



# ArtCatto

ART GALLERY | GALERIA DE ARTE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

CONRAD®  
ALGARVE

# SPIRIT OF INDIA



भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद  
INDIAN COUNCIL FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS

OUR SINCERE  
THANKS  
GO TO THE  
INDIAN GOVERNMENT  
FOR THEIR HELP AND  
GENEROSITY  
TO ENSURE THAT  
ALL THE ARTISTS  
AND PERFORMERS  
ARE PRESENT AT  
THIS FESTIVAL

राजदूत  
AMBASSADOR



भारत का राजदूतावास  
EMBASSY OF INDIA

**Message**

It is my great pleasure to introduce the “Spirit of India” festival being held at the Conrad Algarve Hotel. Much effort and emotion has culminated in this wonderful exhibition of seven modern artists, groups of dancers, musicians and Indian culinary delights. The festival gives our friends in the Algarve an opportunity to witness artists at work, while dancers and musicians perform in tandem.

This happy collaboration between the Embassy of India, Conrad Algarve hotel and ArtCatto Gallery has been made possible through the generous support of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations. I thank all other partners in delivering “Spirit of India”, an outstanding example of public private partnership.

Since the summer of 2014, dancers and musicians from India have given nineteen performances in eight Portuguese cities. Now we are set to provide an even more ambitious window into Indian culture, in a joyous celebration of our friendship with Portugal. We hope to give exposure to the vibrancy of modern India’s arts and cultural heritage in a way that excites and delights the senses, and enhances understanding between our two countries.

I wish “Spirit of India” all success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.N.M." followed by a stylized surname.

(Dr. Jitendra Nath Misra)



# Sohan Jakhar

Sohan Jakhar (born 1978 in Sikar, Rajasthan) was educated at the Rajasthan School of Art, Jaipur. By 2006 he had secured a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting, as well as a diploma for advanced computer art.

Part of the images that Jakhar creates are taken from photographs which he digitally modifies and then transfers to the canvas. He uses layers of vibrant colours with strong individual personas which express a subtle theatre of visual form. Decorative motifs which appear to float in the background come from painted frescoes found on the Havelis (Mansions) of Shekhavati, in his native home town.

Juxtaposed on these backgrounds Sohan creates scenes which depict the noisy visual chaos of street bazaars, vendors, and hawkers, they delineate the complex inter relations of India's urban & semi urban scenario. Sohan's work has been exhibited throughout India and can be found in collections in Switzerland, U.S.A., U.K., Singapore, Holland, Canada, Dubai and many private collections in India.



Acrylic on Canvas

Taxi 7

183 x 92 cm



Cream Bell

122 x 122 cm



# Vinita Dasgupta

For Vinita, being an artist is a multi-disciplined affair. In her latest series 'Storytelling' she uses popular posters, photographs, prints, paints and intriguing items juxtaposed in such a way that their familiar contexts are broken down and powerful new emotional associations come into being.

Each piece takes around two to three months to complete and are created using a loose blend of overlapping elements. The elements say one thing 'Individuality' yet placed together; the message is more complicated and less certain. Personal associations spontaneously arise within the viewer in an attempt to understand the whole and complete the story. Vinita's aim is to make the viewer interpret and to become more involved in the imageries. She says 'To be successful as an artist, the viewer needs to stand in front of my work and feel something. To me, my art is about the process of discovery, the synthesis of my personal feelings, colour that inspires me and the technique that I use: It's a piece of who I Am.'

Vinita has won many prestigious awards including 'National Fellowship' from the Ministry of Culture for the year 2013-2015. Her work can be found in collections around the world.



Acrylic on Canvas

Fabric Seller

92 x 92 cm



New media artwork

Storyteller II

71 x 60 cm



New media artwork

Storyteller V

60 x 60 cm



New media artwork

Storyteller IV

92 x 92 cm



# Ramesh Gorjala

Born in Srikalahasti, Andhra Pradesh, in 1979, Ramesh Gorjala studied at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University in Hyderabad, where he received his Bachelor's degree in painting. Gorjala works with a delicate and intricate technique, portraying his spiritual view of subjects from Indian mythology through both his imagery and his process. His use of a palette dominated by gold, red and green, creates a rich and natural feel in each of his paintings, the moods that he is able to create add an antiquated yet contemporary dynamic to his work.

