 20 July
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[A Trailblazing Lesbian Gets Her Due](#)," Hyperallergic, 29 June
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[Lover's Discourse: Cansu Korkmaz](#)," Artcritical, 19 Apr
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[Reviving a Forgotten Artist of the Occult](#)," Hyperallergic, 23 Mar
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[India's Reclusive Master of Primordial Form](#)," Hyperallergic, 16 Mar
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, "[Navigating the Slippage Between Reality and Illusion](#)," Hyperallergic, 9 Mar

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- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, ["Armory Week Lowdown: Shows To See,"](#) 2 Mar
- 2019 Sharmistha Ray, ["Filling Art History's Feminist Gaps,"](#) Hyperallergic, 20 Jan
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["The Young Firebrands of Indian Modernism,"](#) Hyperallergic, 22 Dec
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["An Artist's Soul, Out at Sea,"](#) Hyperallergic, 8 Dec
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["Asia Contemporary Art Week,"](#) Ocula, 15 Nov
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["Kanishka Raja's Life Between Two Worlds,"](#) Hyperallergic, Sep '18
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["Harnessing the Revelatory Power of Masks,"](#) Hyperallergic, Jul '18
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["A Feminist Artist's Postcolonial Animations,"](#) Hyperallergic, May '18
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, "Everything You Missed From New York's Edition of the Frieze Art Fair 2018," Elle India, elle.in, May '18
- 2018 Sharmistha Ray, ["Iterations: Dannielle Tegeder in Conversation with Sharmistha Ray,"](#) Artcritical, 15 Mar '18
- 2017 Sharmistha Ray, ["An Iraqi Artist Bears Witness to the Trauma of Displacement,"](#) Hyperallergic, Nov '17
- 2017 Sharmistha Ray, "Angel Network," Elle India, Nov '16
- 2017 Sharmistha Ray, "Dreamworks," Vogue India, Nov '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Interview with Hans Ulrich Obrist," experimenter.in, 28 Jul '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Interview with Naman Ahuja," experimenter.in, Jul '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Interview with Natasha Ginwala," experimenter.in, Jul '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Interview with Rahaab Allana," experimenter.in, Jul '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Interview with Marta Smolinska," experimenter.in, Jul '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Interview with Ariana Pradal," experimenter.in, Jul '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, ["In India, Choosing a Hairstyle is an Act of Social Revolt,"](#) TED Fellows x Medium.com, 25 Apr '16
- 2016 Sharmistha Ray, "Hit List," Elle India, Jan '16
- 2015 Sharmistha Ray, ["The Mumbai of Howard Hodgkin,"](#) Mint Lounge, 7 Feb '15
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "Inspiration from a Port," livemint.com, 22 Dec '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "Seven artists you must see at Kochi," livemint.com, 17 Dec '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "A vortex near the sea," livemint.com, 14 Dec '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "Anish Kapoor: Home Truths," Elle India, Dec '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "Media Frenzy," Elle India, Mar '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "The Vanhaerents Art Collection," Take on Art, '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "Conversation with Uli Sigg," Take on Art, '14
- 2014 Sharmistha Ray, "States of Arousal," Visual Essay, Gaysi Zine 05, Nov '14
- 2010 Sharmistha Ray, "Walking the Razor's Edge," Art India, Dec '10
- 2010 Sharmistha Ray, "Curating in the Ghetto," Indian Contemporary Art Journal, '10
- 2010 Sharmistha Ray, "Artistic Trail," Vogue India, Sep '10
- 2010 Sharmistha Ray, "When Indian art went global," Man's World India, '10
- 2010 Sharmistha Ray, "Young artists lay new foundations," The Economic Times, 10 Mar '10
- 2009 Sharmistha Ray, "A Place of Their Own," Art Pulse, Oct-Nov '09
- 2009 Sharmistha Ray, "Review: L.N. Tallur," Art Asia Pacific, Sep '09
- 2009 Sharmistha Ray, "Intimate Theater: A Soliloquy of Dislocations," Wynwood Art Mag., '09
- 2009 Sharmistha Ray, "The Business of Art," Verve India, '09
- 2009 Sharmistha Ray, "A Way in the World," Art India, Jun '09
- 2006 Sharmistha Ray, ["In touch with the Indian inside,"](#) The Telegraph, 9 Nov '06

