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GALLERIACONTINUA San gimignano beijing les moulins habana

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SHILPA GUPTA 06/06/2015 - 27/09/2015

> Opening Saturday 6 june 2015, 16h30 - Midnight Wednesdays to Sundays, from Noon to 7pm

GALLERIA CONTINUA is pleased to present at the Moulins a new exhibition of the work of Shilpa Gupta. One of the young generation of Indian artists, in her work she privileges the use of a great variety of techniques and media. Her work takes on the form of videos, photos, and interactive installations. Shilpa Gupta is currently participating in the 56th Venice Biennale, with My East Is Your West, an important exhibition at the Palazzo Benzon, and is one of the artists chosen for Art Basel 2015 Unlimited, where she is presenting a monumental piece made of microphones.

For Shilpa Gupta, technology functions as a sort of extension of everyday re-ality, a narrative tool, as well as a research topic. The artist is interested in human perception and how information, visible or otherwise, is transmitted and interiorised in everyday life. With her constant desire to define the objects and the mechanisms for identifying places, people, and experiences, Shilpa Gupta explores zones where these definitions take shape, whether this is a question of borders, labels, or notions of power, censorship, endemic fear, and the obsession with security.

The work 24:00:01 is emblematic of this approach. The switchboard, a rational, precision object become absurd, shows a chaotic sequence of words and phrases, tied to numerous human problematics, notably that of migration. This theme returns with Confiscated Objects: as its title suggests, a series of objects confiscated by aeroport security officers. The photos in the series Fear speak of social relations, war, insecurity, and menace, the grotesque pendants to which appear in Untitled (belt), a ridiculous, oversized security agent's belt, or with the protective grill become almost poetic with its cloud shape. Further on, the work 2652, made of neon tubes, evokes the artist's footsteps linking together the Al Agsa Mosque, the Church of the Resurrec-tion, and the Wailing Wall, the emblematic holy sites of the three monotheistic religions in Jerusalem, thus questioning a history made of dialogue and con-flict. With Untitled, the symbol of passage represented by the door is stuck. Its user turns endlessly in circles, frustrated in any attempt to cross through it.

Shilpa Gupta was born in 1976 in Bombay, in India, where she lives and works today. Since studying sculpture at the Sir J. J. School of Fine Arts in Bombay, she has participated in numerous exhibitions around the world, no-tably with solo exhibitions in Asia, the US, and Europe, including recently in the 2015 Venice Biennale, the Kunstnernes Hus in Oslo, the MO Mucsarnok Kunsthalle in Budapest, the MAAP in Brisbane, the Contemporary Art Center in Cincinnati, etc. She has also participated in the Lyons, Gwangju, Liverpool, Auckland, Seoul, Havana, Sydney, Shanghai, Berlin, and Sharjah Biennials, and in the New York and Yokohama Triennials. Her work has been shown in prestigious spaces around the world, including the Tate Modern, the Centre Georges Pompidou, the Serpentine Gallery, the New Museum in New York, the Chicago Cultural Center, and the Louisiana Museum.