

20 art galleries in Mumbai that should be on your radar

From 47-A's design-focused programming, to Chemould Prescott Road's storied history, and Method's mixer parties, art galleries in Mumbai have something for everyone.

By Neerja Deodhar



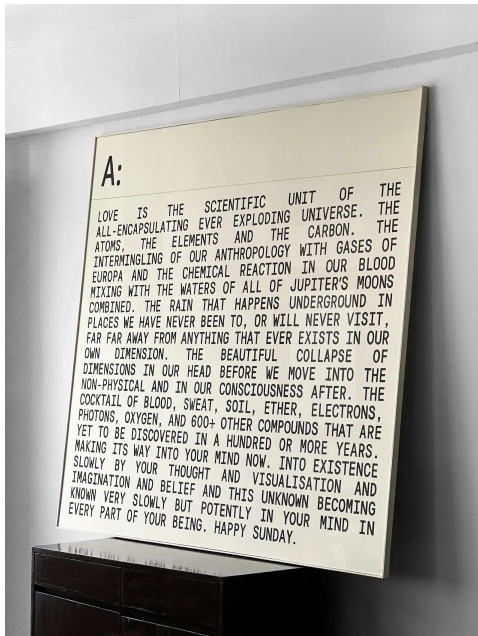
As birthplace and backdrop, [Mumbai](#) and its vast sea have witnessed a number of art movements and talents that went on to shape the national conversation. An artistic legacy that began in the 1940s with the Progressive Artists' Group—featuring [MF Husain](#) and FN Souza—continues to thrive, nearly a century on: While initiatives like Art & Wonderment have introduced curious outsiders to the city's art scene, 2023 saw the debut edition of a homegrown fair for seasoned patrons and collectors.

Art galleries in Mumbai have played a key part in this journey. Consider the Jehangir Art Gallery, established in 1952, where the first camaraderies and controversies brewed—across exhibition halls and the iconic Samovar cafe. The last decade has seen the rise of young, experimental spaces and efforts to take the city's art scene to the suburbs, far beyond its traditional precincts.

Here's a definitive list of 20 art galleries in Mumbai that deserve a place on your map:

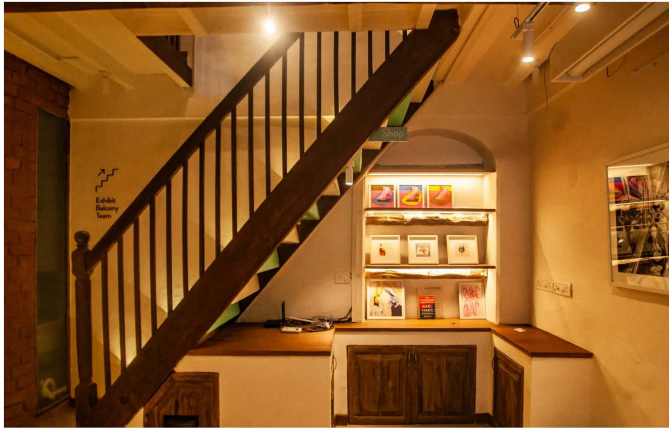
Bandra

Method:



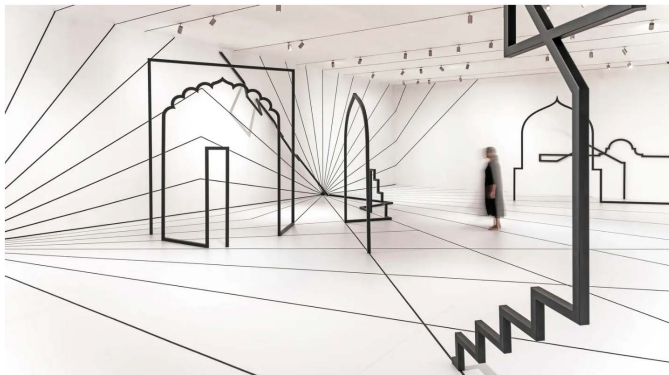
At Bandra's lively Chapel Road stands Method's second outpost in the city—one that takes forward founder-curator Sahil Arora's vision while expanding the very idea of what an art gallery can mean to a neighbourhood. Like its [Kala Ghoda](#) space, it platforms emerging as well as mid-career artists in an effort to celebrate subversive practices; most recently, this included a Palestinian student. With coffee and bakes on offer, the atmosphere in the gallery is far from intimidating. Interestingly, Method Bandra also hosts mixers and switch-ups, encouraging its patrons to strike up conversations with new people.

