

Events

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15,000 expressions of fragility

Durgesh Prajapati worked with 14 Kumhar artisans to make 15,000 terracotta lamps. Each lamp sells for one rupee in local markets.

This has finished · 12 December 2025 – 31 March 2026

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On view **12 December 2025 – 31 March 2026**
Times 10AM to 6PM (Mon to Sunday) Till March 31st, 2026
Part of Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2025–26

Where

Arthshila Kochi
Art gallery · 1/298, Parade Road, Fort Kochi

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You've just missed it — take it home anyway

The 2025–26 Biennale ended on 31 March 2026. The next is expected around December 2027. We made a book of all 72 exhibits, venue by venue, with the photographs — 76 pages, 9 MB.

> **Fifteen thousand terracotta pieces. Fifteen pairs of hands. One rupee each.**

Artist

Durgesh Prajapati worked with 14 Kumhar artisans. They are Anju Prajapati, Asha Devi, Khusbu Prajapati, Maya Devi, Priti Devi, Punita Devi, Neeraj Devi, Neetu Prajapati, Reeta Devi, Ravi Prajapati, Sushila Devi, Shashi Devi, Vidyawati Devi, and Chhotelal Prajapati.

Medium

Red clay and terracotta.

About

Prajapati's 'Expression of Fragility' is not just an installation. It makes a community visible. Prajapati comes from a traditional potter family in Budhanpur, Ghazipur district, Uttar Pradesh. He has spent years working with the Kumhar artisans of his village. Their work reaches beyond the gallery walls.

The installation takes its form from the simplest of objects. That object is the diya (lamp), a small earthen lamp found in every Indian home. Local markets sell these lamps for one rupee each. Many families depend on that money for their living. Each of the 15,000 pieces represents skilled hands and the uncertain economics of traditional craft in modern India.

Working with fourteen artisans from his village, Durgesh describes his work as “a transition of these skills into contemporary art scenarios.” The gallery links village and city, tradition and new ideas.