

TEJAL SHAH & VARSHA NAIR

ENCOUNTER(S)

Tejal Shah (b. 1979) is a visual artist working with video, photography, performance, sound and installation. She has exhibited widely in museums, galleries and film festivals. Solo exhibitions include *"What are You?"*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York and Galerie Mirchandani + Steinruecke, Bombay, 2006; *The Tomb of Democracy*, Alexander Ochs Gallery, Berlin, 2003. She is the recipient of the Sanskrit Award in Visual Arts, 2009. Tejal grew up in central India, Chhattisgarh, eventually moving to Bombay in 1995. She holds a BA in photography from RMIT, Melbourne and has been an Exchange Scholar at the Art Institute of Chicago. Currently finishing her MFA part-time from Bard College, New York, Tejal works out of her laptop and Bombay city.

Varsha Nair has exhibited her solo and collaborative works internationally and in Thailand, where she has lived since 1995. Her selected shows and projects include *September Watch*, Conference of Birds Gallery, Bangkok, 2009; *On the Silk Road*, various locations in Iran, 2008; *A Proper Place*, Ryllega Gallery, Hanoi, 2007; *Exquisite Crisis & Encounters*, New York, 2007; *Sub-Contingent: The Indian Subcontinent in Contemporary Art*, Turin, 2006; *In-between places*, Si-Am Art Space, Bangkok, 2005; *Video as Urban Condition*, Austrian Culture Forum, London, 2004; *With(in)*, *Art In General*, New York, 2002; *Home/Dom*, Collegium Artisticum, Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina, 2002; *Free Parking*, Art Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, 2002.

She presented performances at *Beyond Pressure*, Yangon, 2009; *Asiatopia 11*, Bangkok, 2009; *OPEN 10*, Beijing, 2009; *Performance Saga*, Basel, in collaboration with Lena Eriksson, 2009; at *Khoj Live*, New Delhi, 2008; *Tate Modern*, London, in collaboration with Tejal Shah, 2006; *On the Move*, Hong Kong, 2008; *National Review of Live Art*, Glasgow in 2006 and 2004; and at *National Review of Live Art Midland*, Perth, 2005. Nair is editorial board member of the web art journal *Ctrl+P Journal of Contemporary Art* (www.ctrlp-artjournal.org) and co organizer of *Womanifesto* in Thailand (www.womanifesto.com).

Born in Kampala, Uganda, she studied at Faculty of Fine Arts, Maharaja Sayaji Rao University, Baroda, India.