

Annu Palakunnathu Matthew

Annu Palakunnathu Matthew's photographic work addresses the political, social and transformative issues stemming from her own experience of living between three cultures.

In *An Indian from India*, Mathew juxtaposes her "Indian" identity with the Native American Indians, finding similarities between the 19th C. and early 20th C. depiction of Native Americans as primitive natives and the colonial gaze of British photographers in India under the Raj. Mathew continues this exploration of cultural "overlays" in *The Virtual Immigrant*, a series of portraits of call center workers in India. In these call centers, Indians study American culture and either neutralize their Indian names and accents or adopt American ones. The lenticular prints cause a flipping back and forth effect between the image of the person in work clothes and in traditional Indian clothes. This highlights the fluid experience of the virtual Immigrant who lives between cultures without leaving their country thus exploring the effects of digital technology and globalization.

Matthew's work has been exhibited at The RISD Museum, Providence; Newark Art Museum; 2009 Guangzhou Biennial of Photography, China; 2006 Noorderlicht Photofestival, Netherlands; and the 2005 Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal Photo Biennale in Canada.

In 2007, Matthew was awarded the MacColl Johnson Fellowship in Visual Arts. She has received the John Gutmann Fellowship, the Rhode Island State Council of the Arts Fellowship, and the American Institute of Indian Studies Creative Arts Fellowship. Her artist-in-residences include: Yaddo and MacDowell Colonies. Matthews' work is in the collections of the George Eastman House, Fogg Museum; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Center for Creative Photography; Daimler Art Collection; and the RISD Museum among others. Annu Palakunnathu Matthew is Professor of Art (Photography) at the University of Rhode Island.





FEATHER INDIAN

Photographed by C. L. Jones



DOT INDIAN

Photographed by W. H. of Matthew



Photograph by C.H. Bell

QUANAH PARKER, WASHINGTON D.C., 1880s



Photograph by A.P. Matthew

ANNU PALAKUNNATHU MATTHEW, PROVIDENCE R.I., 2000s



Photograph by C. M. Bell

QUANAH PARKER, WASHINGTON D.C., 1880s



Photograph by A.F. Matthew

ANNU PALAKUNNATHU MATTHEW, PROVIDENCE, R.I., 2000s



Stepien's Collection, University of Pennsylvania

TRADITIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN MOTHER AND CHILD



Matthew Collection, Rhode Island

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN AMERICAN MOTHER & STEPCHILD



AMERICAN INDIAN WITH WAR PAINT

Photograph by F.A. Owen



INDIAN WITH WAR PAINT

Photograph by J.C. Maxwell















Captions

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Feather Indian-Dot India, An Indian from India, Portfolio II, 2003-07
Archival Digital Print, 12 x 16 inches

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Qunnah Parker, Washington D.C.1880s – Annu Palakunnathu Matthew, Providence, R.I., 2000s, An Indian from India, Portfolio II, 2003-07
Archival Digital Print, 12 x 16 inches

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Qunnah Parker, Washington D.C.1880s – Annu Palakunnathu Matthew, Providence, R.I., 2000s, An Indian from India, Portfolio II, 2003-07
Archival Digital Print, 12 x 16 inches

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Indian with Daughter/ Indian with Daughter, An Indian from India, Portfolio I, 2003-2007
Archival Digital Print, 12 x 16 inches

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Indian with War paint/ Indian with War paint, An Indian from India, Portfolio I, 2003-2007
Archival Digital Print, 12 x 16 inches

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Anirudh, The Virtual Immigrant, 2006
Archival Digital Print Mounted with Lenticular Lens, 47 x 41.5 inches

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Kirti, The Virtual Immigrant, 2006
Archival Digital Print Mounted with Lenticular Lens, 40 x 53 inches

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frames from *Lavina*, Re-Generation, 2001-2003, video

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frames from *Sumitra*, Re-Generation, 2001-2003, video

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frames from *Archana*, Re-Generation, 2001-2003, video

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frames from *Hanoi*, Re-Generation, 2001-2003, video

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Cycles, Memories of India, 2005
Gelatin Silver Print 5 x 5 inches

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Nested baskets, Memories of India, 2005
Gelatin Silver Print 5 x 5 inches

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Men's feet, Memories of India, 2005
Gelatin Silver Print 5 x 5 inches

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Small Truck, Memories of India, 2005
Gelatin Silver Print 5 x 5 inches



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