# NATURE TALES

A GROUP ART EXHIBITION

10 - 12 - 2021 - 15 - 01 - 2022



## NATURE TALES

An exhibition of artworks by

# ALPANA VIJ | AMJUM RIZVE | ANILAKUMAR GOVINDAPPA | DIBYENDU SEAL GANAPATI HEGDE | HARDEV CHAUHAN | KONDA SRINIVAS RAO

Nature and landscape art has evolved dramatically over centuries much like the landscape of our world. Initially unacknowledged as a genre, landscape art has become a major theme for many artists over centuries. Artists have focused on natural scenery or elements from nature as subject matter in their artworks to represent not only its obvious beauty, but also to illustrate an idea, tell a story or conceptualize a metaphor. Over the years, this subject has seen wide range of interpretation and played a role in showcasing ideas and perspectives of the times gone by.

We are keen to understand and visually document how contemporary artists are interpreting nature and landscape in the contemporary times. Not only are artists providing a realistic representation of flora and fauna but are using this subject more and more as a metaphor. In an ever-shrinking natural world where human activities are affecting the environment so profoundly, it is inevitable that contemporary art sees landscape as a valid and rich area of subject matter to help us live in harmony with the natural world. It binds us to our past, roots us in the present but is needed for our future as it becomes an intimate part of our human psyche. Nature and landscapes almost serve as a metaphor for our collective human experience.







Alpana Vij

"What do I see when I see a fallen leaf? – Alexandra road dried leaf, 24K gold thread, handmade joomchi paper, 16" x 12" x 1", 2021 "What do I see when I see a fallen leaf? – Oriole lane, Dried leaf, 24K gold thread, handmade joomchi paper, 11" x 8" x 1", 2021

#### **ALPANA VIJ**

b. 1969, Haryana, India

"What do I see when I see a fallen leaf?

I see the green...now just a distant memory. I see the tree upon which it lushly grew.

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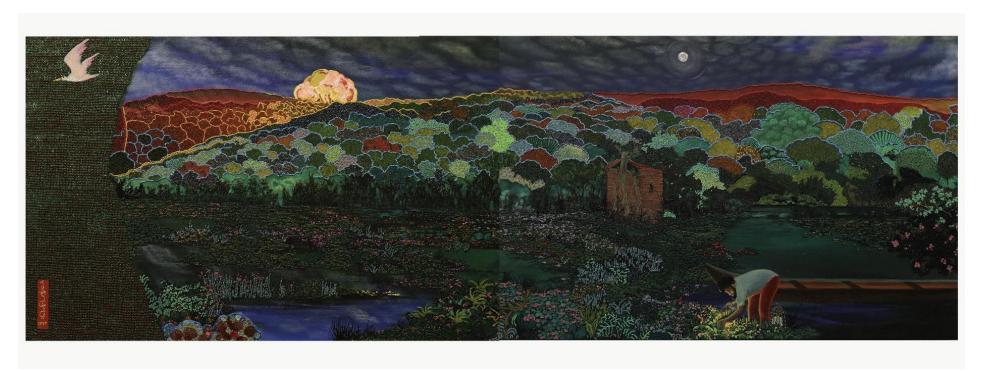
I see the soil that nourished that tree. The clouds...the sunlight...all of nature that came together to birth this now dying leaf. And soon it'll mingle with the earth again and rise anew.

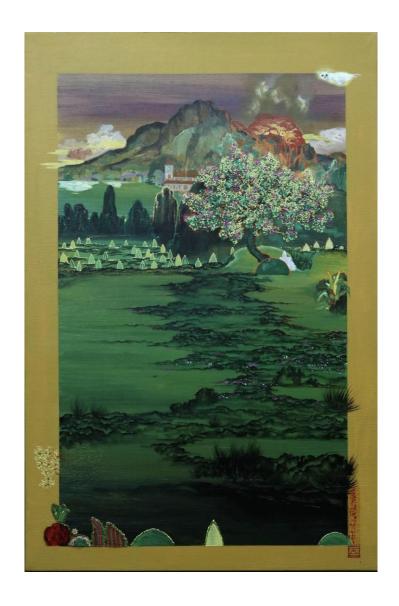
So let me take a moment...to take it in my hands and gently repair the holes and cracks in gold thread...to celebrate the leaf...the sun...the stars...the rain...the earth...our fleeting and interconnected lives."