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SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / LECTURES

- 2020-21 "Modernism in Bengal," Lecture Series, DAG New York (Ongoing)
- 2019 "Stonewall 50: What Now?" Panel with Stuart Comer, AA Bronson, Carlos Motta, Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami, FL
- 2019 Artcritical Review Panel, Panelists: David Cohen, Raphael Rubinstein, Seph Rodney, Brooklyn Public Library, New York
- 2019 SXSW, Guest speaker, "Womanhood, Motherhood & Entrepreneurship," Austin, TX
- 2019 Moderator, "TheSUMMIT 2019: Escape from Gravity," with Nat Roe (Flux Factory) and Felicity Hogan (NYFA), Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 Artcritical Review Panel, Panelists: Faye Hirsch, Robert C. Morgan, David Cohen. Brooklyn Public Library, New York
- 2017 Discussant, "Fine Arts: Entrepreneurship and the Creative Economy," Roundtable discussion, Steuben Gallery, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 Moderator, "Hope & Peace," 20 Years of Gallerie Magazine, The Royal Opera House, Mumbai
- 2017 Panelist, "Migration: To Be And Not To Be," Literature @ Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, David Sassoon Library, Mumbai, India
- 2016 Moderator, "When Words Imitate Art," Literature @ Kala Ghoda Arts Festival 2016, Mumbai
- 2015 Public Lecture, "Second Wave Feminism," Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Mumbai
- 2014 Speaker, "Distilling Culture," INK Salon, Four Seasons Hotel, Mumbai, India
- 2013 Visiting Artist Lecture, WLS Spencer Art Studio, Williams College, MA
- 2013 TED Talk, TED Fellows Retreat, Whistler, Canada. Duration: 8 min
- 2012 Moderator, "Leaps of Faith: Collector's Narratives," Art Chennai, India
- 2011 Public Lecture, "The Persistent Question of Indianness," India Art Festival, Nehru Center, Mumbai, India
- 2011 Chairperson & Moderator, "Art Conversations," Art Chennai, India
- 2010 Moderator, "Sources of Departure, Sites of No-Return," Emami Chisel, Kolkata, India
- 2009 Public Lecture, "Mapping South Asian Diaspora Art," Asia Society, Mumbai, India
- 2009 Chairperson, Global and Romani, Symposium, Emami Chisel, Kolkata, India
- 2009 Panelist, "Asian Art on Western Circuits of Exchange," Co-panelists: Yuko Hasegawa, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Ranjit Hoskote. India Art Summit, New Delhi, India
- 2009 Panelist, "India – Personal and Political," Co-panelists: Bina Sarkar Ellias, Ranjit Hoskote. Crossword Bookstore, Mumbai, India
- 2009 Discussant, Conversation with artist Maryam Jafri, Mohile Parikh Center & Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Mumbai, India
- 2006 Public Lecture, "Indian Artists and the Flat World," CSMVS (Prince of Wales Museum), Mumbai, India

ART JURIES / PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

- 2020 Juror, Wassaic Project, New York
- 2020 Visiting Critic, Flux Factory, Queens, New York
- 2019 Visiting Critic, Wassaic Project, Wassaic, New York
- 2019 Visiting Critic, Flux Factory, Queens, New York
- 2018 Visiting Critic, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York
- 2017 Juror, INK Fellows Program (Category: Art), INK Conferences, India

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- 2016 Juror, "binary," Piramal Art Residency, Mumbai
- 2016 Visiting Artist, What About Arts?, Artist Residency, Mumbai
- 2016 Visiting Artist, binary, Piramal Art Residency, Mumbai

ARTIST RESIDENCIES / RETREATS

- 2017-2019 Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, Short-term member, New York, NY
- 2015 Swimming Against the Tide, TED Fellows Retreat, Monterey, CA
- 2013 Fellows Climbing Mountains, TED Fellows Retreat, Whistler, Canada
- 2012 Engendered Artist Residency, New Delhi, India
- 2011-2012 Space 118, Mumbai, India
- 2010 ProHelvetia Curators' Residency, Art Basel 41, Switzerland, 2010

