Aaron Sinift studied painting, printmaking, and South Asian studies at the University of Iowa (’95), and received an MFA in painting at Boston University (’02). He has been to India 7 times the last 20 years. He worked in the New York art world 2004-2011, (Feature Inc.) and is applying much of what he learned to the 5 Year Plan project. He now works at American University and the Smithsonian Institution installing exhibitions.

5 Year Plan was conceived, curated and produced by Aaron Sinift in collaboration with Gandhi Ashram spinning and weaving collectives in India and 26 artists from 7 countries. The book, printed on hand-spun khadi cloth, is an artwork as social architecture, bridging cultures and re-orienting art and art production toward generosity and participation. The project brings together artists, scholars, poets, rural villagers and Gandhian activists, uniting the efforts of hundreds of people with different ideas of art, economics, technology, and sustainable modes of production.