

Artist Jitish Kallat's "Circa" at Art Basel in Hong Kong

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Indian artist **Jitish Kallat's** installation "Circa" will be the star of a special event planned on Friday, May 24, from 4.30pm to 5.30pm, at the **ARNDT** booth (Hall 3 CO8) at the **Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre** at **Art Basel** in Hong Kong.



Jitish Kallat/ARNDT

Jitish Kallat poses against the backdrop of his installation "Circa" at Art Basel in Hong Kong

Kallat's "Circa," a 120-part sculpture evocative of the kind of ubiquitous bamboo scaffolding that is the staple of modern-day constructions across India, is in fact made of resin, with the recurring motif of a hungry animal imprinted upon it. Kallat derived the animal symbol from the entrance of Mumbai's **Victoria Terminus Station** (Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus), now a **UNESCO**-declared world heritage monument, and incorporated it into his installations because of the gargantuan proportions it assumes on account of its placement at the station's gateway, a daily entry and exit point for at least two million commuters, if not more. "It is a particular image of sustenance and violence," is how Kallat describes it, referring to the gesture of consummation that the hungry mouth implies and its resonance with the stuffed-beyond-capacity nature of the average Mumbai local train. "It's more of a scripture than a sculpture," Kallat has said in reference to this recurring motif.

"Circa" had its debut in Kallat's home city of Mumbai in 2011, when it was shown as part of "Fieldnotes: tomorrow was here yesterday," his critically acclaimed exhibition at the **Dr.**

ARNDT

Bhau Daji Lad City Museum. "Circa" then traveled to the **Ian Potter Museum of Art** in Melbourne, Australia, as part of the **Melbourne Festival**, in partnership with **Asialink Arts**, where it was on display from October 2012 until April 2013.

Now showing as one of the major exhibits at the ARNDT gallery booth at Art Basel in Hong Kong until May 26, "**Jitish Kallat: Circa**," a monograph of Kallat's solo at the Ian Potter Museum of Art, will be launched at the special event tomorrow. **Lesley Always**, director of Asialink Arts, **University of Melbourne**, will introduce the book that has been edited by two of the show's curators, **Natalie King**, and **Bala Starr** who have also contributed essays to the book along with **Nikos Papastergiadis**, **David Elliott**, and **Chaitanya Sambrani**.

Link:

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