



NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART, BENGALURU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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e-newsletter

from the desk of director

Warm greetings from NGMA Bengaluru! There has been a long interval after the third issue of the NGMA e-newsletter. One reason is that we have been so busy with holding events that there was little time for chronicling them. There were two large exhibitions in the NGMA between May and October. The first was a wonderful retrospective of the photo journalist Homai Vyarawalla which generated tremendous interest and was accompanied by a rich plethora of outreach programmes. The other, which was the first exhibition initiated and organized by NGMA Bengaluru, was a retrospective of KK Hebbar, whose birth centenary was celebrated this year.

For perhaps the first time, more than 180 works of this wonderful artist were exhibited together, showing the development and changes in his thinking and art over the years. The exhibition **An Artist's Quest: KK Hebbar – A Retrospective** was on view from 21st August till 20th October and was accompanied by 15 outreach programmes, including a puppet show based on the **Silappadhikaram**, which Hebbar had illustrated with 51 drawings which were on view at the exhibition.

NGMA Bengaluru also organized a large number of other interesting events during this time, including the celebration of World Heritage Day in April with lectures and films on heritage and conservation. We now eagerly look forward to the large variety of events scheduled for December and January and to the exhibition of the works of the Bangalore based landscape artist Rumale Chennabasaviah – **Varna Mythri: Rumale Chennabasaviah – Centenary Retrospective 2011**.

Sobha Nambisan
Director, NGMA Bengaluru

ART EDUCATION PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN



GUIDED GALLERY WALKS



FILM SCREENINGS

1) APRIL 2011

The last of the films from the Travelling Film South Asia festival was screened on the 10th of April. The films based on the stories of individuals from different parts of the South Asia who continue to be on the fringes of society, were very well received by the audience.

2) 17TH – 30TH APRIL, 2011

NGMA Bengaluru in collaboration with Marg, celebrated World Heritage Day by screening films on heritage sites. A total of 8 short films on various historical and archeological sites in India were shown over the weekends. The films were conceptualized by the art historian Vidya Dehejia and directed by Shyam Benegal.

3) 9TH – 24TH JULY, 2011

A French Film Festival was screened in collaboration with the Alliance Francaise, featuring films on artists such as Picasso, Degas, Cezanne and Courbet, among others.

4) 23RD OCTOBER, 2011

Screening of the film Jhaaru Katha, directed by Navroze Contractor



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TALKS AND EVENTS

1) On the 12th of March, NGMA Bengaluru, in collaboration with SPACES, Chennai, held a memorial for Dashrath Patel, the artist and designer. The memorial function began with an invocation from Kabir, sung by Shabnam Virmani. This was followed by a documentary film by Iffat Fatima on the artist.

2) On March 26th, NGMA Bengaluru collaborated with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) to present a dance performance of the Serai-kelle Chhau. The dance was performed by the much admired troupe, Trinetra Chhau Dance Centre, which has already toured many countries under the cultural exchange programme of the ICCR.

3) On the 27th March, NGMA Bengaluru, the Centre for Film and Drama (CFD) and Radha Kalpa, collaborated to present a theatrical production titled The Lady of Burma on the life of the Burmese leader Aung San Suu Kyi. The play was directed by noted theatre personality Prakash Belawadi, and featured the danseuse Rukmini Vijayakumar in a solo performance. The play which was based on a script written by Richard Shannon, had toured widely in Europe and America to popular as well as critical acclaim.

4) Under the initiative of Carte Blanche, Vasudev C, a performance artist, utilized the grounds of NGMA Bengaluru on the 8th of April, to present a contemporary dance performance titled Unwinding the Past.

5) To celebrate World Heritage Day which fell on the 18th of April, NGMA Bengaluru collaborated with INTACH Bengaluru to present three thought provoking talks on conservation of art and architecture.

6) On the 25th of June, a condolence meet was held by NGMA Bengaluru in order to mark the passing away of the artist MF Husain.

