

# ATUL DODIYA

Atul Dodiya (b. 1959) is one of the most prominent figures of contemporary Indian art. He melds the iconography of both Eastern and Western cultures referencing film, popular culture, and literature through his installations and paintings. Dodiya's works are deeply personal as he reflects on his own narratives with reference to the history of art and that of his home country.

This exhibition represents a single body of work by Dodiya, created on metal shutters of storefronts informed by the streets of Mumbai. Dodiya invites viewers to interact with the shutters. As the shutter is opened and closed the entirety of the work is revealed—both the front and interior of the metal door is painted. In Mumbai, as in other cities, the shutter is a symbol of security and marks the sharp change in the city's aesthetic between day and night. At night or in moments of civil unrest, these shutters become armor that protect the various goods of shop owners from the dangers of the outside world.

Images taken from the life of Ghandi intermingle with references to hand painted signs and iconic works by Edvard Munch and Roy Lichtenstein. They create an interplay in which the familiar and the foreign fuse. Together these works create a dialogue about history and iconography and highlight how images mark specific moments in individual, national, and global memory.

Atul Dodiya is curated by Raphaela Platow and organized by the Contemporary Arts Center.

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