

## PRESS RELEASE

### Home Sweet Home

curated by Ombretta Agró Andruff

opens October 5th, 2009 at **arts.i** Religare Arts Initiative

**Religare Arts Initiative** is pleased to announce the continuation of its program of independently-curated exhibitions with the exhibition **Home Sweet Home** at Religare arts.i gallery. The show, curated by New York-based **Ombretta Agró Andruff**, will open on Monday, October 5th at 7:30 p.m. and remain on view through October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009. A catalog for the show will be published and accompany the exhibition at Religare arts.i gallery.

Coming from broadly different backgrounds, nationalities and ages, the Indian and international artists featured in **Home Sweet Home** address the theme of domestic violence in a variety of ways and from widely different perspectives. The artists — **Shelly Bahl, Betty Bee, Giulia Caira, Gopika Chowfla, Sanchayan Gosh, Sonia Khurana, Cecilia Lundqvist, Marko Mäetamm, Chintan Upadhyay, and Ultra Violet** — use a broad range of media including video, animation, drawing, photography, performance and installation to explore themes of violence against children and women, and the wall of silence that often isolates its victims.

Crossing the threshold and boundaries of shame and taboo, we enter a world of unspoken secrets, heroic endurance and helpless resignation. What happens behind closed doors is usually considered private and sacrosanct. **Home Sweet Home** opens those doors, breaks the barrier of privacy and reveals publically what is happening there.

A series of workshops and lectures by the artists and the curator will be organized throughout the month of October.

**Religare Arts Initiative** is India's first corporate supported arts organization established, in September 2007, on the founding vision of creating a 360 degree platform for the arts in India, to provide Indian contemporary art a larger integrated voice and make it a more transparent, relevant and effective force in society.

Through a consortium of supportive activities – exhibitions, residency programs, art awareness workshops, research and documentation, arts management services, art fund, auctions and



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seminars, our mission is to ensure that all the diverse dimensions of art are nurtured and given the right exposure, so that art permeates more completely into the societal fabric and enriches a wider consciousness thereby unlocking its true, life-affirming potential.

**Religare arts.i** is the first exhibition space of the Religare Arts Initiative, that not just showcases art but acts as an incubator and promoter of new directions and expressions in art that transcend boundaries, mediums and isms. The venue is a beautiful 10,000 sft space in Connaught Place, the heart of New Delhi, and it features 2 separate galleries, a resource center, a book/design shop, and a restaurant.

**Ombretta Agró Andruff** is a New York-based freelance curator and art critic. Born in Italy and living in the U.S. since 1998, she has curated solo and group shows in the US and in Europe for museums, art festivals, commercial galleries and art fairs such as Artists Space, Queens Museum of Art, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, The Armory Show, Art Basel Miami Fair, Dumbo Art Under the Bridge Festival and the 2006 Winter Olympic Games. Since 2005, she has been a consultant to the Italian Cultural Institute in New York and the Italian Ministry of Cultural Affairs. As of 2007 she has been collaborating with the Religare Arts Initiative as their International Art Advisor.

The exhibition, in a slightly different format, was presented in New York City with great success by the Dorsky Gallery Curatorial Programs in February-March 2009.

**The show is generously supported by the Italian Cultural Institute of New Delhi.**

For more information please log on to: [www.religarearts.com](http://www.religarearts.com) or contact:

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