

Baba Anand Indochine



Venue:

Matthieu Foss at C&L Gallery



01/18 First Floor, Kamal Mansion, Arthur Bunder Road, (near Radio Club),
Colaba, Mumbai 400 005.

Opening:

Monday, 7 January, from 7 - 9 p.m.

On view:

8 - 22 January 2008, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Closed Sundays)

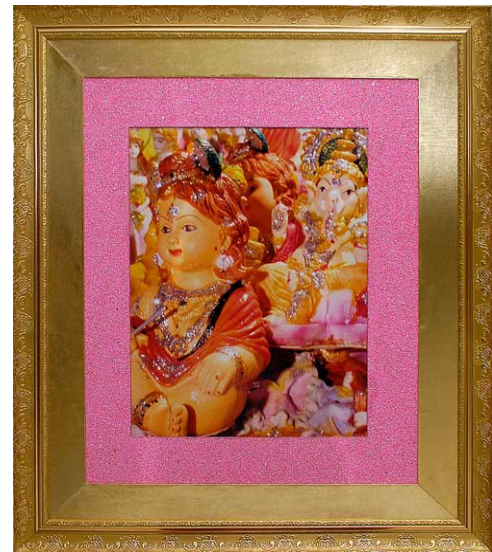
Images available on request © Baba Anand, courtesy Matthieu Foss

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Matthieu Foss has the pleasure to present 'Indochine', a selection of photographs by Baba Anand. This is his first photography exhibition and even though he has only recently started experimenting with this medium he has already developed a style which is unique and avant-garde.

The images are excessive and dramatic and for the first time Baba has restrained himself from collage as he feels the photographs have an element of kitsch and an overindulgence of their own. He has however maintained his very original and decorative style by displaying these photographs in highly glossy, bold colored mattes and flamboyant frames.



His art is vivid, vibrant, and energetic, along with an element of playfulness. As Baba explained, his taste for kitsch came from an “excessiveness” and “energy” he found in popular Indian imagery. Greatly inspired by popular culture for many years he has used Oleographs from the Raja Ravi Varma Press and popular vintage Bollywood posters as the foundation for his signature style of collage where he collides and decorates these popular images with beads, faux fur, floral decoration and other unusual three-dimensional objects.

He also creates personalized portraits using his distinctive style, characteristic techniques and a mix of colors, making these portraits one of a kind. So far his choice of subject has always been Gods, Deities, Bollywood personas, everything that has this grandeur, this larger-than-life element to it but surprisingly in ‘Indochine’ he has surprised us with the juxtaposition of dolls with deities. Inexpensive, shoddy dolls found in any common market place. In spite of which these dolls make their presence felt and have the power to grab our attention.

Most of the elements of these photographs are “Made in china”, the dolls, the resin deities, the frames, the fabrics and the furs...The Indian Deities made in China are ironic and amusing at the same time. Also, the dolls have a sinister feel, wrapped as they are in plastic.

The recent rejection of “Made in china” toys by major US toy companies makes this show even more significant and shows us Baba’s sensitivity to global issues and his need to spread awareness about causes close to his heart through whatever medium he chooses to pursue.



Biography:

Baba Anand was born in 1961, in Srinagar, Kashmir. He began his career in the world of fashion; he graduated from the National Institute of Fashion Technology (New Delhi). After eight successful years in the fashion industry, Baba decided to turn to Art. Since then, his works have been exhibited extensively with shows in New Delhi, Mumbai, London, New York and Cannes. He has also been featured in many International Publications such as British Vogue, Vanity Fair, NY Magazine, India Today, Nice Matin, Elle and Air Canada Magazine. Since 2002 Baba has been living between New Delhi, NY, Paris.

Personal Exhibitions:

- 2008: G'ds & Demi G'ds, Lio Malca Gallery, New York
- 2008: Indochine, Matthieu Foss Gallery at C&L Gallery, Mumbai
- 2007: Baba Anand, Art Miami, Miami
- 2007: Baba Anand, Festival de Cannes, Cannes
- 2007: Baba Anand, Gallerie Enrico Navarra, Paris
- 2006: Les Fleurs du Bien, Creteil Maison des Arts, Paris
- 2005: Baba Boulevard, vitrines des Galeries Lafayette, Paris
- 2004: Bollywood and Deities, Shala Yoga House, New York
- 2004: Bollywood Rare, Rare Inc, New York
- 2003: From Bollywood to Bond, Gallery Selima, New York
- 2003: The Credo Series, In collaboration with the French Embassy in India & the Paris French Alliance in India- Bombay, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Madras, Hyderabad
- 2002: Bollywood exposed, Hotel Savoy, Cannes (Cannes Film Festival 2002)
- 2002: 3 1/2 Weeks of Bollywood, Gallery Selfridges, London
- 2001: Bollywood Shrine, Gallery Apparao, Bombay
- 2000: Experimental spirituality, Galerie Nature Morte, New Delhi

Group

Exhibitions:

- 2008: Bollywood Installation, Watermill Summer Benefit, the Hamptons NY
- 2007: New Delhi New Wave, Marella Gallery, Milan
- 2007: India 25, Museum of Modern Art, Moscow
- 2006: Bombay Maximum, Lille 3000, Lille
- 2006: Third Eye, Lille 3000, Lille
- 2006: Premier Vue, Passage de Retz, Paris
- 2003: The Sixth Sense, Gallery Kismet, New York
- 2001: Kitsch Kitsch Hota Hai, "Kitsch and contemporary imagination" Curator Madhu Jain, Gallery Espace, New Delhi
- 1999: "Abstract Schematic", Galerie Nature Morte, New Delhi

Selected

Monographs:

- "Les Fleurs du Bien" or "Flowers of Bliss", written by Jérôme Neutres (Former Cultural Attaché of the French Embassy in India) 2005.
- Baba Anand, written by Jérôme Neutres, published by Galerie Enrico Navarra, Paris 2006.

Awards &

Scholarships:

- Recherche Libre Scholarship*** for advanced research in the field of Art and Collage Paris, France April 2002—August 2002
- Recherche Libre Scholarship*** for advanced research in the field of Art and Collage Paris, France March 2005—August 2005