

Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Impressions@MAHE

Arts and Humanities Collection

Researcher Profile

Spring 10-1-2022

Phenomenological embodiment, artistic research, contemporary painting and drawing, ecological psychology, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, New Materialism

Asmita Sarkar

Follow this and additional works at: <https://impressions.manipal.edu/arts-and-humanities-collection>



Part of the Arts and Humanities Commons

RESUME

First Name- Asmita Surname- Sarkar

Born- 1983

Email; asmitasarkar39@yahoo.co.uk/asmita.sarkar@manipal.edu

<http://asmitasarkar.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Asmita-Sarkar-2>

Mob-8095511806

Permanent Address: 39, N.C Saha Road, Bhadrakali Hoogly. West Bengal

Current Resident of Bangalore 003, 1st Block Heritage Estate, Doddaballapura road Bangalore 560064

Current Employment

Faculty (2015- present) at Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design, and Technology. Bangalore, Karnataka

PhD Research Scholar (April 2017- February 2017) at Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) Manipal, Karnataka.

Current Projects-

-Had been shortlisted for the yearly call for exhibition at the archive of the National Centre for Biological Science (NCBS) Bangalore. Currently holding conversation about a possible residency conceptualised around the concepts of chronobiology. This residency will possibly be with the artist Khushbu Patel.

- Wrote a proposal for the Fulbright Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the US with Professor Pradeep Dhillon, from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Academic Qualification

- 2022 Ph.D., Manipal Academy of Advanced Study, MAHE, Tiger Circle Road, Madhav Nagar, Manipal, Karnataka 576104

Thesis Guide – Dr. Aileen Blaney, associate professor, Flame University, Pune (former faculty of Srishti Institute)

External examiners: 1) Dr. Arun Iyer, associate professor, IIT Bombay, Mumbai. 2) Dr. Shraman Mukherjee, assistant professor, Ashoka University, Sonapat, NCR.

Thesis Title: Exploring the metaphoric and embodied nature of traces and marks on contemporary painting Insights from Practice. My Ph.D. is practice-based but also incorporates theoretical investigations into phenomenological aesthetics and inquiry into the intersection of artistic and scientific visualization. My practice is contemporary drawings and paintings, and these include digital and site-specific ones

- 2010 MFA [Master in Fine Arts] from Gray's School of Art, Robert Gordon University, Scotland [This course encompasses contemporary art theory and practice] Recipient of Saltire Scholarship by Scottish Government and Teaching Assistantship by Gray's School of Art.
- 2008 MA [Master of Arts in Psychology] University of Calcutta [Special Paper- Experimental Psychology and Statistics] [1st class].
- 2006- BA [Bachelor of Arts, Major - Psychology, Electives- History, English Literature] University of Calcutta, Bethune College. [1st class].

Publications

- **Material Metaphor and Reflexivity in Contemporary Painting: A Practice-based Investigation, Authors Asmita Sarkar, Aileen Blaney.** Accepted in Journal of Aesthetic Education (due Spring 2023) <https://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/?id=jae> (University of Illinois Press)

- **Painted Spaces: An Exploration through Embodied and Expansive Practice, Author Asmita Sarkar.** in the Journal of Visual Art Practice <https://doi.org/10.1080/14702029.2022.2056800>
<https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/rjvp20> (Taylor and Francis Journal)

I have been recently invited to review a paper for this journal. <https://publons.com/researcher/5160029/asmita-sarkar/peer-review/>

- **The flesh of imagination: locating materiality in biology inspired visual art, June 2021, Leonardo DOI: 10.1162/leon_a_02102** Asmita Sarkar, Aileen Blaney
https://direct.mit.edu/leon/article/doi/10.1162/leon_a_02102/102692/The-flesh-of-imagination-locating-materiality-in (MIT press)
- **SARKAR, Asmita. Dark Material and the Indexical in the Drawings of Prabhakar Pachpute. TRACEY, [S.I.], v. 15, n. 1, p. 1-11, may 2021. ISSN 1742-3570. Available at: <https://ojs.lboro.ac.uk/TRACEY/article/view/3016> published by Loughborough University, Loughborough, England.**
- **Ecology of site-specific painting and drawing: Embodied and empathic mark-making in urban cities, June 2021 Visual Inquiry, Asmita Sarkar https://doi.org/10.1386/vi_00023_1 (intellect Press, Bristol, UK)**
- **Seeking theory-practice relations between humanities and fine-arts through practice of painting, Rupkatha Journal of interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities Volume 12, Number 5, 2020 I DOI: 10.21659/rupkatha.v12n5.rioc1s1n5 <https://rupkatha.com/V12/n5/rioc1s1n5.pdf>**
- **The Phenomenal and the Cultural in Contemporary Paintings from Indian Diaspora: Published in The Chitrolekha Journal on Art and Design Volume 4, Number 2, 2020 I Full Text PDF (<http://chitrolekha.com/v4n207/>**
- **Exploring drawing as a generative act: Articulating thought processes in the context of interdisciplinary approaches to drawing pedagogy: Drawing: Research, Theory, Practice, Intellect publishing Volume 2, Number 1, 1 April 2016, pp. 157-173(17), https://doi.org/10.1386/drtp.2.1.157_1 (intellect Publishing, Bristol UK)**

