

# PROGRAM 2024

**KALĀ**

A PLATFORM FOR  
SOUTH ASIAN ART

29.01.24 — 25.02.24  
SRI LANKA





KALĀ in association with the Lionel Wendt Art Centre aspires to establish itself as a prominent annual platform for showcasing South Asian modern and contemporary art, both from the local and diasporic perspectives.

Our vision is to foster the growth of this event year after year, seamlessly integrating projects across Sri Lanka with a diverse month of programming engaging talks, online panel discussions, and immersive workshops.



In keeping with the platform's intention to build collaborations with practitioners, representatives and institutions across the island and the South Asian region, KALĀ+ will feature talks, workshops and screenings both at the Lionel Wendt Art Centre and with leading representatives, institutions and individuals from the Sri Lankan art ecosystem.

These events have been curated with focus on building the visibility of developments of the arts locally while also focused on accessibility for youth, students, enthusiasts and patrons. Our objective annually is to develop and grow via these collaborations extensively.



*Supported by the Faizal & Shabana Foundation*

For its inaugural edition, KALĀ is proud to be partnering with Art South Asia Project for the programming series, KALĀ x ASAP.

The talks and workshops, both in person and digitally, are dedicated to the art ecosystem of Sri Lanka and merging it further with South Asia.

The vast and vibrant arts and cultural landscape of Sri Lankan art will be celebrated through discussions of modern and contemporary artists within the country, along with the various institutions that strive to create a unified and inclusive art community.

These talks and workshops will be balanced by bridging the Sri Lankan art community with the South Asian institutional leaders and creating further dialogues between the country and the region.





# TALKS

**KALĀ X ASAP**  
**Lionel Wendt's Ceylon:  
Timeless Affiliations**  
With Artist Cassie Machado  
and Dr Edwin Coomasaru  
<http://tinyurl.com/3ns5m3>

*Ticket Price:* LKR 1500  
*Free Access for* VIP Pass  
Holders, Students and  
Senior Citizens  
*Date:* Monday,  
29 January 2024  
*Time:* 11:00am - 12:00pm  
*Location:* Lionel Wendt  
Art Centre

**KALĀ X ASAP**  
**Creating Space:  
South to South Dialogues**  
with Diana Campbell,  
Artistic Director for the  
Samdani Art Foundation  
and Chief Curator of the  
Dhaka Art Summit  
<http://tinyurl.com/33xrykue>

*Ticket Price:* LKR 1500  
*Free Access for* VIP  
Pass Holders, Students  
and Senior Citizens  
*Date:* Monday, 29  
January 2024  
*Time:* 5:00pm - 6:30pm  
*Location:* Lionel Wendt Art

**KALĀ X ASAP**  
**Sri Lanka in the  
Global Art Market**  
with Nishad Avari, Head of  
Department for South Asian  
Modern and Contemporary  
Art and Amrita Jhaveri,  
Co-Founder & Co-Director  
of Jhaveri Contemporary  
<http://tinyurl.com/36549x52>

*Ticket Price:* LKR 1500  
*Free Access for* VIP  
Pass Holders, Student  
and Senior Citizens  
*Date:* Tuesday, 30  
January 2024  
*Time:* 9:30am - 10:30am  
*Location:* Lionel Wendt  
Art Centre

**KALĀ X ASAP**  
**Reflections on the No Order  
Group: the 90s in Sri Lanka**  
With Artists  
Jagath Weerasinghe and  
Chandraguptha Thenuwara,  
discussing the formation  
of the No Order Group and  
the long lasting impact  
of the ideas of the 1999  
manifesto on their individual  
practices and contemporary  
practice in Sri Lanka  
<http://tinyurl.com/yp4mhrw9>

*Ticket Price:* LKR 1500  
*Free Access for* VIP  
Pass Holders, Student  
and Senior Citizens  
*Date:* Tuesday, 30  
January 2024  
*Time:* 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
*Location:* Lionel Wendt  
Art Centre

**KALĀ X ASAP**  
**Insights into**  
**Contemporary Practice**  
**in Sri Lanka**

With artists  
Mahen Perera and  
Liz Fernando in conversation  
with Mala Yamey, Head  
of Programs at ASAP.  
The talk will focus on  
the ideas around their  
contributions to the  
exhibition 'Pivot Echo Glide'.  
<http://tinyurl.com/2558cd2f>

