

Galerie 88

Earth Metal Memory

Sculptures by
Latika Katt

23 December 2025 - 31 January 2026



Earth Metal Memory - Sculptures by Latika Katt

The conversation with material that an artist engages in, often decides the nature of the practice and also the time frame within which the pursuit could be situated. The main body of work in this exhibition titled, 'Abandoned', produced between 2023 and 2025 is culmination of a lifelong engagement with stone carving and metal casting of the veteran artist, Latika Katt (born 1941 and died 2025). The body that the sculptures have acquired and the title are reflective of multiple associations that remain embedded in Latika's search for the motif, material and an ideal making that merge towards a composite whole. The stones appearing in this entire body of works are simultaneously carved in the conventional sense as parts of sculptures and could also be seen as found objects sourced for sculptural assemblage. The stones here retain an archaic look marked with a raw vitality and robustness, intrinsic to most sculptural practices. The artist further moves on to add sensitive sculptural compositions in cast metal pieces with them. The stone literally holds these sculptural layouts in metal giving them a strong base while both complement each other in terms of the forms and material. Their compatibility indicates an evolved artistic sensibility.

The content of 'Abandoned' does not remain restricted to its implications of the material. It goes on further to indicate a sense of archaeology and history. The organic basis of the compositions in metal indicates layouts of ancient citadels in an abstract format. The design, material in terms of the duet of stone and metal, and the artist's approach to sculpture bring to the mind interconnected associations of stone quarries, medieval forts, antiquities, archaeological sites and layered history. However romantic in essence the ideas related to the works may appear, the sculptures at its core remain essentially stark, beautiful and abstract. It is indicative of the artist's personality that could reconcile abundance with austerity.



Image Courtesy: Jyoti Bhatt

Latika Katt (1948 - 2025)





Latika Katt
Earth Metal Memory
Gallery View



Latika Katt
Earth Metal Memory
Gallery View



Latika Katt
Earth Metal Memory
Gallery View

Works



NO. 01
ABANDONED 1
Medium- Stone and Bronze
Size: H-18 W-15 D-12 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 02
ABANDONED 2
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-11, W-18, D-15 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 03
ABANDONED 3
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-5, W-24, D-11 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 04
ABANDONED 4
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-8, W-14, D-15 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 05
ABANDONED 5
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-9, W-20, D-15 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



