

Chaitanya Modak

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Chaitanya Modak is an artist, curator and exhibition maker working at the intersection of art, language and visual culture. Through research, sustained observation and engagement with people and places, he develops exhibitions, installations, artist books and participatory experiences that bring overlooked aspects of everyday life into focus. Based in Pune, he works across Pune and Mumbai.

Education:

2006: PG Communication Design (Film & Video Communication)

National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad

1999: Bachelors of Commerce

(Secretarial Practice & Company Law)

Brihan Maharashtra College Of Commerce, Pune

Selected Exhibitions & Exhibition-Making:

2025: *100 years of Ernst Jandl* · Curation and Exhibition Design, Goethe Max Muller, Pune

2024: *As I See Him* · Hanuman in Pastel, Solo Show, Hindu Spiritual Seva Foundation, Pune

2023: *Encrypted* · Curated by Lina Vincent, Group show, Apre Art House, Mumbai

2023: *Common Ground* · Group Show, Vida Heyadri Contemporary, Pune

2023: *Make Art. Do we need to?* · 36 Hour Open Call, Apre Art House, Mumbai

2019: *Disturbing* · Labeled: Futures Of Sexuality Festival, TIFA Studios, Pune

2019: *Sleepsutra* · Illustrators Offline, TIFA Studios, Pune

2019: *Make Art. do we need to?* · Shifting Studios Residency 01, TIFA Studios, Pune

Social Practice Projects: Mentor and Curator

Comics Epidemic · *Community Graphic Novel Project*

EHSAAS - SNEHA (Society for Nutrition Education and Health Action)

Kandivali (West) July 2023; Dharavi, May 2023; Urban Health Center, Sion, December 2017

Goondool – Tales from the Alleys of Ganj Peth · *Culture and Anthropology Research Project*

Culminated in an exhibition at Sudarshan Kalamanch, Pune.

Supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, New York · December 2017 – March 2018

Saturday Comix · *Community Graphic Novel Project*

Smile Foundation & The Pomegranate Workshop

Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad School, Dharavi · January–March 2018

Bhitti Chitra · *Community Wall Mural Project*

"Migration Stories" and "Painting Dreams" SNEHA Community Centers: Wadala, November 2019; Kandivali (West), June 2017; Kalwa (East), January 2017; Kalwa (West), November 2016

Movements in Art · *Community Wall Mural Project*

Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast · Andheri (West) · October 2016

Comics Epidemic · *Community Comix Project*

Dharavi Biennale, SNEHA & Wellcome Trust · 2013–2015

Publications: artist books / co-mix / zines

2024: The Insouciant Devotee · Watercolour on 450 gsm rough rag paper, 12 pp. 8.5" x 12",

2023: The Joy of Text (Ed 1/30), 20pp., A5

2023: S(t)exting Dictionary (Ed 1/30), 8pp., A5

2023: आत्म-प्रेम / self-love / l'amour de soi, 20pp. 10"x10"

2022: Sleepsutra, 96 pp., 13.5" x 2.5"

2020: Disturbing, 28 PP, concrete poem folio

2018: Saturday Comix Anthology, 92pp., 7" x 9"

2017: Be a Man: How to kill what you eat without using a knife, 12 pp., 12" x 18"

2015: Comics Epidemic: An anthology of tales from Dharavi, 104 pp., 7" x 9"

2013: The Manual of Love, 32 pp., 7" x 9"

2013: The Oracle of Tripe, 32 pp., 7" x 9"

2012: The Parrot's Tale, 16 pp., 8.25 x 11.25"

2012: Et Tu Brut, 24 pp., 7"x 9"

2012: I've got a bike, you can ride it... if you like, 20 pp., A4

Other Published Work:

2021: *Bubble Bobble*, Azica Zine, Brazil

2016: *In No Time*, Mid-Day Newspapers, Mumbai

2015: *Disturbing*, The Helter Skelter Anthology of New Writing, Vol. 5

2013: *Be a Man!*, The Blaft Obliterary Journal Vol-2, Blaft Publications, Chennai

2013: *Ladies Bike*, The Agents Of Ishq

Book Fairs / Conventions:

2022, 2021, 2019, 2018, 2017: Bombay Underground Zine Fest, Mumbai

2020: Art Book Depot, Jaipur

2019: Focal Point Art Book Fair, Sharjah

2019, 2018: GAYSI Zine Bazaar, Mumbai-Delhi

2022, 2018, 2017: Indie Comix Fest, Mumbai, Pune

2013, 2012: Comic Con India, Mumbai

Filmography:

2021 : *Become friends with Food & Nutrition*, 2D Animation, 7 min.

