



GONKAR GYATSO

Lives and works in Beijing, China, London, UK, and New York, USA

Education

- 1999 – 2000 MA Fine Art, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London
(Distinction)
- 1980 – 1984 BA (Hons), Traditional Chinese Painting, Department of Fine
Art, Central Institute of Nationalities, Beijing, China

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 **Buddha's Picnic** (installation), Staniar Gallery, Washington and Lee
University, Virginia, USA
- 2016 **Family Album**, Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University,
Atlanta, USA
- 2016 **1020 Prayers** (performance installation), Boulder Creative
Collective Warehouse, Boulder, USA
- 2015 **Transcendental**, Mimmi Scognamiglio Artecontemporanea, Milan,
Italy
- 2014 **Gonkar Gyatso: Pop Phraseology**, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
- 2013 **Gonkar Gyatso: Meditations on Irony**, La Gallery Pfriem at SCAD
- 14 Lacoste, France, continued to Moot Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2012 **Three Realms – Realm 3**, Queensland University Art Museum,
Brisbane, Australia
- 2012 **Three Realms – Realm 2**, Griffith University Art Gallery, Brisbane,
Australia
- 2011 **Three Relams – Realm 1**, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia
- 2008 **Gonkar Gyatso Retrospective**, Art Dubai, Dubai
- 2004 **Tibetan Word – Art of Communication**, The Sweet Tea House –
Contemporary Tibetan Art Gallery, London, UK
- 2003 **Leverhulme Fellowships and Artist Residence Show**, Pitt Rivers
Museum, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

- 1999 **Contemporary Tibetan Art – Gonkar Gyatso**, The Sontsen House Gallery, Zurich
- 1997 **Gonkar Gyatso - Contemporary Tibetan Buddhist Art**, International Cultural Centre, Helsinki
- 1996 **The Footprints of Buddha**, International Cultural Centre, New Delhi, India
- 1994 **The Contemporary Artist – Gonkar Gyatso**, Anymacheng Instud, Dharamsalla, India
- 1987 **Modern Tibet Art of Gyatso**, The Revolution Exhibition Hall of Tibet, Lhasa, Tibet

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 **A Path to Enlightenment**, SGA in collaboration with Hushen Art Museum and Songtsam Museum, Shanghai, China
- 2024 **Vessels of Memory**, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
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- 2024 **BABEL**, Bury Art Museum, Bury, UK
- 2023 **Intimacy and Immediacy**, Vicki Myhren Gallery, Denver, USA
- 2023 **AAF New York**, TAG Fine Arts, New York, USA
- 2023 **Art on Paper NYC**, TAG Fine Arts, New York, USA
- 2022 **London Original Print Fair**, Tag Fine Arts, London, UK
- 2021 **Spirituality as Abstraction**, Appetite, Singapore
- 2018 **Absorption as a Way of Seeing**, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong, China
- 2018 **AAF Hong Kong**, TAG Fine Arts, Hong Kong
- 2018 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2017 **Art Asia in London** (special commission for 20th Annoversary), TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
- 2017 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2017 **AAF Battersea**, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
- 2017 **Quotidian**, Pearl Lam Galleries, Shanghai, China
- 2016 **Labyrinth(s)**, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong
- 2016 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2016 **AAF Hong Kong**, TAG Fine Arts, Hong Kong

- 2016 **Journey from Heart**, The Scorching Sun Art Lab, Lhasa, Tibet
- 2015 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2015 **AAF New York**, TAG Fine Arts, New York, USA
- 2015 **AAF Hong Kong**, TAG Fine Arts, Hong Kong
- 2015 **Janela. Migrating Forms & Migrating Gods**, Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Kochi, India
- 2015 **Transcending Tibet: Mapping Contemporary Tibetan Art in the Global Context**, Rogue Space Chelsea, New York, USA
- 2015 **Buddha – 1008 Begegnungen (108 Encounters)**, Museum Angewandtkunst Frankfurt, Germany
- 2015 **Immortal Present: Art and East Asia**, Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, USA
- 2014 **AAF Hong Kong**, TAG Fine Arts, Hong Kong
- 2014 **Words Tend to be Inadequate**, Pearl Lam Galleries, Shanghai, China
- 2014 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, F1 Pit Building, Singapore
- 2014 **Buddha: Ten thousand Embodiments, Images of Buddha in Tibetan Art**, Rouge & Noir Gallery, Lhasa, Tibet
- 2014 **Metaphysical**, Mimmo Scognamiglio Artecontemporanea, Milan, Italy
- 2014 **Navigations: Urban Dialogues**, Red Gallery, London, UK
- 2014 **Insights into the Wemhöner Collection**, Osram – Höfe, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 **Tibet and India: New beginnings**, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
- 2014 **Beste Aussichten (Best Prospects)**, Galerie Sherin Najjar, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 **London Art Fair**, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
- 2013 **Freedom, Just Another Word for...**, MASS MoCA, North Adams, USA
- 2013 **AAF Hong Kong**, TAG Fine Arts, Hong Kong
- 2013 **Collections Show**, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- 2013 **Art Stage Singapore**, Anthony Meier Fine Art, Haunch of Venison, Singapore
- 2013 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2013 **Speak to Me**, Sullivan and Strumpf, Sydney, Australia
- 2013 **Footsteps of the Buddha: Masterworks from Across the Buddhist World**, Sotheby's, New York, USA
- 2013 **The Weight of History**, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- 2012 **AAF Singapore**, TAG Fine Arts, Singapore
- 2012 **Seeking Shambhala**, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA
- 2012 **Ministry of Truth**, Boers-Li Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2012 **Bologna Art First**, Bologna, Italy

