

## PRASAD RAGHAVAN

Born in Kerala, India.

Lives and works in New Delhi.

### Selected Exhibitions

2010

*Shot Tilt*, solo show at Gallery BMB, Mumbai, India.

*ArtGwangju*, Gwangju, South Korea.

*The Trojan Works*, 1x1 Contemporary, Dubai, UAE.

2009

*Indian popular culture and beyond: The untold (the rise of) schisms*, Alcalá 31, Madrid, Spain.

*Video Wednesdays @ Gallery Espace*, Gallery Espace, New Delhi, India.

### Artist Statement

*A History of Violence* is a film by the prominent director David Cronenberg in 2005. Initially I was more interested in the title than the subject of the film. The image of a target for shooting practice are redesigned as stamps for different nations. Using the names of the member countries of the United Nations, which talks about peace, without understanding how easy it is to forget the fact that the inner violence of an individual who talks about peace, whether he is from Afghanistan or Bhutan, so well articulated in the teachings of J. Krishnamurti's book *The enemy within*.

*Angels with dirty faces* is created from the advert forms from India's premier newspaper, The Times of India, notices. At the time of Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, these adverts appeared every day than their designated slots on Thursdays. It seemed that the title *Angels with dirty faces* referred to the women who are forced to work in the massage parlours. As a major publication, The Times of India, advertises these ads and often one can read 'prostitution racket busted' headlines in the following page .... this is and remains absolute Hypocrisy.... by the way the original film was directed by Micheal Curtiz in 1938.

*Bullets or Ballots* was directed by William Keighley in 1936. I created this image from my early memory of 'social studies' text book at school, where we had this one chapter, titled, Hierarchy system of Democratic constitution, showing the upper torso silhouette of the president, the vice-president and their cohorts.... I slightly manipulated the image again with the gun target, in a similar approach to the previous image of *A History of Violence*.