



tapas
PRESENTS

Ēkam

The Eclectic Art Show

VENKATAPPA ART GALLERY
KASTURBA ROAD, BENGALURU

ART
CATALOG

CURATED BY
SHASHI BHARATI
Artist and Curator

2nd to 6th October 2026
VENKATAPPA ART GALLERY
BENGALURU

ART
DIVERSITY
DIALOGUE
A SHARED
TOMORROW

Ēkam 2026

The Eclectic Art Show

Showcasing the signature creations of 16 prominent artists from across India



VENKATAPPA ART GALLERY
Kasturba Road, Bengaluru

Dates of the Exhibition

🕒 11 AM - 5 PM
2nd - 6th October 2026

Opening Ceremony

🕒 11 AM
2nd October, 2026

Closing Ceremony

🕒 2.30 PM
6th October, 2026

Closing ceremony commencing with the

ART TALK 'When Art Meets Architecture'

Distinguished Speakers

MANISH PUSHKALE

Internationally
Acclaimed Artist

ANIL BHASKARAN

Eminent Architect, Urban Planner
and Founder of TAPAS

Followed by the felicitation of the participant artists.

Participating Artists

- Aalok Sharma
- Madhu Shree
- Priyanka Sinha
- Siraj Saxena
- Amit Mhatre
- Meenakshi Jha Banerjee
- Sanjay Joshi
- Sukanta Das
- Ganesh Mishra
- Meenakshi Chinna Rathod
- Satish Bhaisare
- Suresh Pushpangathan
- M. S. Murthy
- Neena Khare
- Shashi Bharati
- Yogesh P

Curated by
SHASHI BHARATI
Eminent Artist

Curator's Note

Art can be understood as a deeply personal form of listening—to internal reflections, memories, nature, and the surrounding world. Every artist carries a unique narrative that gradually finds expression through the creative process. This foundational belief guided the curation of EKAM 2026 — The Eclectic Art Show, creating a space where diverse voices, visions, and artistic practices can converge, remain distinct, and yet belong to a larger collective. Presented in association with TAPAS, Bengaluru, EKAM 2026 brings together sixteen artists representing different regions, backgrounds, generations, materials, and practices.

TAPAS serves as a platform for this gathering, offering opportunities for meaningful encounters between artists and audiences. The exhibition functions as a point of connection, bringing distinct creative journeys into a shared space where each work communicates in its own visual language. What connects these artists is not a uniform style or subject, but the honesty and individuality with which they respond to experience.



SHASHI BHARATI
Artist & Curator

Nature and Mythology

Nature finds expression in many forms—as traditional landscape, pure abstraction, or an internal emotional landscape. Similarly, mythology is revisited not as a fixed historical concept, but as a living language for contemporary emotions and questions. Sukanta Das approaches mythology and figurative work through a classical sensibility, while Meenakshi Jha Banerjee brings mythological women into the present through delicate lines, vivid colour, and expressive forms.

Material and Memory

For several artists, the chosen medium becomes a vessel for memory. Siraj Saxena transforms personal and childhood memories through clay and ceramic, reinterpreting them into contemporary forms. Sanjay Joshi explores wood through a modern sculptural vocabulary, while Ganesh Mishra allows metal to reveal its inherent history, character, and physical presence.

Observation and Space

Yogesh P. transforms familiar landscapes into reflections on contemporary life. Priyanka Sinha navigates the relationship between the human body and architectural space, while Neena Khare observes nature with quiet intimacy.

Process and Time

Aalok Sharma's work emerges from a highly patient, disciplined process. Built through countless dots and marks, each gesture carries time and deliberate attention. This repetition becomes a visual meditation where patience and experience accumulate on the surface, revealing a narrative grounded in a deep trust of the creative process.

Abstraction and Sensibility

The abstractions of Satish Bhaisare and M. S. Murthy open pathways beyond literal representation, while Amit Mhatre and Suresh Pushpangathan engage with nature through their own distinct sensibilities.

Ultimately, EKAM highlights togetherness without uniformity. It allows sixteen individual worlds to stand alongside one another, each carrying its own memory, emotion, and truth. Ekam signifies oneness—a state of beauty achieved not through assimilation, but by seeing, listening, and connecting while maintaining distinct individual identities.

At a personal level, as an artist and a woman, curating this week-long celebration of art and human spirit is as much a search for a deeper connection with my fellow artists as it is with the ever-intriguing world of art itself.

Shashi Bharati
Artist & Curator



SURESH PUSHPANGATHAN

Suresh Pushpangathan is a Bangalore-based artist whose practice is deeply inspired by nature, memory, light and colour. Growing up in Varkala, Kerala, as the son of a traditional sculptor, he developed an early connection with art and the natural landscape.

He graduated in Painting from Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Bangalore, in 2002, and completed his Master's Degree in Art & Design at the University of Bedfordshire, UK, in 2012–13.

His paintings move between representation and abstraction, drawing on the moods and rhythms of nature. Through expressive brushwork, rich colour, light, and texture, he transforms childhood memories and observations of the natural world into evocative visual experiences. His work has been exhibited extensively in India and international forums.