His subjects include Hanuman, Vishnu and Buddha, they are painted with great sensitivity and attention to detail. Gorjala does not necessarily restrict himself to a single, large protagonist in his pieces. Instead, he integrates subjects, mixing not only one figure, but multiple images unified into a broader character. This is sometimes brought together by fragments of text, usually in the background of his surfaces adding a new dimension to them. Another repeated element in the background of his works is the checkerboard pattern of black and shades of white and grey, adding a novel and modern twist to pieces that have a largely traditional and spiritual feel.

Gorjala's work has won him various awards, including the 2000 Mahatma Gandhi Birth Centenary Memorial Award from the Victoria Technical Institute (V.T.I.), Chennai, and the 2002 State Award from the A.P. Crafts Council.



Mixed media on canvas

Hanuman

91 x 152 cm



Mixed media on canvas

Vishnu

152 x 91 cm



Mixed media on canvas

Kamadhenu

152 x 136 cm



# Shovin Bhattacharjee

Born, 1976 in Shillong, Shovin Bhattacharjee gained his Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts while at Assam University. He went on to spend six months at the national research laboratory for conservation of cultural property in Lucknow, India to gain practical training, and also secured an Advanced Diploma in Graphics and Multimedia from C-DAC Mohali.

In his work Shovin has razed the strict order of concrete blocks of high rises, to an absorbing mystery - perhaps even sci-fi. His vast structures appear tumbling, as though in a quake, and yet they hold on. He would not let them topple. Many suburban built up spaces can be infinitely dull for those who spend their lives over there. With nature gone, animals and birds are forlorn. Thus what the artist does to this modern day ambience - a completely man-made one - is refreshing. The solidity of a reality is now shown as being merrily played with, by factors beyond computation. In this way he produces suspense, the feel of absurdity, and even a bit of surreal terror.

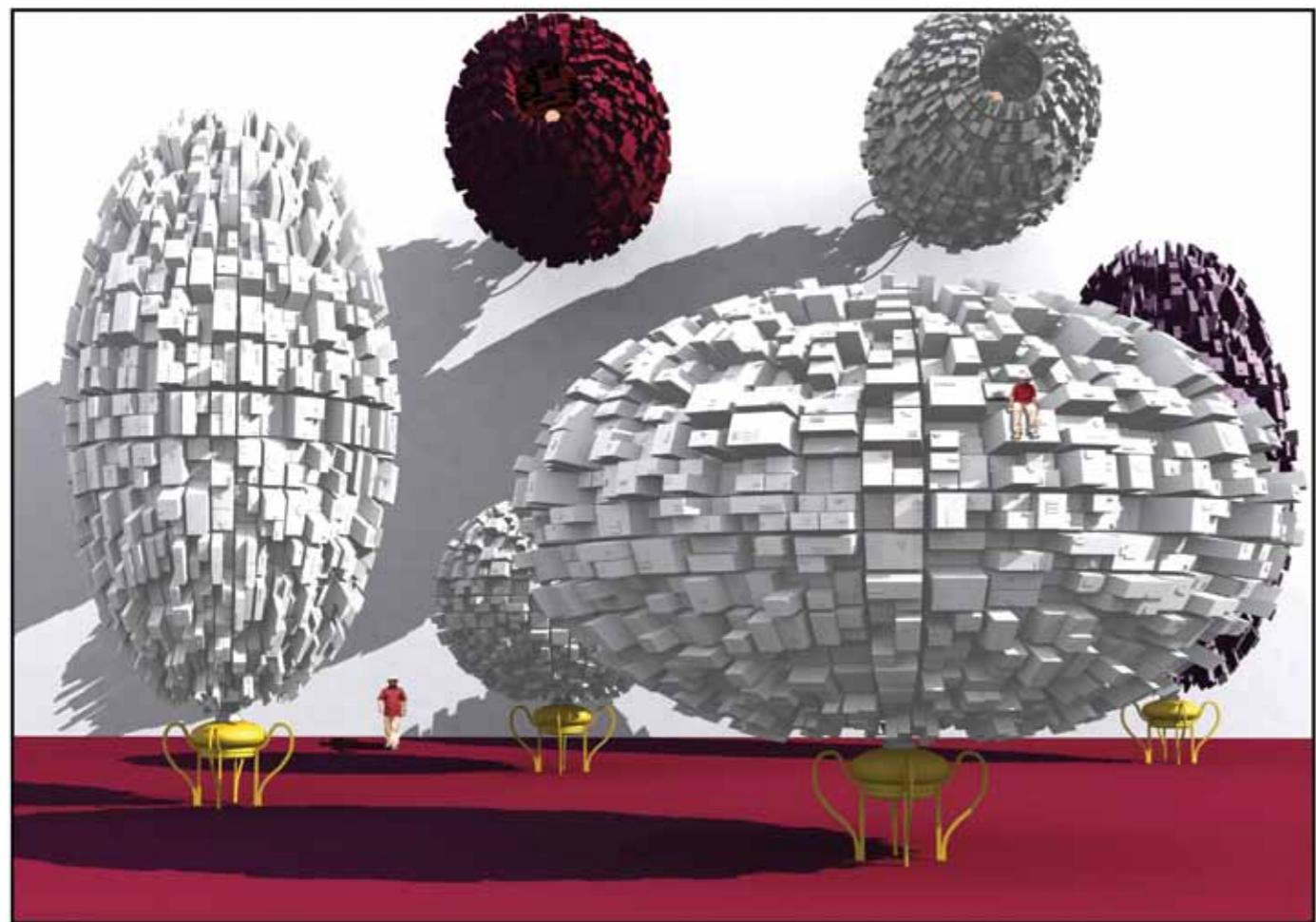
Bhattacharjee's phenomenal installation created from stainless steel, fibreglass and direct painting onto a wall, entitled 'Inner Quest' (shown below), has been chosen by the prestigious Prafulla Dhanukar Art Foundation for the 'All India Gold Award for Installation Art'. An enormous and moving piece of work entitled 'The Sun' is being installed especially for the 'Spirit of India' exhibition and will be on display in the foyer of the Conrad Algarve Hotel.