Art and Charlie:



The brainchild of ex-consultant and chartered accountant Ayesha Parikh, Art and Charlie was a nomadic initiative before it put its roots down in a red Pali Hill bungalow. No two exhibitions are alike at this two-storey gallery, which frequently spotlights issues faced by India's margins. Its steadily growing roster of artists features young practitioners like Saviya Lopes and Kumar Misal. With busy programming on the weekends, including stand-up comedy acts and music presentations, Art and Charlie has carved a niche for itself as a culture hub in Bandra. You'll often find creatives across fields lounging near its entrance, where visitors can grab coffee at a tiny Subko kiosk.

The Art House at the NMACC:



It's been only a year since the four-storey Art House at the NMACC opened its doors, but its programming has already left a mark: Two collaborations with TRIADIC, an art curation agency, resulted in 'Run As Slow As You Can' and 'Liminal Gaps'—large-scale exhibitions where the displayed art could be touched and engaged with in a deeper manner. Art lovers should also keep an eye out for the international masters the [Art House](#) brings to our shores, such as Japan's Yayoi Kusama who is known for her Infinity Mirrored Rooms.

Worli

Snowball Studios:



Asia Society India Centre. Anil Rane

Though creatives in Mumbai may associate it with film and ad shoots, Snowball Studios frequently doubles up as an expansive art gallery. In 2023, it made a splash with Mul Mathi, a collaboration between Dior and the Chanakya School of Craft, where rich embroidered tapestries inspired by Manu and Madhvi Parekh's paintings dominated entire walls. At times, the art shows staged here may last less than a week, but they are worth tracking, thanks to Snowball Studio's innovative curation: In March 2024, for example, photographer-filmmaker Tejal Patni took a whimsical gaze to human existence in the surreal exhibition 'Vichitra'.

TAO Art Gallery



Untitled, 2021 (Automotive paint and acrylic on fibreglass, 55 X 48 X 48 inches). TAO Art Gallery

With a view of the Arabian Sea and a 25-year-old legacy, art gallery TAO is a culmination of founder Kalpana Shah's drive and courage to dream. Born into a business family with no formal training in art, Shah realised that the space would go on to flourish on the eve of its first anniversary show—one where MF Husain designed the catalogue, and Krishen Khanna supplied the words. Shah's comrade in her journey as gallerist is her daughter Sanjana, who serves as Creative Director.

Colaba

Experimenter:



Installation view of *Of Friendships: Krishna Reddy & His World*. Courtesy of the artist and the gallery

Kolkata-born gallery Experimenter's reputation precedes itself. Since its inception in 2009, founders Prateek and Priyanka Raja have championed dialogue and dissent, encouraging artists like Soumya Sankar Bose and Ayesha Sultana to look inwards, at the self, and outwards, at the world, with a critical lens. Through its Curators' Hub, it creates a platform for free thought, and through its 'Outpost' programme, it takes art beyond the gallery to spaces with rich context. With Art Review consistently featuring the Rajas on its Power 100 list, the gallery's expansion to Mumbai—at 120-year-old landmark Sunny House—has been exciting for art-goers.

DAG at The Taj Mahal Palace:



Those who pay attention to detail won't miss the paintings adorning the walls of the Taj Mahal Palace. Since 2022, the hotel has also been home to twin flagship galleries of DAG—whose wealth of art is as unmissable as the Taj's own. DAG's presence in the city is particularly rewarding for lovers of art history; perusing its collections is akin to a walk through India's rich past, whether it is the Kalighat paintings of Bengal from the 19th

century, or the depiction of Indian communities and culture by foreign painters like Balthazar Solvyns. Come for the vintage art, stay for the spectacular views of Apollo Bander.

