

Artist Biography

Prashant Pandey (b. 1984, Jaipur, India) is a sculptor whose work is rooted in transforming discarded materials into forms that mirror social memory, ritual, and the politics of value. As a fourth-generation sculptor from a family of traditional marble artisans in Rajasthan, Pandey grew up witnessing both the devotional labour of idol-making and the large amounts of material waste it generated. These early experiences with waste continue to influence his material vocabulary and conceptual approach.

Pandey holds a B.F.A. in Sculpture from Rajasthan University, Jaipur, and an M.F.A. in Sculpture from the Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda. In 2011, he was selected for an artist residency at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, where he worked alongside Arte Povera sculptor Giuseppe Penone. This experience deepened his engagement with material, process, and the ethics of making.

Working with discarded materials such as marble blast stones, cigarette butts, blood slides, industrial scrap, and organic residue, Pandey invests both minimal and monumental forms with layered meanings. His sculptures often bear traces of labour, use, and erosion—highlighting time as both subject and method. Rather than moralising waste, his work repositions it as a carrier of social histories and personal gestures.

Pandey's first solo exhibition, *Shelf-Life* (2010), was held at Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, followed by *Shelf Life II* (2012). He has participated in major exhibitions, including the Kochi-Muziris Biennale (2014), curated by Jitish Kallat; Sculpture Park, Nahargarh Fort and Jaigarh Fort, Jaipur (2017, 2018, 2025), curated by Peter Nagy; and *Homo Faber 2024: The Journey of Life* in Venice, organised by the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship. In 2026, he presents *Biography*, a solo exhibition at Gallery Maskara, Mumbai.

Pandey is the recipient of the Lalit Kala Akademi Award (2009, 2010) and the Bhupen Burman Award. He lives and works in Jaipur, India.



Artist Curriculum Vitae

Education

2011 Artist-in-Residence at École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France
2010 M.F.A in Sculpture, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda, India
2007 B.F.A. in Sculpture, Rajasthan University, Jaipur

Solo Exhibitions

2026
Biography, Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, India

2012
Shelf Life II, Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, India

2010
Shelf-Life, Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, India

Group Exhibitions

2025
Sculpture Park, Jaigarh, Jaipur, India, curated by Peter Nagy

2024
Homo Faber 2024: The Journey of Life, Venice, Italy, curated Luca Guadagnino and Nicolo Rosmarini

2023
India Art Fair, New Delhi, India

2022
Inside India, Modesti Perdriolle Gallery, Belgium

2021
Portraits of the Self, Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, India

2019
Shadow Lines: Experiment with Light, Line and Liminality, Shrine Empire, Delhi, India, curated by Meera Menezes

2018
Sculpture Park, Nahargarh Fort, Jaipur, India, curated by Peter Nagy

2017
Sculpture Park, Nahargarh Fort, Jaipur, India, curated by Peter Nagy
Waste Land, Gallery Tarq, Mumbai, India, curated by Birgid Uccia

2016
TIME, Gallery Maskara, Mumbai, India

2015

VADFEST Vadodara International Art & Culture Festival, M.S. University, Baroda, Gujarat, India

2014

Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Cochin, India, curated by Jitish Kallat

2013

India Art Fair, New Delhi, India

2012

VIP Art Fair, Online

The ŠKODA Prize Top Twenty 2011-2012, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, India

India Art Fair, New Delhi, India

2011

(M)other India, Galerie du Jour – Agnès B., Paris, France

Atelier, Penone Studio Artists, ENSBA Paris, France

2009

Preview, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda, India

2008

Integration, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda, India

Kreation Myth, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, India

2007 – 2003

Student Exhibition, Rajasthan Lalit Kala Academy, Jaipur, India

Annual Exhibition, Dhoomimal Art Gallery, Delhi, India

Ekprayas, Tsunami Relief Fund, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, India

Naam, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, India

24th Student Exhibition, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, India

