



APPLICATION FORM 2010

THE WHYNOT PLACE

Summer Residency Programme

'Every up and down is fertile ground for a whole world of possibilities...'

'The WhyNot Place' residency programme is a unique art residency organized by Religare [arts.initiative](#), a New Delhi based arts organization. Held within the gallery spaces at Religare arts.i gallery, the first art hub of Religare [arts.initiative](#), this residency brings together a select group of emerging and mid-career artists ranging across different media and sensibilities. The residency is intended as a process studio that enables each artist to further their own conceptual and aesthetic sensibilities within a broad thematic framework suggested by a mentor. The program was launched in the summer of 2009.

Beginnings...

Religare [arts.initiative](#) is located in Connaught Place, the heart of New Delhi. Connaught Place (CP) is a relatively new city centre created by colonial town planners in 1911 when the capital of British India was shifted to Delhi from Calcutta. New Delhi as a city, was planned on the outer limits of Shahjahanabad or Old Delhi. *The day New Delhi and CP were completed, all the power and a huge slice of dynamism flowed out of Old Delhi into the new colonial capital.*

For many decades, CP and New Delhi were Delhi's nerve centre. This urban centrality gradually decreased as Delhi grew radially outwards, first to all the colonies in South and West Delhi, then through all the development in North Delhi and lastly as the city ballooned in terms of population, in East Delhi. The huge residential and commercial real estate development boom in Gurgaon, Ghaziabad, Faridabad and Noida were also responsible for some of Delhi's vitality shifting outwards.

By the early 2000s shopkeepers in CP were lamenting the decline in the quality of their market. *The vitality and dynamism of the city centre had reached its outer limit and CP was dying – much the way Old Delhi declined 80 years before.*

The arrival of the metro in CP suddenly injected a whole new energy into CP. Everyone in Delhi who had earlier been daunted by the long journey, now found it very simple to use every excuse to get to CP. And suddenly all of Delhi was thronging to CP all over again. *All it took was one intervention, and CP was bustling all over again in a whole new way.*

Cities, city centres, city limits... they're all like that. They rise, they spread, they over-reach, they stretch too thin, they decline, competition either aids their decline or forces them to revitalize... they die, they rise again. The Delhi of today, itself encompasses seven cities of Delhi over time.

Similarly, summer is seen as a season of decline in CP as also within the arts calendar. "Nothing happens in summer, so why bother going out in the heat for anything more than you *absolutely have to?*" is a common lament.

'The WhyNot Place' residency programme was conceptualized in the hope that it would not only expand the existing bouquet of programmes and infrastructure supportive of the arts, but also *revitalize* CP as a living, learning epicenter of the artistic possibilities inherent in the *WHYNOT idea, that has the potential to revitalize any place, anything, anyone...*

THE WHYNOT PLACE Summer 2010 - THE TRANSFORMING STATE:

India in the last decade has been a keen example of both: macro and micro changes. With the approaching Commonwealth Games, the face of Delhi is undergoing rapid transformation. Personal and Cultural identity blur and reform boundaries. The Natural and the Urban form new compromises with each other. Indian and Western values clash and shake hands. Architecture chooses historic renovation or completely denies its past in favour of modernization. And Connaught Place is at the heart of this incredible upheaval.

In this exciting and alive transition several questions are being thrown up in the air. Questions about “What do these changes say about us? Who are we, who were we, who are we becoming - visually, socially, psychologically? What are our values? What is worth keeping and what is worth changing? “

Using the armature of the shifting nature of our capital, this residency aims to create a dialogue around these questions. Based on their own independent interests and practices, resident artists will be asked to process, critique and digest their impressions of the external and internal landscape in very open ended ways (including optional exercises, dialogues, slideshows, field trips, critiques and studio visits). The work produced in this intense period will be exhibited for a month at arts.i.

Conducted right at the tail end of the flux in Delhi being caused by the Commonwealth games, artists will be given the opportunity to explore these issues from a personal and environmental standpoint in ways best suited to their pre-existing practice.

WHAT: A one month cutting-edge, mentored residency for emerging and mid-career artists, in Connaught Place: the heart of New Delhi, in the 12,000 sq ft Religare arts.i gallery space, followed by a one month exhibition and catalogue publication. 12 - 16 artists will be chosen in total, with 6 - 8 artists working together in each month. Artists will be encouraged to push the boundaries of their practice – materially, educationally and conceptually, expanding their knowledge and consideration of artistic methodology – what all it can be, what all it can do and what are the several possible ways of doing it particular to their own practice.

From Religare arts.initiative

- Accommodation
- Vegetarian Meals – lunch & dinner
- Substantial budget for materials and production
- One time travel expense to & from New Delhi (within India)
- Field Trips
- 24 hours studio access
- Group exhibition at Religare arts.i gallery post residency period
- Catalogue publication
- Talks, presentations, studio visits, video screenings and introductions to curators, writers, gallerists and artists among other practitioners

From the Artist

Bring in at least 4 artworks created in the last 2 years.

