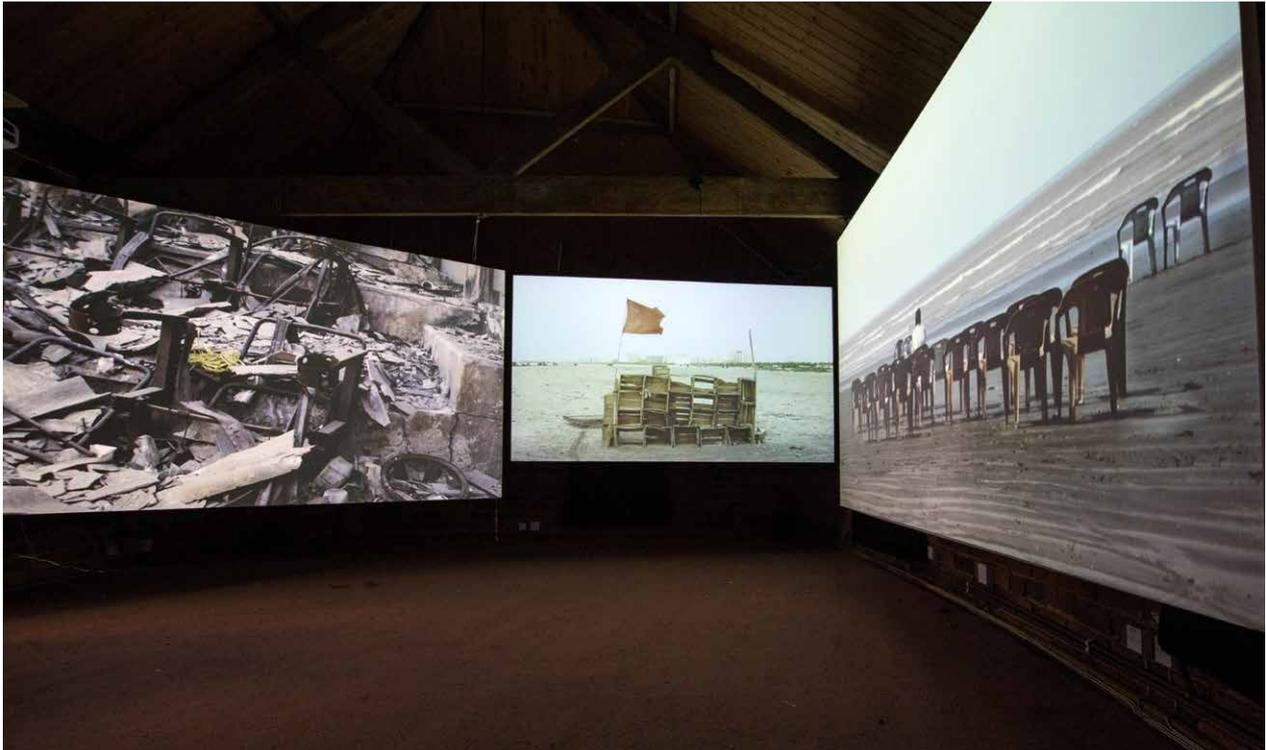


Press release for immediate release 15 September 2017

## **Changing Places: Exhibition of contemporary art from South Asia now open at Hastings Museum & Art Gallery**

15 September - 29 October



### **Changing Places in its previous staging at Roundhouse in Birmingham**

Courtesy of Film and Video Umbrella. Photographer: Jana Eastwood.

[fvu.co.uk](http://fvu.co.uk) [#PlacesChanging](https://twitter.com/PlacesChanging) [@FilmVidUmbrella](https://twitter.com/FilmVidUmbrella) [@hastings\\_museum](https://twitter.com/hastings_museum)

**Changing Places** is Film and Video Umbrella's nationwide tour of contemporary video art, showing within historic buildings across the country. As one of eight venues on the tour, Hastings Museum & Art Gallery hosts two contemporary artworks amongst its historic collection - a large-scale video projection showing an abandoned power station in the north of India, and a newly-commissioned installation of objects and sound that is inspired by the museum's colonial artefacts and their collector Lady Brassey.

During the year that marks the 70th anniversary of Indian Independence from the British Empire, these two artworks are positioned within the museum to highlight a shared history between England, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan, with a particular focus on the legacy of industrialisation and Britain's imperial past.

