

Rohini Devasher

I am an artist and an amateur astronomer and my work looks at the role of 'observation', the 'observer' and the 'field' or 'site'. The act of observing and the observations themselves entail a multiplicity of complex practices of both looking (how attention is focused, what is looked at, how it is looked at, and why) and of seeing (ways of describing, collecting, sorting, mapping and measuring). No observation is ever truly unmediated. My work asks investigates the people, sites, forms and modes of interaction that this mediation takes. At the core of this is a recognition of the entanglement of relationships in the natural world, but also of the deep strangeness and weirdness of the spaces that are created by their collisions and fusion.

My films, prints, sounds and drawings, map the complexities of time and space, through the twin frames of wonder and the strange.

My work has been shown at the Open Data Institute London (2022), Rubin Museum, New York (2021-22), the Sea Art Festival, Busan (2021), Vienna Academy of Fine Art (2021), Goethe Institut Mumbai, the Kunst Leuven City Festival (2021) the 14th Sharjah Biennial (2019), Kaserne Basel (2019) Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) (2018), 7th Moscow Biennial (2017), the Spencer Museum of Art USA (2018,16), MAAT Museum of Art and Technology, Lisbon (2016), ZKM, Karlsruhe (2016), Bhau Daji Lad City Museum in Mumbai (2016, 2018) Singapore Art and Science Museum (2016), Whitechapel Gallery, London (2016), and the 5th Fukuoka Asian Art Triennial (2014), the Kochi Biennale (2012), among others.

Recent residencies include the Embedded Artist in Residence programme at the Open Data Institute (ODI) London 2021-22 and the Cove Park Fully Funded Artist-in-Residence programme 2022-23 with the City as a Spaceship Collective.

Current projects include:

One Hundred Thousand Suns, a four-channel film that explores the relationships between observation, information, data and truth, commissioned by Data as Culture (DaC) the art programme of the Open Data Institute (ODI), London.

The Observatory: Second Site, a web-hosted digital art project and physical exhibition in collaboration with sound artist and performer Legion Seven, commissioned by Khoj Studios, supported by the Swiss Arts council Pro Helvetia, Delhi.

www.rohinidevasher.com

www.theobservatorysecond.site

<https://www.artscabinet.org/contributors/rohini-devasher>

<https://culture.theodi.org/100000suns/>