



## Dayanita Singh **ARCHIVIO**

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**April 17 – July 31 2026**

**Archivio di Stato, Venezia, Italia**

**Opening hours: Monday-Friday, 12 am – 6 pm**

**Entrance from: Rio Terà San Tomà,**

**30125 Venezia**

**The exhibition is admission free.**

For the first time in its history, the **Archivio di Stato in Venice** will open to the public as an exhibition venue, with **Dayanita Singh's ARCHIVIO**.

**ARCHIVIO** is Singh's tribute to both the Italian archives she has photographed over the past decade and to her own evolving archive of images made in Italy over the last 25 years. **Opening on 16 April 2026 at the Archivio di Stato in Venice**, the exhibition brings together two intertwined bodies of work: Singh's long engagement with institutional archival repositories and her decades-long visual conversation with Italy's architecture, interior spaces, artworks, friends, archivists, flowers and more.

The exhibition is curated by **Andrea Anastasio** and, after the Archivio di Stato in Venice, it will travel to the Museo Nazionale Etrusco di Villa Giulia, Rome, to the MAO-Museo d'Arte Orientale, Turin, and to the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, New Delhi, presenting each time a site-specific works' selection that connects to site, in collaboration with each Museum and its specificity.

In **ARCHIVIO**, **the act of photographing becomes a form of cataloguing** – an ongoing attempt to understand how memory is shaped, structured, and preserved. **Singh revisits images she has made in Italian cities since the late 1990s**, placing them in dialogue with her extensive studies of archives in India and elsewhere. Through this encounter, the exhibition proposes the archive not as a static storehouse but as a **living organism**, continuously rearranged through the artist's editorial play, display structures, and resequencing of images.

**Curator Andrea Anastasio** situates Singh's practice within the broader question of how we construct cultural memory. The installation reflects his interest in the poetic and philosophical resonance of archival labour – **ordering, containing, protecting** – while allowing Singh's photographs to remain open and porous, shifting with each new context.

**ARCHIVIO** continues Singh's ongoing exploration of **the museum-as-book and book-as-museum**: portable, re-composable architectures for knowledge. The exhibition foregrounds her belief that the archive



is not merely a place of preservation, but a generative space – one that shapes the stories we tell and those we have yet to discover.

The exhibition will be opened during the 19<sup>th</sup> edition of *Incroci di Civiltà* and will be accompanied by a **public program of lectures and book presentations**, organized by the artist and Chiara Spangaro, in collaboration with **Università Ca' Foscari Venezia** - Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, **Università Iuav di Venezia**, and other institutions, that will take place from April 18 to the end of the exhibition.

Singh will also organize a **Mentorship Program** for university students, in collaboration with Università Iuav di Venezia in the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its foundation, and with the Università Ca' Foscari Venezia department of Filosofia e Beni Culturali (Philosophy and Cultural Heritage) and of Studi Umanistici (Human Studies).

With support from the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in New Delhi, India, for its Venice edition; and the Archivio di Stato, Venice, Italy. The exhibition is organized also with the collaboration of Università Iuav di Venezia and Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

Special thanks to Studio Sonnoli for the graphic identity of the exhibition, designed by Irene Bacchi e Leonardo Sonnoli.

**Dayanita Singh** was born in New Delhi, India in 1961 where she lives and works. She studied Visual Communication at the National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad and Photojournalism and Documentary Photography at the International Center of Photography in New York. Selected solo exhibitions include *Zakir Hussain: Learning to Learn*, National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai, India (2025); *A Photo Architect*, Kanoria Centre for Arts, Ahmedabad, India (2025); *Mona and Myself*, Gallery White, Vadodara, India (2025); *Photo Lies*, Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation, Mumbai, India (2024); *Dancing with my Camera*, Gropius Bau, Berlin (2022) touring to Museum Villa Stuck, Munich (2022), MUDAM, Luxembourg (2023) and Serralves Museum, Porto (2023); *Sea of Files*, Hasselblad Foundation, Gothenburg (2022); and *Museum Bhavan*, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum (2017).

For more information on the artist, visit [www.frithstreetgallery.com/artists/dayanita-singh](http://www.frithstreetgallery.com/artists/dayanita-singh)

#### **Press Office**

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