Alpana Vij, a contemporary artist based in Singapore, is inspired by the Buddhist concept of śūnyatā or emptiness that focuses on the transitory and ephemeral nature and interconnectedness of all phenomena. She seeks to use her ritualized and meditative art making as a reflexive process to question and understand these teachings and to create immersive experiences that poetically engage the viewer in a dialogue. The artist uses the Korean Joomchi technique for her mulberry paper base that combines three layers of paper with gold thread. She then uses agitation and water to allow the paper to disintegrate and reconstitute as it dries.

Alpana graduated with a BFA from College of Art, New Delhi and received an MAFA from LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore. Alpana Vij lives and works in Singapore.

AMJUM RIZVE





#### **AMJUM RIZVE**

B. 1992, Ernakulam, Kerala

Amjum Rizve has developed a fantastic universe of his own using fine art and craft-based design. Using lace and sequins, his visual imagery comprises textures and motifs rendered with extraordinary



flair and detailing. A vast range of sources from Islamic decorative art, mosaic works and Japanese landscape influences Rizve's hybrid imagery.

The artist uses a unique process which involves prepping surfaces with wood, cloth, and canvases, which is then teased into shape with a porcupine quill and finished with glitter, sequences, beads and paint. This process is time consuming and the artist takes months to complete one artwork.

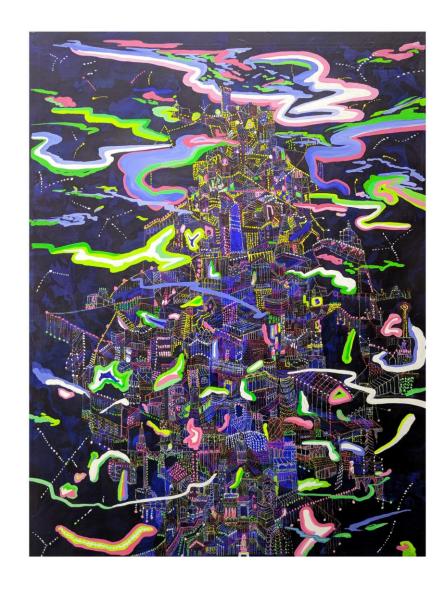
Amjum Rizve had participated in several shows and exhibited various cities in India, including "Lokame Tharavdu "curated by Bose Krishnamachari at Alappuzha and Kochi 2021 and collateral events by Kochi Muziris Biennale.

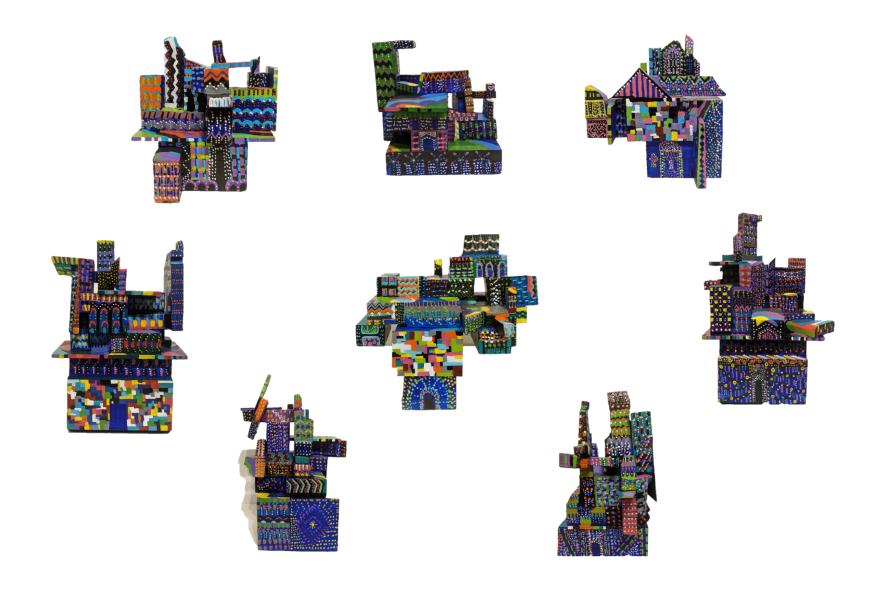
Amjum Rizve has BFA in painting from Trivandrum School of Fine Arts and MFA from Chamarajendra Academy of Visual Arts, Mysuru, Karnataka.