Stainless Steel, fibreglass and paint

Inner Quest

670 x 518 cm

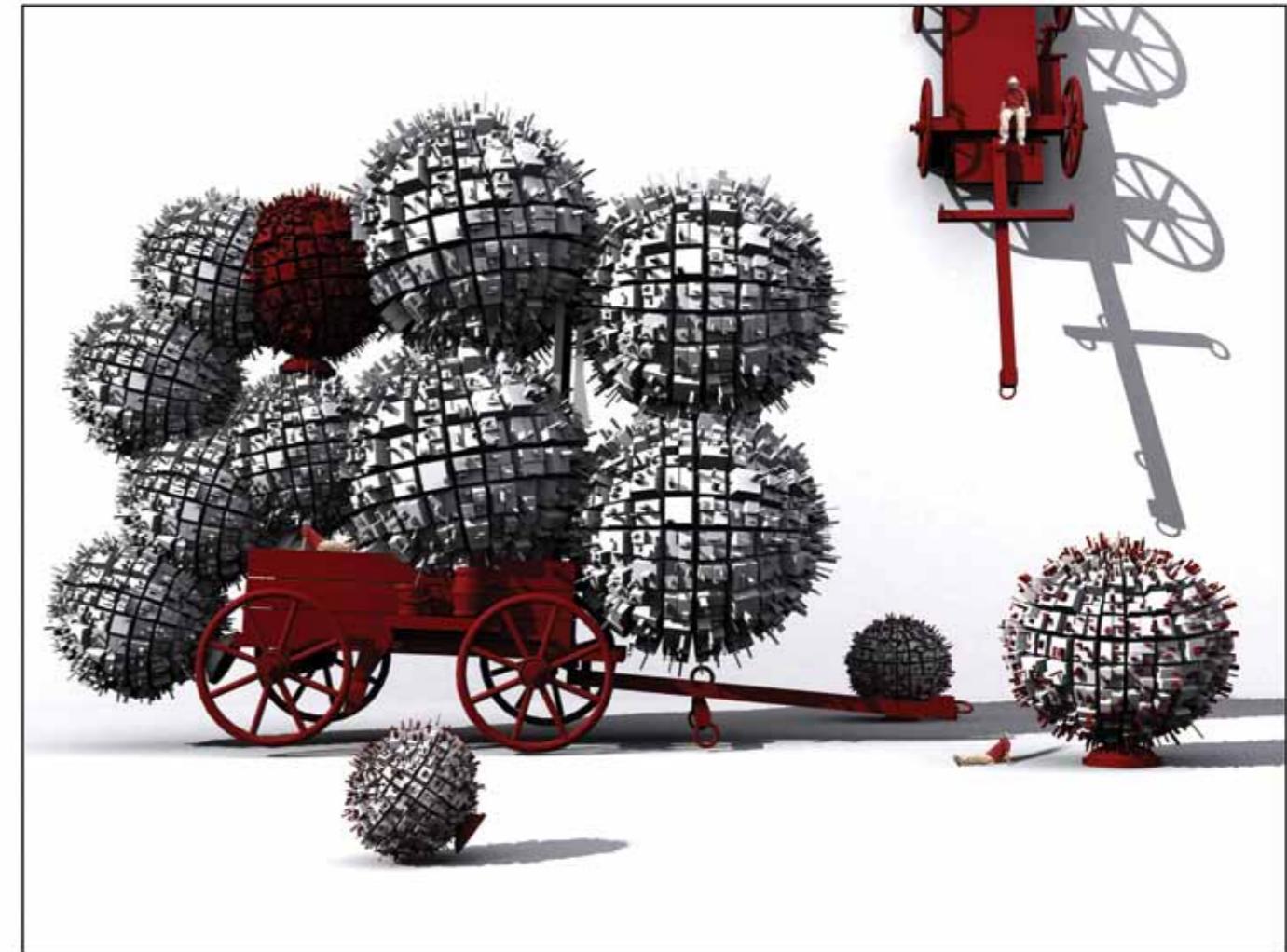


12

Mixed media on canvas

Exploration

76 x 100 cm



13

Mixed media on canvas

Galaxy on Earth

76 x 100 cm



# Narendar Reddy

Artist Narendar Reddy from India treats art, not just as a creative work, but as science. There is a philosophy that guides this artist from Hyderabad, to pour life onto the canvas which is the only world that exists for him when he is working.

Trained in art at the famed Jawaharlal Nehru Technology University (JNTU) in Hyderabad, Narendar Reddy went on to research art in Aichi, Japan. later he had exhibitions in the US, UK, France and Germany. Exposed to the works of the great masters during his trips abroad, Narendar Reddy developed a style of his own. "A painting is complete only when my heart says it is. When there is complete peace within me, I know I have done what the painting expected me to do to it," Narendar Reddy says.

US President George Bush, his predecessor Bill Clinton and Tony Blair have all been presented with portraits painted by Reddy.

The work of Narendar Reddy was especially chosen by The ICCR  
(Indian Council for Cultural Relations) to represent India in this exhibition



Acrylic

Lord Ganesh

60 x 50 cm



Acrylic

Krishna

120 x 120 cm



# Ramesh Nambiar

Ramesh Nambiar is a varied painter, his style and palette ranges from the rich and warm, full of confident brushstrokes and vital energy to a more classical even European landscape painting with muted tones and a soft atmosphere.

Ramesh would be termed as a people's painter, he adopts and changes, reflecting his unflinching eye for beauty and determination to reflect the essential spirit of a particular place.

As a result Ramesh's work can be found in numerous private collections around the world.