Desire Machine Collective's video installation *Residue* will play in the Long Gallery. It depicts the crumbling, forgotten, yet monumental space of a former power plant outside the artists' hometown of Guwahati in India. The power station was constructed in the 1970s and abandoned

during the 1990s. Without the will for its preservation or repurposing, the structure and the machinery it houses are being slowly reclaimed by the surrounding forest. The deteriorating building in the artwork provides a stark contrast to the setting of the museum, which houses the extremely well preserved Durbar Hall - an 'Indian Palace' constructed for the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886.

Imran Channa's *Dust to Dust* is an installation of objects, drawing and sound that the artist made in response to his visits to several buildings on the *Changing Places* tour, including Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. Channa was inspired by the writings of privileged explorers who visited and documented the colonies, like Lady Brassey whose collection is housed at the museum, and who once visited and wrote about Channa's hometown in Pakistan. In a reversal of opportunities, this sound work uses a similarly elaborate language (and a bit of humour) to tell a highly embellished Kipling-style tale of an artist's adventure around Britain.

**Mariam Zulfiqar, Curator, Film and Video Umbrella:**

*"The bringing together of these particular works in Hastings offers a different perspective on the intertwined histories of Britain and South Asia, in the hope that we are armed with better tools with which to comprehend our current circumstances."*

*The 70th anniversary of Indian independence is an ideal opportunity to consider some of the industrial architecture that sprung up in the boom years of trade with the Indian subcontinent, and how a model of industrial production that was forged in the Britain of the 19th century has been transported to other parts of the globe. By siting works by artists in a number of venues that embody Britain's imperial industrial heritage, we want to illuminate this experience of change: in the change of use of the buildings themselves, or in the wider urban environments in which they are located. Changing Places is a reflection on how places transform, and how people move between them and transform them."*

[VIEW CURATOR INTERVIEW](#)

**Cllr Kim Forward, lead member for Regeneration and Culture, Hastings Borough Council:**

*"We are proud to be a key partner in this innovative tour curated by FVU. Changing Places enables us to bring to Hastings high-calibre contemporary artworks that link with the museum's fine historic collections and associations with India, Pakistan and Bangladesh."*

**Notes to Editor:**

**Anna Billington, Film and Video Umbrella:**

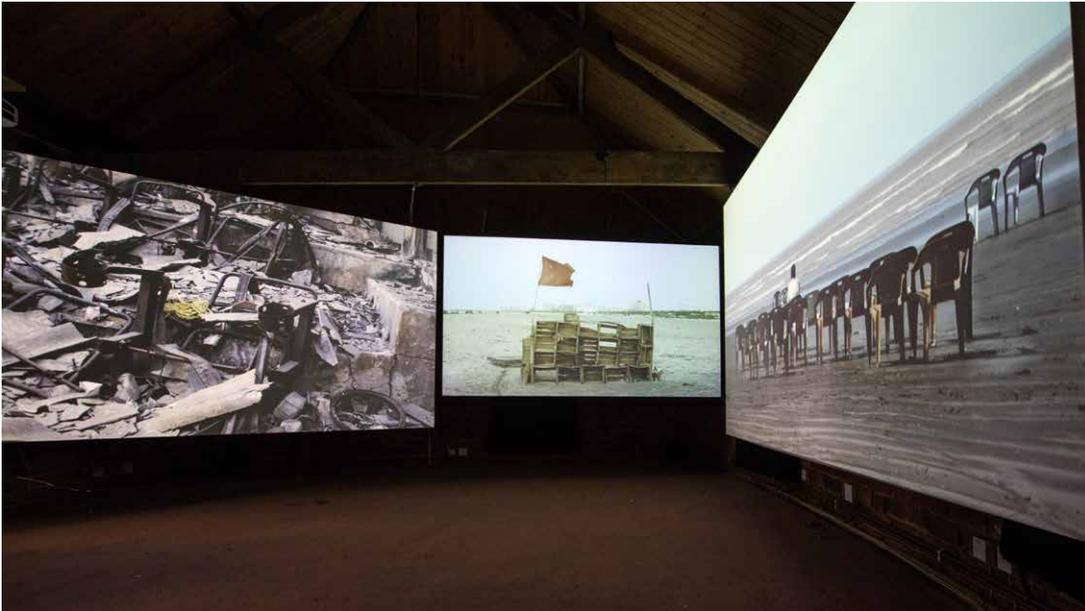
anna@fvu.co.uk / 020 7407 7755

**Barbara Browning, Hastings Borough Council:**

bbrowning@hastings.gov.uk / 07814873968

Full national tour dates for *Changing Places* and details of all artworks on the tour are available [here](#).