Coffee Blossoms I
5 x 3 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



Coffee Blossoms II
5 x 3 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



Coffee Blossoms III
5 x 3 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



Coffee Blossoms IV
5 x 3 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



SIRAJ SAXENA

Siraj Saxena is a freelance artist who completed his BFA from the Institute of Fine Arts, Indore, in 1997 and moved to New Delhi in 2000. He began his career from his humble home and held his first solo exhibition in Delhi in 2002. Since then, he has conducted 27 solo exhibitions and participated in more than 250 group exhibitions worldwide.

His multidisciplinary practice includes painting, printmaking and art work in mediums such as wood, metal, paper, ceramics, and textile. Working primarily through abstraction, he explores simplicity, beauty, nature and the rhythm of line and form. His works are owned by private individuals and international museums alike. He has also created extensive art works for Six Senses Vana, Dehradun. He is also the author of five well-known books.



Dimensions 13"x 6.5"x 4.5"



Dimensions 8.5"x 5"x 2.5"



M. S. MURTHY

Dr. M. S. Murthy is a multifaceted artist, author and researcher with over four decades of contribution to Indian contemporary art. He holds a D.Litt. from Hampi University and has presented 25 solo exhibitions internationally, including the ones held in New York, Iran, Bulgaria and Italy.

His deeply philosophical artistic practice, particularly his 'Bowl Series', often engages with Buddhist thoughts. A celebrated writer, he has authored Drushya, regarded as the world's first visual novel, and the award-winning play Yashodhare Malagirililla. Former Chairman of the Karnataka Lalit Kala Academy, he is a recipient of several accolades. He continues to mentor artists at his studio, Bhoomi, located in Bengaluru.

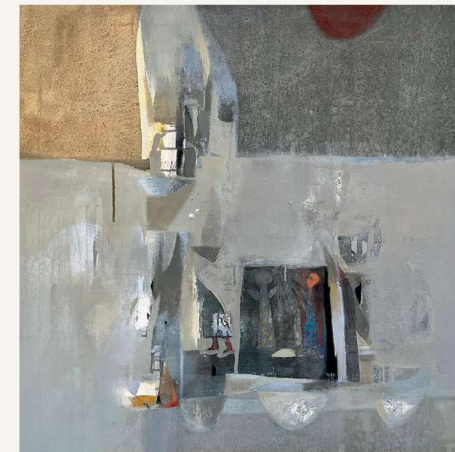
"The BOWL is the shape of our MIND."
— M. S. Murthy



The Bowl
90 x 90 cm
Acrylic on Canvas



The Bowl
90 x 90 cm
Acrylic on Canvas



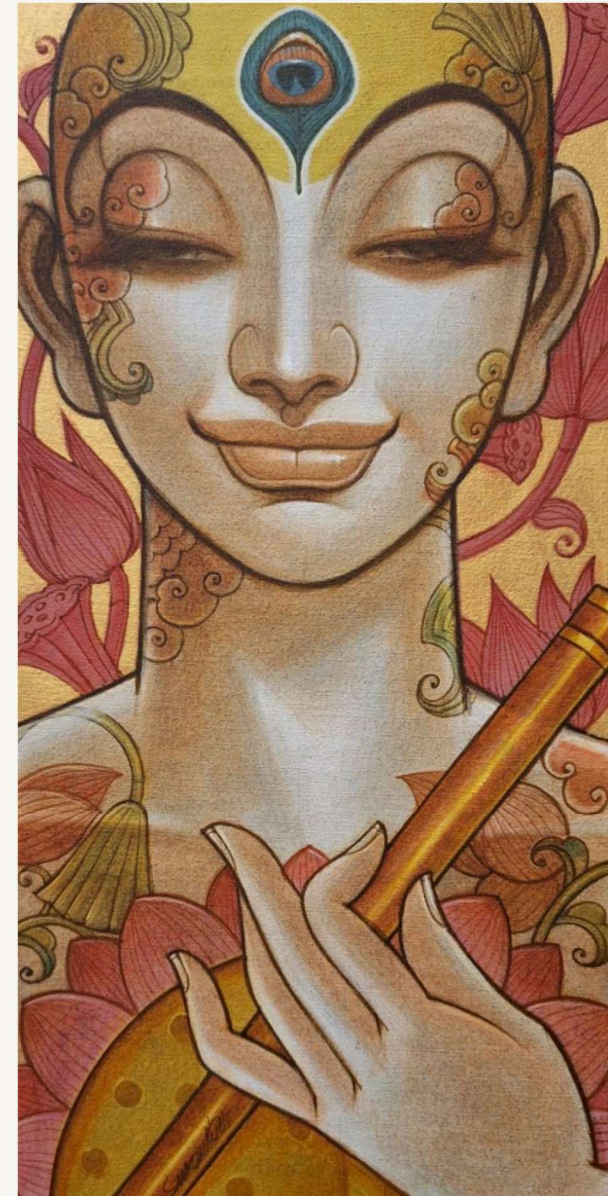
The Bowl
90 x 90 cm
Acrylic on Canvas



SUKANTA DAS

Sukanta Das, born and based in Kolkata, West Bengal, is a National Scholarship awardee of the Ministry of Human Resource, Government of India. He completed his B.V.A. (Bachelor of Visual Arts) from the Rabindra Bharati University in 1996 as a rank holder. He holds the distinction of successfully participating in 31 solo exhibitions and more than 100 group shows. His works have been exhibited at prominent venues across India and abroad. They include famous venues such as Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi; Lalit Kala Academy, Delhi, Art Land Gallery, Dubai and galleries in California, Jakarta, Japan and Singapore.

