

# THE NEW YORKER

**ART**

## **Lucid Dreams and Distant Visions: South Asian Art in the Diaspora**

Through Aug. 6.

This thoroughly enjoyable group show brings together work by nineteen artists of South Asian origin, all now based, at least part time, in the United States. Themes of identity and dislocation crop up, notably in Jaret Vadera's "Emperor of No Country," a sumptuous blue robe printed with a map whose place names have been redacted, and in Tenzin Tsetan Choklay's moving documentary film "Bringing Tibet Home," which follows the artist Tenzing Rigdol as he smuggles thirty-five thousand pounds of Tibetan soil into the refugee community of Dharamsala, India, for a three-day-long installation. But the show's politics never crowd out aesthetics. Other high points include a beautiful series of minimal woodcuts with Urdu text by Zarina and a whip-smart and languorous eight-foot-tall painting by Mequitta Ahuja, a self-portrait of the artist as her own muse.