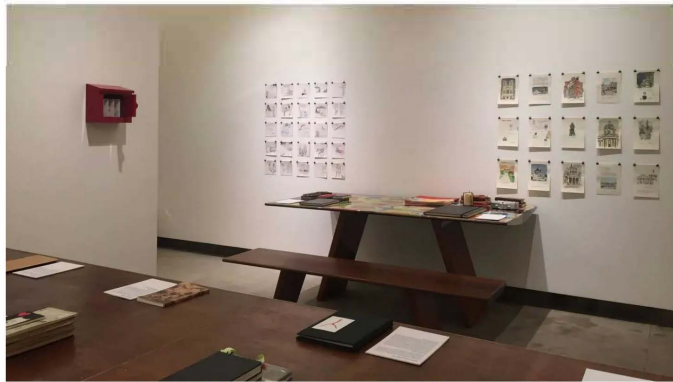
Nature Morte - Dhanraj Mahal:



Nature Morte

After Gurgaon, Kolkata and Berlin, Delhi's Nature Morte—founded by Aparajita Jain and Peter Nagy—finds its way to Mumbai, specifically to Dhanraj Mahal, an Art Deco marvel that was once the home of a princely clan. An ideal starting point for a Colaba art crawl, the experimental gallery will introduce Mumbai to its roster of artists which includes names like Thukral and Tagra, as well as international talents.

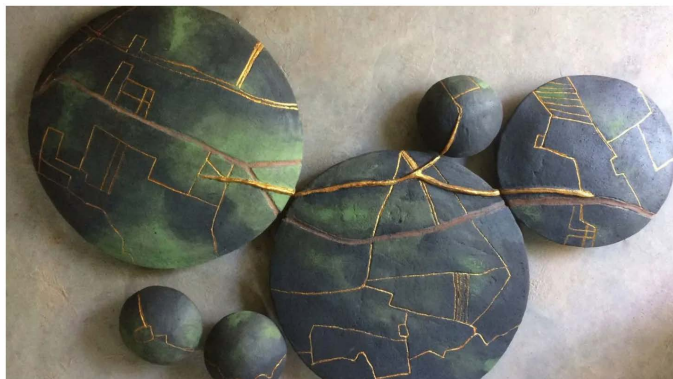
Chatterjee & Lal:



Chatterjee and Lal

You'll know you've arrived at Chatterjee & Lal when you turn at Colaba's Radio Club and are greeted by the aroma from attar boutiques. Founded by husband-wife duo Mortimer Chatterjee and Tara Lal, this 21-year-old gallery—believed to have been a cotton godown in a previous life—has consistently pushed boundaries. While multimedia artist Nikhil Chopra's day-long live performances at the gallery have become the stuff of legend, its thoughtful presentation of KG Subramanian and Nasreen Mohamedi's oeuvres in recent years introduced them to newer audiences.

Sakshi Gallery:



Madhvi Subrahmanian's 'mappa mundis' are maps of the psyche. Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai

pilgrimages to Santiniketan. Mehra is the mind behind this Pasta Lane gallery, founded in

1986—an institution that has moulded Mumbai’s art scene and introduced to it international practitioners like visual artist Julian Opie and sculptor El Anatsui. Sakshi’s success can be attributed not only to the veteran names it represents, like Jehangir Sabavala, Manjit Bawa and Rekha Rodwittiya, but also Mehra’s personal investment in each show.