He lives and works in Mysuru, Karnataka.

ANILAKUMAR GOVINDAPPA









Installation view

#### ANILAKUMAR GOVINDAPPA

b. 1993, Bengaluru, Karnataka

Anila's works resembles a diary of events that takes place in his everyday life. The places and people that connected with him often appear in his images and provided often a 360-degree view



of the life around him. Sometimes, he deliberately implants the metaphorical visual elements that resembles his personal interpretation or the statements about the material existence. He finds it more interesting when he is working with such hidden facets of the imagery and the message that it sensibly carries along tightly encoded, while being apparent in some cases. His visual narratives are not just about one thing at a certain time, rather they are about many things at varied points, almost like a book of short stories. Anilakumar Govindappa has done his BFA in Painting from KEN School of Art, Bengaluru and MFA in Printmaking from S N School of Art and Communication, Hyderabad Central University, Hyderabad. He lives and works in Bengaluru, Karnataka

DIBYENDU SEAL









#### **DIBYENDU SEAL**

b. 1990, West Bengal

Dibyendu Seal is a software engineer by education and an artist by profession. He explores the contradictions of urban cosmopolitanism and the increasing dependence on technology



in our everyday lives. His paintings have elements from the world of technology and gadgets interspersed with - organic life-forms from nature. The motifs in his images somehow manage to evoke the aesthetic dimensions of ordinary objects, yet, at the same time expressing a personal longing for sustenance by rediscovering his lost connections with nature.

Dibyendu Seal lives and works in Kolkata, West Bengal.

GANAPATI HEGDE







#### **GANAPATI HEGDE**

b. 1974, Uttara Kannada, Karnataka

The present series of works by Ganapati Hegde unveil a delightful world of flora and fauna in a personally accentuated style.

Inspired by the natural environment that bursts forth with colour, creatures and lush vegetation, the artist creates a world of his own that evolves from a highly creative imagination and allegorical ideologies.



There is an underlying story that enlivens and empowers each work. Clusters of iridescently hued vegetation camouflage a plethora of living creatures that take new form in their painted abode. The artist attempts to convey the message of oneness, the symbiosis between all forms of nature, in a holistic manner through his work. The intricate, deep and indispensable connection of different forms of life, their dependence on each other for survival is seamless.

With an obvious affinity for his subject, Ganapati weaves natural elements together into ecstatic collages. Never disturbing or diverting their innate strength and charm, he arranges these natural excerpts into artistic compositions.

Ganapati Hegde has a Diploma in Art from the Ken School of Art, a Bachelor of Art from Karnataka University and Master in Fine Arts from Bengaluru Open University. He lives and works in Bangalore.

HARDEV CHAUHAN

















#### HARDEV CHAUHAN

b. 1995, Bhavnagar, Gujarat

Hardev's relationship with the subject of his paintings can be traced back to his childhood. He used to follow his father, a farmer, to the cotton field where he observed the cultivation of cotton, wheat, and corn. The patterns of sowing seeds and farming in rows and columns captivated his attention. As he grew up he worked not only as a farmer



but also a tailor which gets reflected in his paintings. His smaller series of works brings our attention to the source, elements like cotton and its usage in making of clothes to designing of costumes. His watercolour palette is mostly of transparent colours and sometimes opaque as per the need. The play of space and composition makes Hardev's works stand out.

Hardev Chauhan has a Diploma in Applied art from Sheth C N College Of Fine Art, Ahmedabad, and PG Diploma in Printmaking from Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, Gujarat. He lives and works in Baroda, Gujarat.

KONDA SRINIVAS RAO











#### **KONDA SRINIVAS RAO**

b. 1979, East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh

Konda Srinivas is a self taught artist who creates abstract landscapes using colour palette that emphasizes the picturesque aspects of nature. These paintings exemplify a pure play of colour, line, texture and space. The artist rejoices in the ambiguity and openness of these creations and works with unrestricted and natural fluency. He lives and working in Hyderabad, Telangana.



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