Refereed conference presentation:

- 1st Rupkatha International Open Conference on Recent Advances in Interdisciplinary Humanities (Virtual)2020
Paper title: Title: Seeking theory-practice relation between humanities and fine-art through practice of painting
- Drawing Matters Symposium York UK: Organized by Culture of Making Group, School of Art, Design and Computer Science, York St John University. York UK 14th July 2017
- CCCAD first International Conference on Creativity and Cognition in Art and Design, Bangalore, India organized by National Institute of Design and National Institute of Mental Health and Neuroscience, <http://www.iccad.com/> 19.01.2017-21.01.2017

•

Other Peer-reviewed Academic Publications

- Article on the theme Drawing as Representation, published in 'Tracey; Drawing and Visualization Research Journal' Loughborough University <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/microsites/sota/tracey/journal/rep/sarkar.html>
- Paper presentation in Extremity and excess conference; University of Salford. 8/9 September 2011; title of the paper; Excess of Expression in 20th Century Visual art; the norm and the anomaly.
- Article published in the journal Tracey Title- Drawing, migration and cultural memory; critical narrative of an artist. Research theme;- Drawing and memory <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/microsites/sota/tracey/journal/mam/sarkar.html>
- **Critical theory (taught courses)-Ecology of Contemporary Art, Key Studies from Social Psychology (or social psychology for designers), Texts and Documents of Contemporary Art.**

Other Academic activities

Attended a 3-day workshop (online) "Communicating Science to Non-Specialists Workshop" in collaboration with GlobalSCAPE and sponsored by Horizon 2020 in the EU 15,16 & 17 March 2022. The motivation to attend this conference was to acquire more skill to facilitate my art-science classes.

A referee and session moderator for The Cumulus Association of designer conference, held at the Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, November 20th-23rd, 2017.

Regular Jury and workshop facilitator for different student's artistic projects in Srishti Manipal Institute, 1 Shanthi Road Artist's Collective, and many student-lead venues.

Recent Artist Projects (Funded and Curated)

The 4tables Art project: 1 month residency in Guneher Village, Bir Valley, Himachal, India.

<http://www.the4tablesproject.com/asmita-sarkar/>

The Light Inside: A multimedia installation by Asmita Sarkar Solo Show at 1shanthi Road Studio Gallery Jan 2019

<http://1shanthiroad.com/the-light-inside-a-multimedia-installation-of-works-by-asmita-sarkar/>

Exchange & Flow Writing Workshop 1-5 March, 2019

Core participant and workshop facilitator in Exchange & Flow Writing Workshop 1-5 March, 2019. supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, UK and follows on from a large-scale, three-year European project 'Technology, Exchange and Flow: Artistic media practices and commercial applications'. The project is led by Transtechnology Research, University of Plymouth, UK. It was held as a part of Kochi Biennale 2018. A <https://app.dimensions.ai/details/grant/grant.7829908>

Project in NCBS

Art-science intervention in the form of a creative display on Moths and their biology in the International conference: Biology of Butterfly 10th June 11 2018, organized and held in NCBS Bangalore. <http://www.biologyofbutterflies.org/> I have been invited by Dr Krushnamegh Kunte, Email: krushnamegh@ncbs.res.in, krushnamegh@biodiversitylab.org Lab websites: <http://biodiversitylab.org/>, <http://www.ncbs.res.in/krushnamegh/home>. With whom I have discussed and negotiated about specific biological and ecological features of the moths and have tried to visually capture these. Preliminary drawings can be seen in the following link <https://asmitasarkar.wordpress.com/figuratives/>

Past Projects and residencies

The thin line' by Asmita Sarkar – a show of painting as installation and painterly installation exploring the thin line separating what threatens and what pleases our senses.

4 – 8 March 2016 <https://asmitasarkar.wordpress.com/2016/03/13/project-in-g-159/>

- 1 month artist's residency in Space 118, Mumbai, India June 2016.

In Scotland after graduating, I have worked from February 2010 to January 2013, working as Free-lance painter and curator. Volunteering and exhibiting in local galleries and arts organizations.

- Qualification/experience related to writing:

French- fluent [spoken and written]; diploma holder from Alliance Francaise du Bengal, Level- DALF;C1 [Advance diploma in French language and civilization]

German- basic skills [spoken and written] Level DELF-B1 intermediate user

- Professional Experience Outside of academia

February 2013- June 2014. Project Consultant at [Minds Abroad](#), developing cultural immersion experience, managing internships, volunteering opportunity for faculty and student in US/Europe in Asia. Writing content about program, researching cost and managing logistics and communication.

Translator/writer from French to English in Toutedvert.com as a freelance translator, writing small articles on ecology and environment

March 2013 – October 2014 volunteering in a Story telling project namely 'Peace-work' organized by (Seagull Arts and Media Centre, Kolkata. February 2013 Telling story and engaging with young, underprivileged Children is the main activity. <http://0318da2.netsolhost.com/pwarchive>