Ticket Price: LKR 1500  
Free Access for VIP  
Pass Holders, Students  
and Senior Citizens  
Date: Wednesday  
31 January 2024  
Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
Location: Lionel Wendt  
Art Centre

**KALĀ X ASAP**  
**How Institutions Think:**  
**Design and Sustaining**  
**Institutions in Sri Lanka**

With Malaka Thalwatte,  
Chair of the Board of  
Trustees of George  
Keyt Foundation,  
Rohan de Soysa, Chairman  
of Sapumal Foundation and  
Shayari de Silva, Chief  
Curator of Geoffrey  
Bawa Trust  
<http://tinyurl.com/bcnx5bm2>

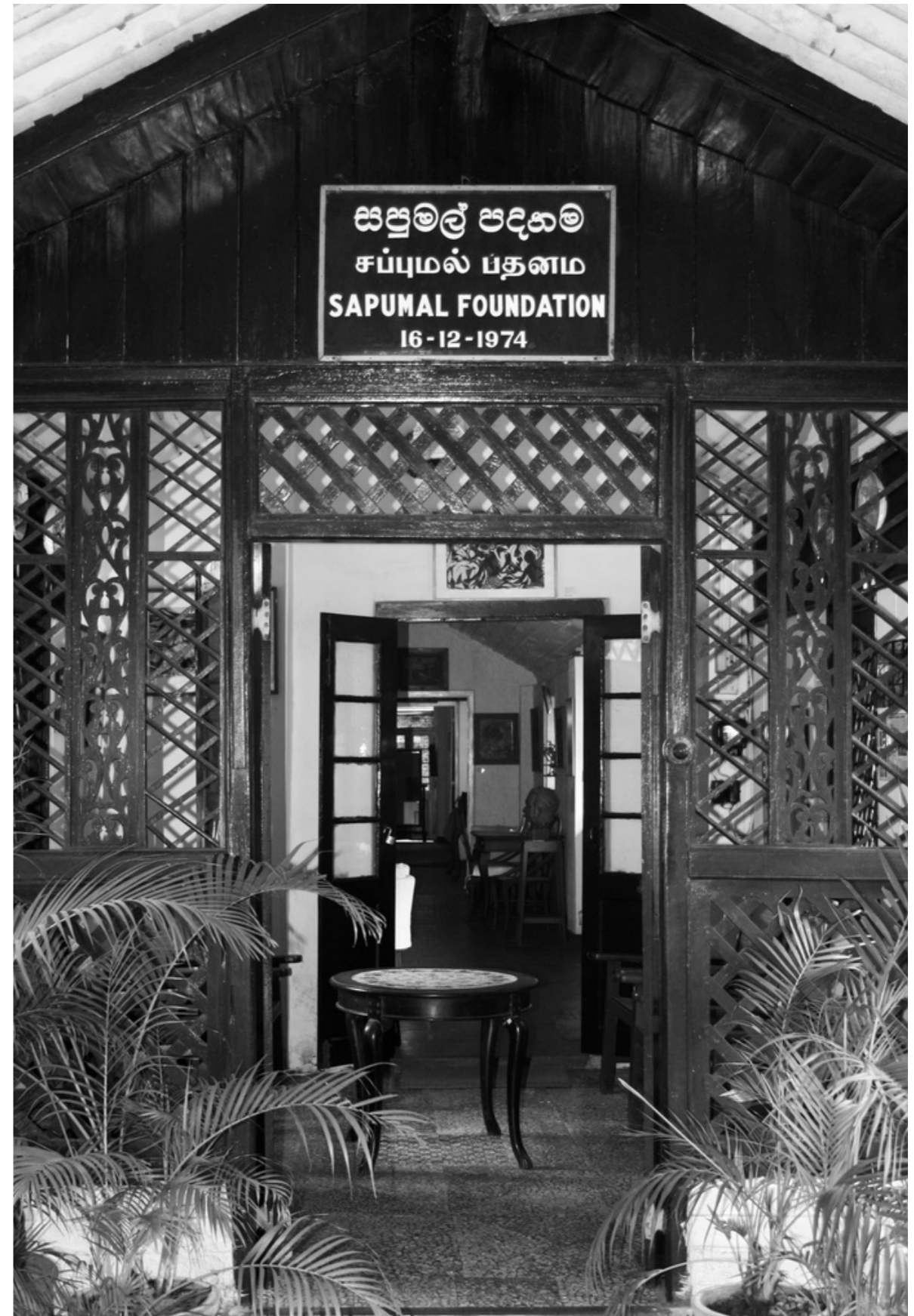
Ticket Price: LKR 1500  
Free Access for VIP  
Pass Holders, Students  
and Senior Citizens  
Date: Wednesday  
31 January 2024  
Time: 5:00pm - 6:00pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt  
Art Centre

