

Vis a Vis
Adria Arch and Anne Krinsky

Vis a Vis: Adria Arch and Anne Krinsky, an exhibition of paintings and works on paper by Adria Arch and Anne Krinsky, will be on view at Soprafina Gallery in Boston from April 1 to 30, 2016. The show features works informed by the Indian folk traditions the artists encountered during residencies at the Sanskriti Foundation in Delhi in 2014. Soprafina Gallery is located at 55 Thayer Street, Boston 02118. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 11:00 am to 5:30 pm. Tel: 617.728.0770 Web: www.soprafina.com

In January 2014, Adria Arch and Anne Krinsky were International Artists-in-Residence at the Sanskriti Foundation in Delhi, an educational center dedicated to the preservation and understanding of folk art traditions of India. While in Delhi and during travels in Rajasthan, Arch and Krinsky explored aspects of traditional Indian textiles, papermaking, puppetry and dance. The works to be exhibited at Soprafina grew out of their visual research -- a journey that took both artists to new places in their individual practices.

The ornate and striking leather shadow puppets depicting characters from Hindu mythology provide inspiration for Arch's work. Beginning with acrylic paint poured onto Mylar, a surface not unlike the translucent parchment used to make the puppets, she cuts around the most evocative shapes and then adheres them to paper. From that point, the paint spills begin to suggest a narrative that Arch enhances with flat shapes of high key color or other design elements drawn from her observations of India.

The colors, patterns and techniques of traditional textiles, particularly Phulkari embroideries from the Punjab, are a starting point for Krinsky's India-inspired works. The diagonal grids, diamond patterns and brilliant marigolds and reds that characterize these textiles animate her paintings on Khadi papers and on panel. Interested both in the geometric regularity of repeated pattern and in its disruption, Krinsky uses acrylic molding pastes, pumice gels and absorbent grounds to create weathered surfaces over which networks of floating lines detour in unanticipated directions.

Adria Arch is a Boston-based mixed media artist whose work features strong graphic elements and vivid color. Her work demonstrates an abiding interest in evocative shape, often from unpredictable or unexpected sources such as doodles or paint spills. She has exhibited extensively in New England and her site-specific, collaborative murals may be viewed at Stonehill College, Lesley University and at Danforth Art in Massachusetts. Adria is a technical consultant for GOLDEN Artist Colors.

Anne Krinsky is a London-based painter and printmaker, who creates installations with archived collections. Her *Shelf Life Project* has been exhibited in libraries, universities and museums in New England. Krinsky was awarded an Artist's International Development Fund Grant from Arts Council England and the British Council for her textile research in India. She also received an Arts Council England Grant for *Anne Krinsky: An Alphabet of Actions in the Women's Art Library*, a site-specific digital print installation exhibited at Goldsmiths University of London in 2015.

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