ART SALONS

- 2019 Curator, "Outdoorsy Love," Private residence, Brooklyn, New York
- 2017 Curator & Moderator, "Politics of Art," Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, Mumbai
- 2017 Co-curator, "Raising Feminist Sons," The Upstairs Studio, Mumbai
- 2016 Curator & Moderator, "Body Politics: Deconstructing the Male Gaze in the Visual, Literary and Performative Arts," Piramal Museum of Art, Mumbai
- 2016 Curator, "Genesis Eternal: Art Production, Sustainable Materials and the Environment," Museum of Goa, Goa
- 2016 Curator, "Sentient Objects, Second Lives," Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, Mumbai
- 2016 Curator & Moderator, "Pushing Boundaries: Design on the Edge," TARQ, Mumbai
- 2015 Curator, "Mythic Beings," Sharmistha Ray Studio, Mumbai
- 2015 Curator, "Secret Supper Project," Private residence, Mumbai
- 2014 Curator, "Writer as Shaman," Sharmistha Ray Studio, Mumbai
- 2014 Curator, "Alternative Spaces and New Initiatives," Sharmistha Ray Studio, Mumbai

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS / REVIEWS

- 2019 Lavina Melwani, ["Stonewall 50 and Gay Pride: One on One with Sharmistha Ray,"](#) Lassi with Lavina, 30 Dec 2019
- 2019 Lavina Melwani, ["It's Gay Pride Month in America and Indian Americans are part of it,"](#) CNBCTV-18.com, 6 July 2019
- 2019 [Art Is My Place of Healing,](#) Interview with Kiran Manral, Shethepeople.tv, 29 July 2019
- 2018 Bansie Vasvani, [Asia Contemporary Art Week,](#) Ocula, 5 Nov 2018
- 2018 Benita Fernando, "The Use of the Nude as Social-Political Commentary," Midday, 6 May '18
- 2017 Malavika Sangghvi, "Raising Feminist Sons," Midday, Jun '17
- 2017 Benita Fernando, "Wikipedia for female artists," Midday, 23 Apr '17
- 2017 Arya P. Dinesh, "Seamless Expressions," Indulge Magazine, Indian Express, Feb '17
- 2017 "Migration and its problems are here to stay," Indian Express, 13 Feb '17
- 2017 Nancy Adajania (editor), "Some Things That Only Art Can Do: A Lexicon of Affective Knowledge," Aroop / The Raza Foundation
- 2017 Bina Sarkar Ellias (editor), "Hope & Peace," International Gallerie, Vol. 20 No. 1, '17
- 2017 Jaya Kanoria, ["Looking into the well,"](#) ART India, Volume XXI, Issue II Quarter II, '17
- 2017 Katharina Domscheit-D'Souza, ["Queering the Landscape,"](#) Take on Art, Jan-Jun '17