**KALĀ+**  
**The Legacy of**  
**Barbara Sansoni**  
Dominic Sansoni,  
Photographer & Director  
of Barefoot, discusses the  
enduring legacy of artist,  
designer and entrepreneur  
Barbara Sansoni  
<http://tinyurl.com/4n6nvur>

Ticket Price: LKR 1500  
Free Access for VIP  
Pass Holders, Students  
and Senior Citizens  
Date: Thursday, 1  
February 2024  
Time: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Location: Barefoot Gallery,  
704 Galle Road, Colombo 3

**KALĀ+**  
**The Sapumal Foundation**  
Rohan De Soysa, Chairman  
of the Sapumal Foundation,  
discusses the origins of  
the Foundation and the  
work it does to preserve  
the legacy of the 43 group.  
The talk will be followed  
by a walkthrough of the  
Sapumal Foundation's  
collection of artworks  
<http://tinyurl.com/4hfv9dwp>

Ticket Price: LKR 1500  
Free Access for VIP  
Pass Holders, Students  
and Senior Citizens  
Date: Friday, 2  
February 2024  
Time: 3:00pm  
Location: Sapumal  
Foundation, 32 Barnes  
Place, Colombo 7



### **KALĀ X ASAP**

**New Perspectives:  
Women Artists in Sri Lanka**  
Artists Anoli Perera,  
Jasmine Nilani Joseph and  
Hema Shironi will be in  
conversation to explore  
the nuances of possibilities  
and opportunities for  
women artists in Sri Lanka  
and wider South Asia  
Register  
<http://tinyurl.com/2uuttch4>

Date: 8 February 2024  
Time: 6pm SLST  
10:00am - 11:00am  
UK time /  
3:30pm - 4:30pm  
Colombo Time  
Hosted Online

### **KALĀ X ASAP**

**Friends and Relations:  
The '43 Group**  
Shamil Wanigaratne, Author  
and Clinical Psychologist,  
Esmerelda Claessen,  
Writer and daughter of 43'  
Group founding artist  
George Claessen, and  
Rohan de Soysa, Chairman  
of the Sapumal Foundation,  
discuss the importance  
of the 43 Group in  
South Asian art history and  
their personal experiences  
in relation to the group  
Register  
<https://rb.gy/42d1v2>

Date: Tuesday 6  
February 2024  
Time: 10:00am -  
11:00am UK time /  
3:30pm - 4:30pm  
Colombo Time  
Hosted Online

### **KALĀ+**

**Doornberg: Architecture,  
Photography and  
Sri Lankan Contemporary Art**  
A conversation with  
Collector Peter Harris  
and Photographer  
Sebastian Posingis moderated by  
Saskia Fernando at Doornberg,  
Galle followed by Afternoon Tea  
Register  
<https://forms.gle/QRVcrjK29mGsBqn28>

*Limited capacity,  
register early*  
Ticket Price: LKR 8000  
Date: 10 February 2024  
Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
Location: Doornberg 23  
Upper Dickson Rd, Galle

