

HOME  
MIKA TENNEKOON

SASKIA FERNANDO GALLERY

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COLOMBO | GALLE FORT

*In her debut solo exhibition, Colombo artist Mika Tennekoon unveils a dozen suitcase installations exploring movement, belonging and conceptions of 'home' - as starting point, destination, or even an absence.*

*With humour and vivacity as well as longing and bleakness, her work frames expats, war-victims, workers, the aging, the devout and many more against the contexts of globalization and modernity, development and community, loss and change in 21<sup>st</sup> century Sri Lanka*

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## DOMESTIC BLISS

*"I came here because I needed money to pay off my debts, but it hasn't been good.*

*If I can solve my financial problems, I will never migrate again"* - Quote courtesy of Human Rights Watch

LKR.50,000/-

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 34CM X 50CM X 15CM

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ON THE ROAD

*"Although I have a house and a family, the cab of this truck is where I spend most of my days and nights."*

LKR.50,000/-

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 35CM X 50CM X 15CM

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## SCHISM

*"Both [countries] are my home, yet not fully.  
I am always insider and outsider at the same time, neither here nor there."*

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 39CM X 54CM X 16CM

LKR.75,000/-

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## TEMPORARY PERMANENCE

*"The people from my village, their whole life is here [the camp].  
Not just for one day or two days – their life".*

Quote courtesy of Amnesty International

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 30CM X 44CM X 12CM

LKR.50,000/-

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WIRED

*"All my memories are so easily accessible online."*

LKR.65,000/-

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 35CM X 50CM X 15CM

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## LOSS

*"If you are forced to flee from home you go into survival mode.  
You have to, or you simply don't survive."*

LKR.65,000/-

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## METAMORPHOSIS

*"Whenever I leave the house, it seems the world has changed just a little more."*

LKR.65,000/-

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 34CM X 48CM X 14CM

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US  
*"It tore everything apart."*

LKR.50,000/-

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 30CM X 45CM X 13CM

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## PEOPLE I'VE KNOWN

*"Though I may miss places that feel like home,  
it always comes back to people not places in the end."*

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 38CM X 54CM X 15CM

LKR.75,000/-

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## THE OTHER SIDE

*"Some think when you come to the UK, you automatically become rich and have a good life. Honestly though, the good life was always there in Sri Lanka. It took me 3 million rupees and a trip to the other side of the world to realize that."*

*Quote courtesy of Groundviews*

LKR.75,000/-

DIPTYCH, ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 43CM X 58CM X 14CM | 43CM X 58CM X 5CM

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## DEVOTION

*"Our house is 9 feet by 10 feet. It's not much... but it's okay. When one is with God, even the smallest thing has value."*

LKR.75,000/-

ACRYLIC & VARNISH ON ANTIQUE SUITCASE, 34CM X 48CM X 14CM

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MIKA TENNEKOON b.1985

Education

2005-07 HND in Visual Communication, The Academy of Design, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Exhibitions

2012 *Kaputa*, Saskia Fernando Gallery, Amangalla Hotel, Galle, Sri Lanka

2011 *Paper Canvas*, Exhibition of Limited Edition Posters, Saskia Fernando Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka

2011 *Art Needs Space*, Collective of Contemporary Artists (COCA), Goethe Institute Gate Party, Colombo, Sri Lanka

2011 *Oh.My.Goat*, Collective of Contemporary Artists (COCA), Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka

2008 Identity 101, Casa Colombo, Sri Lanka

Projects & Workshops

2008 *Illustrator*, The Other Side Magazine, London, UK

2010 Blogger, mikaten.blogspot.com

2011 *Pecha Kucha Colombo Vol. 1*, Warehouse Project, Maradana, Sri Lanka

2007 *Body Language*, personal photography project

2007 Designer, Middle Finger T-Shirts

2009 Artist/Facilitator, The Floating Hat Collective,

2009 *Fear & Passion*, photography project

2009 Artist/Collaborator, Whale of a Time, London, UK

2010 *Collect London Competition*, Women's Slim Fit T-Shirt, sold at Topshop, UK

2011 Children's book workshop Coordinator, Galle Literary Festival, Galle, Sri Lanka

2012 Children's book workshop Coordinator, Galle Literary Festival, Galle, Sri Lanka

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