

**Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
General Directorate for Cultural Promotion and Cooperation
“Italian Art for the XXI Century from the Farnesina Collection” Project**

**Italian Embassy- New Delhi
Italian Consulate General- Kolkata
Italian Cultural Institute -New Delhi**

**National Gallery of Modern Art -New Delhi / Mumbai
Victoria Memorial Hall – Kolkata**

exhibition press release

**ON THE EDGE OF VISION
new idioms in indian & italian contemporary art**

Part I: Victoria Memorial Hall – Kolkata / February 2007

Part II: National Gallery of Modern Art- New Delhi / May 2007

Part III: National Gallery of Modern Art –Mumbai / September 2007

**Part I
Opening Victoria Memorial Hall - Kolkata
12 February 2007, 7.30 pm**

ARTISTS

INDIA

curated by Rajeev Lochan

Karlo Antao / Jayashree Chakravarty / Jagdish Chander / Atul Dodia / Subodh Gupta / Sachin Karne / Riyas Komu / Veer Munshi / Pankaj Panwar / Sumedh Rajendran / Sudarshan Shetty / Vivan Sundaram / Chintan Upadhaya

ITALY

curated by Lorenzo Canova in collaboration with Maria Cristina Bastante

**Matteo Basilé / Angelo Bellobono / Maura Biava / Rossella Biscotti / Stefano Cagol
Maurizio Cannavacciuolo / Francesco Carone / Arturo Casanova / Gea Casolaro
Francesco Cervelli / Marco Colazzo / Alberto Di Fabio / Mauro Di Silvestre Stefania Fabrizi
David Fagioli / Iaia Filiberti / Heinrich Gresbeck / Domenico Mangano / Luca Matti / Andrea Melloni; Luigi Mulas Debois / Adriano Nardi / Giorgio Ortona / Fabrizio Passarella / Piero Pompili / Arash Radpour / Antonio Riello / Federico Solmi / Carola Spadoni / Nicola Verlato**

The exhibition, organized by the Italian Cultural Institute in New Delhi in collaboration with the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, is curated by Lorenzo Canova, associate professor of the History of Modern Art at the University of Molise and by Rajeev Lohan, director of the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi. It will be officially opened by the Prime Minister of Italy Romano Prodi on 12 February 2007 at the Victoria Memorial Hall Museum in Kolkata and will later be hosted by the National Galleries of Modern Art of New Delhi and Mumbai.

The exhibition, which is one of the events organized on the occasion of the official visit to India of the Italian delegation led by the Prime Minister Romano Prodi is the first event in the “Italian Art for the XXI Century from the Farnesina Collection” project set up by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Directorate General for Cultural Promotion and Cooperation to support and promote Italian artists of recent generations on the international contemporary art scene.

The exhibition is devised as a dialogue in three chapters between recent artistic research in Italy and India. The aim is to juxtapose geographically diverse experiences which are nonetheless similar and complementary in their idioms. The first chapter will thus comprise around forty artists, with the exhibition being opened by a selection of Indian artists who, as a token of friendship and hospitality, will symbolically guide visitors towards the Italian works. The Indian section has been devised to become broader in the second two chapters of the exhibition, which will present works by about seventy different artists, equally shared between the two countries and placed in stimulating direct contact in the rooms of the New Delhi and Mumbai museums.

India and Italy are countries where art has flourished exceptionally over the centuries, undergoing a constant renewal which is nevertheless characterized by significant continuity. Today’s art evidences an ability to draw fruitfully upon the language of the media and the extraordinarily rich repertoire of earlier art, on ancient, yet still vital, techniques such as painting and sculpture and on new technologies.

On the Edge of Vision thus analyses the numerous and diverse perspectives adopted in new Indian and Italian art, in the form of paintings, installations, sculptures, videos and photography. This is a journey which aims to present the many and multi-faceted features of that process of hybridization, transcendence of boundaries and opening undergone by contemporary art.

The exhibition thus purports to form a crossroads between two dialectical and complementary visions, a walk down the line between two cultures, a journey which aims to metaphorically open up the frontiers of two gazes at once different and alike, blending visual experiences which conceptually aim to overcome their geographical limitations and barriers and thus take their rightful place on the international stage.