

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART**  
Ministry of Culture, Government of India  
**Concept Note**  
**The Life & Works | Nicholas Roerich**

The Virtual Tour titled “**The Life & Works : Nicholas Roerich**” is being organized to commemorate the 147<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Nicholas Roerich on 09<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. The Roerich family landed in Bombay in December, 1923, and began a tour of cultural centres and historic sites, meeting Indian scientists, scholars, artists, and writers along the way. By the end of December they were already in Sikkim on the southern slopes of the Himalayas, and it is clear by the speed with which they reached the mountains that the Himalayas were where their interest lay.

It is in his Himalayan paintings that one most easily finds evidence of the loftiness of spirit and sense of mission that led Roerich to attempt the tasks he set for himself. The towering mountains stand for the spiritual goals that humanity must set for itself. Roerich urges people on to their spiritual destiny and reminds them of their duty to prepare for the New Era.

The pursuit of refinement and beauty was sacred for Roerich. He believed that although earthly temples and artifacts may perish, the thought that brings them into existence does not die but is part of an eternal stream of consciousness—man’s aspirations nourished by his directed will and by the energy of thought. Finally, he believed that peace on Earth was a prerequisite to planetary survival and the continuing process of spiritual evolution, and he exhorted his fellow man to help achieve that peace by uniting in the common language of Beauty and Knowledge.

The NGMA takes pride in 06 works of art created by the iconic artist at its collection. This virtual tour will present before the world of viewers, entire priceless collections of Nicholas Roerich from the reserve collection of NGMA.

I would urge our esteemed visitors to explore the timeless creations of the artist through this virtual tour.

I would finally like to mention the fact that it’s the tireless effort of our IT Cell, NGMA who did conceive, conceptualize and executed the idea of launching Virtual Tours of Doyens from our NGMA collection. IT Cell has contributed their sincere effort against all odds to facilitate our esteemed visitors the feel of the timeless creations of Masters of Art via prestigious collection of NGMA.

**Adwaita Charan Garanayak**  
Director General, NGMA

