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# New Exhibit Opens at Hartford Public Library's ArtWalk January 11

*Rashmi Talpade's "Urban Legends of Modern Archeology"  
Focuses on Relics of our Recent Past*

**(HARTFORD, CT: December 20, 2018)** Fire hydrants and manhole covers take a prominent place in a new exhibit on Hartford Public Library's ArtWalk, as does nature in all its overwhelming fertility. Rashmi Talpade's "Urban Legends of Modern Archeology" is a series of rich collages juxtaposing the past with the present and nature with humanity.

"Urban Legends of Modern Archeology" will open on the ArtWalk Friday, January 11, with a reception at 5:30 pm. The exhibit will run through Sunday, February 24. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am – 8:00 pm; Friday and Saturday, 9:30 am – 5:00 pm; and Sunday, 1:00 – 5:00 pm. Talpade will discuss her work at a special ArtWalk Artist's Talk on Saturday, February 2, from 2-3 pm.

Talpade has made her artistic mark in both India and the United States. She has displayed her work at prominent galleries in Bombay, New Delhi and Bhopal, India and three of her works are now in the permanent collection of the New Britain Museum of American Art. Recently she received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) to lead the residents of Wallingford in creating a large photo collage for the town library. Talpade is in the process of creating 10 photo collages for the five branches of the New Haven Free Public Library, a project that was also awarded a grant by the COA.

"We are thrilled to have such a distinguished and innovative artist as Rashmi Talpade display her work on our ArtWalk," said HPL CEO Bridget Quinn-Carey. "Each piece in the exhibit is so rich with intriguing and provocative details that they are almost worlds unto themselves. It is not an exhibit to be rushed through. It is one to linger over, to examine, to ponder and to discuss. And that is what true art is all about."

Talpade said this new series, Modern Archaeology, works to make sense of our world today, which is filled with conflicting needs. "As we move rapidly towards further automation, computerization and virtual realities, attempting to capture our world in our hand held devices, we simultaneously struggle to preserve our planet, our constantly changing social structures, and our abiding faith in an increasingly isolated society," she said.

Talpage's ArtWalk exhibit consists of six large and over 50 smaller collages. Each one contains a series of striking images, from fake flamingoes covered in snow to a rusted store sign and yellowing venetian blinds, all adding up to a unique and potent whole.

"Urban Legends of Modern Archeology" is funded by the Bank of America and the Edward C. & Ann T. Roberts Foundation.

## **ABOUT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Now celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> year, Hartford Public Library remains at the forefront of redefining the urban library experience in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. With seven locations throughout the city, the library provides education, intellectual enrichment and cultural development for thousands of children, youth and adults every year. Hartford Public Library has also gained local and national recognition for its wide range of new initiatives and partnerships designed to meet the needs of a diverse and dynamic city and region, including immigration services, employment assistance and youth leadership training. Please visit [www.hplct.org](http://www.hplct.org).

### **About the ArtWalk**

ArtWalk at Hartford Public Library provides artists with a large and visually stunning space to display their work. Exhibitions offer an array of art experiences that reflect a variety of media, styles, and cultures in the art world. The gallery was made possible through the generosity of donors to the Library's completed Capital Campaign, especially the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Fund at Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.