### **KALĀXASAP**

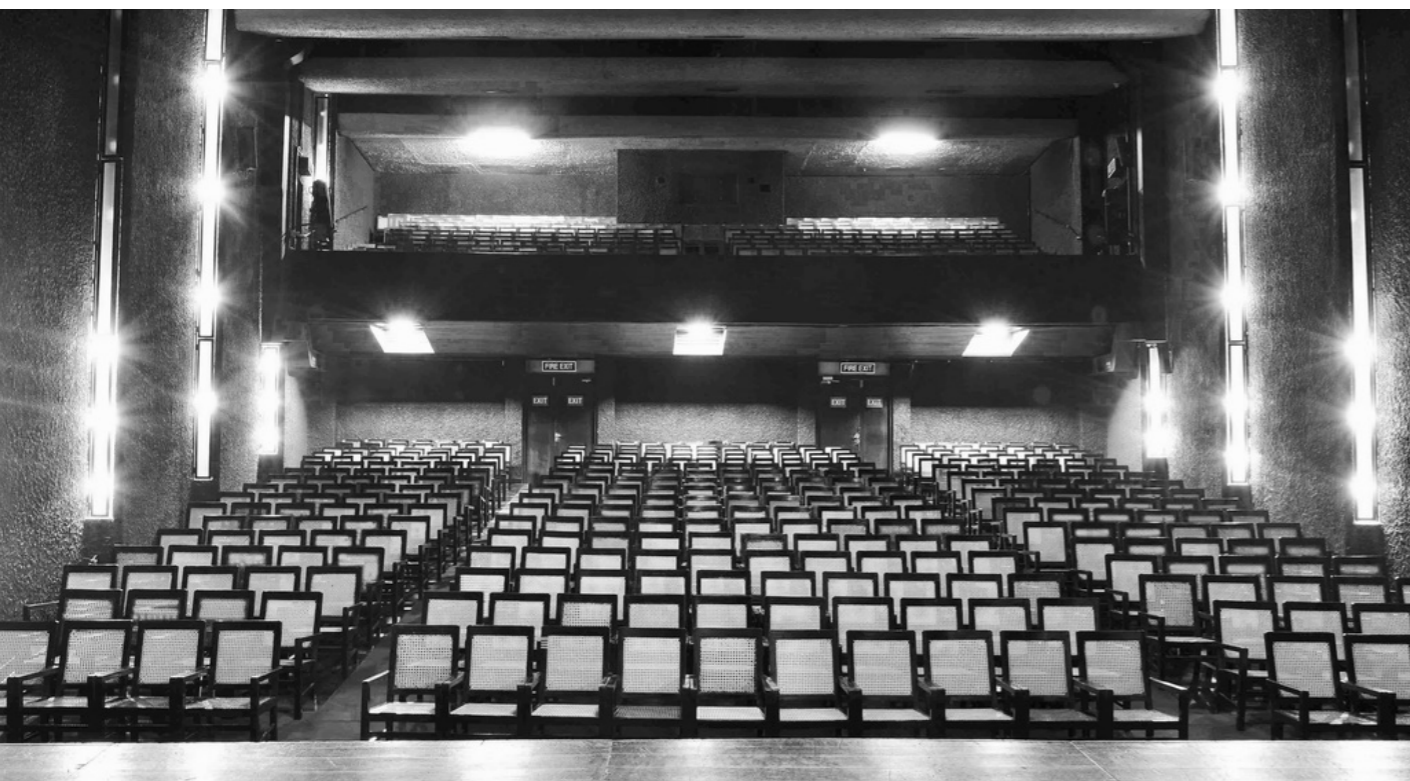
**Funding and Development  
in the Arts**  
Rummana Naqvi, Director of  
Development of Whitechapel  
Gallery and Stefan Winkler,  
Director of Goethe Institut,  
Sri Lanka, discuss the process  
of funding and development  
within institutions  
Register  
<http://tinyurl.com/3sw5akth>

Date: 12 February 2024  
Time: 10:00am - 11:00am  
UK time/  
3:30pm - 4:30pm  
Colombo Time  
Hosted Online/Free

### **KALĀ+**

**Practise as politic:  
A sharing of research  
insights from the  
performance archive of  
Floating Space Theatre Co.**  
A discursive reflection  
on the cultural dynamics  
of place, context and  
narrative that locates the  
theatre making practice of  
Floating Space in its first  
ten years (2007-2017) and  
informal conversations  
between its founding  
members and collaborating  
artists that shaped the  
artistic intentions of  
the performance work  
produced during this time  
<http://tinyurl.com/53zybc9z>

*40 attendees only,  
purchase early*  
Ticket Price: LKR 2000  
Date: Monday 6  
February 2024  
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt  
Art Centre





# WORKSHOPS

## **KALĀXASAP**

### **Artist Portfolio Review**

With Iaroslav Volovod, Curator of Guggenheim Abu Dhabi

Apply

<https://forms.gle/3meLi5Wew73xmzDo8>

*6 attendees only, free access, apply before 17 Jan*

Date: Monday, 29 January 2024

Time: 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

## **KALĀXASAP**

### **Artist Portfolio Review**

With Diana Campbell, Artistic Director for the Samdani Art Foundation and Chief Curator of the Dhaka Art Summit

