

# THE FUTURE IS UNWRITTEN HEALING ARTS JAIPUR

**Nila and The Art Lab Studio** unveils public textile art installation conceptualized by contemporary artist **Dia Mehhta Bhupal**, which celebrates community resilience and healing through traditional crafts in Jaipur

*The project is an evolution of Neha Modi and Bhupal's ongoing **Corona Quilt Project**, a community engagement initiative that offers an uplifting, inclusive channel of collective healing post-Covid through creative expression and **Healing Arts Jaipur**, the Indian chapter of an international initiative engaging with art as the new frontier in healthcare and well-being*

**Nila and The Art Lab Studio** are pleased to unveil a public art installation entitled “**Nila x Corona Quilt Project: Stories of Healing in Cloth**” conceived by leading Indian contemporary artist **Dia Mehhta Bhupal** and **Neha Modi**. The exhibition will be displayed at in Jaipur starting **March 9, 2022** and will be on view until **July 31, 2022**.

The installation will be comprised of a patchwork of individual textiles handmade by over 200 artisans across Rajasthan, with contributions from students, craft enthusiasts and experts. The idea is to create opportunities for connection between people and their stories to bring about a healing pause in ordinary people's days by creating artworks with their hands. The public nature of this piece will bring uplifting narratives into the fabric of the city, with the beauty of this collective work of art encouraging people to take the time to slow down, watch and reflect.

Realized in collaboration with **Healing Arts Jaipur** – the Indian chapter of an international initiative engaging with art as the new frontier in healthcare and well-being – the project will present a unique textile art piece that embodies the spirit of healing through gestures of creative expression. Healing Arts Jaipur is an initiative officially endorsed by the **World Health Organization (WHO)**.

As a part of the growing, pan-India **Corona Quilt Project** – a project spearheaded by Bhupal and Modi – the installation will carry a multitude of 15-inch textile squares representing the range of textile craft traditions across Rajasthan. The final artwork will carry Rajasthan's iconic, heritage crafts of hand block printing, dhabu mud-resist printing, kantha and tagai stitch, appliqué and ralli embroidery, leheriya and natural indigo dyeing. Each square will represent an individual's interpretation on the themes of 'Nature' and 'Rhythm' - a contemplation on ideas of regeneration, growth and harmony.

The Nila Corona Quilt aims to bring a special focus on the potential for collective catharsis through creative expression using crafts that are an organic, everyday part of life in India. The artwork also celebrates the vast and historically deep textile-based craft ecosystems that were made particularly vulnerable during the 2020 global pandemic, yet remained resilient and sustained through community-focused initiatives. The artwork developed through this project emphasizes the abundant capacity for community healing through creative expression and ancient knowledge systems that remain at the core of traditional crafts.

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## HEALING ARTS JAIPUR

### ABOUT NILA

The Nila organisation sits at the intersection of craft, design, sustainability and community empowerment. A ground-breaking non-profit initiative, Nila is unique worldwide in its scope, encompassing all stages of the Indian craft value chain. Thoughtfully envisioned, innovative in method and sensitive in execution, the foundation addresses the core needs required for the survival of a progressive, thriving craft industry in today's global economy.

Nila's vision and work finds its physical manifestation in Nila House, Jaipur, an interactive beacon of excellence, honoring and celebrating the craft traditions of India within one of India's oldest craft centers. A restored 1950's home, Nila House has become a much-loved hub for the craft and design community, inspiring innovative thinking about the future of heritage conservation and sustainable design.

Website: [nilajaipur.com](http://nilajaipur.com)

Instagram: [@nilajaipur](https://www.instagram.com/nilajaipur)

### ABOUT THE ART LAB STUDIO

Founded by New York based, Indian-born entrepreneur Sana Rezwan, The Art Lab Studio is a creative hub specializing in the development and implementation of experiential programs through innovative partnerships and collaborations with local and global luxury brands, non-profit institutions, galleries and artists. With over 15 years of experience in fashion, marketing and buying at Stella McCartney, Giorgio Armani and Liberty department store, Rewan has also founded three businesses involved in luxury marketing (23 Carat), retail (Maison) and ethical fashion (Indelust). Her previous endeavors have been profiled extensively in publications such as [\*Forbes\*](#), [\*The Financial Times\*](#), [\*Architectural Digest\*](#), [\*Vogue\*](#) and [\*The Huffington Post\*](#). Rezwan is active in several charitable organizations and sits on the Advisory Arts Council of Harvard University's South Asia Institute, besides being an Honorary Acquisitions Committee Member of the Jio World Centre (Reliance Foundation) and belonging to the Committee of The Magicbus Foundation, The Artwalk and The Camera Club at Baxter Street. An avid art collector, she is also a patron to the South Asian Modern and Contemporary Department at The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Website: <https://www.theartlab.studio/>

Instagram: [@theartlabstudio](https://www.instagram.com/theartlabstudio)

### ABOUT DIA MEHTA BHUPAL

Dia Mehhta Bhupal is one of India's leading contemporary Indian artists, with a nuanced practice that focuses extensively on photography and a particular emphasis on redefining everyday images as commonly interpreted by society. Bhupal's artworks have been exhibited at galleries and art fairs across the world, finding a place of prominence in prominent art collections worldwide. Born in Mumbai, Bhupal studied photography at The Parsons School of Design in New York. She currently lives and works between Mumbai and Hyderabad.

Website: [diamehtabhupal.com](http://diamehtabhupal.com)

Instagram: [@diaphupal](https://www.instagram.com/diaphupal)

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## **ABOUT THE CORONA QUILT PROJECT**

The Corona Quilt project was conceived by artist Dia Mehhta Bhupal and co-founder Neha Modi. The project is a community engagement initiative inspired by quilting traditions around the world. It began during the coronavirus pandemic to give people an outlet to express their personal experiences through the designing of a 'square'. Today, the Corona Quilt project takes tangible form as each of these squares comes together in a community art installation. Individual squares were collaged together thematically to incorporate a larger message of hope, love and community that were exhibited as five separate installations across Mumbai.

The project has seen input from over 25 cities across India, partnering with social enterprises, schools and corporations to create site-specific installations of mammoth quilts that have been painstakingly and thoughtfully put together using works of art from the local communities. Each installation represents solidarity and collective catharsis through the medium of creative expression.

Instagram: [@coronaquiltproject](https://www.instagram.com/coronaquiltproject)

## **ABOUT HEALING ARTS JAIPUR**

Healing Arts Jaipur is the Indian chapter of a global art initiative established in collaboration with The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the World Health Organization (WHO) Arts and Health Program and produced by CULTURUNNERS and New York University Arts & Health with the vision to engage with art as the new frontier in healthcare and well-being.