His works are owned by many private and corporate collectors.



Satchitananda
1 x 2 Ft
Mixed Media on Canvas

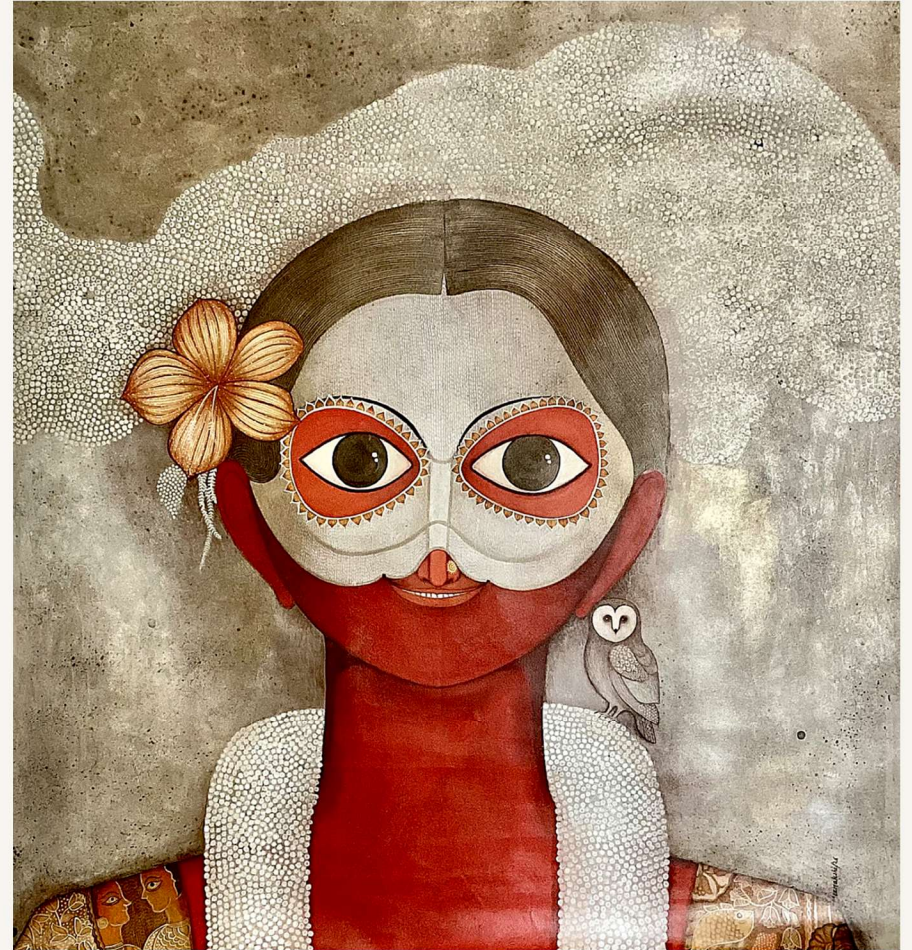


MEENAKSHI JHA BANERJEE

Meenakshi Jha Banerjee is a contemporary painter whose artistic practice is deeply rooted in the rich cultural traditions of Mithila and Madhubani, Bihar. With over two decades of experience, she has developed a distinctive visual language that brings together traditional Mithila art with contemporary subjects, modern mediums, and an individual artistic sensibility.

Her paintings retain the visual vocabulary of Mithila through intricate lines, patterns, symbolic elements, vibrant colours, and meticulous detailing, while engaging with contemporary narratives and perspectives. Working primarily in acrylic and mixed media on canvas and paper, she creates layered compositions exploring cultural memory, everyday life, human relationships, emotion, and society.

Her journey has been recognised through several awards and honours, and her works have entered collections and displays of government and corporate institutions in India and abroad. Her practice continues to reinterpret Mithila's visual heritage, creating a dialogue between tradition, contemporary life and human experience.