Apply

<https://forms.gle/UNZpgdVtn2U8cVyL8>

*6 attendees only, free access, apply before 17 Jan*

Date: Tuesday, 30 January 2024

Time: 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

## **KALĀXASAP**

### **Artist Portfolio Review**

With Sandhini Poddar, KALĀ Curatorial Advisor and Adjunct Curator-at-large of the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi

Apply

<https://forms.gle/LPspztjXbCnoSyun6>

*6 attendees only, free access, apply before 17 Jan*

Date: Wednesday 31 January 2024

Time: 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

## **KALĀ+**

### **'Other' Histories: Memory, Objects, Play A Workshop by Floating Space Theatre Co.**

A storytelling workshop that explores narratives drawn from personal archives in the making of performance. Using the frame of monologues and/or collectively devised scenes, participants will create short performances derived from their personal archives

<http://tinyurl.com/ypzww755>

*20 attendees only, purchase early*

*Ticket Price: LKR 4000*

Date: Monday 6 February 2024

Time: 2:00 - 5.00 pm

Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

## **KALĀXASAP**

### **Word into Art: Contemporary Art Practices and the Written Word**

Anshika Varma, Artist, Publisher & Founder of Offset Projects and Contemporary Artist Fazal Rizvi discuss their practices and how written word formulates how they work as artists and writers.

Apply

<https://forms.gle/PijsArrcVXCm7iPQ7>

*6 attendees, free access, apply by 23 January*

### **PART 1**

Date: Wednesday 5 February 2024

Time: Online

(1pm - 4pm UK/

6:30 - 9:30pm

IST & Colombo/

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Pakistan)

### **PART 2**

Date: Saturday 10 February

Time: Online

(1pm - 4pm UK/

6:30 - 9:30pm

IST & Colombo/

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Pakistan)

## **KALĀ+**

### **PORTRAIT**

#### **A Workshop with Fabienne Francotte**

Fabienne Francotte hosts PORTRAIT, a guided painting session at the Lionel Wendt Art Centre.

Materials will be provided

Register

<https://forms.gle/uzCztNYtJcpv7PWT7>

*14 attendees only*

*Ticket price: LKR 8000*

Date: 8 February 2024

Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

## **KALĀ +**

### **Young Artist Portfolio Reviews with Jagath Ravindra, Mariyam Begum, Saskia Fernando and Hema Shironi**

Jagath Ravindra, Dean of the University of Visual and Performing Arts, Mariyam Begum, Assistant Curator of KALĀ, Saskia Fernando, KALĀ Founding Director and Hema Shironi, Artist will review 30 young artists portfolios throughout the day at the Lionel Wendt Theatre.

Apply

<https://forms.gle/rXeB1Ks6YjVvsMJ56>

*30 attendees, Free access, apply by 5 February*

Date: 12 February 2024

Time: 10am - 12pm/

2:30 pm - 6pm

Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

**KALĀ+**  
**HIDE AND SEEK A Workshop**  
with Mahen Perera  
Mahen Perera hosts HIDE & SEEK, a found material workshop exploring the way in which we engage with materiality. Materials will be provided but participants are encouraged to bring their own found material  
Register  
<https://forms.gle/XG4ELeCDgEzFfjVV7>

*15 attendees only*  
Ticket price: LKR 4000  
Date: 13 February 2024  
Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

**KALĀ+**  
**OUTLINES**  
A Workshop by Firi Rahman  
Artist Firi Rahman hosts a nature drawing workshop at the Lionel Wendt Art Centre. Taking inspiration from the flora and fauna around the centre, participants are invited to reconnect with nature through the meditative process of drawing. Materials will be provided  
Register  
<https://forms.gle/kkYV2HnHwGEjjHa69>

*15 attendees only*  
Ticket price: LKR 5000  
Date: 15 February 2024  
Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

**KALĀ+**  
**DIGITAL**  
A Workshop by Firi Rahman  
Artist Firi Rahman offers a beginners guide to using Procreate for drawing and design. Participants will be required to bring an ipad with the procreate application downloaded onto the device  
Register  
<https://forms.gle/sj8qDe8oCTgCA2BEA>