Changing Places is a Film and Video Umbrella touring exhibition, supported by Arts Council England, Canal & River Trust, National Trust, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, Phoenix Leicester, Feltech, Links Signs and Heritage Lottery Fund. Curated by Mariam Zulfiqar.



Previous tour stop:

**Changing Places  
at Roundhouse in  
Birmingham**

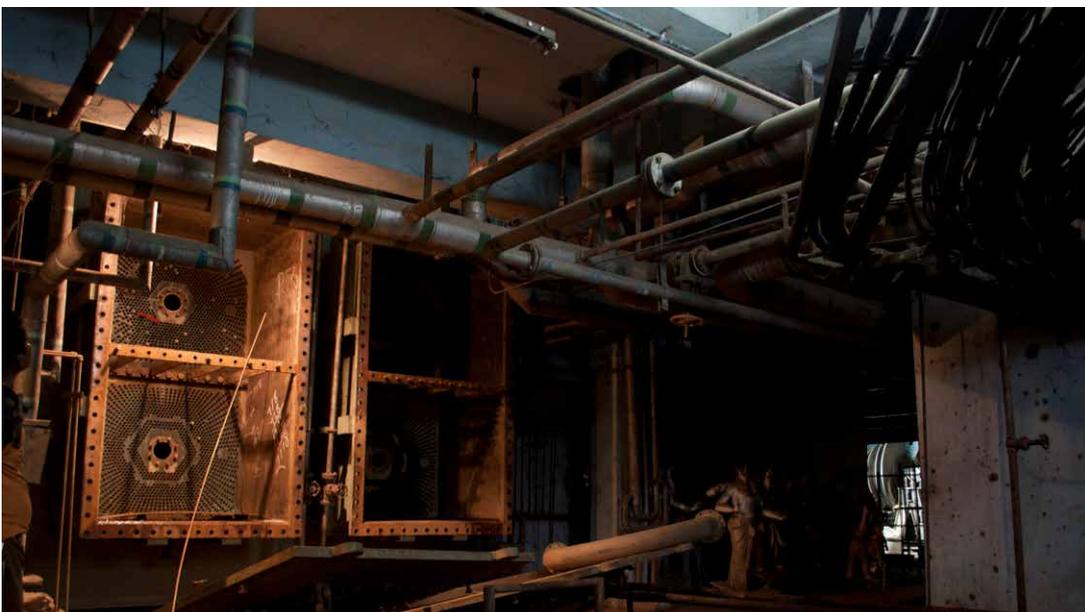
Courtesy of Film and  
Video Umbrella.  
Photographer: Jana  
Eastwood.



Showing at Hastings:

**Dust to Dust, Imran  
Channa (installation view)**

Courtesy of Film and Video  
Umbrella.  
Photographer: Catarina  
Rodrigues



Showing at Hastings:

**Residue, Desire Machine  
Collective (film still)**

Courtesy of the artists and  
Film and Video Umbrella.

**Title:** *Changing Places*  
**Showing in Hastings:** *Dust to Dust*, Imran Channa (installation of objects, drawing and sound); *Residue*, Desire Machine Collective (video)  
**Dates:** 15 September - 29 October 2017  
**Address:** John's Place, Bohemia Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1ET  
**Opening times:** Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 12noon - 5pm, last admission 4.30pm  
**Admission:** Free

**Film and Video Umbrella** commissions, curates, produces and presents artists' moving-image works that are staged in collaboration with galleries and other cultural partners. Since the late 1980s, FVU has been at the forefront of this vibrant and expanding area of practice, promoting innovation through its support of some of the most exciting figures on the contemporary scene. During this time, the organisation has commissioned and produced nearly 200 different artists' projects, ranging from ambitious multi-screen installations to shorter film and video pieces, as well as numerous online commissions. [fvu.co.uk](http://fvu.co.uk)

**Audio visual installation** courtesy of award-winning systems integrator, Feltech. [feltech.co.uk](http://feltech.co.uk)



A Film and Video Umbrella touring exhibition, supported by Arts Council England, Canal & River Trust, National Trust, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, Phoenix Leicester, Feltech, Links Signs and Heritage Lottery Fund. Curated by Mariam Zulfiqar.



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