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contemporary arts from india

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Preview: Wednesday September 7th 2011 @ 5-7pm

Cocktail Reception: Saturday September 10th 2011 @ 5-9pm

Private/Gallery viewing by appointment

Dignam Gallery
23 Prince Arthur Avenue
Toronto ON M5R 1B2
Contact: Arti Chandaria
arti@iartsproject.com
www.iartsproject.com

iarts Project...your access to art from India

• Sanjay Barot • Nirmala Biluka • Nandini Das •
Haresh Dhrupal • Ramgopal Kumavat • Biplab Mohanta •
• Kundan Mondal • Atul Padia • Kamal Pandya • Nikita
Parikh • Nimesh Patel • Bharti Prajapati • Namrata Sneha
• Sanjay Barot • Nirmala Biluka • Nandini Das •
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• Kundan Mondal • Atul Padia • Kamal Pandya • Nikita

about

iarts Project presents its first exhibition [iarts.1] showcasing an eclectic collection of contemporary artwork from India.

The last few decades has seen the rise of art from India on the world stage. This exhibition will give Toronto a glimpse into the thriving Indian art scene by showcasing exemplary works of contemporary Indian art. The featured artists are dynamic - their work reflects innovative interpretations of the world around them. Their viewpoints are as diverse as are their mediums, techniques and styles. iarts Project is proud to bring the works of such talent to Toronto for your viewing and for your collection.

iarts Project has been launched with a vision to nurture a network of art lovers and infuse the community with a vibrant paradigm of new arts-related thoughts and ideas. By showcasing an exciting array of artwork from India, iarts Project is a valuable resource for both the established art collector and for those just discovering their love of art.

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

Sanjay Barot • b.1982 • Gujarat.India



Bhul Bhulaiya (2009)
acrylic on canvas, 60 x 66 inches

Sanjay Barot's recent work speaks to the young generation as they think about their lives, and portrays these desires. The painting *Bhul Bhulaiya* is part of a series that shows man working his way through a maze - the *bhul bhulaiya* - of life, towards his aspirations and ambitions both in his life and career. He does not know what the result will be, but his optimism takes him forward.

Sanjay has a Post Diploma in Painting [2007] from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara. He was awarded the Gujarat Lalit Kala Academy Award in Painting and also received scholarship from the Academy in 2005, and has since participated in numerous group shows. His recent group shows include 'Roots' at the Strand Art Room in 2010 and at the Epicentre in 2011.

Nirmala Biluka • b.1980 • Hyderabad,India



Nirmala Biluka's recent series speak to the universal feminine. The 'self', its realization and its relation with the cosmos are the main focus in her work. Recent paintings are inspired from mythological and philosophical enquiries, inspired by popular representations of protagonists like 'Sita', 'Shakti', and similar characters.

Nirmala Biluka completed her Masters in Fine Arts (Painting) in 2005 from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda. Biluka had her first solo show titled 'Signals', at Studio Napean, Mumbai, in 2007, and her works continue to be featured in several group shows. She was awarded the University Gold Medal at her graduation in 2003. Biluka received the Telegu University Scholarship in 2004, and was awarded the Junior Research Fellowship from the University Grants Commission in 2006.



Above
Shakthi (2010)
oil on canvas, 48 x 48 inches

Right
Sita 2 (2011)
acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36 inches

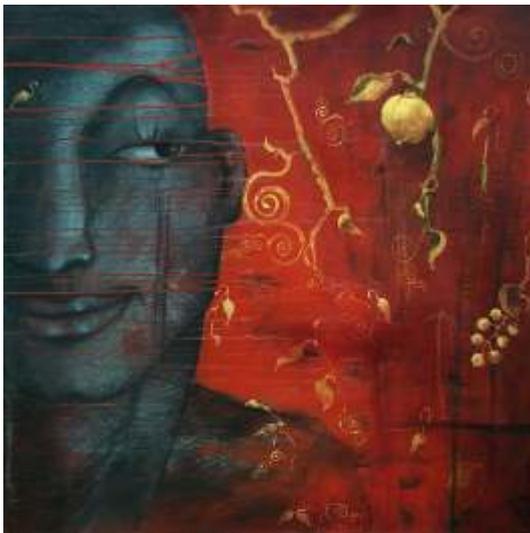
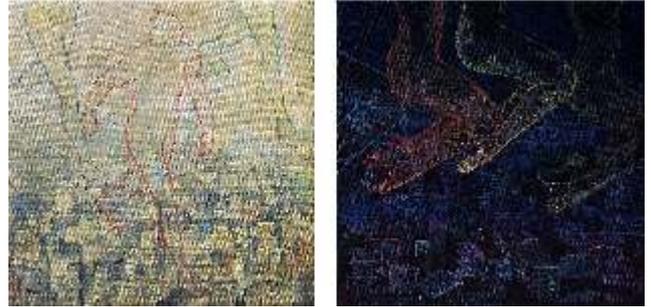
Left
Bhoo Devi (2011)
acrylic on canvas, 39 x 25.5 inches