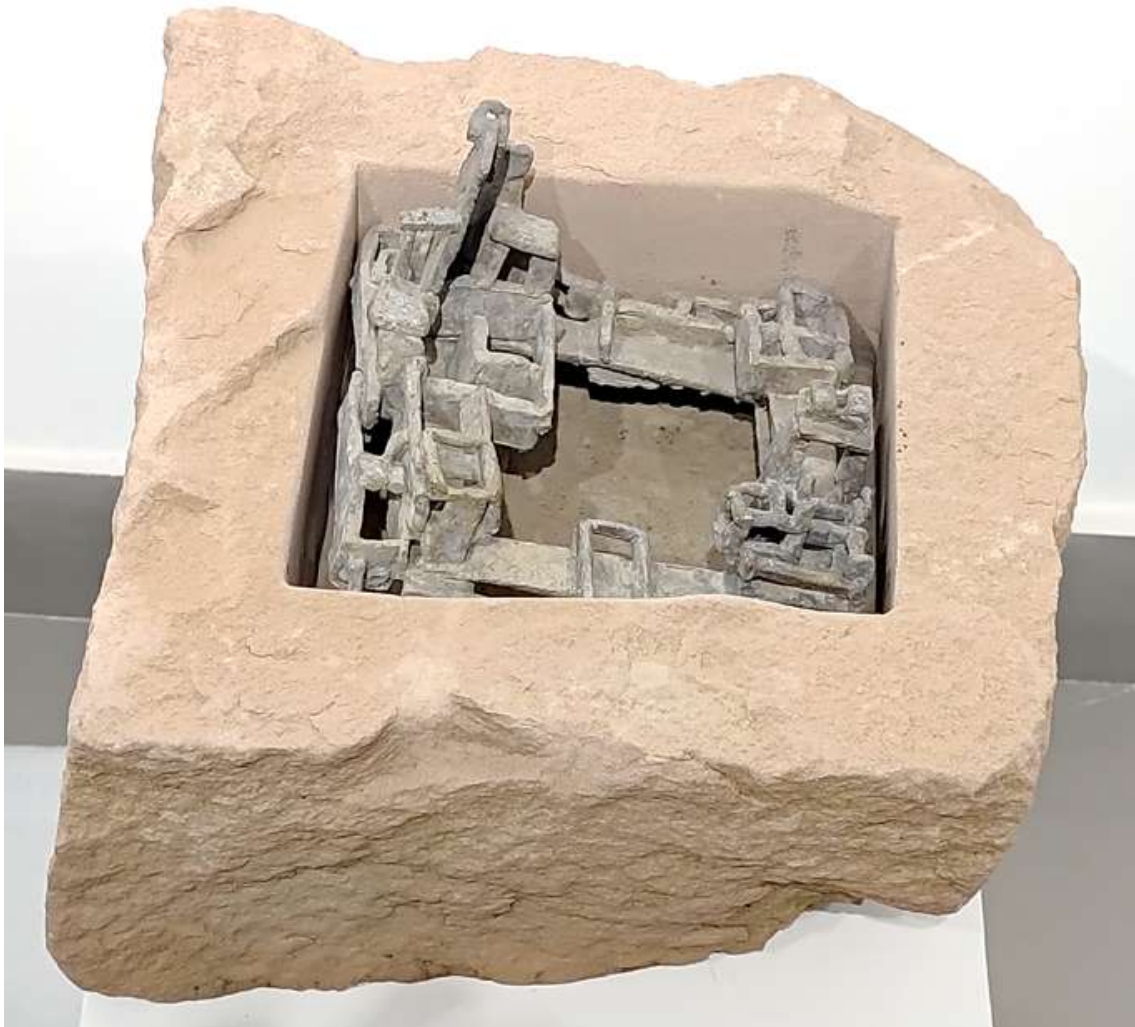
NO. 06
ABANDONED 6
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-4, W-18, D-19 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 07
ABANDONED 7
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-10, W-20, D-15 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 08
ABANDONED 8
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H- 8, W-17, D- 16 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 09
ABANDONED 9
Medium- Stone and Bronze
Size - H- 8, W- 15, D- 12 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 10
ABANDONED 10
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-12, W- 15, D-12 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 11
ABANDONED 11
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H- 7, W-13, D-12 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 12
ABANDONED 12
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-12, W-19, D-17 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 13
ABANDONED 13
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H- 8, W-20, D-15 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