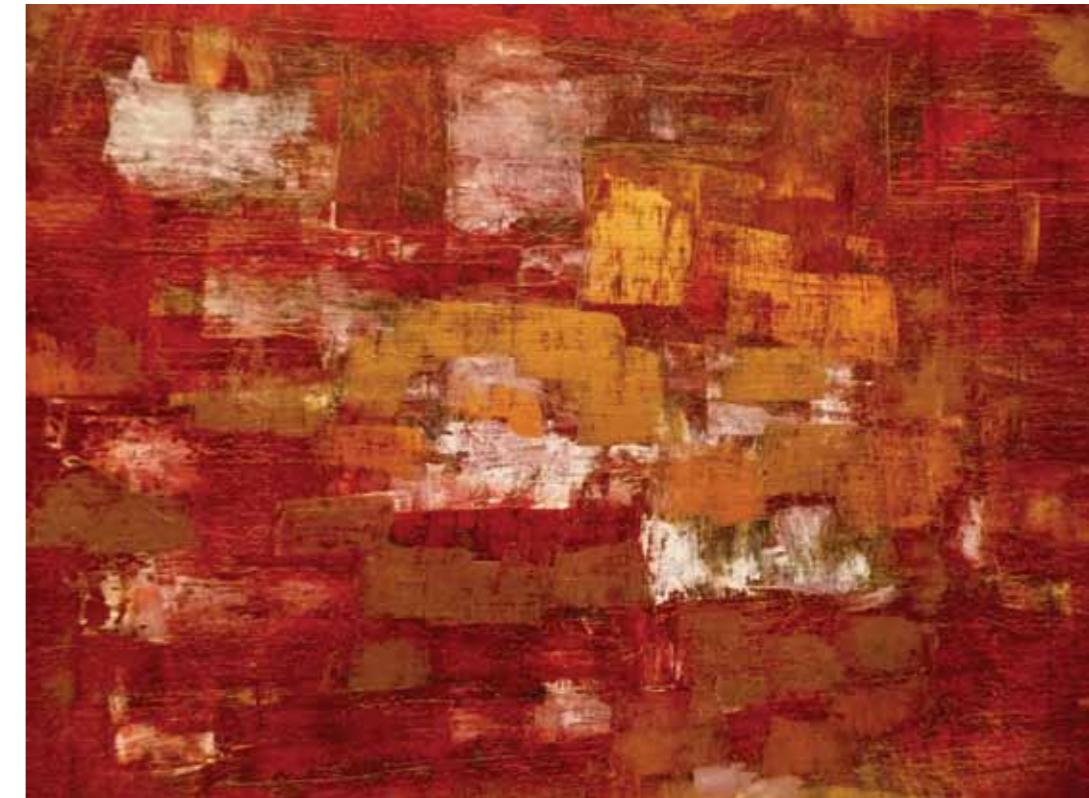
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Acrylic

