

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ISABELLA  
STEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM

**Artist-in-Residence Bharti Kher's**  
***Not All Who Wander Are Lost***  
**debuts on Museum facade**  
*On view: July 1 to Jan. 5, 2016*



*Bharti Kher: Not All Who Wander Are Lost, conceptual rendering. Photo by George Bouret*

**BOSTON, Mass. (June 2015)** – Born and raised in England before moving to New Delhi, artist Bharti Kher knows something about living amid transience. The concept of home, culture, and identity preoccupy her as an artist who is known for her hybrid cast sculptures and paintings.

Kher is the sixth Artist-in-Residence at the Gardner Museum who was invited by Pieranna Cavalchini, The Tom and Lisa Blumenthal curator of Contemporary Art, to design a temporary site-specific work for the Anne H. Fitzpatrick Façade and will be unveiled July 1. Called *Not All Who Wander Are Lost*, Kher's project reflects on maritime history, highlights her interest in mapping and typography, geodesy and colonization and references the migration of people in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe.

Kher tells us that “*an Atlas lets you hold the world in your hands*”. *Not All Who Wander Are Lost*, is based, in part on a ready made, a XX century map from *The Larousse International Political and Economical Atlas* by Jean Chardonnet, which Bharti Kher has appropriated, enlarged and transformed, filling the image with multi-colored bindi dots. Bindis are a forehead decoration worn by women in India. They represent the third eye, a state of consciousness, and are a central element in the artist's work. The Hindi word Bindi is derived from the Sanskrit *Bindu*, meaning a drop or a small particle. In *Not All Who Wander Are Lost* the acid orange colored bindis impart a sense of emergency as they collide with the black. These dots mark places for urgent attention and earnest conversation in our daily lives. They serve

as a metaphor for the eye urging us to be aware of the shifting borders of migrant populations, marking the map as a constantly changing flux of truths and leaving a residue of time like a palimpsest.

Born in London in 1969, Kher was in residence at the Gardner Museum in 2013. She studied at Middlesex Polytechnic in London and earned a bachelor's degree in fine art painting with honors at New Castle Polytechnic in 1988.

Her work has been exhibited around the world at Centre Pompidou in Paris, MAXXI Museum in Rome, the Saatchi Gallery in London, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo, and the BALTIC in the United Kingdom. She has had solo shows in Shanghai, Seoul, Hong Kong, Paris, London, New York and New Delhi. Kher lives and works in New Delhi.

“Our facades are a celebration and expression of our belief and commitment to public art in Boston,” said Anne Hawley, the Museum’s *Norma Jean Calderwood Director*. “It’s also the sixth time that we have been able to showcase the extraordinary work that goes on inside our building when contemporary Artists-in-Residence are given the gift of time and space to think and create, and can later share their work with the public.”

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**ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM** • 25 Evans Way Boston MA 02115 • Hours: Open daily from 11 am to 5 pm and Thursdays until 9 pm. Closed Tuesdays. • Admission: Adults \$15; Seniors \$12; Students \$5; Free for members, children under 18, everyone on his/her birthday, and all named “Isabella” • \$2 off admission with a same-day Museum of Fine Arts, Boston ticket • Info Line: 617.566.1401 • Box Office: 617.278.5156 • [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org)

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum—a work of art in totality—is at once an intimate collection of fine and decorative art and a vibrant, innovative venue for contemporary artists, musicians and scholars. Housed in a 1902 building, modeled after a 15<sup>th</sup> century Venetian palazzo, and a 2012 wing, designed by Renzo Piano, the Museum provides an unusual backdrop for the viewing of art. The Collection galleries installed in rooms surrounding the verdant Courtyard contain more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures, tapestries, furniture, manuscripts, rare books and decorative arts featuring works by Titian, Rembrandt, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli, Manet, Degas, Whistler and Sargent. Visit the Gardner Museum online at [www.gardnermuseum.org](http://www.gardnermuseum.org) for more about special exhibitions, concerts, innovative arts education programs, and evening events.

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

Diana Brown McCloy, [Diana@teakmedia.com](mailto:Diana@teakmedia.com); 978-697-9414

Sarah Whitling, Public Programs and Marketing Assistant, 617.264.6061, [swhitling@isgm.org](mailto:swhitling@isgm.org)