Naam, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, India

Awards

2010 - 2009

Jaipur Lalit Kala Academy, India

Bhupen Burman Award

Delhi Lalit Kala Academy, India

Press Quotes

““Missed”, in the shape of a baby turtle, is created out of discarded newspapers and letters, burnt in places to evoke the texture of that creature’s belly. Suspended in mid air, it brings to mind the fragility and vulnerability of turtles in particular and ecology in general. This frailty is offset by the chunkiness of “Black Moon”, composed of broken asphalt pieces, a symbolic remnant of progress. The metaphor of brokenness continues into the next room with “Love”, a cracked heart fashioned out of marble blast stones held together by an iron mesh and industrial glue. Pandey introduces some levity in “As I Cut Them”. A wig repurposed from used copper wire and mild steel, is surrounded by what appear to be sheared locks of hair – the installation is encoded with two levels of renunciation.” - Karanjeet Kaur, Oct 26 2012, Shelf Life II, TimeOut Mumbai, Mumbai, India

““Yellow” is an off-white cube, which looks unremarkable until you realize Pandey sculpted it out of sweet lime bagasse (the dry pulpy residue that has been left behind after the fruit has been juiced). The circular fruit has died and been reborn as a white cube. “As I Cut Them” looks like it belongs in a hair salon because it seems to be made up of swatches of hair that look shiny and soft, like ponytails from a shampoo advertisement. They’re actually bunches of sharp, spiky copper wire. “Love”, a massive heart-shaped sculpture that hovers in mid-air, is made of marble blast stones that give the work an almost balloon-like quality even though marble is anything but light and airy.” – Deepanjana Pal, Oct 7 2012, Art of Rejection, DNA The Magazine, Mumbai, India

“...given the formal and conceptual pleasure of this awe-inspiring show...you can place your bets on this talent.” - Vishwas Kulkarni, Aug 2010, Starting from Trash, Mumbai Mirror, Mumbai, India

“In the exhibition, it's the perishable nature of, well... life that comes under the microscope. Using cobwebs and expired chocolate on the tamer side, and blood and urine on the other, the show is deliberately cast to have little lasting tangible value to either Pandey or the gallery. The artistic value, however, is likely to leave a longer impression...It is a testament to his nifty handiwork that the delicate and the monstrous are wrought in such pretty form...there are three works in particular that elicit a strange cocktail of responses that vary from disgust and repulsion to admiration and even the urge to touch...[*Gift, Universe, Crash Trash*]” - Nayantara Kilachand, Sept 2010 Virtual Tour: Shelf-Life, Mumbaiboss.com, Mumbai, India

““Shelf-Life” is particularly successful because each work gives the distinct impression that something is missing or absent from view, and that this something is the actual object of value... Pandey is most successful with his handling of delicate materials, which he transforms totally, sometimes to the point of being unrecognizable... Smell is also central to the experience of viewing these works, as Pandey’s materials carry odors as a mark of their ephemerality.” - Avni Doshi, Sept 2010, Pandey Pummels Our Senses, ArtSlant.com, India

Bibliography

Reviews

Editors, Press Trust of India, *Jaipur-based sculptor turns 'invisible, yet abundant' cigarette litter into works of art*, Jan 2026

Editors, THE WEEK, *Jaipur-based sculptor turns 'invisible yet abundant' cigarette litter into works of art*, Jan 2026

Editors, *Reimagining Materials: Sculptural Innovation by Prashant Pandey*, Imaarat Ideas, Feb 2025

Editors, Hello Art, Hello Magazine, April 2024

Singh, Mozez, *Jaipur Splendor*, Assouline Magazine, 2021

Arora, Ankush, *Spotlight Art*, The Hindu, May 04, 2019

Maddox, Georgina, *Delhi / Shrine Empire’s New Group Show Experiments with Light, Line and Liminality*, Architectural Digest, Apr 26, 2019

Bhagchandani, Sonali, *Walking into a Mirage*, The Hindu, Jul 20, 2018

Editors, *artha*, The Wall, issue 39, April 2015

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Editors, 'Diamond' made of 10,000 blood slides a hit in Kochi Fair, ndtv.com, Mar 22, 2015

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