

Ashmi Mridul is an artist and researcher, whose work lies at the intersection of participatory public art, interaction design and education. Her primary artistic mediums are dialogue and participation through which she engages diverse communities in research, learning and meaning-making. Her work advocates for the need of intangible culture in tackling social and environmental challenges. Having worked in public art, architectural and cultural organisations across Europe, India and the US, she is now seeking to expand her research in arts education and creative placemaking.

## EDUCATION

### MS IN ART, CULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2021- 2023

- Awarded MIT International Science and Technology Initiative (MISTI) grant for research on public art and indigenous education in India
- Teaching Assistant on *Intro to Artistic Experimentation* course with Chucho Ogampo Aguilar focussing on participatory art.
- Awarded ACT Pilot Grant

### BA (HONS.) INTERACTION DESIGN ARTS

#### London College of Communication

2014- 2018

- Awarded full scholarship for *Route Artlantique*, an art residency in Senegal

### FOUNDATION DIPLOMA IN ART AND DESIGN

#### Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design

2013- 2014

- Courses in Fine Arts Practice, 3D and Architecture, Graphic Design

## SKILLS

- **Language:** Hindi, English
- **Software:** Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro, Audition, Microsoft Office
- **Prototyping:** Electronics, Arduino Programming
- **Art & Research:** Community Engagement, Public Art, Workshop Design, Participatory Action Research, Ethnography, Mixed Methods, Art Education, Oral Histories.

## RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

### CURATOR & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST (11/2023- present)

#### Mandala, Chicago

- Conceptualising and managing Mandala Makers Festival to activate the Devon Avenue of Chicago through performing arts and facilitate creative placemaking.
- Grant writing and fundraising for Mandala's public art and community building projects.
- Leading community engagement on all programs to increase Mandala's public outreach.

### ARTS EDUCATOR & ORAL HISTORIAN (02/2020- 08/2021)

#### Mehrangarh Museum, Jodhpur

- Led *Marwar Oral Histories Archive*, enriching the museum's collection with women's histories through research, interviews, and archival work.
- Co-curated and implemented capacity-building, educational workshops for children of the *Langa* music community to advance their musical career.
- Co-designed "Art in the Everyday" online workshop series providing a platform for 12 local artists to share knowledge and expand their audience reach.

### DESIGN RESEARCHER (01/2019- 07/2019)

#### RaumlaborBerlin, Berlin

- Contributed to *A Festival of Creative Urban Living (AFCUL)*, Milton Keynes & *Floating University*, Berlin (across research, construction, design and production)
- Conducted participatory research with more than 200 residents at the Utopia Station at AFCUL, Milton Keynes translating their vision into illustrations and models to be submitted to the city council for further research.

### DESIGNER & TEACHING ARTIST (01/2017- 07/2017)

#### Public Art Lab, Berlin

- Led and designed the *Licht AG (LightWorkshop)* project to provide hands-on education to high school students in Berlin on the subject of 'light'. Expanded *Licht AG* to several cities in India, training 500+ people to build solar lamps.
- Key contributor in *Digital Calligraffiti* project, an urban intervention to facilitate creative placemaking. Responsible for designing and delivering workshops with refugees & creating ad campaigns that were screened at underground stations & public facades.

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- Solo Exhibition, *Scented Memories and Marionetted Stories*, ACT Gallery, MIT (2023)
- Group Exhibition, *Counteractions*, The Distillery, Boston (2023)
- Group Exhibition, *Counteractions*, MIT Museum, Boston (2023)
- Group Exhibition, *Gender Bender Festival*, Bangalore International Centre (2019)
- Group Exhibition, *The Irregulars Art Fair*, New Delhi, (2019)
- Group Exhibition, *Kitaabo*, The Blue City Children's Literature Festival, Jodhpur (2019)
- Group Exhibition, *Science Museum Lates 2018*, Science Museum, London (2018)