

RIYAS KOMU

Co-founder of the Kochi Biennale Foundation.

Director of Programmes and co-curator of the inaugural Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2012.

Born in 1971, Kerala. Lives and works in Mumbai and Kerala.

Riyas Komu is a multi-media artist and an activist working towards developing the art infrastructure in India. His critically acclaimed political works have been exhibited extensively in India and abroad, which include several key works that focus specially on the political and cultural history of Kerala. His works are part of the larger narrative of the making and unmaking of artistic influences and also reflect the current issues in global context.

In 2007 he was one of two artists from India to be selected by curator Robert Storr for the 52nd Venice Biennale. He has participated in Jogja Biennale, Indonesia. Exhibitions include shows at the GEM Museum for Contemporary Art (The Hague, The Netherlands, 2009), The Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art (Oslo, Norway, 2009), the Shanghai Museum of Contemporary Art (Shanghai, China, 2009) and the Gwangju Emerging Asian Artists Exhibition (Gwangju, Korea, 2010). Solo exhibition, 'Safe to Light' in Iran (Azad Art Gallery, 2010). Significant works focusing on football include "Mark Him", with the Indian National Football Team and "Left Legs" with the Iraqi National Football Team (2008/2010). His works were recently shown at Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Israel and the Centre Pompidou, Paris, as part of their "Paris-Delhi-Bombay" exhibition. Solo shows include, Ambulance 2002, Faith Accompli 2004 - 2005, Systematic Citizen 2007, The Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai, Related List, 2008. Subrato to Cesar 2010.