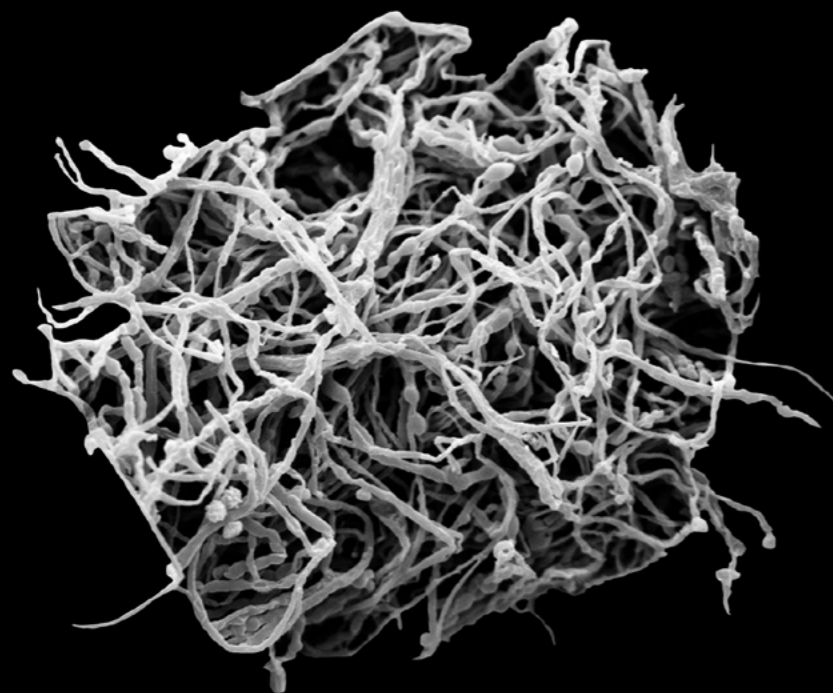
*15 attendees only*  
Ticket price: LKR 4000  
Date: 20 February 2024  
Time: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

**KALĀ+**  
**IMPRINT**  
A Workshop with Fabienne Francotte  
Fabienne Francotte hosts IMPRINT, a guided painting session at the Lionel Wendt Art Centre. Materials will be provided to participants  
Register  
<https://forms.gle/BwK7eSRYP3k84Tzf7>

*14 attendees only*  
Ticket price: LKR 6000  
Date: 22 February 2024  
Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

**KALĀ+**  
**MADE BY HAND**  
A Workshop with Fabienne Francotte  
Fabienne Francotte hosts Made by Hand, a workshop for children aged 8 to 14. This engaging session aims to inspire young minds to explore the world of art through activities such as painting and clay moulding. Materials will be provided  
Register  
<https://forms.gle/RnLai2dGjXEtUcbX7>

*12 attendees only*  
Ticket price: LKR 4000  
Date: 17 February 2024  
Time: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre





# SCREENINGS

## KALĀ+

### Screening of

### Song of Ceylon

Join KALĀ at the Lionel Wendt Theatre for a screening of The Song of Ceylon (1934), followed by an evening walkthrough of PIVOT GLIDE ECHO.

<http://tinyurl.com/ebe2uj6x>

Ticket price: LKR 1500  
Free Access for VIP Pass Holders, Students and Senior Citizens  
Date: Monday 5 February 2024  
Time: 5:30pm - 7:30pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

## KALĀ+

### Screening of Anatomy of a Protest and Panel Discussion with Director and Featured Artists

'Anatomy of a Protest' is a documentary film that follows the raw intensity of Sri Lanka's historic Aragalaya movement - from its diffuse beginnings to occupying the Presidential Secretariat and the aftermath - from the perspective of the activists involved. Can their fight against a powerful dynasty overcome a system determined to prevail?

*Directed by* Kannan Arunasalam.

### *Written by*

Kannan Arunasalam, Hiran Balasuriya, Matt Maria. Edited by Kannan Arunasalam, Hiran Balasuriya.

*Produced by* International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Retold World, Shadow Court Films.

A panel discussion with the director, Muvindu Binoy and Minal Wickrematunge, artists featured in the documentary, follows the screening.

<http://tinyurl.com/3rbmp25j>

Ticket price: LKR 700  
Free Access for VIP Pass Holders, Student and Senior Citizens  
Date: Monday 19 February 2024  
Time: 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm  
Location: Lionel Wendt Art Centre

# KALĀ ARTIST TABLES

## KALĀ Artist Table with Chandraguptha Thenuwara at GINI

Enjoy an intimate evening with one of Sri Lanka's leading artists, beginning with a conversation between the artist and his gallerist Saskia Fernando and followed by a curated four course menu by GINI.