Nandini Das ● b.1975 ● West Bengal, India

Nandini's art attempts to unearth the intersection between the poles of reality and spiritualism in an urban environment. She works with an idealistic notion of romanticism in the realization of this journey, where the protagonist fully aware of this, becomes part of the system. Metaphors of life and growth are emotions symbolically represented in vibrant and solid colours in Nandini's works.

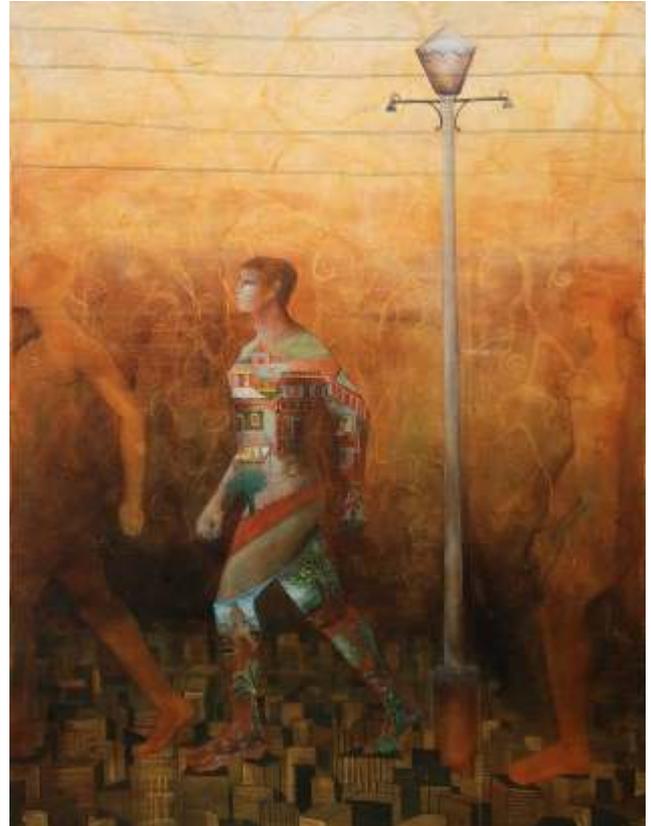
Nandini Das completed her Masters in Fine Arts [Graphic] in 2000 from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda. She has participated in residencies and participated in solo and group shows in India and Abroad. Her solo show 'Endless Quest' in 2008 at Sarjan Art Gallery was well received. Her recent group shows include 'Banyanart' in 2011; 'Living on Earth' in 2010.



Above right
Daily Living (2011)
acrylic on canvas, 12 x 12 inches
(2 pieces)

Right
Towards a road not taken (2011)
acrylic on canvas, 48 x 36 inches

Left
Fruitful Visions (2011)
acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36 inches



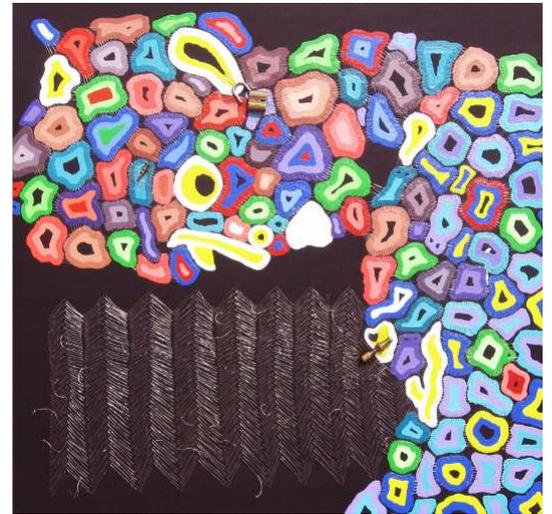
Haresh Dhropal • b.1981 • Gujarat, India



City Scape (2011)
charcoal, copper, ss wire on canvas, 60 x 66 inches

Haresh's work stems from his ideological interpretations of nostalgic elements from his village - not as an allusion to natural exquisiteness but in relation to a concept of art materials of small scale industries of his village. Copper is one of the materials that he has manipulated in his visual vocabulary along with the art of indigenous weaving that he feels he preserves through his art. These techniques and materials find unique abstracted expressions in Haresh's artwork.

