

## Chitra Ganesh

I've always been fascinated by how dreams and their repressions shape personal and social crises. My installation, photography and sculptural work is inspired by mythological narratives, present day imperialism, queer politics, lyric poetry and erased moments in South Asian history. Taking these stories and integrating them with my own mythic imagery, the hybrid world of drawing and sculpture articulate both historical conflict and psychic transformation. Much of my visual vocabulary engages the term *junglee*, an old Indian idiom that describes women who transgress social norms.

I draw from a broad range of source materials including Greek and Hindu myths, 19th century portraiture, legal and activist testimonies, lesbian pulp novels, Bollywood posters and 'zines. Inserting altered imagery into traditional narrative forms, I layer disparate images and include sculptural forms into my large-scale, site-specific drawings to create a space where suppressed stories rise to the surface. Recovering buried histories and bringing them into a public and contemporary context have informed my decision to research and work with contemporary and historical political figures and mass mediated imagery. This imagery has not been fully explored and these stories contain question marks that are best articulated through imaginative visual language.

My processes of installation and collage work, mixing drawing,

sculpture and text, initially developed as means through which meaning was generated.

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Top to Bottom: Nicklas Hultman, Kaiserin #2, The Things You Say. / Chitra Ganesh.