Krishna

120 x 120 cm



Oil on canvas

Composition in Red

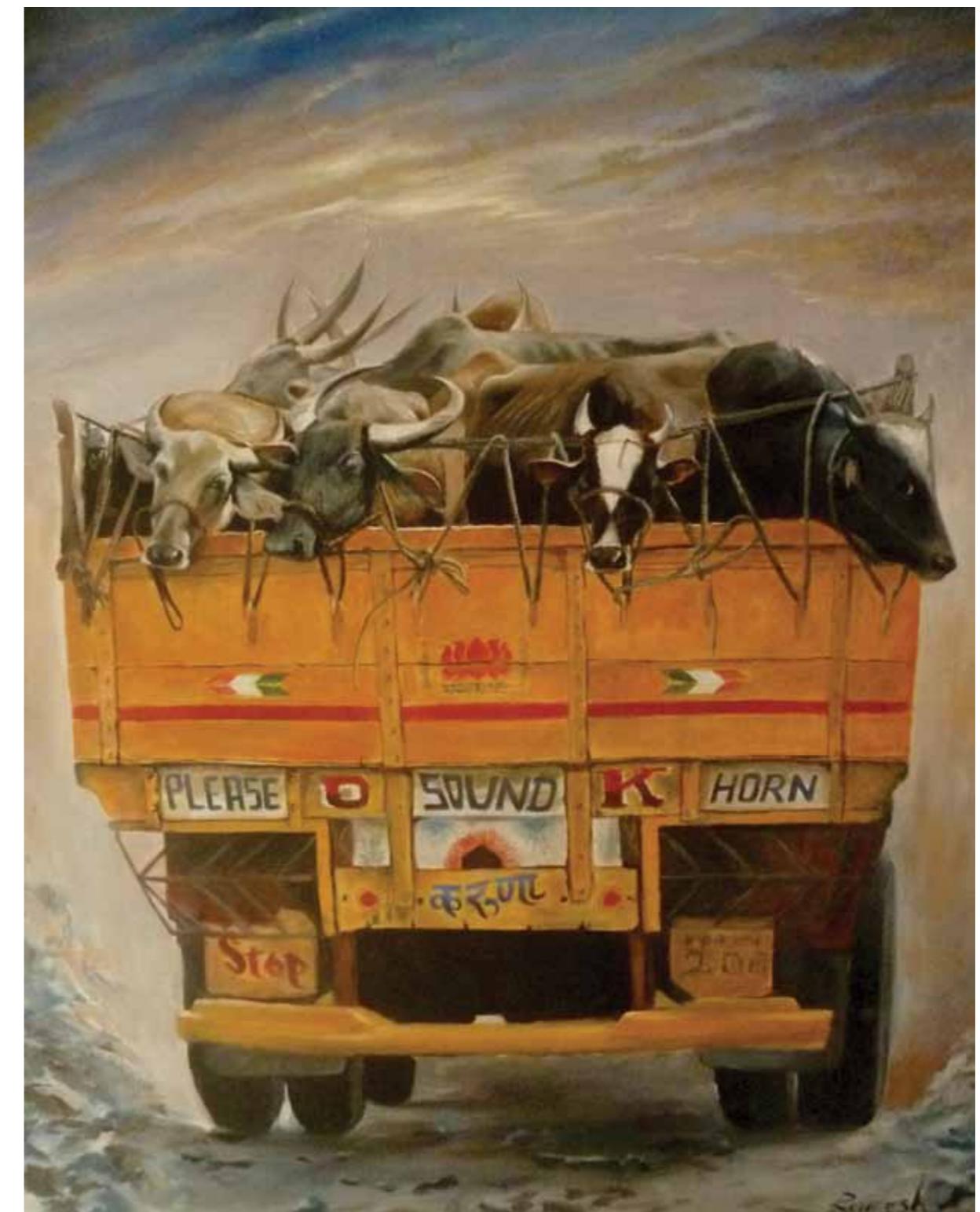
65 x 80 cm



Oil on canvas

Intense Flight

94 x82 cm



Oil on canvas

Karuna

104 x 95 cm

19

18



# Anu Nadimpalli

Anu Nadimpalli is an independent photographic artist and travel writer currently residing in Barcelona, Spain. She has a background of interior design and architecture.

Walking the streets of the world with a hunger for travel and a thirst for photography. Anu stops, looks and sees the world through an Architectural lens. She sees forms and shapes, both built and natural, inside whatever medium that presents itself.

Anu Nadimpalli has a very special eye for texture, color, lines and detail, especially architectural detail. Where others see a wide land or city scape, Anu zeroes in on diverse or related pictorial elements, explores their relationships, harmonies and counterpoints, and assembles them into self-contained images that surprise us in their originality. Many of her images live in the borderland between "pure" photography and "pure" pictorial art and owe their uniqueness to the graphical sense she brings to her work.

