

"Press Note

For Immediate Release

Avid Learning presents अनहद / Unstruck: A Walkthrough with Subodh Gupta and Germano Celant at Famous Studios

Further details are as below:

Avid Learning and Nature Morte, New Delhi proudly present an Exhibition Walkthrough with contemporary artist Subodh Gupta and Curator and Artistic Director of the Prada Foundation, Milan, Germano Celant through his new exhibition, अनहद / Unstruck, at Famous Studios, Mumbai on 10th December 2016.

In his most recent works, Subodh Gupta explores the primary material for which he is known: metal in all its diversity. How does metal look, feel, behave and even sound? Included in the exhibition will be vibrating metal sheets, mirror finish metal pots, walls of crushed used utensils, and paintings on metal. The works, monumental in scale and dramatically installed, draw on the artist's background in theatre, and most are activated with light or sound. The works use every day common objects as their starting points but take on the qualities of the cosmos and intergalactic space. Gupta is interested in highlighting how one can find the universal in banal objects, witness the divine in the most humble of means. Join us for an exclusive walkthrough with the artist in conversation with Curator Germano Celant. Celant curated Gupta's 2014 solo retrospective at the NGMA in Delhi and has described his work as having an "uncontrollable eruptive force" and an "avalanche-like" quality. Do not miss this significant event as the maestro artist returns to Mumbai after ten years.

Venue: Famous Studios, 2-, Dr. E. Moses Road, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai

Date: 10th December 2016

Time: Tea: 5:00 - 5:30 PM

Walkthrough and Interaction: 5:30 - 6:30 PM

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अनहृद / Unstruck: A Walkthrough with Subodh Gupta & Germano Celant

Avid Learning and Nature Morte, New Delhi proudly present an **Exhibition Walkthrough** with Leading Contemporary Artist, **Subodh Gupta** and Curator and Artistic Director of the Prada Foundation, Milan, **Germano Celant** through his new exhibition अनहृद / Unstruck.

In his most recent works, Subodh Gupta explores the primary material for which he is known: metal in all its diversity. Included in the exhibition will be sculptures, installations, even paintings using metal. The works, monumental in scale and dramatically installed, draw on the artist's background in theatre, and most are activated with light or sound. Gupta is interested in highlighting how one can find the universal in banal objects and witness the divine in the most humble of means. Join us for an exclusive **walkthrough** with the artist in conversation with Curator Germano Celant. Celant curated Gupta's 2014 solo retrospective at the NGMA, Delhi and has described his work as having an "uncontrollable eruptive force" and an "avalanche-like" quality. Do not miss this significant event as the maestro artist returns to Mumbai after ten years.

Date: Saturday, 10th December, 2016

Venue: Famous Studios, 20, Dr. E. Moses Road, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai

Time: Tea: 5:00 - 5:30 PM | **Walkthrough and Interaction:** 5:30 - 6:30 PM

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About the Artist

Subodh Gupta was born in 1964 in Khagaul, Bihar, and studied at the College of Art, Patna (1983-1988), before moving to New Delhi, where he continues to live and work. Trained as a painter, Gupta is very uninhibited about the use of media (or scale.) Arranging traditional utensils, pots, and pans, Gupta approaches the readymade items with a Duchampian irony, while also offering social commentary, playing on the clichéd images of India's rapidly changing society. In identifying Indian icons that possess innate dichotomies, such as a colonial-style ambassador's car, sacred cow dung, or the stainless steel utensils of a typical South Asian kitchen, Gupta questions the ambivalence of a society caught between traditional customs and globalization, booming wealth and impoverishment, and old caste politics and religious beliefs. In 2007, Gupta's sculpture Very Hungry God, was exhibited in front of Palazzo Grassi,

parallel to the Venice Biennale. In 2013, he was awarded the Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, among the highest honours given out by the French government. In 2014 his mid-career survey was seen at the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, curated by Germano Celant. And late in 2015, his monumental sculpture When Soak Becomes Spill was installed in front of the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

About the Curator

Germano Celant is a renowned art historian and curator, internationally acknowledged for coining the name of movement Arte Povera. He has authored over 100 publications, including both books and catalogues, and has curated exhibitions in the prominent international museums and institutions worldwide. From 1989 to 2008, Celant was the Senior Curator at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York. In 1997 he served as Director of the Venice Biennale and he has been a contributing Editor to Artforum since 1977. Celant has been Director of the Fondazione Prada, Milan since 1995.

About Nature Morte

Founded in New York's East Village in 1982 and closed in 1988, Peter Nagy revived Nature Morte in New Delhi in 1997 as a commercial gallery and a curatorial experiment. Since then, Nature Morte has become synonymous in India with challenging and experimental forms of art; championing conceptual, lens-based, and installation genres and representing a generation of Indian artists who have gone on to international exposure. The gallery has been located in its multi-level space in Neeti Bagh, central south Delhi, since December 2003. In addition, the gallery has maintained multiple branches in various locations: Berlin (2008-2014), Calcutta (BosePacia Kolkata 2006-2009), and at the Oberoi Gurgaon hotel (2011-2014). Formerly partnered with the BosePacia Gallery in New York, in 2013 Aparajita Jain became the co-director of Nature Morte. Nature Morte was the first gallery from India to be included in the most important international art fairs (starting with The Armory Show in New York in 2005) and has participated in Art Basel, Fiac Paris, Art Basel Miami Beach, Paris Photo, Art Dubai, Tokyo Art Fair, Art Basel Hong Kong, Abu Dhabi Art Fair, Frieze New York, among others. Nature Morte has also organized projects and exhibitions with international artists coming to India and combining their works with those of Indian artists to foster cross-cultural communications. In addition to its own programming, Nature Morte has collaborated with institutions in India such as the British Council, the Alliance Francais, the Sanskriti Foundation, the India International Centre, the India Habitat Centre, Max Mueller Bhavan, the Italian Cultural Center, Khoj International Artists Association, the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, and the National Gallery of Modern Art in both New Delhi and Mumbai. Today, Nature Morte represents such well-known artists as Subodh Gupta, Jitish Kallat, Anita Dube, Mithu Sen, Jagannath Panda, Imran Qureshi, Mona Rai, Pushpamala N., Seher Shah, Thukral & Tagra, Raqs Media Collective, and Asim Waqif, as well as others.

About Avid Learning

Avid Learning, a public programming platform and cultural philanthropy arm of the Essar Group was founded in 2009, with the vision of featuring the best of Indian and International Writers, Artists, Thinkers and Cultural Experts, in the fields of Arts, Literature, Culture and Heritage, Design and Innovation through engaging formats like Workshops, Panel Discussions, Gallery Walkthroughs, Master Classes and Festival Platforms. Since our inception, AVID has conducted over 600 programs and connected with more than 85,000 individuals, a mix of students, homemakers, corporates and creative enthusiasts in different Indian cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Jaipur, Hazira and Vadinar. Over the years, AVID has also gained a reputation for curating thought provoking, trending and forward looking content that

art industry practitioners, patrons and art enthusiasts find stimulating both intellectually and creatively. AVID looks to the emerging opportunities and changing practices in this field, and continue to scan the arts and culture horizons globally in search of path-breaking programs that can be brought to discerning audiences in India. AVID seek to invite more people into the conversation about the arts and culture by deepening learning experiences through sustained partnerships and series and by diversifying their programming through new spaces, formats and approaches.

Thanks to a dedicated and innovative team, as well as a loyal community of learners, AVID continues to give truth to the belief that Learning Never Stops!

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