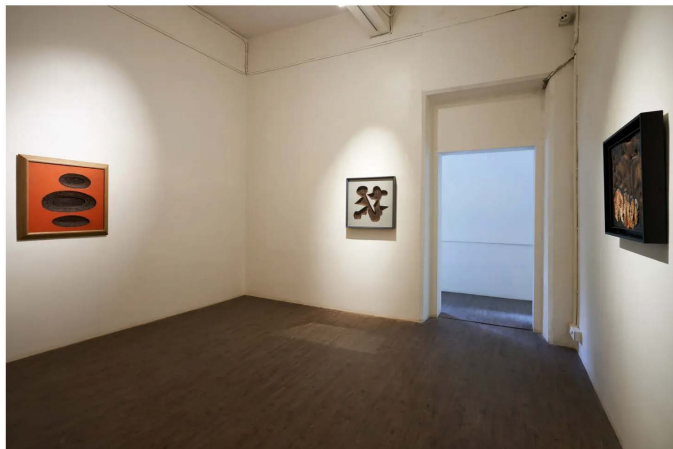
Jhaveri Contemporary:



Rana likes to experiment with a lot of contradictions in her work. Mohammed Chiba, courtesy Jhaveri Contemporary

Its illustrious journey over the last 15 years—which includes hosting Anish Kapoor’s debut public exhibition on Indian soil—may never hint at it, but sisters Amrita and Priya Jhaveri once described their initiative as being “an accidental art gallery”. Jhaveri Contemporary’s roster of artists include those with South Asian connections and traditions, and the co-founders value original scholarship and lesser-known art histories immensely. Like other galleries on Merewether Road, this institution, too, enjoys an uninterrupted view of the Gateway of India and sailboats.

Akara - Modern and Contemporary:



Jeram Patel’s work is beautifully imbued with materiality and presence. Akara Art

Puneet and Megha Shah’s Akara’s is an unstoppable force in the city. After its Colaba space, dedicated to the display of modern masters, turned 8, the founders unveiled a second gallery nearby—in a stately Indo-Saracenic building—which champions current and emerging talents from South Asia. Much of Akara’s curatorial genius is the work of young, female curators like Veeranganakumari Solanki, Arushi Vats and Shreemoyee Moitra.

Gallery XXL:



Guesswho 2023. Stencil with spray paint on metal, 40 x 30 inches. The artists and Gallery XXL

If fine art is the reserve of traditional white-cube model galleries, this young institution stands for the very opposite, focusing instead on urban practices like post-graffiti art. Hosting Tokyo-born, New York-based artist AIKO's first solo show in India was something of a coup by Gallery XXL in its second year in the city. Mumbai is unlikely to forget the sight of AIKO's iconic bunny, spray-painted on a typical BMC road sign. With future plans for residencies and travelling shows, the gallery truly lives up to its name.

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Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation (JNAF):



Gallery view: a Forest in the City: Living within Sanjay Gandhi National Park/Aarey Colony in Mumbai, Jehangir Nicholson Gallery, CSMVS, Mumbai. Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation, CSMVS

Born of a rich private collection, the JNAF gallery is an effort to make public the 800 modern and contemporary artworks carefully collected by Jehangir Nicholson. Its unique location—within the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya—gives it a wide audience, far beyond the art district in Kala Ghoda and Colaba. It also makes the gallery a perfect end to a weekend museum visit with friends and family, especially young children. A diverse number of subjects have been the focus of exhibitions here, from the history of the Bombay Talkies studio, to the value of an urban forest.

Chemould Prescott Road:



Curated by Nancy Adajania and Ranjit Hoskote, the retrospective covers Gobhai's 70-year old career Chemould Prescott Road

In the story of Chemould Prescott Road and its origins lies the story of Mumbai's art scene in its initial, amorphous days. The institution held its very first exhibition in 1963, when it was known as Gallery Chemould and housed in the Jehangir Art Gallery. When you walk up the stairs in Queens Mansion, where the current gallery is located, you'll spot vintage posters of iconic shows from the 1960s. It is said that the talent of artists like contemporary greats like Atul Dodiya and Nalini Malini was honed at Chemould, which is run by Shireen Gandhi who took over from her parents Kekoo and Khorshed. At nearby Sugra Manzil, the gallery looks to the future: Here, Shireen's daughter Atyaan leads Chemould CoLab, an extension programme which recognises and supports early career artists through residencies.

