

Bio-sketch of Riyas Komu

Riyas Komu earned his MA in Fine Arts from the Sir JJ School of Art, Mumbai, in 1999, and in 2007 he attracted attention in Europe with his exhibition at the Venice Biennial.

The artist's oeuvre spans several media and genres, but his primary vehicles are sculpture, photography, and video installations. Strong political undercurrents are a distinctive feature of Riyas' art. Affected by his father's political views and his own experiences as an active member of political groupings, his works are not content to simply relate a story or hang on a wall; they look back at the spectator. Riyas' works often refer to India as a country of paradoxes where immense wealth and indescribable poverty cohabit side by side. Through his art, Riyas calls attention to the complex nature of India, his works reflecting both hope and despondency.

Riyas has showcased his works on the biggest international stages, and his creativity and passion inspire those both within and outside his field of work. We are proud to be associating with Riyas in holding a talk as part of our 'Pursuit of Excellence' lecture series this Pravega.