

EVENTS



ART

The Alter Project: Acclaimed London-based Korean photographer, Chan-Hyo Bae, is presenting a photo exhibition, at Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till March 24.

MUST SEE MUST DO

The Alter Project: Acclaimed London-based Korean photographer, Chan-Hyo Bae, is presenting a photo exhibition, at Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till March 24.

MUST SEE MUST DO

The Alter Project: Acclaimed London-based Korean photographer, Chan-Hyo Bae, is presenting a photo exhibition, at Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till March 24.

Last day to visit Chennai Photo Biennale!

Chennai Photo Biennale team thanks all its patrons and supporters



ORGANIZERS



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



ADOPT-A-VENUE PROGRAM



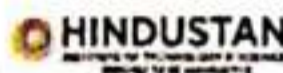
GOVERNMENT SUPPORT



EDUCATION PROGRAM



KNOWLEDGE SHARING PARTNER



WORKSPACE PARTNER



PRINT PARTNER



RADIO PARTNER



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



SEMINAR SUPPORT



HOSPITALITY PARTNERS



TECHNOLOGY PARTNER



INNOVATION PARTNER



EXPERIENCE PARTNER



PHOTO MAGAZINE PARTNER



SOCIAL MEDIA PARTNER



GEARSHARING PARTNER



STORAGE PARTNER



CELEBRATION PARTNER



GOOD TIMES PARTNER



PAINT PARTNER



PROJECTION PARTNER



DESIGN PARTNER



CREATIVE PARTNER



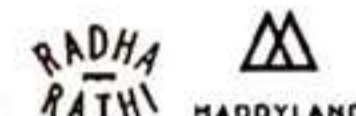
LEGAL PARTNER



DIGITAL MARKETING PARTNER



CREATIVE CAMPAIGN



COVERAGE PARTNER



IPHONE PHOTOCAMP PARTNERS



INSTITUTIONAL & CULTURAL PARTNERS



EXHIBITION VENUE PARTNERS

SUPPORTING GALLERIES



CHAN-HYO BAE'S WORK IS ABOUT EXPLORING THE AMBIGUITY OF THE DEFINITION OF BELIEF

Purnima.Sah@timesgroup.com

I was curious about how the world works in the western countries that had the South Korean Chan-Hyo Bae, former photojournalist pack his bags and move to England. When he landed there, he experienced unpleasant cultural prejudice for the first time, and that environment nudged him to pursue art and explore the various dimensions of gender discrimination, social and cultural differences, prejudices and stereotypes prevailing in the western culture. His previous work, titled 'Existing in Costume' is a collection of five different series, starting from 2005 to 2018, each titled — Self-Portrait, Fairy Tales, Punishment Project, Witch Hunting Project and Jumping Into The Oil Paintings. These artworks were done during his days in England when he was exploring the social position of Asian men in western society.

Chan-Hyo Bae, who lives and works in London now, talks to us about his work that is on display at the Inko Centre till today as part of the Chennai Photo Biennale.

"When I was in South Korea, I vaguely admired the western culture," he begins. "So, I decided to go to England in 2001 for higher studies. From then on, I developed an interest in learning about the cultural prejudice caused by the difference between eastern and western



All pictures are from Chan-Hyo Bae's series, 'Existing in Costume'. This one is Witch Hunting

THE FIRST TIME I EVER VISITED A HINDU TEMPLE, I SAW PEOPLE OFFERING PRAYERS VERY SINCERELY AND I WAS FASCINATED BY THAT. THOUGH I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY WERE DOING, I TRIED TO USE MY IMAGINATION AND EXPERIENCE

IN 2005, I WAS INTERESTED IN THE SOCIAL POSITION OF ASIAN MEN IN WESTERN SOCIETY, BUT I ALSO REALISED THAT THIS WAS MY STORY AND THAT'S HOW I STARTED TAKING A SELF-PORTRAIT THAT BECAME MY VISUAL LANGUAGE TO EXPRESS SOME OF MY FEELINGS

culture. I came across many 'culture shock' moments and faced unpleasant experiences involving racial discrimination on the pretext of superiority. Following these things, I started thinking about differences such as gender, culture, race and religion," shares Chan-Hyo Bae.

A GLIMPSE OF THE VICTORIAN ERA AND WESTERN FAIRY TALES

Until he experienced all this unpleasantness, says Chan-Hyo Bae, he never questioned the male superiority back home, even though it was all pretty much the same. "At the beginning of my work in 2005, I was interested in the social position of Asian men in western society. But I also realised that this was my story and that's how I started taking a self-portrait that became my visual language to express some of my feelings. I tried to reproduce exactly the British historical costumes, makeup and hairstyles from the middle age to the Victorian era from 13th to the 19th century. Even after working for two years, I couldn't find answers to the questions about my feelings of alienation. In the process, I learnt that people are innocent and are just affected by education and history. I wanted to create my version of history books. Why I chose fairy tales to tell that story is because I thought they're quite similar to history but I had a condition that the stories must contain a depiction of social class," he says.

THE DESIRE OF POWER IN HUMANS

Talking about his series 'Punishment Project', he says that it revolves around 'human power' and 'will to power'. He is expressing the desire for power in human nature. "For this project, I chose five power holders from the English history I highlighted how they made political conflicts with their rivals, how they prescribed punishments in order to prove their political power and authority. Through my art, I described the emotions arising as a result of political power and authority."

In 'Witch Hunting Project' he has shown the difference between cultural prejudice and cultural fantasy. He chose witchcraft to unveil the violence of perception in society which involves contracting with the devil and flying in the sky with a broomstick. In 'Jumping Into Oil Paintings' he has worked with mythical paintings, inserting animal skin into them, representing the act of authoritative violence.

IN SEARCH OF BELIEF

Recalling his first-ever visit a Hindu temple, he says, "I saw people offering their prayers very sincerely and I was fascinated by that.



Worshipping the devil



Raining down the hailstorm

Ganesha Temple

Though I couldn't understand what they were doing, I tried to use my imagination and experience. My father is a Buddhist. It struck me that every religion is similar in terms of customs and rules. But the only difference is the object of belief. Since I'm

not religious, at that moment, I felt like an outsider and began to think who is wrong and who is right. This led me to question and compare. Thus, 'The Altar Project' which I did in the UK. I am exploring the ambiguity in the definition of belief."

2 DAYS ONLY...DON'T MISS IT

KIDS CARNIVAL

24,25 MARCH - 2019
SRI RAMACHANDRA CONVENTION CENTER
 (BEHIND THIRUVANMIYUR BUS DEPOT)
THIRUVANMIYUR, CHENNAI

TIMING: 10.30 AM - 8.30 PM

KID'S GAMES TO ENTERTAIN AND ENJOY

PROMPT ENQUIRY : 93810 02567, 95436 68097

Welcome this **Summer** with a smile

Equipped with CamScanner

SWIMMING CLASSES ARE BACK AT AMBASSADOR BALLAVA