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- 2016 "Beyond Words," Harper's Bazaar India, Nov '16
- 2016 Riddhi Doshi, "[Merging into a Digital Reality.](#)" The Hindu, Oct '16
- 2016 "Artist Sharmistha Ray takes us behind the scenes," Vogue India Blog, '16
- 2016 Cheryl-Ann Couto, "Digital Dystopia," Elle India, Oct '16
- 2016 Karen Eng, "In Search of the Queer Divine," TED Fellows Blog, Oct '16
- 2016 Kusumita Das, "An archipelago of art forms," The Hindu, 25 Sep '16
- 2016 Nancy Adajania, "A Polymorphous Love: Queering the Straight and Narrow," Exhibition Catalogue, we are all islands
- 2016 Deepali Singh, "Two Women," Two Shows," DNA After Hours, Oct '16
- 2016 "A Trip to an Astral Land," Mumbai Mix, Oct '16
- 2016 "Recharge: The Hindu's pick of the best events in the city," The Hindu, 2 Oct '16
- 2016 "Sharmistha Ray's Interpretation of Love in the Technological Age," Verve India, 4 Oct '16
- 2016 "Best of Mumbai this weekend in 10 events," Hindustan Times, 29 Sep '16
- 2016 Indira Basu, "Redefining body politics," The Hindu, 29 Apr '16
- 2016 Benita Fernando, "Women gaze back at Raja Ravi Varma," Midday, 24 Apr '16
- 2015 Maria Louis, "Being Woman," Architecture and Interiors India, Aug '15
- 2015 Maria Louis, "Crescent of a Woman," Architecture and Interiors India, Mar '15
- 2015 Lajja Shah, "The Sea, The Sea," ART India, Vol XIX, Issue III, Jun '15
- 2015 Parmesh Shahani, "Parmesh's Viewfinder: Breaking Stereotypes," Verve India, 13 Oct '15
- 2015 Amrita Paul, "Art of Steel with artist Sharmistha Ray," shethepeople.tv, 8 Sep '15
- 2015 "Artist Sharmistha Ray Unveils First Figurative Painting," gaysifamily.com, 24 Jul '15
- 2015 Huzan Tata, "Three's Company," Verve India, Jul '15
- 2015 "Indian Artists Who Are Exploring Sex & Sexuality in Important Ways," homegrown.com
- 2015 "Painting the Town Blue," Times of India, Feb '15
- 2015 Arshie Chevalwala, "Sharmistha Ray Images a Painting in 3D," Elle India, elle.in, Feb '15
- 2015 Riddhi Doshi, "Visitors get up close and personal with art," Hindustan Times, 9 Feb '15
- 2014 Siddhartha Shah, "Space between Spaces," ART India, '14
- 2014 Samanta Batra Mehta, "In her own voice," Take on Art, '14
- 2013 "Alpha Female," Elle India, elle.in, Oct '13
- 2013 "Delhi Spread," Art + Auction Magazine, Jan '13
- 2013 Ranjit Hoskote (editor), "Touched by Bhupen," Exhibition Catalogue, "Touched by Bhupen."
- 2013 Phalguni Desai, "In Memory," Time Out Mumbai, Nov 22 – Dec 5, '13
- 2013 Karen Eng, "Hidden Geographies," TED Blog, 18 Oct '13
- 2013 Kit White, Q&A, Exhibition Catalogue, Reflections + Transformations
- 2012 Deepanjana Pal, "The act of seeing," Exhibition e-Catalogue, "Can You See Me?"
- 2012 Nancy Adajania, "[How the Nomad Holds, Grasps and Moulds the Shape of her Location.](#)" Exhibition e-Catalogue, hidden geographies
- 2012 Olina Banerjee, "Global Art Comes Home," India Today, 13 Feb '12
- 2012 Simran Bhalla, "Spaced, out," Time Out Delhi, Feb '12
- 2012 Rituparna Som, "Deskjob to workshop," Grazia India, Feb '12
- 2012 Parmesh Shahni, "[Geographies of Being.](#)" Verve India, Feb '12
- 2012 Nirali Dixit-Hathi, "Look hues here," Bombay Times, 9 Feb '12
- 2012 Alaka Sahani, "Bold and Colourful," The Indian Express, 5 Feb '12
- 2012 Jayeeta Mazumder, "[Beauty always resides in the mundane.](#)" DNA, 17 Jan '12

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- 2012 Zeenat Nagree, "[Spot Colour](#)," Time Out Mumbai, Jan 20 – Feb 2, '12
- 2012 Diana Campbell, "[Show and Tell](#)," Vogue India, Jan '12
- 2011 Dhamini Ratnam, "The Art of Peeling Pink," Sunday Middy, 25 Dec '11
- 2010 Zeenat Nagree, "[Homeward Bound](#)," Time Out Mumbai, Vol7 Iss4, 15 – 28 Oct '10
- 2010 Divia Thani Daswani, "Art of Travel," Conde Nast Traveller India, Dec '10
- 2010 Nirali Dixit-Hathi, "Beyond borders," Bombay Times, 20 Nov '10
- 2009 Georgina Maddox, "Diaspora and the Arts," Indian Express, 18 Jun '09
- 2009 Elizabeth Flock, "The Fine Art of Investing in Fine Art," Forbes India
- 2004 Lavina Melwani, "A Space of Their Own," Anokhi Vibe, Fall '04
- 2004 "Artist Sharmistha Ray gets Joan Mitchell MFA Award," India Abroad, Sept '04