7) On 30th of July, a Bharatanayam dance recital by one of ICCR's empanelled artists, Rajashree R. Warriar was performed at the auditorium of NGMA Bengaluru.

8) On the 7th of August, Deepak.K.Shivaswamy and Veena Basavarajaiah presented a performance under NGMA Bengaluru's Carte Blanche initiative. This event was a movement installation portraying the socio political dimensions of water and human existence.

9) On the 25th of August, NGMA Bengaluru collaborated with ICCR to present a musical concert by ICCR's empanelled artist Rekha Surya who combined Amir Khusro's Sufi Poetry with Faiz's ghazals, to mark the celebration of the Faiz centenary in 2011.

10) Artrends, the quarterly art journal, which ran from 1961 to 1982, and has now been compiled as a book by the Lalit Kala Akademi was released at NGMA Bengaluru on 10th September.



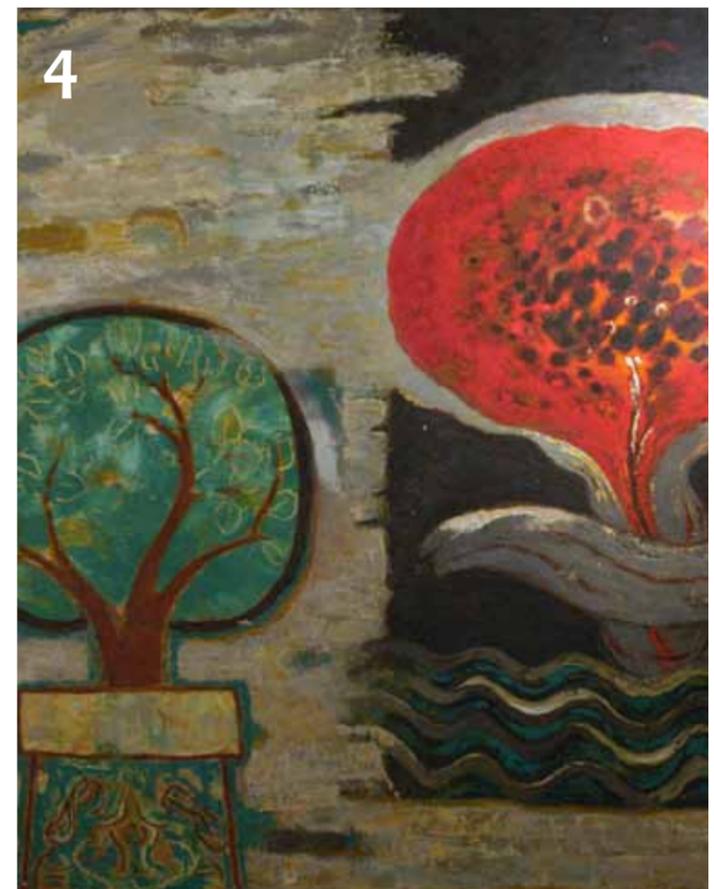
EXHIBITIONS

8TH MAY– 8TH JULY, 2011

The retrospective exhibition of Homai Vyarawalla, India's first woman photo-journalist, opened at NGMA Bengaluru, on the 8th of May. Featuring works from the collection of the Alkazi Foundation for the Arts, Delhi, the show was curated by Sabeena Gadihoke. The exhibition presented 220 works of Vyarawalla, who photographed the last few days of the British Empire in India, and the birth of new India. The cameras and equipment which she used during that period were also on display during the show. Parallel outreach programmes comprising of talks, films, workshops and docent walks were organized through the duration of the exhibition at NGMA Bengaluru.

