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[inspired by bandhani]





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Preview 4th May 2013, 5-8 PM

Wine and Cheese Reception 8th May 2013, 5-8 PM

@

Digman Gallery

23 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, ON, Canada M5R 1B2



CONTEMPORARY ART FROM INDIA

Bandhani textiles inspire artists.



Bandhani TRUNK SHOW

Exclusive opportunity to own an exquisite piece of Bandhani.



Bring your favorite Bandhani

Preserving the Past: Inspiring the future

Gathering and Preserving stories for the next generation

Contact: bandhani.project@gmail.com



arti@iartsproject.com

www.iartsproject.com

iarts Project...*your access to art from India*

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[about]

Textiles hold rich narratives and expressions of culture. iarts Project is proud to present [Inspired by Bandhani], its first textile and art exhibit showcasing the intricate and exquisite form of Bandhani – the oldest tie and dye tradition from India.

The genesis of the exhibition was a recent visit to Kutch, Gujarat. I had the opportunity to closely interact with a new generation of dynamic Bandhani artists who are taking this ancient art form to a new level of artistic innovation. I was so inspired by their works, I had to share them with you!

My excitement also led me to share this new ‘textile art’ and ‘photographs of Kutch’ with several artists in India. They, in turn, were motivated to create works inspired by these eclectic Bandhanis. Their interpretations will also be on display at the gallery. In addition to these innovative works, iarts is also proud to present the photography of prominent Indian artist Jyoti Bhatt who is renowned for documenting life in rural communities.

With this exhibition, iarts Project also launches a social initiative that aims to capture the personal narratives associated with textiles in the diaspora. Their significance and history will give a glimpse into the past and preserve the knowledge for the future. Bring your favorite Bandhanis and share their stories with us.

iarts Project was created with a vision to nurture a network of art lovers and infuse the community with a vibrant paradigm of new arts related ideas. iarts Project is proud to bring these creative art and textiles for your viewing and for your collection.

Arti Chandaria
iarts Project
e-mail: arti@iartsproject.com
website: iartsproject.com



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[about bandhani]

In our industrialized world, art made by hand is a rarity, even a luxury. India continues to patronize handmade work as women still dress in indigenous clothing, both to follow traditions and for fashion.

Bandhani textile is one such art that is entirely hand made. The word bandhani comes from the Sanskrit word 'bandhana' which means 'to tie.' This highly skilled process involves a brilliant process of dyeing the fabric that has been tied tightly with a thread at pre-marked points that form the patterns. The designs, colour and motifs of the tie and dye assumes a different expression in every region. For example, a Gharchola is an integral part of a Gujarati wedding, while the Rabaris prefer the use of black bandhani with red dots dyed on wool. The Muslim population also has cultural sentiment attached to this textile as a large head covering- the odhani known as Chandrokhani for special occasions such as weddings. The Khatri, Parsi, Meman and Sonaar communities prefer the Bandhani work on silk.

Bandhani is the result of teamwork between the men and women. The men select the fabrics and the designs are rubbed with a red clay paste over a stencil of patterned dots on the base cloth. The women, then in their free time laboriously tie the tiny knots. Special pieces have over 50,000 knots and take over two to three months to tie. The dyeing is next. The men are actively engaged in this process. The tied fabric is wrapped in a cotton cloth and first soaked in cold water. Then it is dyed in the lightest color (mostly yellow) by immersing the tied fabric in a hot solution of dyes. This process is repeated with each subsequent color from the lightest to the darkest. It is finally rinsed, squeezed and dried. Both the intricate tying and the expertise in the dyeing process are integral to producing a beautiful bandhani. The delicate and complicated motifs of bandhani have raised it to a much in-demand art form. Today a new generation of artists experiment with colours and aesthetics that reflect contemporary fashion trends.

