

Tenzing Dakpa

Photo London
8 – 12 September 2021

indigo+madder

Tenzing Dakpa (b. 1985, India)

Dakpa is a Tibetan-Indian photographer whose practice explores concepts related to the home, migration, diasporic communities, and transnational spaces. His series *Ari*, which means America in Tibetan, brings together images from the US (Queens, Cambridge and Providence) and India (Sikkim and Goa), taken between 2014-2020. The series investigates the complexity of the 'American dream', which is usually equated to a level of financial stability and security when contrasted with precarious conditions back 'home', and is one of the many drivers of migration. However, as the pandemic has exposed, many smaller marginalised diasporic communities still have a precarious lived reality that contrasts with this aspirational narrative. Dakpa's images take a nuanced look at these realities, alluding to the labour and sacrifice inherent in the diasporic sphere. They explore connections to a homeland – whether real or imagined, and acculturation within diasporas. The series also provides glimpses of translocality that emerge, such as in Queens, where a significant Tibetan-Nepalese community resides, and exposes spaces of hope, connection, and mutual support. The series maps Dakpa's own journey to the US and eventual move to Goa, while exploring societal and familial expectations often attached to migration. We encounter images of a cabinet full of crockery in Dakpa's childhood home in Sikkim, a tray of eggs positioned precariously near a truck's wheels, a cash register at a store in Queens- the series is tinged with humour, full of moments of connection, tension, a longing for home and a desire to create a space of one's own.

Dakpa lives and works between Goa and New Delhi. He received his BFA in Graphic Design from the College of Art, University of Delhi in 2009 and MFA Photography from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2016. He was the recipient of a RISD fellowship between 2014-2016 and the T.C. Colley Scholarship for Excellence in Photography in 2015. Dakpa's book *The Hotel* was published by Steidl in April 2020. Dakpa's work is also included in the book *Photography and Tibet* by Clare Harris, which is the first historical survey of photography in Tibet and the Himalayas. In 2016, he was an artist in residence at the Center for Photography, Woodstock, NY. In 2018, *The Hotel* was shortlisted for the Mack First Book Award and won the Photobook Award at the Singapore International Photography Festival. Dakpa's works have been exhibited at various art galleries and institutions including *The Hotel: Don-Khang*, Singapore International Photography Festival, 2021; *The Hotel*, indigo+madder, London 2019; Asia House, London in 2018; FotoFest Houston Biennial, Asia Society Texas Center (Texas) in 2018; Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, Georgia in 2016; Sol Koffler Gallery, Rhode Island in 2015; Woods Gerry Gallery (Rhode Island) in 2014; World Event Young Artists festival (Nottingham) and The Art Loft (Mumbai) in 2012.



Tenzing Dakpa

Rocking Horse, Providence
Ari series, 2014
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900



Tenzing Dakpa

Cash Register, New York City
Ari series, 2014
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

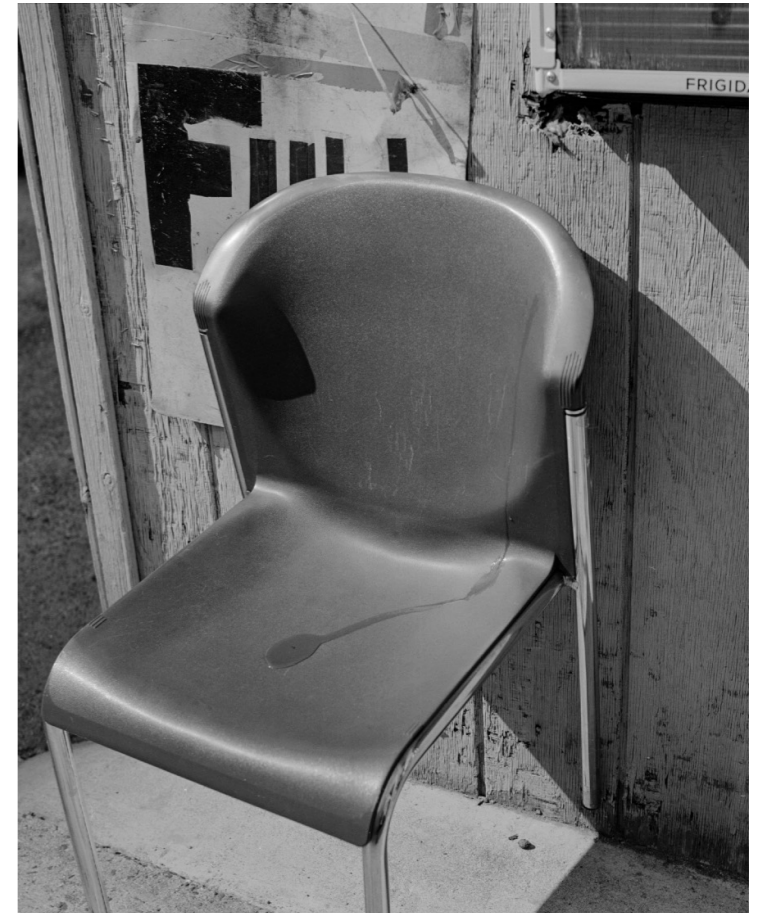
£900



Tenzing Dakpa

Chair, New York City
Ari series, 2016
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900





Tenzing Dakpa

Sunday School, Boston
Ari series, 2014
Archival pigment print
12 x 15 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900



Tenzing Dakpa

Curb, Sunny Side, New York City
Ari series, 2015
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in

£900



Tenzing Dakpa

Irish Bar, Sunny Side, New York City

Ari series, 2015

Archival pigment print

12 x 15 in

Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900





Tenzing Dakpa

Crockery, Sikkim
Ari series, 2018
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900



Tenzing Dakpa

Egg Tray, Goa
Ari series, 2019
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900



Tenzing Dakpa

Park, Ithaca
Ari series, 2014
Archival pigment print
15 x 12 in
Edition of 8 + 3AP

£900