लक्ष्मी Lachmi (Lakshmi)
42"x37"
Acrylic on Canvas



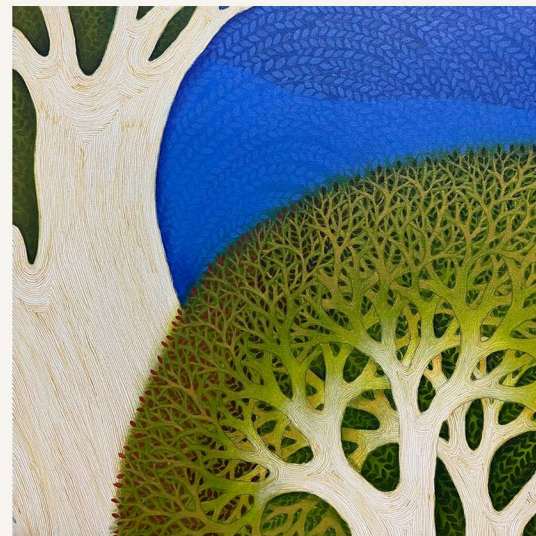
NEENA KHARE

Born in 1969 in Panna, Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Neena Khare is a senior painter, art educator, and researcher. She holds M.A. and Ph.D. in Drawing and Painting. She was awarded UGC Junior and Senior Research Fellowships (1992–1996). Active since the 1990s, her artistic practice explores nature, particularly the trees. Her works draw their inspiration from traditional sensibilities while evolving into a contemporary visual language.

She has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions in India and abroad. They include Prabhavita (2023) and Illuminated Nature (2025) at Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi, and Alliance Française, Bhopal (2025). Her works are owned by prestigious institutional and private collectors. She was honored by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in 2022 for her contribution to art and culture.



Untitled
18" x 18"
Acrylic on Canvas



Untitled
18" x 18"
Acrylic on Canvas



PRIYANKA SINHA

Priyanka Sinha is an action visual artist based in Delhi-NCR. She completed the Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree with the first rank from the Art & Crafts College, Patna, and Master of Fine Arts Degree from Chandigarh. Her practice is rooted in introspection, spirituality, human emotions and consciousness. Her creativity spans the realms of painting, sculpture, installation, printmaking, and photography. In her series UNFRAMED, she questions the human tendency to confine life, relationships, and emotions within fixed expectations.

Inspired by the unpredictable and constantly transforming nature of existence, her works encourage viewers to look beyond mental boundaries and connect with the inner self. Her current practice explores balance, colour, abstraction, intuition, and emotional and spiritual landscapes.



Untitled
38"× 38"
Acrylic on Canvas



Untitled
38"× 38"
Acrylic on Canvas



Untitled
30"× 36"
Acrylic on Canvas



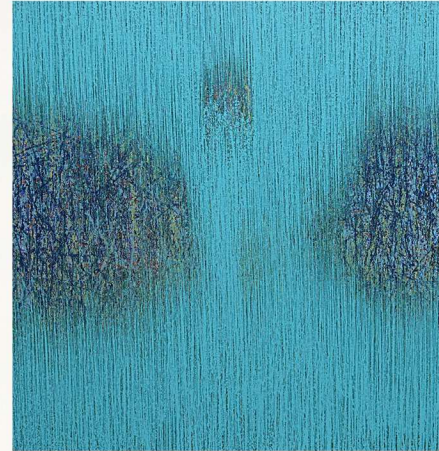
Untitled
30"× 36"
Acrylic on Canvas



SATISH BHAISSARE

Satish Bhaissare is a contemporary artist whose practice explores abstraction, landscape, form and the expressive possibilities of colour and line. His artistic journey includes solo and group exhibitions across India and international platforms, including presentations held in South Korea.

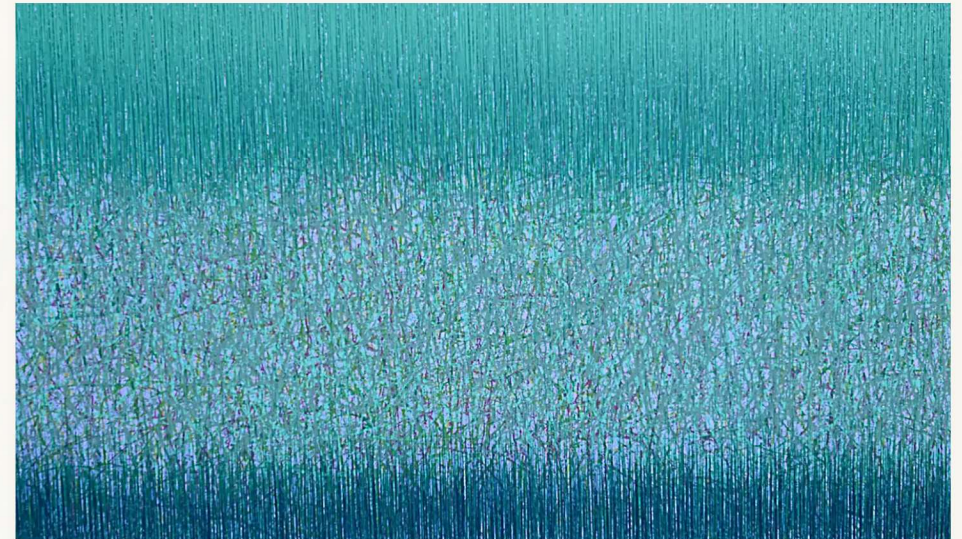
His solo exhibitions include prominent venues such as Apparão Art Galleries, Chennai; Deolalikar Kala Vithika, Indore; The Aman, New Delhi; Vibrancy, Alliance Française de Bhopal; and UB City, Bengaluru. His works have also been exhibited at KIAF, Seoul, and other famous national and international galleries.