[inspired by bandhani]

Gathering and preserving storied for the next generation



Preserving the Past: Inspiring the future

Traditional and Ritual Textiles in the Diaspora



Bring your heirloom Bandhani

SHARE YOUR STORIES

This will be an ongoing project

Contact: bandhani.project@gmail.com

Saturday, May 2.2013 5-8 pm
Wednesday, May 8.2013 5-8 pm

@

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Preserving the Past: Inspiring the Future [Bandhani Stories in the Diaspora]

Textiles hold rich narratives and expressions of culture. Their stories embody family histories, traditions and rituals. They are meaning-laden objects and the personal stories associated with them can provide us with a deeper understanding of lives lived. These memories help preserve family traditions and inspire the future generations in the diaspora. These narratives will help illuminate the identity, the history and the knowledge of the wearer, thereby becoming a crucial record of our culture.

iarts Project is pleased to launch a social initiative that aims to capture the personal narratives associated with textiles in the diaspora. The first such project is the Bandhani textiles. Sharing of the Bandhani stories will allow us to document the significance and history of this ancient cloth/textile in the lives of a community that has established roots in a new country. 'Bandhani Stories in the Diaspora' hopes to capture the richness of the past so that it may be preserved for posterity.

Share your stories.

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Bandhani TRUNK SHOW

Tie-dyed textiles from Kutch. Gujarat



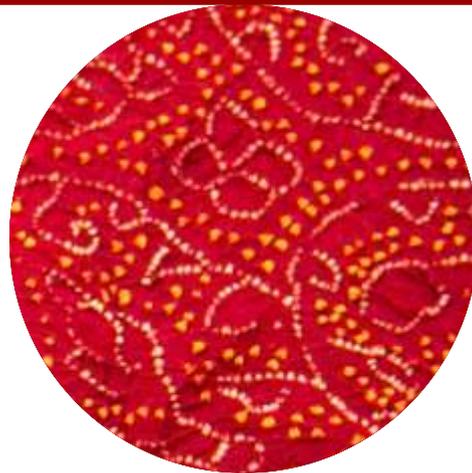
Exclusive opportunity to own an exquisite piece of Bandhani



arts brings you an array of contemporary bandhanis from Kutch. Designed by a new generation of artists, these bandhanis bring together the ancient practice of tie and dye with stylized designs and modern fabrics.

Part of the proceeds from the trunk show will go to Khamir, an organization that works to preserve heritage arts in Kutch. Many thanks to the Khamir Team for inspiring me to bring this exhibition to you.

KHAMIR stands for Kachchh Heritage, Art, Music, Information and Resources .





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CONTEMPORARY ART FROM INDIA

FEATURING ARTIST JYOTI BHATT

documentary photography

Jyoti Bhatt was born in Bhavnagar in 1934. He studied painting and graphic arts in Baroda [where he was a professor], mural painting in Rajasthan and Naples, and printmaking at Pratt Institute in New York. Integral to Bhatt's legacy has been his involvement as a student and later professor in the Faculty of Fine Arts, at the M.S. University of Baroda where he was a founding member of the experimental modernist "Baroda School" of Art and Group 1980.

His journey as a photographer that began when the Bharati Vidya Bhavan in Bombay asked him to photograph folk Gujarat. From 1966 - 1995, he traveled extensively through the villages photographing 'everything'. His documentation of the rich and diverse visual culture of India have both anthropological and aesthetic values.