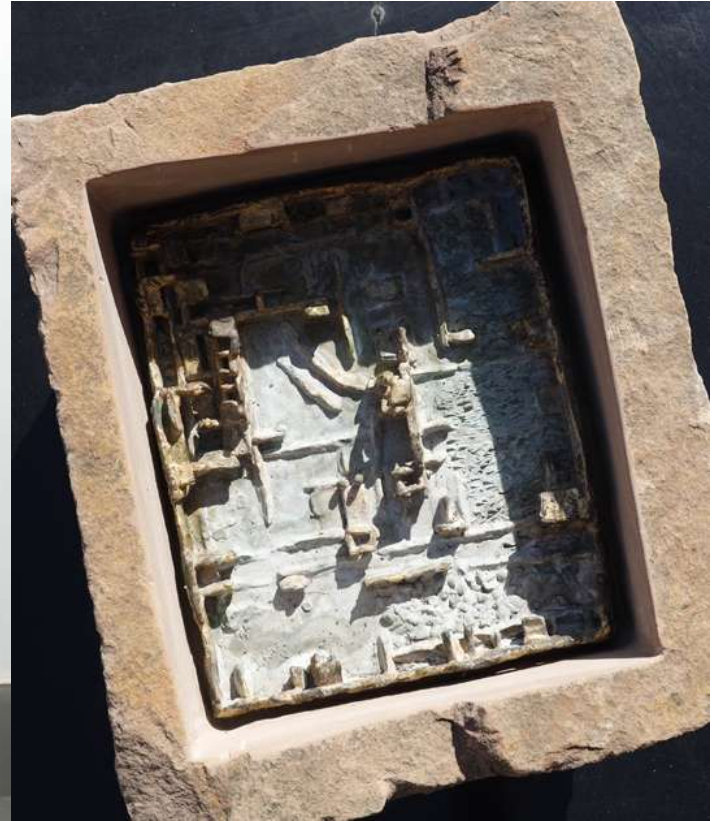
NO. 14
ABANDONED 14
Medium: Sandstone and Bronze
Size: H-8, W-20, D-15 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 15
ABANDONED 15
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-8, W-14, D-13 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 16
ABANDONED 16
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-8, W-20, D-18 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 17
ABANDONED 17
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-10, W-15, D-13 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 18
ABANDONED 18
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-13, W-20, D-20 in
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 19
ABANDONED 19
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H- 5, W-19, B- 17 in.
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 20
ABANDONED 20
Medium: Stone and Bronze
Size: H-15, W-16, B-12 in.
Year: 2023 - 2025



NO. 21
Growth #1
Medium: Terracotta
Size: H-30 in, W-19, D-8 in
Year: 2022



NO. 22
Growth #2
Medium: Terracotta
Size: H-22, W-13, D-9 in
Year: 2022



NO. 23
"Growth"
Medium: Wood and Copper
Size: H-115, W-15, D-23 in
Year: 2023



NO. 24
Figure, 2018
Medium: Wood
Size: H-75, W-18, D-16 in
Year: 2018



Latika Katt
Earth Metal Memory
Gallery View



NO. 25

Untitled

Pencil Sketch on Paper

Size: 11.5 x 16 in.

Year: 2016



NO. 26
Untitled
Pencil Sketch on Paper
Size: 11.5 x 16 in.
Year: 2016



NO. 27
Untitled
Pencil Sketch on Paper
Size: 11.5 x 16 in.
Year: 2016



NO. 28

Untitled

Pencil Sketch on Paper

Size: 11.5 x 16 in.

Year: 2016

Biography

Indian sculptor Latika Katt was born in Varanasi on 20th February 1948. Katt received her bachelor's in fine arts from Banaras Hindu University and then completed her master's in 1971 from the Faculty of Fine Arts, M S University, Baroda. She was also the first Indian woman sculptor to be awarded a gold medal in sculpture from the MS University and received a research scholarship in 1981 from the Slade School of Art, London.

Katt's unwavering passion for art led her to forge a career even within a male-dominated landscape of creative expression. The daughter of a botanist, her eye for detail in conjunction with the patience and will to work with materials like clay, bronze, wax and eventually even make sculptures using papier-mâché and cow dung, has proven Katt to be a tenacious artist with a distinct voice and style. Inspired by sculptors like August Rodin, Katt was deeply moved by how his sculptures did more than just embody the corporeality of a person, instead they embodied an emotional and psychological being merely through the physical act of sculpting. This act of being attuned to the subject's inner world, bringing out a complex and intriguing resonance to the work, is something Katt honed and refined over time. She was commissioned to make sculptures of Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, and sculpted busts of artists like Somnath Hore, N S Bendre, Jeram Patel and more.

Katt displayed her artworks at the Paris Biennale, Museum of Modern Art, National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi; Chemould Art Gallery and Woodstock Art Gallery, London; 'Stree Show at Moscow, Leningrad & Tashkent, and more national and international exhibitions. She also won numerous awards including the National Award from the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.

Latika Katt passed away on Saturday 25th January, 2025, in Jaipur, Rajasthan.