

## Spotlight on Contemporary Art: Asian Artists Teaching Resources



**Overview:** Contemporary art is made all over the world every day and is as varied as the artists who make it. This program will highlight contemporary Asian artists whose artworks reflect on their history, culture, and the modern world around them.

**Curriculum:** The Arts, Visual Arts, Social Studies, Cultural Studies

**Grade Range:** 6–12

**Program Artworks:**

- [Translated Vase](#), Yee Sookyung (Korean, born in 1963), 2011 (2011.233)
- [Untitled](#), Subodh Gupta (Indian, born in 1964), 2015 (2018.2111)
- [Pentagon](#), Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian (Iranian, 1922-2019), 2011 (2012.321)
- [Movie Screening](#), Fan Darong (Chinese, born in 1954), 2014 (2019.685)

## Teaching Resources

[Artist Statement: Subodh Gupta](#)

In this short video, contemporary Indian artist Subodh Gupta explains how childhood memories are central to his artistic practice. (2:13 video)

[Contemporary Art and Artists: Spotlights - MFA YouTube Playlist](#)

Collection of fifty short videos featuring contemporary art and artists that have been part of MFA exhibitions.

# MFA/Boston

## [Contemporary Art and Artists: Lectures - MFA YouTube Playlist](#)

Collection of twenty-three videos that take a deeper look at contemporary art and artists through MFA lectures and interviews.

✓ [Subodh Gupta: Coexistence, Ritual, and Growth](#)

Hear how the objects of Subodh Gupta's childhood in rural Bihar, India, are transformed in his towering creations built from masses of gleaming polished steel tiffin lunch boxes, brass cooking dishes, and other mainstays of daily life. See how Gupta's works touch on overarching themes of displacement, loss, and the hardship of migration. (57:53 video)

## [MFA Highlights: Contemporary Art](#)

Contemporary art is a vast and complex field representing artists, ideas and trends from every imaginable cultural and geographical background. This book introduces the art of our times by taking the reader through a tour of some 7 examples from the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Thematic chapters present artistic categories, concepts and propositions that offer a path toward understanding the different subjects, forms, styles, purposes and techniques of contemporary art. Paperback, 176 pages. Available through the [MFA Shop](#).

## [Art 21](#)

Art21 is a celebrated global leader in presenting thought-provoking and sophisticated content about contemporary art, and the go-to place to learn first-hand from the artists of our time. Art21 also creates educational resources and professional development programs; annual public programming; an online publication featuring guest contributors; and a comprehensive website at [Art21.org](#).

✓ [Getting Started: An Introduction to Teaching with Contemporary Art](#)

✓ [Tools for Teaching](#)

## Art Terminology

**Assemblage:** Art that is made by assembling disparate elements – often everyday objects – scavenged by the artist or bought specially.

**Contemporary Art:** The term contemporary art is loosely used to refer to art of the present day and of the relatively recent past. At the MFA, this includes art produced from the second half of the 20th century to the present moment.

**Found Objects:** Existing objects not originally designed to have artistic value that the artist selects and displays in their work of art.

**Mosaic:** Artwork made up of small parts; for example, tiny tiles made of terracotta, glass, ceramics or marble. Historically, mosaics were inlaid into floors and walls.

**Self-Taught Artist:** An artist who did not receive formal training in the visual arts.