1. SHILPA GUPTA AND RASHID RANA at 'My East is Your West' (presented by The Gujral Foundation)
How different would the world be if India and Pakistan had no borders? Born out of the desire to reposition the historical relations between the two countries, this exhibition presents them as a single region. Gupta (India) and Rana (Pakistan) collaborate to create an exhibit that will express the essence of a people divided. Curated by Natasha Ginwala, new works by both artists will be housed in the grand waterfront architecture of the Palazzo Benzon in Venice. Why an India-Pakistan exhibit, we ask Feroze Gujral, founder of The Gujral Foundation. “The germination of this project was when I met Rashid Rana for the first time in Venice [in the last edition] and we both lamented the lack of representation of our countries in contemporary art’s oldest, largest platform,” she says.

2. THE RAQS MEDIA COLLECTIVE at All The World’s Futures
Curated by Okwui Enwezor, the ambitious All The World’s Futures at the Biennale’s Central Pavilion will examine the relationship of art and artists with current affairs. Joining a list that includes Steve McQueen and Andreas Gursky amongst 136 artists from 53 countries are select artists from India—Madhusudhanan, duo Prasad Shetty and Rupali Gupte, Raqs Media Collective, and Pakistani-born, India-based Mariam Suhail. Monica Narula of Raqs gives us a peek into their exhibit: “We are presenting Coronation Park—we’ve spent a long time looking at what power does to those who wield it, and this is a condensation of that.”

3. OLIVIA FRASER at ‘Frontiers Reimagined’
We love Fraser’s delicate canvasses, which reinterpret the age-old Indian miniature painting tradition. Her work will be exhibited at the Tagore Foundation’s Frontiers Reimagined show (at the Museo di Palazzo Grimani). Reflective of her ‘twin-life’ (she lives between India and UK), landscape is the starting point of her subject matter—“I can communicate through this visual language and tear down the frontier of foreignness to arrive at a sense of belonging,” she says. The Venice Biennale runs across various venues in the city from May 9 to November 22; Labiennale.org

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