- These art works will be on consignment with Religare [arts.initiative](#) for a period of 1 year or as decided mutually between Religare [arts.initiative](#) and artist. They will be for sale with the usual 50% gallery commission.
- This work / works will have the opportunity to be promoted by Religare [arts.initiative](#) to art collectors through events organised by/ participated in, by Religare [arts.initiative](#).
- All works created during the period of the residency will be part of a group exhibition at Religare arts.i gallery and accompanied by a catalogue and exhibition related collaterals. The works will remain on consignment with Religare [arts.initiative](#) for a period of 1 year or as decided mutually between Religare [arts.initiative](#) and artist. They will be for sale with the usual 50% gallery commission during the exhibition and during the period of consignment.
- The artists will donate two works done in the last two years to Religare arts.i gallery's collection. Selection of works will be mutually agreed upon between each artist and Religare [arts.initiative](#). Works in the Religare arts.i gallery collection are represented and promoted from time to time in major art events of significance.

WHEN: Applicants will be chosen for one of two sessions: (Please indicate if you have a preference. Artists considering site-specific work are requested to apply for session 2.)

Session 1: 1st – 29th June, 2010

Session 2: 1st – 29th July, 2010

Flexible: (can fit into either session)

Final exhibition: 10th August – 31st August 2010

ELIGIBILITY: Emerging/ mid- career artists. Please note that we can only cover travel expenses to Delhi from within India. International artists are welcome to apply if they can secure other means of funding and support for their travel to and from India. Please note while we currently don't have our own printmaking, woodworking facilities or photo labs we will try and facilitate it if given enough advance notice by the artists.

HOW TO APPLY:

Deadline for us to **receive** portfolio and documents: **2nd April 2010**. Successful applicants will be informed by 30th April about their selection.

If sending application **via email**, please make sure all the required text is in one Microsoft word or PDF document (compatible with Windows). The images can be in the same document or in a separate folder.

If sending application **via regular mail**, send us a Windows compatible CD of your images/ or photographs, along with text.

VISUAL ARTISTS

1. Portfolio: Choose one of the following options

Option A: DIGITAL IMAGES:

5 – 15 images (including details). Max size: 1024 X 768 at 72 dpi. (Image size should not be larger than 1 MB each). Number them clearly in the order you would like them to be viewed with your name followed by the number. For example if you are Raju Singh, your images will be titled rajusingh1, rajusingh2 etc.

VIA EMAIL:

Send in one folder/ PDF document with the rest of the materials to thewhynotplace@gmail.com

The subject line of the email should clearly state your full name and say ('The WhyNotPlace Residency 2010' application/(*mention media...e.g. painting, sculpture, video etc.*)

OR

VIA POSTAL MAIL: burned on a Windows compatible CD and mailed with the rest of the materials to –

Religare [arts.initiative](#) Ltd.

('The WhyNotPlace Residency 2010'/(*mention media...e.g. painting, sculpture, video etc.*)

7 Atmaram Mansion, First Floor

Scindia House, Kasturba Gandhi Marg

Connaught Place, New Delhi – 110 001

Option B: PRINTED IMAGES

5- 15 images, A4 size, High quality print outs, clearly numbered.

Include a list with the title, dimensions, date and media for each image separately (or with the text included in the image). Write your name on each image.

Option C: VIDEO – can be burned onto a DVD as a QuickTime, NTSC or PAL

We will review up to 7 minutes of video

2. VISUAL ARTS - WORK SAMPLE DESCRIPTION LIST

Include this list with the title, dimensions, date and media for each image. The short description is optional. In case of Video or other media simply submit a paragraph explaining the project we are looking at.

NAME: _____

1. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ **Size:** _____

Short Description:

2. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ **Size:** _____

Short Description:

3. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ **Size:** _____

Short Description:

4. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ **Size:** _____

Short Description:

5. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

6. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

7. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

8. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

9. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

10. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

11. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

12. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

13. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

14. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

15. Title: _____

Year of Completion: _____

Medium: _____ Size: _____

Short Description:

3. A short artist statement (English/ Hindi describing your work, motivations and interests): 200 words to 300 words.

4. Optional: Proposal statement. If you have a basic idea of what you might like to explore or create while on this residency please let us know in under 200 words. Also include any material or technical requirements you might foresee.

5. A one-page resume listing Educational qualifications, Shows, Residencies, Grants and Awards, and Publications/ press articles if any.

OTHER ARTISTS: Incase of Sound, Writing, Performance (or other artistic disciplines) please contact us via email at thewhynotplace@gmail.com for submission options.