Haresh Dhropal has completed his Post Diploma in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda in 2009. He has Merit Scholarship and most recently the Krishna Kriti Foundation Scholarship. He has participated in group shows and workshops both international and in India since 2005.



Self Portrait (2011)
acrylic and ss wire on canvas, 60 x 66 inches

Ramgopal Kumawat • b.1977 • Rajasthan, India



The Telephone (2010)
oil on canvas, 48 x 36 inches

Ramgopal's work speaks to history of the immediate past, and mans interaction with machines like the telephone and the gramophone. He contemplates on the technology then that brought people in the society together, wheras the advanced technology of today like the cellphone and the ipods are changing society so quickly that communication and interactions are more individualistic.

Ramgopal Kumawat completed his Post Diploma in Printmaking from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda in 2005. He has received numerous awards including the AIFACS Award in Printmaking. His solo show 'A Period of Time' in 2010 was well received. He has participated in several group shows since 2001, inlcuding the International Biennale of Prints in Bhopal in 2005 and 2006.

Biplab Mohanta • b.1983 • Tripura.India



Biplab Mohanta's work are an interplay of light and shade in particular environments. He is fascinated by the mystery exposed in the glimpses of light in the city architecture at night. His process of painting involves juxtaposing and separating several layers of transparencies, as he questions and searches what lies beyond the darkness. The use of limited colours and suggestive abstracted forms of cityscapes give an uncanny effect elaborating a larger city space.

Biplab completed his Masters in Visual Arts (Post Diploma) from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda in 2011. He has received the Inlaks Fine Art Scholarship Award. In 2010 he participated at the Kalagoda Art Festival, Mumbai and in a group show with Concern India Foundation.



Above
Step in Emotion (2010)
acrylic on canvas, 42 x 48 inches

Left
City in the Night (2010)
acrylic on canvas, 66 x 96 inches

Kundan Mondal • b.1980 • West Bengal.India



Hanu - Man (2010)
acrylic, ink, oil on canvas, 36 x 36 inches

Kundan's work approaches complex concerns of his own time and space. the jungle of images references from art history, folk art, mythology and folk tales. He deliberately works with no center in his composition, creating a contemporary environment and its inherent contradictions. The Kailghat paintings are taken as a visual reference creating a harmony of the past and present with typical humour, wonder and absurdity. His works in a subjective manner deals with this phenomenon where contradiction/ complexities results in a great churning.

Kundan Mondal has completed his Post Diploma in Painting in 2009 from the Maharajah Sayajirao University, Vadodara. He is a recipient of numerous awards and has participated in group shows since 2004. In 2011 he has participated in group show 'Roots of Bengal' and at the Jehangir Art Gallery.

Kamal Pandya • b.1980 • Gujarat, India



Kamal's work represent a harmonious blending of the past and the present by depicting themes of old and new places. He tries to harmoniously blend the old - symbolic of the local the familiar with the new - symbolic of change, freshness and its incarnation in the global culture. Kamal is fascinated with the Indian traditional and miniature paintings, and his works elaborates the possibilities of innovations in the spaces that overlap between imagination and realization.

Kamal Pandya completed his Masters in Fine Arts from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda in 2009. He has received numerous awards, most notably an emerging artist award in 2008, the annual display award in 2007 and the Nasreen Mohammadi Scholarship for 2004-2005. He has participated in group shows since 2005, most recently in the Jehangir Art Gallery in a show titled 'Tentacles' and "Real (sure) Real" the return of the Real in Banglaore, both in 2011.