View menu & register

<https://forms.gle/JxQr5AJ5uUD1qgvN6>

Ticket Price: LKR 18000  
Date: 9 February 2024  
Time: 7:30pm onwards  
Location: GINI

## KALĀ Artist Table with Jagath Weerasinghe at Kolu's

An intimate evening with one of Sri Lanka's leading artists in conversation with Curator Mariyam Begum at the private residence of renowned chef and writer Kolu.

View menu & register

<https://forms.gle/7grNcyFopyCSRA6CA>

Ticket Price: LKR 18000  
Date: 16 February 2024  
Time: 7:30 pm  
Location: Kolu's Private Residences

## KALĀ Artist Table with Jagath Ravindra at Tintagel

An intimate evening with one of Sri Lanka's celebrated abstract painters in conversation with Curator Mariyam Begum at Paradise Road Tintagel.

View menu & register

<https://forms.gle/HYEMQZHonp3ven5M8>

Ticket Price: LKR 18000  
Date: 24 February 2024  
Time: 7:30 pm  
Location: Tintagel



KALĀ presents

PIVOT  
GLIDE  
ECHO

*'Pivot Glide Echo' is the platform's inaugural exhibition of artists spanning eight decades, curated by KALĀ Assistant Curator Mariyam Begum under the guidance of KALĀ Curatorial Advisor Sandhini Poddar, Adjunct Curator at Large of the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi. With celebrated Sri Lankan photographer Lionel Wendt serving as a catalyst, the exhibition delves into the relationship between the image-making process and technology, initiating a conversation on the limitations and possibilities across generations of artistic practice.*

**Featured Artists**

*Lionel Wendt  
George Claessen  
George Keyt  
Ivan Peries  
LTP Manjusri  
HA Karunaratne  
Kingsley Gunatillake  
Raki Nikahetiya  
Mahen Perera  
Liz Fernando  
Sebastian Posingis  
Muhanned Cader  
Saskia Pintelon  
Rupaneethan Pakkiyarajah  
Anoli Perera  
Vasantha Yogananthan  
Cassie Machado  
Kavan Balasuriya  
Muvindu Binoy*

**Exhibition pass LKR 300  
Season pass LKR 1000**

**Free Access for VIP Pass  
Holders, Student and  
Senior Citizens**

**Access to the exhibition will  
be free of charge on  
these dates**

**Date: 5 February 2024  
Time: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**Date: 24 February 2024  
Time: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm**

## CURATED WALKTHROUGHS

### Curated Walkthrough (English)

*With Curator Mariyam Begum*

Date: Wednesday, 7 February 2024 Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
<https://rb.gy/eu2t20>

Date: Wednesday, 14 February 2024 Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
<https://rb.gy/3ilxnr>

