

MAJHI INTERNATIONAL ART RESIDENCY 2023

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Durjoy Bangladesh Foundation (DBF) Announces Majhi International Art Residency 2023 in Paris

[Paris, 20 September] — Durjoy Bangladesh Foundation (DBF) is excited to announce the launch of the Majhi International Art Residency 2023, a two-week residency taking place from 7 – 23 October 2023 in Paris. This edition of the residency marks the latest chapter in DBF's ongoing commitment to bridging art between the East and the West.

Three selected artists, **Rajyashri Goody**, **Raisa Kabir**, and **Aiko Tezuka**, will embark on an artistic journey and will be commissioned to create new artworks as a testament to their artistic research and the cultural exchange.

The Majhi International Art Residency arrives at the heart of Paris this year after successfully establishing itself as a migrating residency throughout Europe, having successfully anchored in Venice, Berlin, and Eindhoven since its inception in 2019.

The artistic culmination of the residency will be showcased in a group exhibition under the direction of Paris-based curator **Ricko Leung**.

The Concept of Majhi

The Majhi International Art Residency Programme represents a decade-long focus of the Durjoy Bangladesh Foundation (DBF). Its overarching mission is to provide a robust international platform for artists, fostering creative connections and facilitating cultural exchanges between the East and the West.

The multi-year programme seeks to bridge divides and connect individuals, towards a vibrant channel for an international exchange of ideas and experiences, bringing together artists from across the globe. The aim is to foster mutual understanding and cooperation while facilitating dialogue between professionals from diverse corners of the world and the thriving South Asian art scene.

Majhi — a word deeply rooted in the cultural fabric of Bangladesh — embodies the spirit of this residency. Majhi refers to the ubiquitous boatman, navigating the mighty Padma River, ferrying souls from one bank to another, often in solitude, battling against the tide.



Curatorial Theme: Textile and Indigo

This year's curatorial theme of the residency and exhibition will be around the history and conceptualisations around indigo. It is a pigment that shares a close relationship with textile, which coincides with one of the thematic focuses of Asia Now, our venue partner in Paris. The history of textiles is very closely tied to the colonial history of Bengal, much of which now forms current Bangladesh. The selected artists have been invited to explore the connection between plant and textile as well as the historical and cultural meanings of its distinct colour.

Participating Artists: Rajyashri Goody, Raisa Kabir, Aiko Tezuka Exhibition: 19–22 October 2023 (vernissage on 19 October)

Venue: Asia Now, Monnaie de Paris, 11 Quai de Conti, 75006 Paris

Download high-resolution images [here](#).

More updates and information on the curated group exhibition will be available soon.

For media inquiries and further information, please contact:

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Artist Biographies

Raisa Kabir

Raisa Kabir is an artist, textiles researcher and weaver based in London.

Kabir utilises woven text/textiles, sound, video and performance to materialise concepts concerning the interwoven cultural politics of cloth, archives of the body and colonial geographies. Kabir's (un)weaving performances use queer entanglement to comment on structures of trans-national power, global production, and the relationships between craft and industrial labour. Her work speaks to cultural anxieties surrounding nationhood, textile identities and the cultivation of borders

She has exhibited work internationally at; The Whitworth, The Tetley, Arnolfini, Liverpool Biennial, CCA Glasgow, British Textile Biennial, Ford Foundation Gallery New York, The Craft Council London, India Art Fair, HH Art Spaces Goa, Raven



Row, Glasgow International, and The Center for Craft Creativity and Design N.C. Kabir has lectured on her research at Tate Modern, ICA London, The Courtauld, and the V&A.

Website: www.raisakabir.com Instagram: [@raisa_kabir_textiles_](https://www.instagram.com/raisa_kabir_textiles_)

Aiko Tezuka

Since 1997, Aiko Tezuka has embarked on a type of work that unravels readymade fabric. She has continued to create new structural forms by referring to and editing historical objects, using unique methods of her own. She completed a PhD in Painting in 2005 at the Art Research Department of Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto, Japan (studied under painter Usami Keiji).

Her work has been exhibited across Europe and Asia: The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (Japan); The National Art Center, Tokyo (Japan); TextielMuseum (Netherlands); National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea (Seoul, Korea); Turner Contemporary (UK); Museum of Asian Art (Berlin, Germany); Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe Hamburg (Germany); Kunsthalle Mannheim (Germany); and Rijksmuseum (Netherlands) among others.

Born in Tokyo in 1976, Aiko Tezuka has lived in Berlin since 2011 and is currently active in Berlin and Tokyo.

Website: aikotezuka.com Instagram: [@aikotezuka](https://www.instagram.com/aikotezuka)

Rajyashri Goody

Rajyashri Goody incorporates various mediums in her practice – text, voice, paper pulp, ceramics, photography, printmaking, video and installation.

Goody completed her BA in Sociology at Fergusson College in Pune in 2011, and an MA in Visual Anthropology at the Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology at the University of Manchester, UK in 2013. She was a resident at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam between 2021 and 2023.

Goody's art practice is informed by her academic background and her Ambedkarite Dalit roots. She is interested in creating space and time for thinking through everyday instances of caste-based violence and Dalit resistance, and how elements like food, nature, language and literacy are actively used as tools to enforce caste rules for generations.



Rajyashri Goody (b. 1990) is from Pune, India, and is currently working between the Netherlands and India.

Website: www.rajyashrigoody.com Instagram: @rajgoody

Ricko Leung, Guest Curator

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Ricko Leung is an independent curator and visual artist living and working in Paris since 2014. Drawing inspiration from her multicultural identity, her curatorial and artistic practices delve into topics such as fear and control, cultural identity and post-colonialism, as well as eco-feminism. Ricko has curated several exhibitions in Paris and in Greece. Besides, she has published a large number of art critique articles and interviews of various artists, curators, and art collectors. Website: arteverglow.wordpress.com Instagram: @smilericko

About Durjoy Bangladesh Foundation (DBF)

Durjoy Bangladesh Foundation (DBF) is a non-profit foundation established by Durjoy Rahman in 2018 and has a mission to support and promote art from South Asia and the region in a critical, international art context.

DBF's programming cultivates and presents rigorous artistic and socially responsible practices through exhibitions, commissions, residencies, community engagement programmes and publications.

DBF programmes are conducted with the aim of developing new dialogues, narratives and interconnections between home-based and diaspora South Asian artists and the international cultural community.

The foundation's goals are strengthened by fruitful synergies with cross-platform cultural partners, including educational and governmental institutions, museums, foundations and non-profits, art fairs and art festivals, community platforms and charities.

Press enquiries

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