- 2012 **Art Stage Singapore**, Haunch of Venison, Singapore
 2012 **Selected Works: New Acquisitions from the QUT Art Collection**, Queensland University of Technology Art Museum, Australia
- 2011 **The Art of Mapping**, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
 2011 **Buddha's Trace**, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Germany
 2011 **L'artsa come Rishi (The Artist as Rishi)**, International Centre of Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy
 2011 **Tradition Transformed: Tibetan Artists Respond**, Hood Museum, Hanover, USA
 2011 **Drawn from Life**, Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Cumbria, UK
 2011 **Decade of the Rabbit/Big Bang**, White Rabbit, Sydney, Australia
 2011 **London Art Fair**, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
- 2010 **Identity Theft**, Mimmo Scognamiglio Arte Contermporanea, Milan, Italy
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 2010 **Works on Paper**, Rossi & Rossi, London, UK
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 2010 **Roundabout**, City Gallery Wellington, New Zealand
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- 2010 **Multiplied Contemporary Editions Fair**, TAG Fine Arts, Christie's, London, UK
 2010 **Scorching Sun of Tibet**, Songzhuang Art Centre, China
 2010 **Tradition Transformed: Tibetan Artists Respond**, Rubin Museum of Art, New York, USA
 2010 **World of Thousands**, Space Station, Beijing, China
 2010 **The Beauty of Distance, Songs of Survival in a Precarious Age**, 17th Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
 2010 **Mapping Identity**, curated by Carol Solomon and Janet Yoon, Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery, Philadelphia, USA
 2010 **A Man is not a Tree**, Galarie Sherin Najjar, Berlin, Germany
 2010 **25th London Original Print Fair**, TAG Fine Arts, Royal Academy, London, UK
 2010 **AAF New York**, TAG Fine Arts, New York, USA
 2010 **London Art Fair**, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
 2010 **Within Emptiness**, 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
 2010 **Get it Louder 2010**, Sanlitun SOHO, Beijing, China (travelled to 800 Show, Shanghai)
- 2009 **The 6th Asian Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art**, QAGOMA, Australia
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 2009 **Making Worlds**, 53rd Venice Biennial, Venice, Italy
 2009 **Tempting God**, China Art Projects, Depot Gallery, Australia
 2009 **24th London Original Print Fair**, Royal Academy, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
 2009 **Trading Meaning**, DAC Gallery, Beijing, China
 2009 **Tibet Art Now: on the threshold of a new future**, Tibet Art Gallery,