Untitled
48" x 48"
Acrylic on Canvas



Untitled
36" x 47"
Acrylic on Canvas



Untitled
48" x 84"
Acrylic on Canvas



AMIT MHATRE

Amit Mhatre is a contemporary artist from Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Born in 1980, he completed the BFA from the Government Institute of Fine Arts, Indore, in 2002. His artistic journey includes participation in the State Art Exhibitions, Raza Award and Roopankar Varshiki exhibitions as well as numerous group shows in Delhi, Mumbai and Indore.

He has also participated in the art camps in Gwalior, Jodhpur, Alibag and Indore and has presented his work in exhibitions in Bengaluru and Khajuraho. His practice reflects a sustained engagement with contemporary painting and the evolving Indian art scene.



Me & Nature
4' x 4'
Acrylic on Canvas



Me & Nature
4' x 4'
Acrylic on Canvas



SHASHI BHARATI

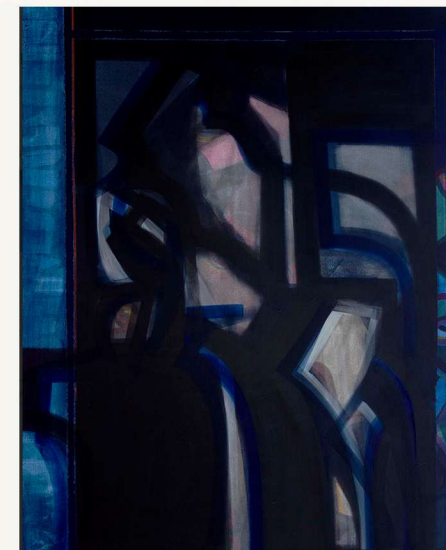
Shashi Bharati is a contemporary artist based in Bengaluru, with a BFA (2008) and MFA (2010) from Indore Fine Art College, Madhya Pradesh. Her artistic practice explores abstraction, inner experience, spirituality, womanhood and the emotional dimensions of life. She has presented several solo exhibitions, titled 'The Waiting', 'Stream in Solitude', 'Roopabh', and 'About What It Is Not About', and has participated in national and international exhibitions in India, New York, London, Dubai, Kuwait, South Korea, and Australia. Her work has also been part of numerous art camps across India. Through painting, colour, and intuitive abstraction, she continues to explore transformation, self-discovery, and the search for inner peace.

Selected Solo Exhibitions: Passage Art Gallery, New Delhi (2009); Deolalikar Kala Vithika, Indore (2010); Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi (2012); Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal (2013); Time and Space, Bengaluru (2022). Selected International Exhibitions: NYBA, New York (2013); VIVIDA, London (2013); Art for Peace, Dubai/Kuwait City (2014); New Delhi Asian Art Show, South Korea (2014); Divine Play, Sydney (2022); Mandu Festival and Sambhuyya, Sydney (2023).

SELECTED WORKS



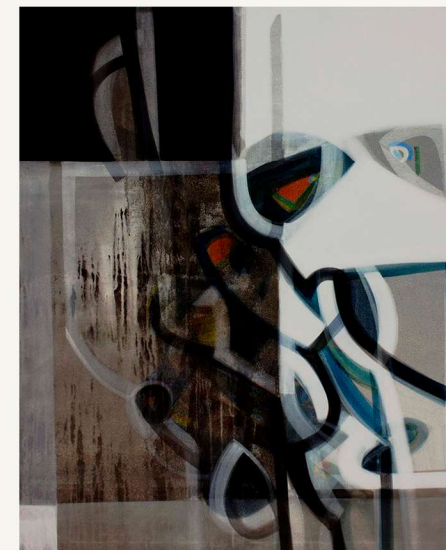
After the Noise
5 X 4 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



The Unseen Self
5 X 4 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



When the Inside Opens
3.5 X 4 ft
Acrylic on Canvas



Where the Self Dissolves
5 X 4 ft
Acrylic on Canvas

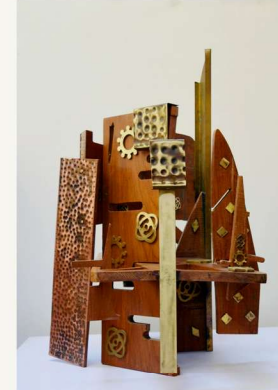


SANJAY JOSHI

Sanjay Joshi is a Bengaluru-based sculptor, born in 1972 in Bijapur, Karnataka. He completed the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Degree from CAVA College, Mysore. Working primarily with wood, his sculptural practice explores form, material and the expressive possibilities of carving. His artistic journey includes solo and group exhibitions at the venues such as the Samhita Art Gallery, Bengaluru; CAVA Art Gallery, Mysore; Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi; and Cholamandal Artists' Village, Chennai.

