Research Statement

Creator: Kevin Todd

Exhibition: *In Situ* India, 1 Shanthi Road Gallery, Bangalore (24 January—15 February 2015)
Exhibition: *In Situ* Turkey, Halka Art Projects, Istanbul (8-27 June 2015)
Exhibition: *In Situ* Sri Lanka, Theertha International Artists’ Collective (1-21 July 2016)

Research Background

Generative art is concerned with images or forms created by an underlying structure or program through the use of mathematics or geometry and the *In Situ* series explored this tradition in India, Turkey and Sri Lanka through residencies and exhibitions. The artworks show a continuum rather than a rupture between contemporary art and tradition and seek to explore the media archaeology of painting in the context of generative art.

Research Contribution

The Bangalore works related to the construction of Rangoli by women in the local community, who also created work in the gallery to compliment the exhibition. In Istanbul the work related to the use of geometry in Islamic architecture and in Sri Lanka the use of background geometry in cave paintings as a reflection of Buddhist ontology. The attached catalogues show the works and each has an essay elaborating on the local context/influence.

Research Significance

The residencies and exhibitions contributed to cross-cultural understanding on the metaphysical role of generative art and geometry in theology, theory and philosophy of the respective cultures.

1 Shanthi Road, Bangalore is Asialink’s partner institution in India and one of India’s foremost contemporary art spaces. Theertha in Colombo is Sri Lanka’s premier contemporary art space and a venue for the Colombo Biennale. Halka Art Projects is the main independent space on the Asian side of Istanbul. There were public lectures at each venue.

The paintings from India and Istanbul are now in the permanent Collection of the Royal Perth Hospital.

The paintings from Sri Lanka are now in the collections of the Peter McCallum Cancer Centre and St Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne.