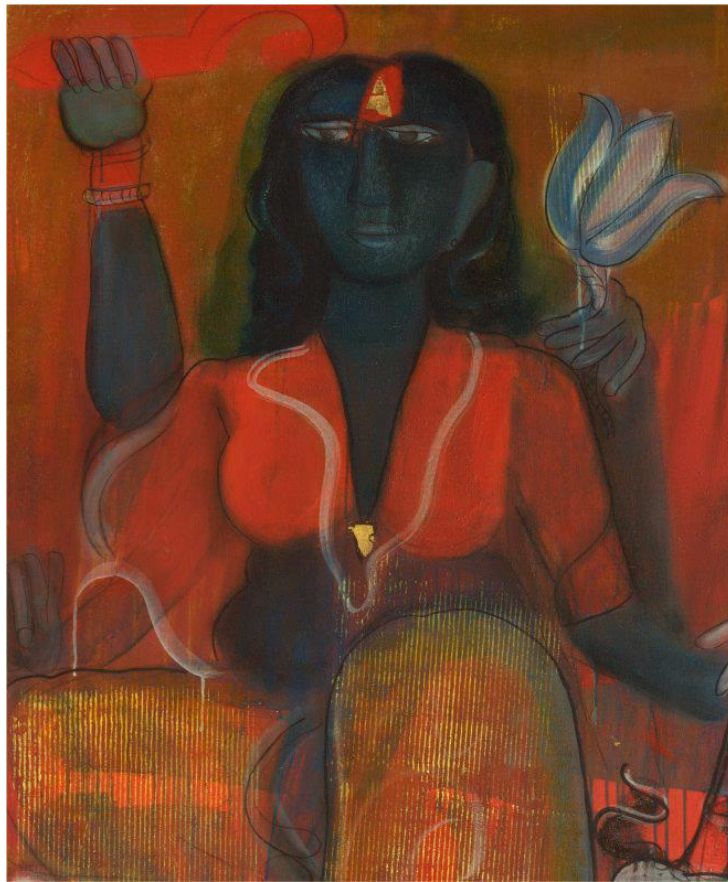


## National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai

Ministry of Culture, Government of India

Presents

*Shakti: A Retrospective of Rini Dhumal*



Rini Dhumal, *Kali* 2005, Painting, Oil on canvas, 65 in x 42 in, NGMA Collection

Exhibition on View from:

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2022 Onwards

Tuesday to Friday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday 11:00 am to 8:00 pm

(Closed on Mondays & National Holidays)

# National Gallery of Modern of Art

Sir Cowasji Jehangir Public Hall, Mahatma Gandhi Road,  
Fort, Mumbai – 400 032

## ***Shakti: A Retrospective of Rini Dhumal***

The National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai is delighted to present ***Shakti: A Retrospective of Rini Dhumal***, curated by **Shri Adwaita Charan Garanayak, Director General, NGMA**. The exhibition is on view from Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2022 onwards.

Over the past twenty-five years, NGMA, Mumbai has hosted momentous exhibitions such as the Bombay Art Society show covering its 125-year existence. It has also held several other notable exhibitions on Rabindranath Tagore, Amrita Sher-Gil, Jamini Roy, Nicholas Roerich, Picasso, M.V. Dhurandhar and A.A. Almelkar. Today, it adds one more feather in its cap, as it pays homage to Rini Dhumal through the retrospective aptly christened *Shakti*. And what a happy coincidence it is that the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year as it hosts this phenomenal retrospective. An effort will be made to organize a range of public engagement programmes such as panel discussions, guided tours and social outreach with underprivileged children during the course of this exhibition.

### **About the artist and the show:**

*Shakti* was scheduled to open in December, 2020, but the COVID -19 pandemic wreaked havoc and thus, the show was postponed by a year. Unfortunately, Rini Dhumal departed for her heavenly abode rather unexpectedly in September, 2021, even as all of us were excitedly planning this show. We, at NGMA, believe that this retrospective is the best tribute that we can pay to her. And what a happy coincidence it is that the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year with this phenomenal retrospective.

As we sat to pen this note, our minds were flooded with memories of our visit to Rini Dhumal's home, just days after she bid adieu to this world. One could feel her presence in every nook and corner. The signature motif - her quintessential 'woman', albeit in different moods - adorned every piece of furniture and every wall. We were pleasantly surprised to find the tiles of the washroom too bearing her signature stamp - of her 'woman'. She literally lived and breathed art.

Her studio situated on the first floor of her residence was still so vibrant. Everything was meticulously arranged – indicating a state of preparedness or one of anticipation, difficult to say which. Mind boggling were the surfaces on which she had worked on – terracotta, wood, metal, canvas; a special mention of course must be made of her countless sketch books. What impressed us was her zest for life. Be it her enviable collection of hand-woven saris, jewellery or accessories – her taste was impeccable. She enjoyed life to the lees, as it were.

A painter and printmaker par excellence, her art was strongly rooted in Indian culture despite embracing the influences of foreign realms, widely travelled as she was. The influence of Egyptian art on her oeuvre – the pharaohs in particular – fascinates the beholder. At no point however does one fail to appreciate the Indian motifs of the female figures that she painted – be it the lotus, the vermilion on the forehead or the divinity exuded by the female form.

We wish *Shakti* great success!

Director General, National Gallery of Modern Art

### **About the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai**

The National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai was opened to the public on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1996. It is located in the precincts of the former auditorium the Sir CowasjiJehangir Public Hall (C.J.P. Hall) and the Institute of Science. This architecturally marvellous building was designed and built by the famous British architect George Wittet in 1911. C. J. Hall was donated to the city of Mumbai in 1911 by Sir CowasjiJehangir, whose family has gifted the city, no less than four magnificent public buildings.

Only the facade remains of the edifice that was built by George Wittet. This building has been completely redesigned by the famous architect RomiKhosla giving it a spiral spin. The interior with its elegant horse - shoe shaped balconies now exhibits a different look with a central stairway and semicircular galleries at different levels.

NGMA, Mumbai is home to an incredible collection of one thousand four hundred and fifty-six art works which include paintings, sculptures, graphics and photographs. While the permanent collection includes both Indian and international artists, special focus has been on the Bombay Progressive Artists which includes the artists S.H. Raza, V. S. Gaitonde, Akbar Padamsee, Ram Kumar, F. N. Souza and more. However, true to its ethos as an institution that is resolutely focused on India's contemporary art landscape, it also houses the works of artists like NaliniMalani, AnupamSud, VasudeoKamath, ArpanaCaur and sculptures by Himmat Shah, J.K. Chillar and Dilip Mishra.

NGMA, Mumbai has had a great tradition of hosting several spectacular exhibitions in the past, which continues till date. Some of the recent exhibitions include the highly successful 'Bombay Art Society exhibition', which covered the landscape of the historic Bombay Art Society's existence over 125 years. NGMA, Mumbai has also hosted several other notable exhibitions which include Rabindranath Tagore, Amrita Sher-Gil, Jamini Roy, Nicholas Roerich, the Parsi exhibition and major exhibitions on A. A. Almelkar and M. V. Dhurandhar.

NGMA, Mumbai also has an impressive auditorium where film screenings and several outreach events are conducted for all age groups, regularly, in order to promote art and culture.

### **RSVP**

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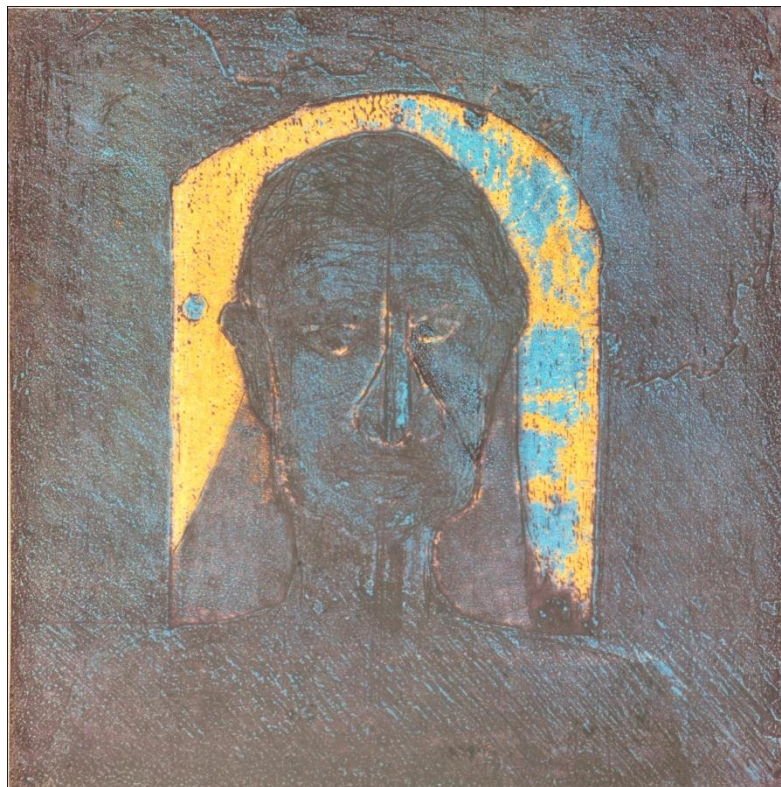
**Website: <http://www.ngmaindia.gov.in>**

**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ngmamumbai/>**





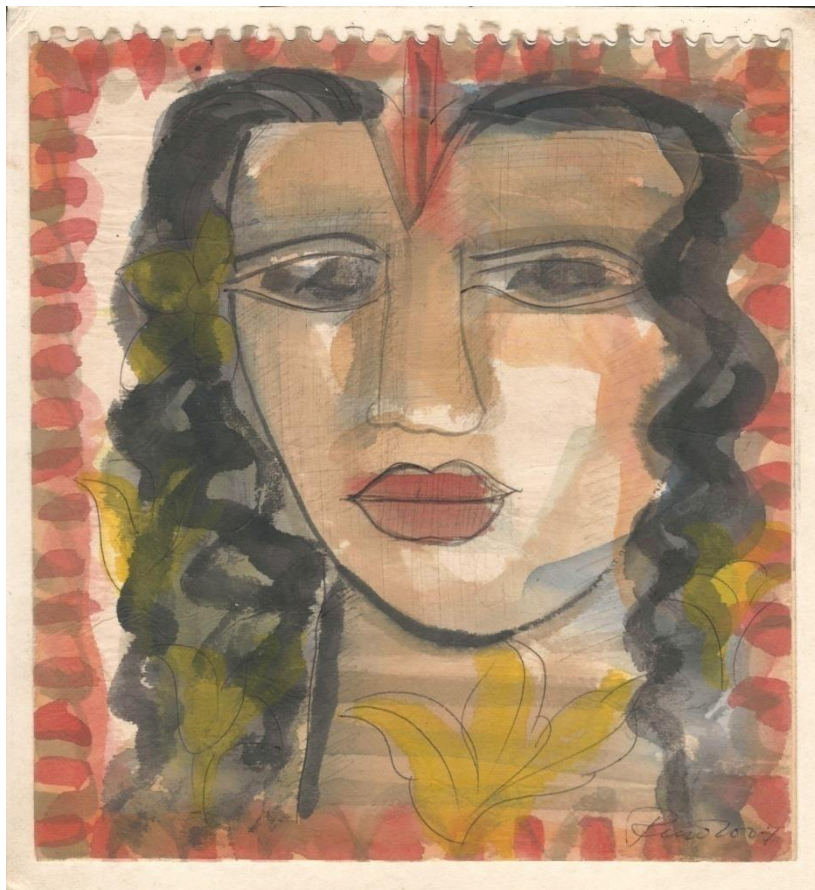
**Rini Dhumal, Of peace and distraction, Acrylic on canvas, 120 cm x120 cm, Acc No. 13291**  
**Collection: NGMA Delhi**



**Rini Dhumal, Coal Mines, Etching, 32 cm x 33 cm, Acc No. 12587**  
**Collection: NGMA Delhi**



**Rini Dhumal, Untitled 1976, Painting, Oil on canvas, 39.5 in x 41 in**

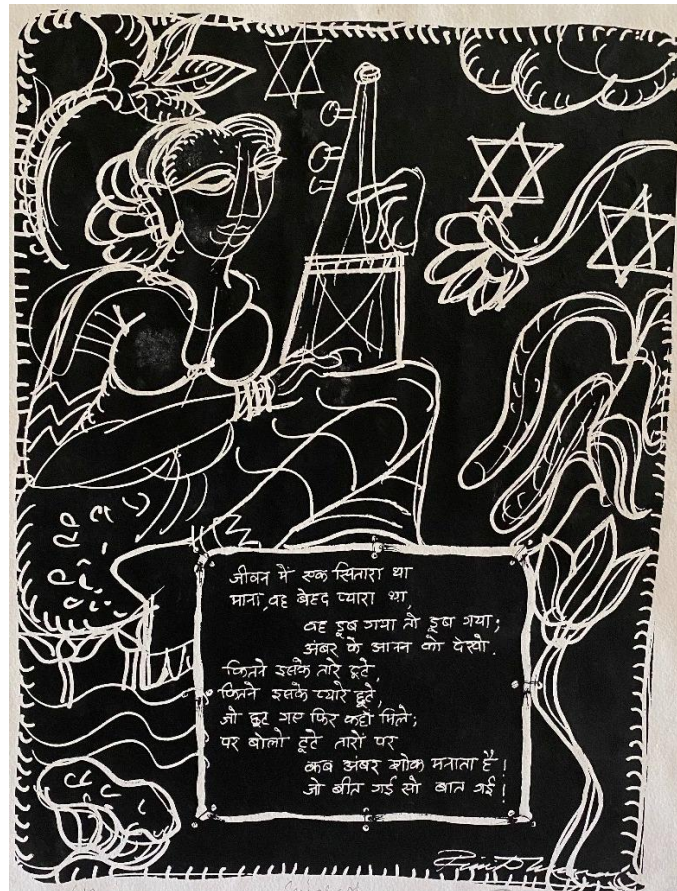


**Rini Dhumal, Untitled 2007, Watercolour on Rice Paper, 10 in x 9 in**





Rini Dhumal, Drawings Fantasy 1999, Black felt pen on paper, 7 in x 7 in



Rini Dhumal, Untitled, Serigraphy ,12 in x 9.5 in