He has also participated in other prominent exhibitions and art events across India and received the Amavas Vasudev Charities Scholarship and a Merit Certificate from the Karnataka Shilpakala Academy, Bengaluru. His practice reflects a sustained engagement with contemporary sculpture and the natural character of wood.

SELECTED WORKS





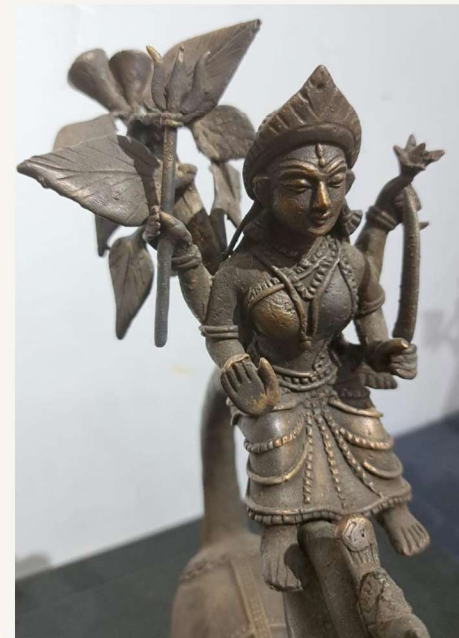
DR. GYANESH MISHRA

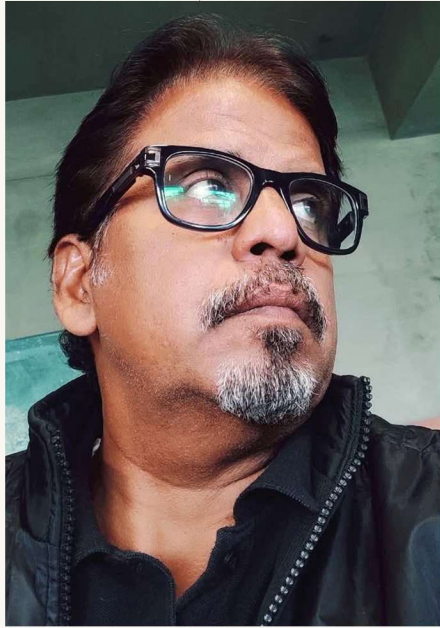
Dr. Gyanesh Mishra is a multidisciplinary artist working across the realm of sculpture, painting, pottery and crafts. He completed his BFA from KAVA, Mysore, in 1992 and has trained in traditional and contemporary art practices including Pattachitra, Madhubani, Nirmal painting, Thangka painting, ceramics and Old Egg Tempera/Fresco traditions. His practice is driven by experimentation with form, material, and strong emotional expression. In his sculptural work, he has explored gold beyond its conventional association with jewellery, creating aesthetic forms that emphasise its sculptural and visual qualities. He has received several honours, including the Nilla Shaila Award, Orissa State Handicrafts recognition, the All India Exhibition Award and Merit Certificate from the Karnataka Shilpakala Academy. He is also the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate in Art and Crafts from the International University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Selected Recognitions: Nilla Shaila Award (1977); Orissa State Handicrafts – Terracotta (1988); All India Exhibition Award, Bangalore – Terracotta (1989); Dasara Award, Mysore (1995); Merit Certificate, Karnataka Shilpakala Academy, Bengaluru (2000).



Tells of the Tail.
Medium, Bronze
17"×14"×8





AALOK SHARMA

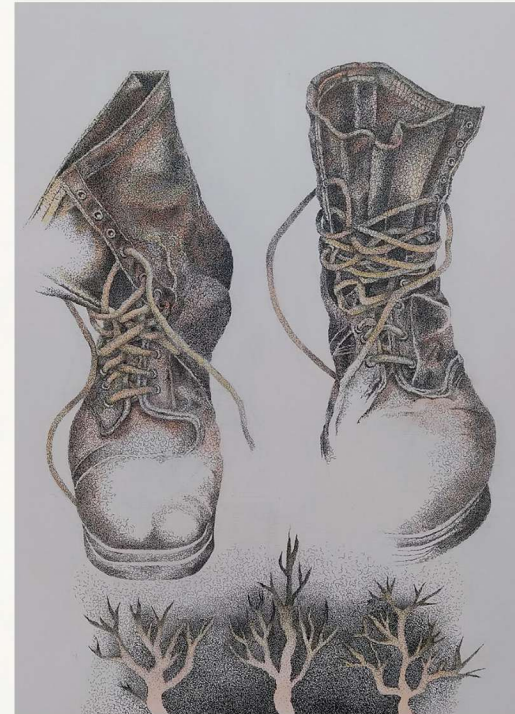
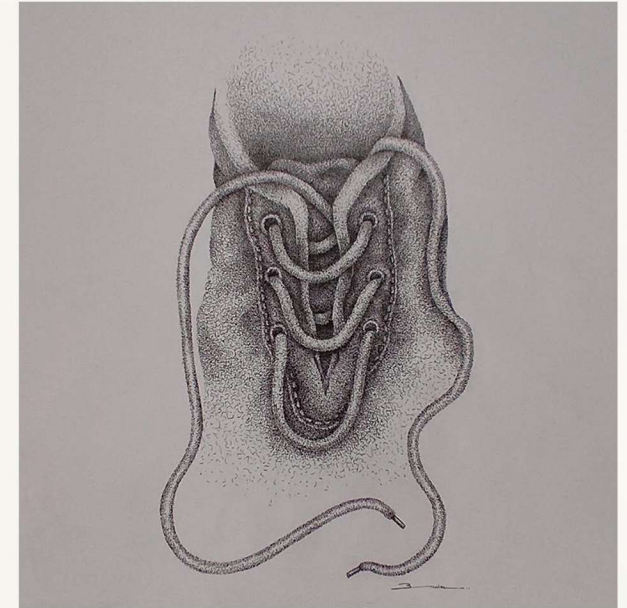
Aalok Sharma is a contemporary artist from Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, with around three decades of artistic practice. His paintings emerge from close observation of the small yet significant events of everyday life—natural, human, emotional and social—and transform these experiences into visual narratives. A recurring symbol in his work is the shoe, which he sees as a companion through life's journeys, representing movement, struggle, hardship, protection, and resilience. By giving the ordinary object an emotional and human presence, Sharma builds a bridge between his own experience and the viewer's imagination.