TARQ:



Institutions in the art world are not without their share of power equations and imbalances. But what if the gallery could be imagined as a supportive space for both, young artists and collectors? It is with this proposition that Hena Kapadia began TARQ, which is often the gallery of choice for those who want to make their first art investment. Located in a century-old structure that is a brisk walk away from Flora Fountain, TARQ does not shy away from responding to the socio-political context of the present.



Light peeks. 73 x 78 in. Courtesy of the artist & Galerie Mirchandani + Steinrucke

Usha Mirchandani and Ranjana Steinruecke have been busy women. Once an ad executive in New York during the 1970s, Mirchandani returned to the Maximum City to establish the firm The Fine Art Resource. Steinruecke, on the other hand, took the works of artists like Atul Dodiya and Bhupen Khakhar to faraway Berlin, where she ran a gallery the firm The Fine Art Resource. Steinruecke, on the other hand, took the works of artists like Atul Dodiya and Bhupen Khakhar to faraway Berlin, where she ran a gallery specialising in Indian art. Their exciting individual journeys merged when they joined hands in 2006, platforming extraordinary talents like Ratheesh T and Abir Karmakar. Karmakar's life-sized depictions of domestic living are at once revealing and aesthetically voyeuristic.

Galerie Isa:



On display: *Different Realms* at Galerie ISA, Mumbai. Courtesy of Galerie ISA, Mumbai

Thadani took upon himself: having witnessed art fairs in cities like Basel and London, Thadani wanted to carve out a space dedicated to Western art in Mumbai—one that the city would come to cherish. If you want a taste of the art you will find at its Art Deco space in Ballard Estate, check out the work of Anoushka Mirchandani, who explores her diasporic identity and womanhood through the use of evocative, memory-derived colours.

Khotachi Wadi

47-A:



Open, the first exhibition at the 47 A gallery in Gurgaon, Mumbai—seen here are (on the left) a set of ancient terracotta figurines; photographs by Haku Shah; and a terracotta candelabra by Dolon Kundu with Nandita Palchoudhuri. The two textile works are by Nelly Sethna (left) and Riten Mozumdar. Courtesy of 47 A

For years, no art gallery in Mumbai was devoted to a design-first approach—an approach where design could be the lens through which to see society. Cut to 2022, and 47-A, situated in the charming Khotachi Wadi neighbourhood, ably filled this gap. The collective vision of the minds behind Baro Market and Chatterjee & Lal has nurtured a sharp focus, ensuring that attendees walk away with new learnings about subjects like Art Deco and Odisha's textiles. Those who have never visited Khotachi Wadi can turn their gallery visit into a long evening stroll through the neighbourhood, with pit-stops at fashion designer James Ferreira's home and Ideal Wafers.

Byculla

Nine Fish Art Gallery:



Indian Tragedy. Nine Fish Art Gallery

Alongside the Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum, this gallery is among the rare art institutions in Byculla. Carved into a 177-year-old textile mill, Nine Fish retains some of its industrial character in the form of exposed brick features. In the past, through its annual programme Art35, the gallery has nourished early and mid-career practitioners by facilitating interactions with senior artists and cross-pollinating ideas.

Also check out:

1. **Gallery Art and Soul:** Alongside names like Art Musings and Cymroza Art Gallery, Art and Soul—set up in the 2000s—has contributed to Mumbai's art history
2. **Aequo:** A first-of-its-kind gallery focused on collectible design and craft, which invites global talent to create locally
3. **IF.BE:** Established in what was formerly a 144-year-old ice factory, IF.BE brings thought-provoking installations and events about architecture, cinema and culture to Ballard Estate, Mumbai's business district
4. **Fluxus Chapel:** A platform for independent voices and first-person storytelling, in the form of innovative zines, original artwork and digital prints
5. **Strangers House Gallery:** A far-from-typical institution guided by Ambedkarite ideals, black consciousness and alternative art history

Also read: [*An evocative, red block office in the Colaba ice factory questions ideas of ownership in art*](#)

Also read: [*Humberto Campana's extraordinary grass cabinet takes centre stage at Aequo, Mumbai*](#)

Also read: [*Everything you need to know about the AD x JSW Prize for Contemporary Craftsmanship*](#)

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