

Internship

Museum of Art & Photography

Organization: The Museum of Art & Photography (MAP), a unique private museum set up to offer a new space for art, culture and community. Founder Abhishek Poddar started MAP to conserve dying arts and to preserve the rich cultural heritage of India. This is a private museum with contributions from philanthropists across India.

Duration of Internship: 3 months starting August 2023.

Scope and Project:

While I have visited several museums in my life, MAP was my first exposure to how a museum is created and run from the inside. Situated in the heart of Bangalore city, the museum includes art galleries, an auditorium, an art and research library, an education centre, a specialised research and conservation facility and a café. There are over 60,000 artworks housed at MAP and I spent 2 weeks each in each of the museum's departments understanding how these artworks are sourced, categorized, numbered and established in the database for further use.

My project idea came from my own experience of viewing the artworks in the different MAP galleries. I found a lot of artworks too complex and abstract to comprehend. Over many discussions with Kamini Sawhney, my mentor and the museum Director, I formulated the idea of a Children's exhibit for the many groups of school children who come to visit the museum. My role was thus that of an exhibition curator for an Exhibition designed to introduce children to 'The Feminist Art Movement' in India.

I poured over the vast library of artworks available with the sharp eye of what could appeal to children and help them comprehend a complex topic such as this one. Eventually I chose just 20 artefacts and stitched together the narrative for this exhibition. I then wrote simple and catchy descriptions for each artwork & made illustrations tailored to children. The final output is an exhibition guidebook for children, and this is currently under publication.

Some glimpses of the work at MAP



Art preservation experts working on some of the old artworks at the Conservation Lab at MAP



MAP Academy is an online platform for the study of Regional Art History