His works have been exhibited extensively across India and prominent international forums. They include exhibitions in China, California, San Francisco and South Korea.

Notable Exhibitions: State Exhibition, Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad (1987); South Central Zone, Nagpur (1993); All India Art Exhibition, Avantika, Delhi/Gwalior (1998); Artmart International, Khajuraho (2022); India 2.0, Indian Contemporary Art, California (2023); Super Fine Art Fair, San Francisco (2023); National Exhibition, Lalit Kala Akademi, Delhi (2023).

Awards: Beji National Academy Award (2008–09) • M.F. Hussain Award (2010) • Selected as the Emerging Artist of the Year (2018) • CIMA Director's Choice Award (2022)ing (2023).

36" x 36"
Acrylic and Ink on Canvas



36" x 36"
Acrylic and Ink on Canvas



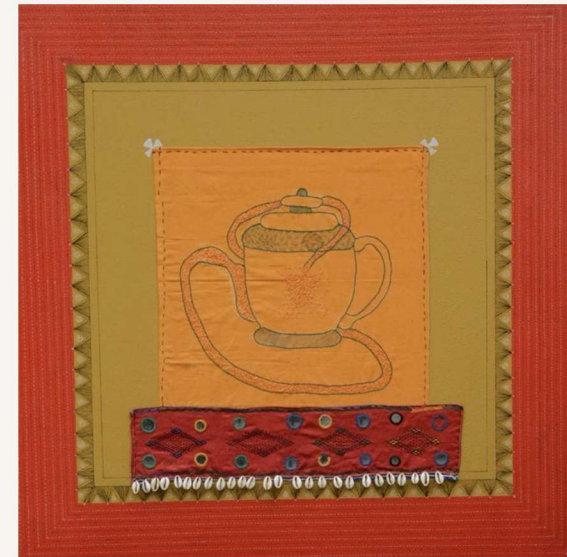
MEENAKSHI CHINNA RATHOD

Meenakshi Chinna Rathod (born in 1983, Gulbarga, Karnataka) is a contemporary artist whose practice explores mixed media, cultural traditions and contemporary expression. She holds a BFA and MVA in Painting from MMK College of Visual Art, Gulbarga. Her works draw from her cultural traditions and at times, tribal forms, which she reinterprets through fabrics, canvas and diverse materials.

Her practice reflects an ongoing exploration of how traditional visual languages can be transformed into contemporary forms. Rathod has received the Ministry of Culture Young Artist Scholarship, Junior Fellowship, Lalit Kala Akademi Fellowship. She is the recipient of the Shenoy Art Foundation Emerging Artist Award. She has participated in many exhibitions and residencies across India and abroad.



Untitled
30" x 36"
Acrylic, Cowry shell, Cloth, Colour beads, Thread & Stitching on Canvas

