

In the orbit of **myths**, nature and cities

- an Indian contemplation



Durga Puja 1

The goal of life is to make your heartbeat match the beat of the universe, to match your nature with nature.

Joseph Campbell, American mythographer

In June 2019 BURN-IN invites you to a journey to India. "contemplari" means to see up close, to direct one's attention to something. For many years Asit Poddar has mesmerised collectors of art from all over the world, by visualising and making many things come alive.

In the **series Durga Puja** he tells the impressive myth around the festival of the goddess Durga in delicate watercolours.

The **reduced nudes** (series women, temple) affect viewers with their poetic-sensual visualisation.

With his **land- and cityscapes** (Boats, The Park, Landscape, Red City Scape, Evening City) Poddar proceeds to the orbit of cities and nature alike and uses Joseph Campbell's monomyth of a **cross-cultural, identity-establishing narrative style as philosophical tool**. Thereby the visual "storyteller" Poddar plunges deep into the Indian mythology and teaches us a better understanding of the totality of all myths from nature, people, culture and religion. The artist, as a travelling hero who starts out on an important expedition, crosses different thresholds, sometimes failing, always learning his lesson and finally reaping the elixir.

Thus he shows **successful synchronisation of one's own life with the various universes as an endowment of life with meaning**.

BURN-IN has represented Asit Poddar since 2018 and in the oncoming solo-exhibition more than 20 works from 1995 to 2018 will be shown, including bronze sculptures, watercolours, charcoals, Sumi-ink and acrylic works.



Durga Puja 2

#arttransfer

India in full frame. The decisive moment. Both titles trace back to the French photographer, drawer, painter and director Henri Cartier-Bresson. Poddar's vita shows some clear similarities with Bresson's life.

A little anecdote illustrates one of these delightful key moments which, born from a coincidence, became defining for his future life.

During his college days in Kolkata he visited Henri Cartier-Bresson's exhibition "India in full frame". Poddar looked at the works of the genius critically and remarked to a friend that unfortunately he could not really see what was so special about them, because his own photo impressions of India were very similar. Somebody standing nearby was listening with interest and asked, if that really was the case. Poddar confirmed his statement and invited the stranger to his studio to prove his point. The gentleman accepted and appreciated his work. Finally he revealed himself as being Henri Cartier-Bresson. Poddar was very much impressed, embarrassed and at the same time deeply moved to be so close to the master of photography. Indeed a defining moment which shaped his life significantly.

Poddar has convinced BURN-IN with his artistic variety. He has enriched the BURN-IN portfolio and transfers his art successfully into the BURN-IN universe.

Cordial thanks to Mrs Evelyn Carhoun for the communication and the perfect cooperation.



Sonja Dolzer - BURN-IN gallery

The role of BURN-IN as a gallery | agency | think- and do-tank.

BURN-IN sees itself as a contemporary gallery and cross-disciplinary agency, which realises made-to-measure art-branding- and communication-projects with artistic intervention. The result: authentic communication which emotionalises, attracts attention and creates meaningful values. The perfect basis to convey artistic messages in a target-oriented way.

The time has come to reconsider "old" strategies. Invest in sustainability and uniqueness. Your assignment is our mission.

BURN-IN, fire and flames for the art.

Dolzer & Partner OG

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Opening Hours
Tue.-Fr. 10-12AM, 1-6PM
Sa: 10AM-3PM
Additional appointments on demand

ignite transfer



BURN-IN Gallery, Vienna
Exhibition 4th - 29th June 2019
Vernissage 4th June 2019, 7PM

In the orbit of
myths, nature and cities
- an Indian contemplation Asit Poddar (IN)

Evening City

invitation



Red City Scape

Asit Poddar

What is Art? It is the response of man's creative soul to the call of the Real.

Rabindranath Tagore, writer, philosopher & nobel laureate

Poddar was born in 1955 in Kolkata and studied art at the **Calcutta Art College** with a focus on painting, designing and photography. After graduating in 1977 he was awarded a scholarship at the **International Animation Institute in Tokyo**, where he finished his degree in photography and film animation in 1982.

Poddar is a versatile artist, an exceptional **painter, drawer, watercolourist** and **well-established in the fields of filmmaking**. He is an art **photographer** as well as a **graphic designer** and **printmaker, real universalist** and **cosmopolitan with a perceptible Indian DNA**.

Multidimensionality in time and space. Poddar's holistic creative process is mostly based on these two dimensions. The timeline of **past, present and future** provide the viewer with deep insights into his personal, emotional and spiritual world.

His works are reflexions of his experiences in **Asia and Europe**. The temporal continuity and the harmonious shift between time and space is reflected in many of his works and is an important, central element. You can feel the silence which he experiences on mountains and in the deep valleys. You get an idea of what the crowds of the megacities mean to him. You catch sight of the world how he perceives it intellectually and feels it emotionally.



Asit Poddar | India

Poddar connects **faith** with **culture** and **multilayered spiritualism** with **ZEN minimalism**. He sees architecture as an esthetic manifestation of civilisation and is passionately committed to social projects (www.kids-guernica.org/curator).

The **Bombay Art Society** awarded him for his excellent **black and white colour paintings in 2000**. The Indian government has honoured him for his outstanding work in visual arts.

Over the years Asit Poddar has convinced in many solo exhibitions and group shows in India, Indonesia, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Great Britain, Greece, Italy and Austria.

His works can be found in renowned collections in India, USA, Great Britain, France, Japan, Canada, South Korea, Italy, Greece and Austria.

Poddar lives and works in Kolkata.



Woman in sleep

Prizes and Awards

- 1977 Certificate of Merit from Art College, Kalkutta | India
- 1980 Scholarship International Animation Institute, Tokyo | Japan
- 1998 Senior Fellowship HRD Government of India for outstanding work in Visual Art | India
- 2001 Art Society, Mumbai | India

Solo-Exhibitions / Extract

- Birla Academy of Art&Culture, Kolkata | India
- Koga Art Museum, Ibaraki | Japan
- Kunjeon Art Gallery | South Korea
- Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai | India
- House of Lords, London | Great Britain
- Penzenau Castel, Merano | Italy
- Galerie Time | Kunstraum Wien Mitte, Vienna | Austria
- Albert Schweitzer Haus, Vienna | Austria



Boats