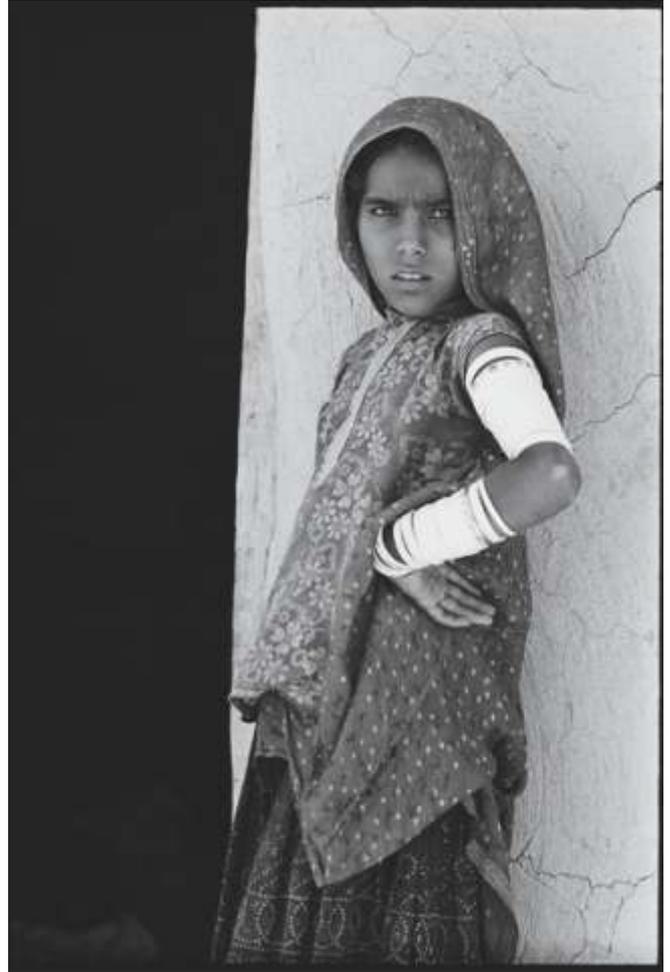
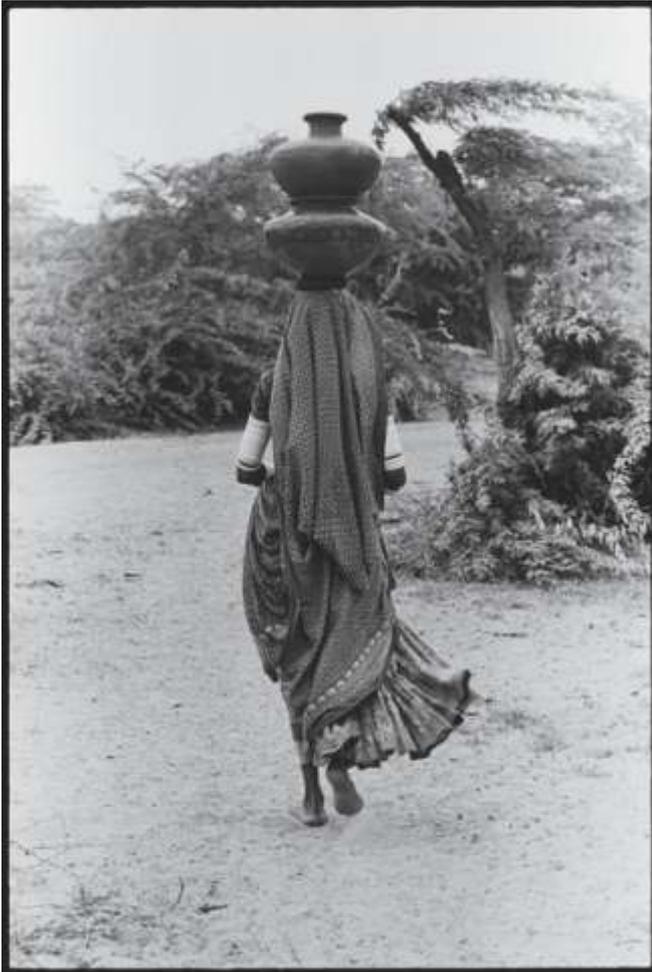
Bhatt's photographs, mainly in black and white are stark, bold and tell a story of a vanishing India – where the rural way of life is being replaced by the urban, consumer lifestyle. He has elevated photography to an art form and has been the recipient of many awards. His work serves as a reference map for documentary art and archive in post-independent India.

Two books have been published that documents his life and the significance of his work. In 2007, "Parallels that meet" was published, while "The Inner Eye and the Outer Eye" was published in 2013. iarts is indeed honoured to be able to share the work of this world renowned photographer.

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ARTIST JYOTI BHATT

documentary photograph of eminent artist Jyoti Bhatt



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CONTEMPORARY ART FROM INDIA FEATURED ARTISTS

- Jyoti Bhatt • Haresh Dhropal • Malleshi H V • Maripelly Praveen Goud • Manjunath Honnapura • Vandana Kothari
- Siravela Pragati Kumar • Ramgopal Kumavat • Atul Padia
- Nikita Parikh • Santa Rakshit • Prem Kumar Singh • Namrata Sneha • Neha Thakkar • Anita Vangala •
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