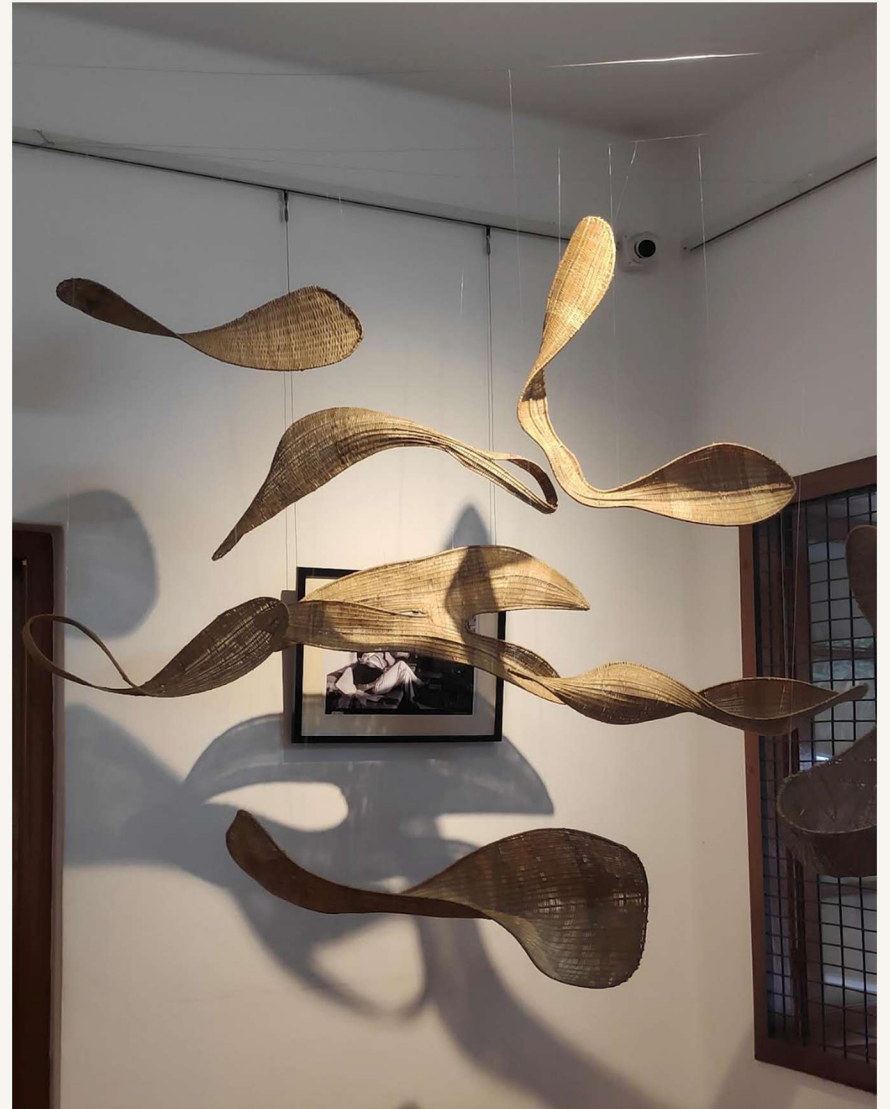


Thatho Thatho
36" x 36"
Acrylic, Cowry shell, Cloth, Thread, Mirror & Stitching on Canvas



MADHU SHREE

Madhushree H.M. creates artworks inspired by bamboo and cane, drawing from her personal connection to traditional rural craft. Her grandfather once made useful household objects from bamboo. The growing use of plastic led to a decline in demand for such handmade products. This experience inspired her to explore bamboo art as a way of creating awareness about disappearing village traditions and craft practices. Her work is also deeply influenced by nature, particularly flowers, trees, animals, birds and clouds.





YOGEEESH P.

Yogeesh P's practice explores inner questions and contemporary social realities through satirical, playful and expressive imagery. His works draw upon childhood memories while engaging with issues such as poverty, identity crisis, relationships and the erosion of human values in modern society.

His artistic journey also reflects a shift from village life towards the complexities of urban existence, particularly the pressures of population and city life. Through expressive figures, body movement and dramatic compositions, he creates visual narratives that invite viewers to observe the odd, incongruous and often bizarre aspects of everyday life.

Recognitions: National Academy Award (2008–09) • M.F. Hussain Award (2010) • Selected as the Emerging Artist of the Year (2018) • CIMA Director's Choice Award (2022).



Desire
52" x 66"
Acrylic on Canvas



Not to be Loose Shunted
48" x 72"
Acrylic on Canvas



The Lifeline
38" x 5.5" x 9"
Wood, Paper mache, Terracotta

tapas

Tapas is a Bengaluru based organisation dedicated to the promotion, enrichment, and celebration of art, design, architecture, and culture.

Founded by the visionary architect, urban planner, and designer Anil Bhaskaran, Tapas serves as a dynamic catalyst for creative expression and intellectual discourse. The organisation bridges the gap between traditional heritage and contemporary innovation. It curates impactful initiatives, exhibitions, and interactive forums that bring together creative minds, scholars, and art enthusiasts. By providing a nurturing ecosystem, Tapas encourages collaborative dialogue and pushes the boundaries of spatial and visual design.



ANIL BHASKARAN
FOUNDER, TAPAS

At the core of Tapas is a commitment to fostering a deeper public appreciation for the built environment and cultural arts. Inspired by its founder's extensive experience in transforming design, art and urban landscapes, the platform champions sustainable design solutions and thought-provoking artistic creations.

Tapas acts as an archive of creative wisdom and a launchpad for future ideas, ensuring that varied forms of art, design and culture continue to inspire and shape society. Through its diverse endeavors, Tapas actively shapes the cultural fabric of India and beyond, empowering individuals to explore the transformative power of human creativity.

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The Eclectic Art Show