Emperor Tower (2011)
acrylic on canvas, 66 x 42 inches

Atul Padia • b.1967 • Gujarat.India



Unda andherathi (2011)
acrylic on board, 24 inches diameter



Manomanthan (2011)
acrylic on board, 24 inches diameter

Atul Padia's work has rich visual appeal. In this series Atul has used the circular format to reinforce a contemplative stance in his work. His art has remarkable and meticulous dexterity, subtle lyricism and conceptual maturity that speaks to both the organic and the metaphysical.

Atul completed his MFA in Applied Arts-Illustration from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda in 1992. He is a muralist and a freelance illustrator and serves as a judge in numerous competitions since 1994. He has participated in group shows, workshops and camps since 1991, received numerous scholarships, and a Govt. of India photo award in 1997

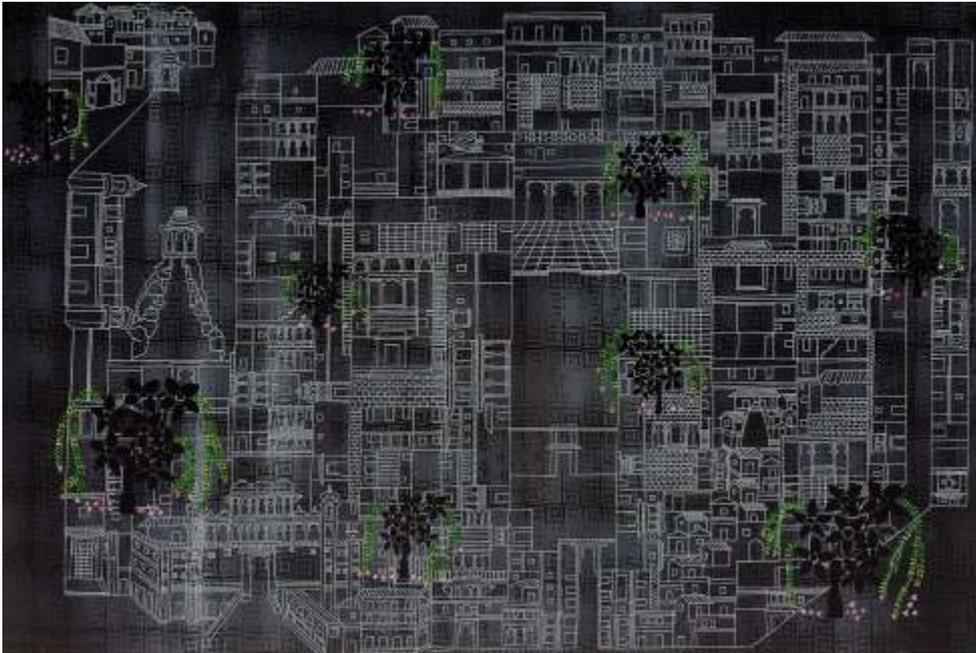
Nikita Parikh • b.1974 • Gujarat.India

The imagery and techniques in Nikita's works come from her early influences—the work of British painter Kenkiff; the religious paintings of Nathdwara; pat paintings; medieval manuscripts and shekhawati murals. The metaphorical use of colours and patterns, fine line drawing and embroidery in the floral repetitive motifs and block prints as a back drop represent the artist's inner vision.

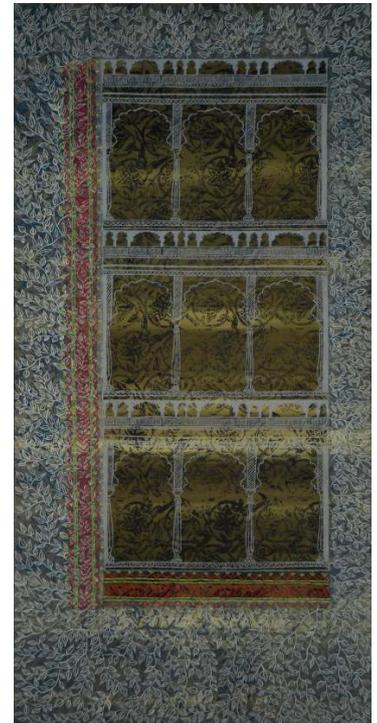
Nikhita Parikh completed her Master in Visual Arts in 1998 from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodra. She has received Sir Sayajiroa Merit Scholarship and the Gujarat Lalit Akademi Award and numerous other awards. She has participated in solo and group shows both in India and abroad, notably the 9th International Biennale Print and Drawing, Taipei, Taiwan.