- Temple, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2009 **Unbounded: New Art for a New Century**, Newark Museum, USA
- 2009 **Tibetan Visions: Contemporary Painting from Tibet**, Asia Onlus, Rome, Italy
- 2009 **Two Voices**, Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 2008 **London Original Print Fair**, TAG Fine Arts, London, UK
- 2008 **A Question of Evidence**, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary, Vienna, Austria
- 2008 **Return to Lhasa**, Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2008 **The Asia Pacific Contemporary Art Fair**, shContemporary 08, Shanghai, China
- 2008 **Contemporary Tibetan Art**, Art Hong Kong 08, Hong Kong
- 2008 **Gonkar Gyatso Retrospective**, Art Dubai 2008, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- 2007 **Past & Present – Tibetan Art – 13th to 21st Century**, Christopher Farr Courtyard Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
- 2007 **Buddha and Christ – a sense of togetherness**, The Sweet Tea House, London, UK
- 2007 **Consciousness and Form – Contemporary Tibetan Art**, Rossi & Rossi, London, UK
- 2007 **Hobby Horse – Yeah, Yeah Dada asia**, Avanthay Contemporary, Zurich, Switzerland
- 2007 **Thermocline of new Art Asian Waves**, ZKM / Museum of Contemporary Art, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2007 **Lhasa – New Art from Tibet**, 798 Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China
- 2007 **Tibetan encounters; contemporary meets tradition**, Neuhoff Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007 **Terrain**, inIVA, London, UK
- 2006 **Oh! What a beautiful day – Peter Towse and Gonkar Gyatso's Shared Visions**, Rossi & Rossi, London, UK
- 2006 **Waves on the Turquoise Lake: Contemporary Expressions of Tibetan Art**, CU Art Museum & The Colorado Collection, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA
- 2006 **Modern Art from the Roof of the World – Contemporary Tibetan Art**, Siebnbergsmuseum, Germany
- 2006 **Tibet**, Wereld Museum, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2006 **Culture bound – East Wing Collection VII**, Courtauld Institute of Art, London, UK
- 2006 **Rethinking Tradition – Contemporary Tibetan Artists in the West**, Visual Art Gallery, Emory University, Atlanta, USA
- 2005 **Die funf Tibeter-zeitgenossische tibetische kunst**, Gallery Artraktion, Bern, Switzerland
- 2005 **From classic to contemporary – vision from Tibet**, Rossi & Rossi and the Sweet Tea House – Contemporary Tibetan Art Gallery,

London, UK

- 2004 **The Refuge Week; Leave to remain** selected group show, Immigration and Diversity Museum, London, UK
- 2003 **Sanctuary Contemporary Art & Human Rights**, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK
- 2003 **Radiant Transmission: Contemporary Masterpieces of Tibetan Buddhist Art**, October Gallery, London, UK
- 2000 **MA Degree shows**, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London, UK
- 1999 **Limbers Due Tibet**, selected group show, Lyon City Gallery, France
- 1998 **Visions From Himalaya Contemporary Tibetan Art**, selected group show, The Reality Room Gallery, Washington, USA
- 1997 **MA Degree Show**, Central St. Martin's College of Art and Design, London, UK
- 1989 **China/Avant-Garde**, The National Art Museum of China, Beijing
- 1985-87 **The Sweet Tea House Artists Group Show**, The Sweet Tea House, Lassa, Tibet

Collections

The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, USA
Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Australia
White Rabbit Gallery, Australia
Crocker Art Museum, California, USA
The Burger Collection, Switzerland
White Rabbit Gallery, Australia
Red Gate Gallery, Beijing, China
Wereld Museum, Rotterdam, Nederland
The Newark Museum, New York, USA
Rossi & Rossi, London
Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford
Immigration and Diversity Museum, London
Sweet Tea House-Contemporary Tibetan Art Gallery, London

Fellowships and Residence

- 2011 Singapore Tyler Print Institute, Singapore, Artist in Residence
- 2003 The Leverhulme Trust, London. (Leverhulme fellowships and Artist residence at Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford)
- 2001 Southern Art, Hampshire, England. (Year of Art 2000 Artist's residence)
- 1996 Central St. Martin's College of Art & Design, London. (Guest Artist scholarship)
- 1989-91 Centre Academy of fine art & Crafts, Beijing, China, (Fellowship for contemporary crafts design)

About the Artist

Gonkar Gyatso was born in 1961 in Lhasa, Tibet. Gyatso's current work stems from his fascination with material and pop culture, and calls attention to the mundane as well as the extraordinary in comical but beautiful hybrid collections of images. He imaginatively pokes fun at modern times, even as he engages with contemporary concerns. He brings his own transnational experience to bear on his art, and while not overtly political, he is not afraid to allude to political themes. Gyatso explains that "just as the identity of my motherland, Tibet, cannot be separated from religion and politics, I think my own sensibility has been shaped by the undeniable bond between the two."

Gonkar Gyatso is the founder of the Contemporary Tibetan art gallery, The Sweet Tea House, which ran from 2003 – 2010, and in 2009 was selected to take a part in the 53rd Venice Biennial. His work has been published internationally and exhibited in galleries and museums including: The Metropolitan Museum of Art New York, The Chinese National Art Gallery (Beijing), The Kangra Museum (India), The Glasgow Gallery of Modern Art (Scotland), The Courtauld Institute of Art (London), The Wereld Museum Rotterdam (Netherlands) and Colorado University Art Museum and Collections (USA). Works by Gyatso are now held in The Newark Museum (USA), The Pitt Rivers Museum (Oxford), Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (Australia), Burger Collection (Switzerland), The Newark Museum (New York), and numerous private collections.