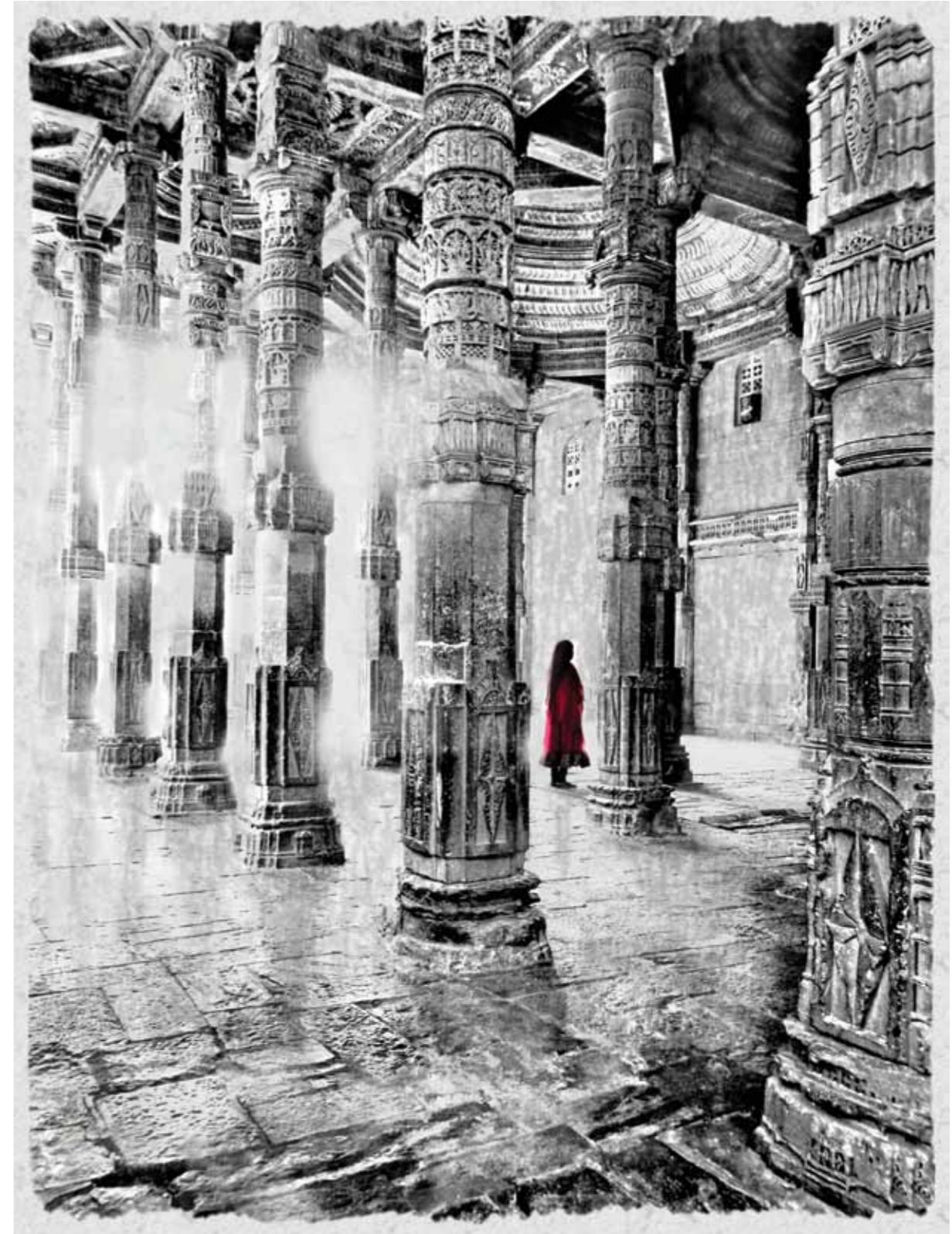
Anu has exhibited her work in India, Spain and Portugal and is active in the Photographic Society of America, where she has won awards in annual competitions.

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Jaipur Travels

30 x 40 cm



Midday Prayer Hour

40 x 30 cm

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The Red in Red Fort

30 x 40 cm

# ArtCatto

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ArtCatto is honoured to be a joint host with the Conrad Algarve in bringing "Spirit of India" to Portugal. Working together with Joachim Hartl, the General Manager, has proved not only to be a great experience but has produced some truly memorable cultural events.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Indian Ambassador to Portugal, His Excellency Dr. Jitendra Nath Misra and the Director General of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Shri C. Rajasekhar for their guidance on this journey. We are also most grateful to Mr Mahinder Sehgal, Soji Benjamin and Dr Lesley Jacob at the ICCR for their patience and hard work in helping to arrange the various artists and dancers on our behalf.

To our sponsors: MGM Muthu Hotels, a huge thank you for your amazing hospitality provided to all the artists and performers and a special thanks to Hiscox – the specialist insurance company - for helping to make this event even better.

Thank you to the ArtCatto team, António Lourenço and Frederic Ponte, who make every day special.

Gillian Catto



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NEVER JUST STAY. STAY INSPIRED.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the "Spirit of India" Festival at the Conrad Algarve. Together with ArtCatto we are aiming to inspire you with exceptional art & cultural events in a contemporary luxury setting.

At Conrad art is at the heart of our constant quest in creating something unique, something unexpected, that will stay with you as a memorable experience. I sincerely hope that you will enjoy a special moment with us and can connect with the "Spirit of India".

Never just stay. Stay inspired.



Joachim Hartl  
General Manager



# artCatto

ART GALLERY | GALERIA DE ARTE

**Gallery Hours:**

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 6.00pm

Saturday by appointment

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