20TH AUGUST– 20TH OCTOBER, 2011

The first curated exhibition originating from NGMA Bengaluru **An Artist's Quest – K K Hebbar – a retrospective**, opened to present a chronological reading of the versatile artist's works. The exhibition was curated by the artist Rekha Rao and the art historian Rajani Prasanna. The two months of the exhibition was accompanied by fifteen outreach programmes, which highlighted different aspects of the works on display. The outreach programmes, which included talks, panel discussions, films, workshops, docent walks and even a puppet show on the Shilappathikaram, were extremely well received. A new initiative for the Hebbar exhibition was that the State Government on the request of NGMA, agreed to reimburse the travel fares of students from art schools in different parts of Karnataka, who came to Bangalore to see the Hebbar exhibition. This enabled students from art schools in Gulbarga, Davangere, Karvar, and Mysore to come and visit the exhibition.



WORKSHOPS

From the 9th of July till the 31st, over the course of four weekends NGMA Bengaluru initiated a workshop on art appreciation at its premises, titled **Engaging Art: a public workshop on visual cultures**. The facilitators at the workshop were, the artist Ravi Kashi, art historian Annapurna Garimella, artist Ramesh Chandra and the arts writer Lina Vincent. The workshop was greatly appreciated by the participants and the feedback was very encouraging.



1, 2 - Scenes from the retrospective exhibition of Homai Vyarawalla that opened at NGMA Bengaluru on 8th of May, 2011

3 - Inauguration of the first curated exhibition, An Artist's Quest - K K Hebbar - a retrospective

4 - K K Hebbar: War and Peace, 1977, Oil on canvas, Collection: Rajani Prasanna

UPCOMING EVENTS - DECEMBER 2011 AND JANUARY 2012

18 TH DECEMBER, SUNDAY	VARNA MYTRHI RUMALE CHENNABASAVIAH – CENTENARY RETROSPECTIVE 2011 <i>EXHIBITION OPEN FOR PUBLIC</i>	10AM TO 5PM
18 TH DECEMBER, SUNDAY	DOCENT WALK BY SANJAY KABE	11AM
20 TH DECEMBER, TUESDAY	TALK BY SUDARSHAN SHETTY	6:30PM
7 TH JANUARY, SATURDAY	TALK – GREENING OF BANGALORE FOLLOWED BY NGMA ARBORETUM WALK BY VIJAY THIRUVADY	3:30PM
7 TH JANUARY, SATURDAY	TALK – LANDSCAPE ARTISTS OF KARNATAKA BY SURESH JAYARAM	6:30PM
8 TH JANUARY, SUNDAY	FILM SCREENING – HUANGSHAN WORLD OF IMMORTALS (CHINESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)	11:30AM
14 TH JANUARY, SATURDAY	PANEL DISCUSSION ON ARTIST RUMALE CHENNABASAVIAH BY RAVIKUMAR KASHI, V M SHOLAPURKAR, S N CHANDRASEKAR	6:30PM
15 TH JANUARY, SUNDAY	WORKSHOP ON LANDSCAPE PAINTING IN WATER- COLOUR BY KANTHARAJ N	11:00AM
21 ST JANUARY, SATURDAY	DOCENT WALK BY TEJASVI JAIN	2:00PM
21 ST JANUARY, SATURDAY	FILM SCREENING – THOMAS COLE AND THE AMERICAN LANDSCAPES (ENGLISH)	3:00PM
22 ND JANUARY, SUNDAY	ARTIST TRAIL BY S KARTHIKEYAN, MEERA IYER IN COLLABORATION WITH INTACH	11:00AM
27 TH JANUARY, FRIDAY	VISUAL LANGUAGE AND LANDSCAPE (VISUAL ES- SAYS ON LANDSCAPE) BY MOHAMMAD SHAHEER, K T SHIVAPRASAD, MAHESH SHANTARAM	6:30PM
28 TH JANUARY, SATURDAY	FILM SCREENING – PAINTED FIRE (KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)	3:00PM
29 TH JANUARY, SUNDAY	FILM SCREENING – FLOATING LANDSCAPE (CHINESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)	11:30AM
29 TH JANUARY, SUNDAY	FILM SCREENING – A PICTURE OF BRITAIN – THE FLATLANDS	3:00PM

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