Untitled 3 (2011)
Oil and Embroidery on canvas, 24 inches in diameter

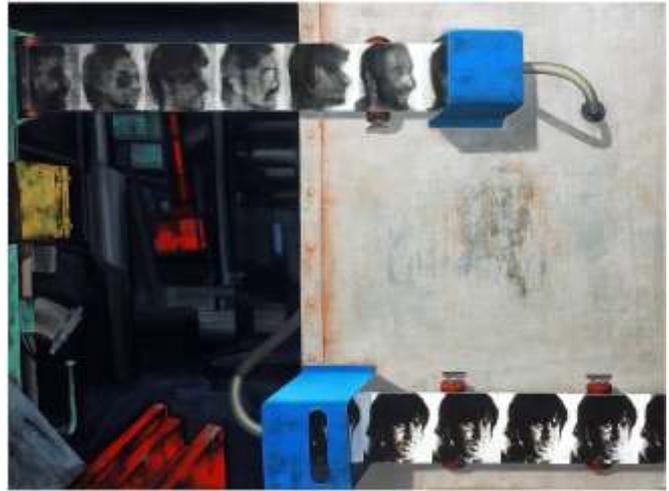


Ek Mahal Ho Sapno Ka (2009-10)
Oil on Canvas, 48 x 72 inches



Sab Boomi Gopal Ki - B (2011)
Oil and Embroidery on canvas, 48 x 24 inches

Nimesh Patel • b.1980 • Gujarat.India



Above (2008)
Reproduction - before the revolution - 06
acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 48 x 48 inches

Left (2011)
Reproduction - before the revolution - 20
acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 36 x 48 inches

Nimesh has been fascinated by man's urge and search for a hero or an ideal. In his *Reproduction-before the revolution* series engages the viewer with this obsession. Creating a possibility of achieving this goal for perfection in their hero, the protagonists travel through a machine and is reproduced as a hero. Nimesh engages the viewer with this concept further and questions the massive reproduction that would create clones and may lead to discontent. For him perfection is in the individuality!

Nimesh has a Post Diploma in Creative Painting (2002) from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara. He has been recognized with numerous awards for his work including the AIFACS award in Painting. He has participated in camps since 2001 and group shows since 1997. Recently he participated in a group show at the Epicenter in Gurgaon, India.

Bharti Prajapati • b.1962 • Gujarat, India



Above left
Radha 1A (2011)
oil on canvas, 18 x 18 inches

Above right
Radha 1B (2011)
oil on canvas, 18 x 18 inches

Below left
Radha 2A (2011)
oil on canvas, 18 x 18 inches

Below right
Radha 2B (2011)
oil on canvas, 18 x 18 inches

Bharti has always been fascinated with the feminine form and portrayal of emotions in her work. Her favorite topics are rural women in their elements, and their relationship with the social structure in the Indian context. In this series, she portrays Radha in various forms emoting her love for Krishna. The figures are highly stylized yet they retain some natural body contours. The colors are bright and due to sensitive use of oils there is a glow to Bharti's paintings.

Bharti Prajapati has a Post Graduate Diploma in Textile Design (1986) from National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. She has participated in numerous residencies and her works have been selected for Auctions. She has been exhibiting in group shows since 1999 and recently participated in India Art Summit 2011. Her works have been well received in solo shows since 1996, and she recently exhibited at the Cymroza Art Gallery with a show 'One Tribe'.

Namrata Sneha • b.1983 • Chattisgarh.India



Seeds of emancipation - V (2010)
Triptych, oil on canvas, 12 x 12 inches each



Seeds of emancipation - VI
Diptych, Oil on Canvas, 24 X 24 inches top and 30 X 24 inches bottom.

The Seeds of Emancipation paintings are from Namrata's current series Journey of Displacement, an allegorical representation of the meaning of life. Drawing from personal experiences, Namrata's paintings evoke the nostalgia of a native place and the beauty and difficulty of migration, and of belonging to a different society/ culture and structural order.

Namrata Sneha completed her Master in Visual Arts (Print making) in 2006 from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara. She was resident fellow at Kanoria Centre for Arts, Ahmedabad and has received scholarship from Government of India in 2008. She has exhibited in groups shows since 2002, and has received numerous awards for her work. In 2008, Namrata was awarded the Golden Brush, The Eye Within in Kolkatta.



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