

BE

LONGING



Art from the South Asian Women's Creative Collective March 1 to April 13, 2013



BE/LONGING

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April 13, 2013

OPENING RECEPTION — Friday, March 1, 7–9pm
Featuring *Unraveling*, a performance by Marcy Chevali

Be/Longing premieres in Washington, DC the work of the South Asian Women's Creative Collective (or "SAWCC", pronounced "Saucy"), comprised of women artists of the South Asian diaspora. *Be/Longing* is a story of rapture, struggle and fierce female identity, saturated with history, religion, and an explosive mix of ideas and materials. The artists tackle the politics of gender, hierarchy, and sexuality within the framework of a post-colonial globalized world. Referencing the body, directly or metaphorically, whole or dismembered, *Be/Longing* explores the duality of female experience. The creativity and pleasure of being female are contrasted with societal expectations of chasteness, passivity, and invisibility, and the reality of control, neglect, and violence. At the same time, the show addresses how diasporic women — each with her own ambiguous identity and multiple allegiances — navigate "belonging" to a country, a place, or a collective. Emboldened by collective action, these marginalized voices defy regional and sexual boundaries to connect with the greater question of what it is to "belong."

SPECIAL CLOSING EVENTS

Saturday, April 13, 3:30–7pm
Monica Jahan Bose's *Indelible Scent*, 3:30–4:30pm

Bose recreates her evocative performance work, recently featured at Miami Basel.

Artists' Talk, 4:30–5:30pm

Many of the artists will be joining us from NYC to speak about their process and works.

Closing Reception, 5:30–7pm

Mingle with the artists and enjoy wine offered by Majestic Fine Wines.

Cover (clockwise from top left): Samira Abbassy's *Mother of Silences*, *Seer of the Unseen*, Amina Ahmed's *Listening-Archetypes*, *Roots*, *Weeds & Trees*, Chitra Ganesh's *The Awakening*, Jaishri Abichandani's *The Return of Devastasia*, & Ruby Chishti's *Soft Restraints*
Back: Monica Jahan Bose's *Indelible Scent*

FEATURING WORKS BY:

Samira Abbassy
Jaishri Abichandani
Nida Abidi
Amina Ahmed
Shelly Bahl
Marcy Chevali
Ruby Chishti
Chitra Ganesh
Monica Jahan Bose
Sa'dia Rehman



Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery | 1632 U Street, NW | Washington, DC 20009
www.smithcenter.org/gallery | gallery@smithcenter.org | 202.483.8600
Gallery Hours: Wednesday to Friday, 11am–5pm, Saturday, 11am–3pm, & by appointment.

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