2021 : *Understanding Health & Hygeine*, 2D Animation, 7 min.

2021 : *Fitness & Exercise Everyday*, 2D Animation, 7 min.

2016 : *Healers of Dharavi*, HD, 15 min.

2015 : *Raktabahuli: The Blood Doll*, HD, 2min.

2014 : *Unblock*, HD, 3 min.

2007 : *Sunandala Athavtana*, DV, 40 min.

2006 : *Voices of Kutch*, DV, 34 min.

Illustration / Cartoonstrips:

2003: *Bhopu* · Daily cartoon strip, Featuring Bhopu, an auto-rickshawallah and his adventures across the city. Loksatta Newspapers, Mumbai.

2000-2002: *Canter* · Weekly single-panel cartoon on the racing circuit, Riding High, Indian Express, Mumbai/Pune

1998-2003: Contributed a few thousand illustrations, caricatures, and cartoons for newspapers: The Times of India, The Indian Express, Mid-Day, Loksatta and Magazines: Citadel and Kishore in Pune

Select Work Experience : Branding, Design, Strategy

Inhouse Design, Mumbai/Pune, Founder and Creative Director, Jan 2008 - present

DY Works, Mumbai, Senior Creative Group Head, Feb – Sept 2017

Infogrid Pacific Pte. Pune, Design Lead, Aug-Nov 2007

Vichitra Nirmitee, Pune, Assistant Director, Jan-Jul 2007

Drishti Media Collective, Ahmedabad, Associate Member & Design Lead, Jul 2005 - Dec 2006

Synapse, Goa, Graphic Designer, Aug 2002 - Mar 2003

The Indian Express, Pune, Digital & Layout Artist, Jan 2001-Jul 2002

Teaching / Visiting Faculty:

2022-2024: Pune Design School, Pimpri Chinchwad University

2018-2022: Whistling Woods Design School, Mumbai

2017- 2019: The Pomegranate workshop, Mumbai

2014, 2015: Ecole Intuit Lab, Mumbai

2009, 2014: National Institute Of Design, Ahmedabad

2002, 2003: Industrial Design Centre, IIT, Mumbai

2017, 2018: Symbiosis Institute Of Mass Communication, Pune

2010-2012: Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai

Other Interests:

2017- 2022 : Indie Comix Fest, Co-Founder/Volunteer

1992-1996 : Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Foundation, Pune. Trained amateur herpetologist and snake rescue volunteer

1994-1999: Involved with amateur theatre groups in Pune, onstage and backstage.

Play rhythm on the guitar

Press/Features (Click to view) :

- 19/08/2025 [EXHIBITION TO MARK AUSTRIAN POET ERNST JANDL'S BIRTH CENTENARY](#) – The Indian Express
- 06/10/2023 [‘COMIX’ CLASS AT COLABA’S APRE ART HOUSE](#) - Mid-Day, Mumbai
- 17/02/2020 [WONTOLLA COMIX TO RELEASE SECOND EDITION OF ‘SLEEPSUTRA’](#) – The Animation Xpress
- 17/12/2018 [HAVE A GOOD NIGHT’S SLEEP WITH THE SLEEPSUTRA](#) – The Animation Xpress
- 28/10/2018 [GRAPHIC DETAILS](#) – Pune Mirror, The Times Of India
- 09/11/2017 [HOW TO BE A MAN](#) – The Animation Express
- 26/03/2015 [DHARAVI COMICS EPIDEMIC: AN INTERVIEW WITH CHAITANYA MODAK](#) – The Comics Journal
- 28/03/2015 [DHARAVI’S ARTISTIC FACE](#) – The Hindu
- 01/12/2014 [THE STATE OF THE COMIC IN INDIA](#) – Candid Lounge
- 16/09/2014 [COMIC CAUSE](#) – Mumbai Mirror, The Times Of India
- 12/09/2014 [DHARAVI BIENNALE COMICS EPIDEMIC](#) – Dainik Sakaal
- 25/05/2014 [AN INTERVIEW WITH CHAITANYA MODAK](#) – Astray.in
- 18/01/2014 [COMIC REVIEW: THE ORACLE OF TRIPE AND THE MANUAL OF LOVE](#) – The Strip Tease
- 25/12/2013 [THE WONDERS OF WONTOLLA](#) – Bangalore Mirror, The Times Of India
- 12/12/2013 [THE ORACLE OF TRIPE LAUNCHES AT THE MUMBAI COMIC CON](#) – The Animation Xpress.
- 14/12/2012 [RABINDRANATH TAGORE’S TOTA NAMA : OLD TALE NEW DIMENSIONS](#) – The Indian Express
- 06/12/2012 [STRIP TEASE](#) - The Indian Express