

PAST MODERN

Continuing his commitment to featuring international art in India, Ashwin Thadani, founder of Isa, returns with a show featuring Matthias Bitzer, the German artist. Titled *Islands and Chains* and mounted from the 3rd of February to the 25th of April, the show features a series of paintings (acrylic and ink on canvas), mixed media works and sculptures. Bitzer is known for setting up confrontations between different modernist aesthetic registers – realistic portraits of women have geometric Art Deco elements painted in the foreground in some works and kaleidoscopic colour shards reveal and conceal enigmatic faces in others. The untitled sculpture that pays homage ostensibly to the Duchampian readymade is quite elegantly structured: there are wheels within wheels and wheels cutting wheels, making the work a whimsical but delightful construction.

KALA BHARATI



Matthias Bitzer. *Untitled.* Wood, metal, wire, spray-paint.
146 cms x 92 cms x 101 cms. 2014.
Image courtesy Galerie Isa, Mumbai, and the artist.