6. Applicant information - Complete this section:

DISCIPLINE:

NAME: _____ Female ___ Male ___

COLLABORATION: Yes ___ No ___ Collaborator(s) Name(s): _____

Collaborator(s) Discipline(s): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBERS: Home: (_____) _____ Work: (_____) _____

Cell: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

EMAIL _____ **URL:** _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **PLACE OF BIRTH:** (City/State/Country) _____

CITIZENSHIP: _____

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: (in addition to working artist) _____

Application checklist:

1. Work Samples _____
2. Work Sample Description List (Visual Arts) _____
3. Artist statement _____
4. Optional proposal _____
5. Resume _____
6. Applicant information _____

ABOUT RELIGARE ARTS.INITIATIVE:

Religare **arts.initiative** is India's first corporate supported arts organization established on the founding vision of creating a **360 degree platform for the arts in India**, to provide Indian contemporary art a larger integrated voice and make it a more transparent, relevant and effective force in society.

Through a consortium of supportive activities – **exhibitions, residency programs, art awareness workshops, research and documentation, arts management services, auctions and seminars**, our mission is to ensure that all the diverse dimensions of art are nurtured and given the right exposure, so that art permeates more completely into the societal fabric and enriches a wider consciousness thereby unlocking its true, life-affirming potential.

Embodying the founding belief of Religare **arts.initiative** that, moving forward, the art movement in India requires a 360 degree platform, Religare **arts.initiative's** first art hub - **Religare arts.i gallery was launched in October 2008.**

Spread over an expanse of nearly 12,000 sq ft. and housed in the iconic heart of the city of New Delhi - Connaught Place, **the hub seamlessly integrates two Galleries, a Cafe, a Shop, a Resource Center and ancillary transitional spaces** that can double up to accommodate seminars, symposia, workshops and other art activities.

Religare arts.i gallery functions as a multi disciplinary space that enables art-artist-public interactions through a multiplicity of experiences and activities, both within the space and in the public realm.

More information @ **www.religarearts.com**

ABOUT THE MENTOR:

Sumakshi Singh's sculpture, paintings and site-specific projects have been presented in solo and curated group gallery and museum exhibitions in **India, China, USA and Europe**. Recent venues include **Mattress Factory Museum of Contemporary Art**, Pittsburgh, PA, Van Harrison Gallery New York, NY, **Museum of Contemporary Art**, Chicago, IL, **Illinois State Museum**, IL, **Kashya Hildebrand Galerie**, Zurich Halsey Gallery, Charleston, SC and ArtHouse Texas, TX and **Project 88, Mumbai**. She was awarded a **Zegna Grant** in 2009, an **Illinois Arts Council award** in 2007 (in recognition of outstanding work and commitment within the arts) and **Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Award** in 2005 (to support and encourage excellence, artistry, focus, direction, maturity, and originality in the visual arts). Her shows have been reviewed by *Younger Than Jesus - the New Museum Catalogue*, *the Village Voice*, *ArtLovers*, *Austin Chronicle*, *Chicago tribune*, *Reader*, *Chicago Arts Critics Association*, *Charleston City Paper*, *New Haven Register* among other journals and papers. Artist residencies include **Fondazione Pistoletto - Italy**, **Camargo Foundation – France**, **Skowhegan, Catwalk**, and **Sculpture Space - USA**. She was a finalist for the **Rijksakademie** in 2006. Singh received an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) and a BFA from Maharaja Sayajiro University, Baroda, India. She has been teaching at SAIC since 2001, taught at Columbia college and Harold Washington University and has mentored residencies for the Victoria and Albert Museum and the British council, Oxbow – Michigan, and Khoj, New Delhi. Sumakshi's personal website is at - **www.sumakshi.com**

ABOUT THE VISITING MENTOR:

An artist and educator whose visual practice is divided between gallery and self-initiated public projects, **Paola Cabal** is currently an instructor of Painting and Drawing at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

A native of Bogotá, Colombia, Cabal has also lived in Pittsburgh, Bogotá, and Fort Lauderdale. Paola feels strongly about having found a home in Chicago, where she has lived and worked since 2001.

Cabal completed “Moving in Place”- a commissioned work for the office of the Dean at Columbia University’s School of the Arts in New York City- in October 2008. In summer 2008, Paola completed a fellowship at a prestigious public art training program in New York, **The Abbey Mural Workshop**; her efforts there culminated in an exhibition at the **National Academy Museum and School**. Cabal’s work was recognized with an important grant from the **Richard H. Driehaus foundation in the Emerging Artist category in 2006**, and in 1998 the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh recognized a mural by the artist with a **Carnegie Centennial award for outstanding contributions towards community improvement through the arts**. Her work has been written about in Mouth to Mouth magazine, Xtra News, and the Charleston City Paper, among others, and is discussed in the book “Buddha Mind in Contemporary Art”, in an essay by Carol Becker.

Cabal completed her BFA at Carnegie Mellon University in 1998, and her Master of Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing at the School of the Art Institute in 2003. Last year, an interdisciplinary group of students worked with Ms.Cabal to create two major installations in the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs’ “Pedway Open Studio” space. The group has since become a formal collaborative, named function utility, or (f)utility projects, and is slated to debut as a collaborative with a solo exhibition at SubCity in Chicago’s Fine Arts Building from March 19 to May 3.