

PRESS RELEASE | 11 December 2022

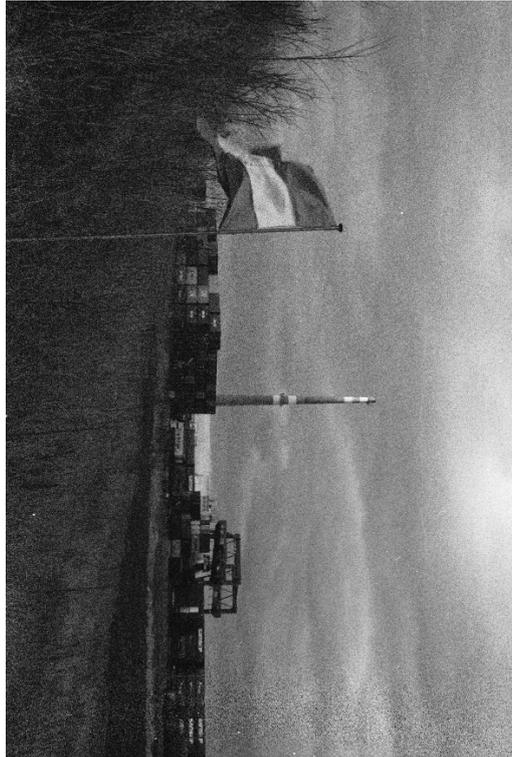
Exhibition Opening

VHC
VIDA HEYDARI
CONTEMPORARY

anthems

Solo exhibition by Leena Patoli

Opening: Sunday, 11 December 2022, 12 – 4 PM



Leena Patoli

Join us this **Sunday, 11 December 2022, from 12 pm – 4 pm**, for a preview of our latest solo exhibit, ***anthems***, featuring **Leena Patoli**, at **VHC | Vida Heydari Contemporary**. The exhibit will be on display through 15 January 2023.

In ***anthems***, the artist impressionistically guides us through contemporary feelings of political regression. As we watch a young man walk past a cargo bay on the outskirts of nowhere, we hear “azaadi” (freedom) chanted from his headphones. In what happens next, Leena Patoli raises questions to indict our contemporary times, in which freedom’s closure is evident in many ways. She asks, why does one person’s freedom not guarantee another’s? How does limiting another’s freedom hamper our own? If the world depicted is indeed our shared world, who are we in the film—the individual walking, a child, a teacher, or an onlooker? How are we complicit, one way or another, in freedom’s distress?

Artist Statement

इतफ़ाक़ से आज़ादी कुछ बोल पातीं, तो कहतीं, “क्या मैं आज़ाद हूँ?”

If freedom were to speak, she would ask, “am I not free?”

Consequences of dissent have become dire and our prejudices have found children. Fear has begun to silence me, but how do i quieten my fear?

anthems is a film sketch of an incident about five characters-

an *individual*

an *onlooker*

a *teacher*

a *child*

the *nation*

About the artist:

Leena Patoli was born in 1995, in Thane, India. She is pursuing her Master's in Cinematography at FAMU, Prague, Czech Republic. She completed her Bachelor's in Film and Video Design at MIT Institute of Design, Pune in 2018. She has finished the cinematography of her first feature, *Marching in the Dark*. She has authored four short films- *Flō*, *anthems*, *i want to be loved*, *death and cookery*. She pursues lighting, photography and cinematography as her primary practices.

Leena Patoli lives and works in India and the Czech Republic.

About VHC | Vida Heydari Contemporary

Established in 2020, VHC is Pune's newest contemporary art gallery. VHC celebrates art by partnering with artists, promoting their work, and connecting them to art lovers. The gallery showcases works by local and international artists and contributes to the cultural fabric of Pune city through its collateral programs. VHC endeavours to create a platform to encounter and engage with relevant contemporary art practices from around the world.

VHC was founded by Vida Heydari, a curator and gallerist with over 14 years of diverse experience in the global art world. She has worked with accomplished Indian, Iranian, and Chinese contemporary artists and has also consulted for various private and public collections.

VHC | Vida Heydari Contemporary | Marvel Alaine, Lane 8, Koregaon Park, Pune, India.

Web: <https://www.vhc.art/>

IG: <https://www.instagram.com/vhc.art/>

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/vhc.art/>

For interview requests and additional information please contact

E: info@vhc.art | T: +91 85308 60888

Press kit: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uRDGK2FvNiEimsEhdKkXztDZ0A_-ucaC

Interviews can be arranged with the artist and the gallery founder Vida Heydari.