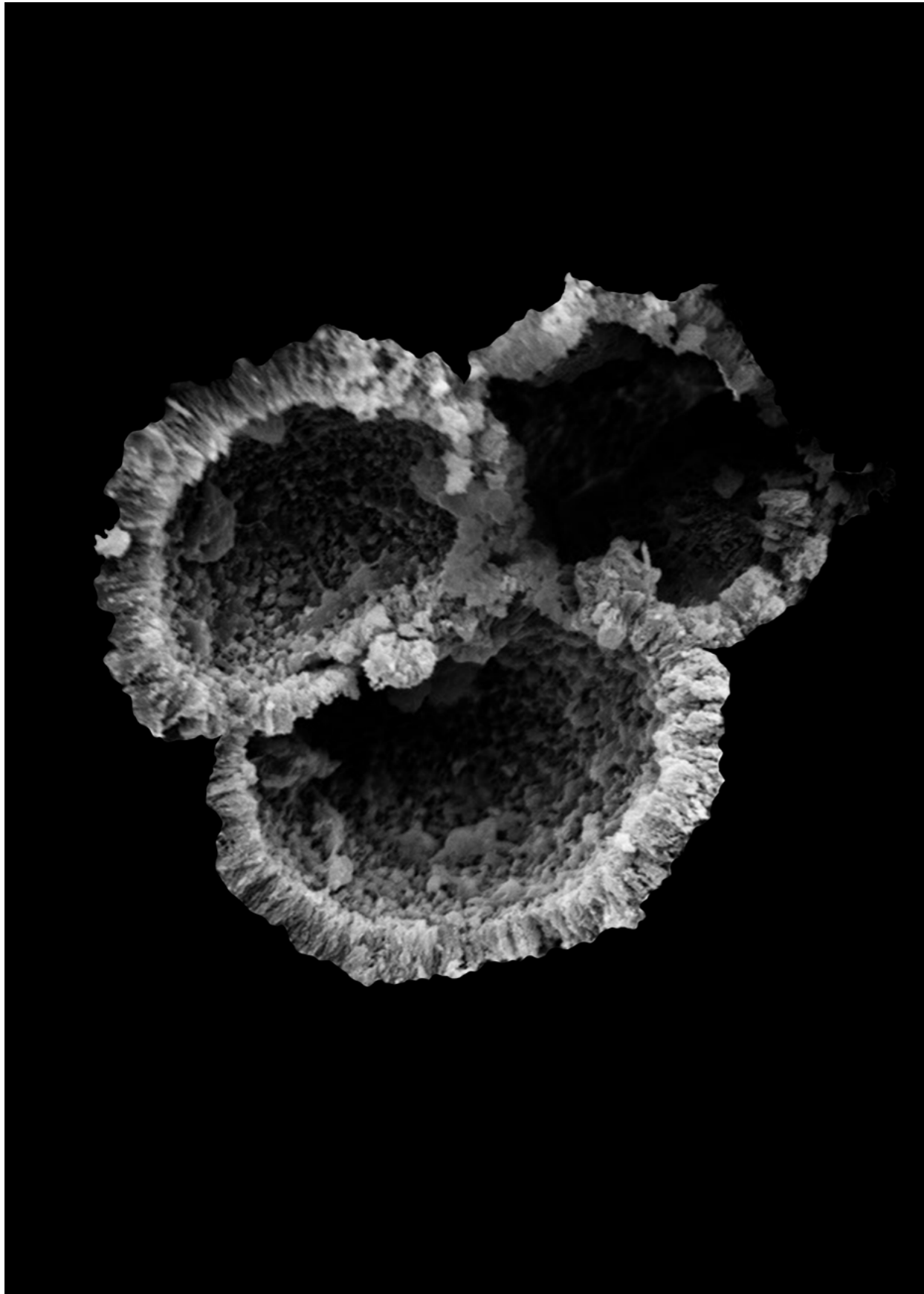
Date: Wednesday, 21 February 2024 Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
<https://shorturl.at/lrX15>

*With our docents*

Date: Sunday, 11 February 2024 Time: 11:00am - 12:00pm  
<https://shorturl.at/bmns1>

Date: Sunday, 18 February 2024 Time: 11:00 pm - 12:00 pm  
<https://shorturl.at/ghpuZ>

Date: Sunday, 24 February 2024 Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
<https://shorturl.at/anO02>



### **Curated Walkthrough | PIVOT GLIDE ECHO (Sinhala)**

*With Curator Mariyam Begum*

Date: 10 February 2024 Time: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
<https://shorturl.at/klv28>

Date: 17 February 2024 Time: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
<http://tiny.cc/kmz0wz>

Date: 23 February 2024 Time: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
<http://tiny.cc/umz0wz>

### **Curated Walkthrough | PIVOT GLIDE ECHO (Tamil)**

With our docents

Date: 10 February 2024 Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/ykse64y>

Date: 17 February 2024 Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/ntyvdf53>

Date: 23 February 2024 Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/46wbwjek>

### **Curated walkthrough for Teens (Ages 12-18 | English)**

*With Programming Assistant Sulakshi Ratnayake*

Date: 11 February 2024 Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/9ffyeyu5>

Date: 18 February 2024 Time: 12:00 am - 1:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/3rhycdwd>

### **Curated walkthrough for Children (Ages 5 - 11 | English)**

*With Programming Assistant Sulakshi Ratnayake*

Date: 11 February 2024 Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/4w8m4kya>

Date: 18 February 2024 Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 pm  
<http://tinyurl.com/3ewf2wws>

Founding Platinum Partner



Founding Gold Partner



Founding Silver Partner



Public Relations Partner



Industry Partner

CHRISTIE'S

Brand Communications Partner

MULLENIOWE  
SRI LANKA

Media Partner



Programming Partner



Gallery Partner



Restaurant Partner

