## Acknowledgement

First and foremost, I would like to sincerely thank my guiding teacher, Prof. Shailendra K. S. Kushwaha. It has been an honour to be his student. His guidance, right from the preparatory phase till the final submission has been crucial. Being an extremely approachable person he always catered to even the smallest of my queries, given which I never felt lost throughout the near-four years that I worked on the thesis.

I would also like to thank Prof. Deepak Kannal and Prof. Milind Malshe who have been always been the teachers I have looked up to.

The completion of the thesis wouldn't have been possible without the contributions from various individuals, especially each and every artist on whom I have written about in the thesis. Most of them managed to spare time from their busy schedules to have meetings, share reading material and images of their works. Similarly, I would like to thank all the art galleries namely Chemould Prescott Road, The Guild Art Gallery, Nature Morte, Gallery Ske and Studio La Città who extended their support by sharing images, catalogues and books, or granting permissions for image usage. Auction Houses – Sotheby's and Christie's too promptly replied to the requests sent across. I would also like to thank the Deutsche Bank, for sharing images of the works which are a part of their collection and also the Kochi-Muziris Biennale Foundation for the sharing information and catalogues. The material and inputs provided by these individuals and organisations have immensely helped in the structuring and expansion of the thesis.

I would like to thank the staff at the office and the library of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Baroda, The GCU Section, the Academics Section and the Examination Section, for guiding me through the administrative processes. I would also like to thank Kanika Mondal, a fellow UGC-SRF.

I owe greatly to the Department of Art History and Aesthetics. It has been the place where I came to as a student from a background of Economics, but in no time, became comfortable with the new subject I was desirous of learning. The department has a lot to offer, apart from the lectures, and the formal training, to me it has been a second home. Further, it is here that the teachers showed confidence in me to undertake a multi-disciplinary subject for my doctoral thesis. I would like to thank Dr. Jayaram Poduval, who was my guiding teacher for my Master's dissertation, and since then I have always taken the liberty to ask him for his guidance in ever project I have undertaken. His inputs on Contemporary Western Art have been valuable. I would like to thank Dr. Rita Sodha for providing research references and material on postmodernism and globalisation during the beginning of the doctoral study, as it helped get clarity about the subject. Further, I would like to thank Dr. Shete, Nitesh Patel, Ritesh Panda, Aparna Roy Baliga, for their support and inputs; Geeta Parmar for helping me find the required material from the Department Archives. To Ravindra Kadam, our ever-dependable Ravi Bhai, I cannot list out the things I could thank him for, as it is way too diverse and long.

Apart from those who contributed directly to the study, I would like to thank my family in Baroda, Priya Nair, Pallav Ghosh and their little angel Anaisha. The pampering and care which they have always extended to me has meant a world to me.

Finally, to my eternal source of support...

To my father Mr. Anil Dhage, a disciplinarian, who taught me the value of being self-critical, and the man who taught me to enjoy and value the finer things of life. My mother Mrs. Veena Dhage, who has been a source of immense love and hope for me. I can never thank her enough for having confidence in me and motivating me through each and every endeavour of mine. It is her motivation that never lets me slip into stagnancy. Finally, my longest standing friend and now my husband, the most patient man I have known, Zulfikarali Barodawala. About Zul, I do not want to write at length, just to say that, I possibly cannot dare to imagine how would things would be without his support.