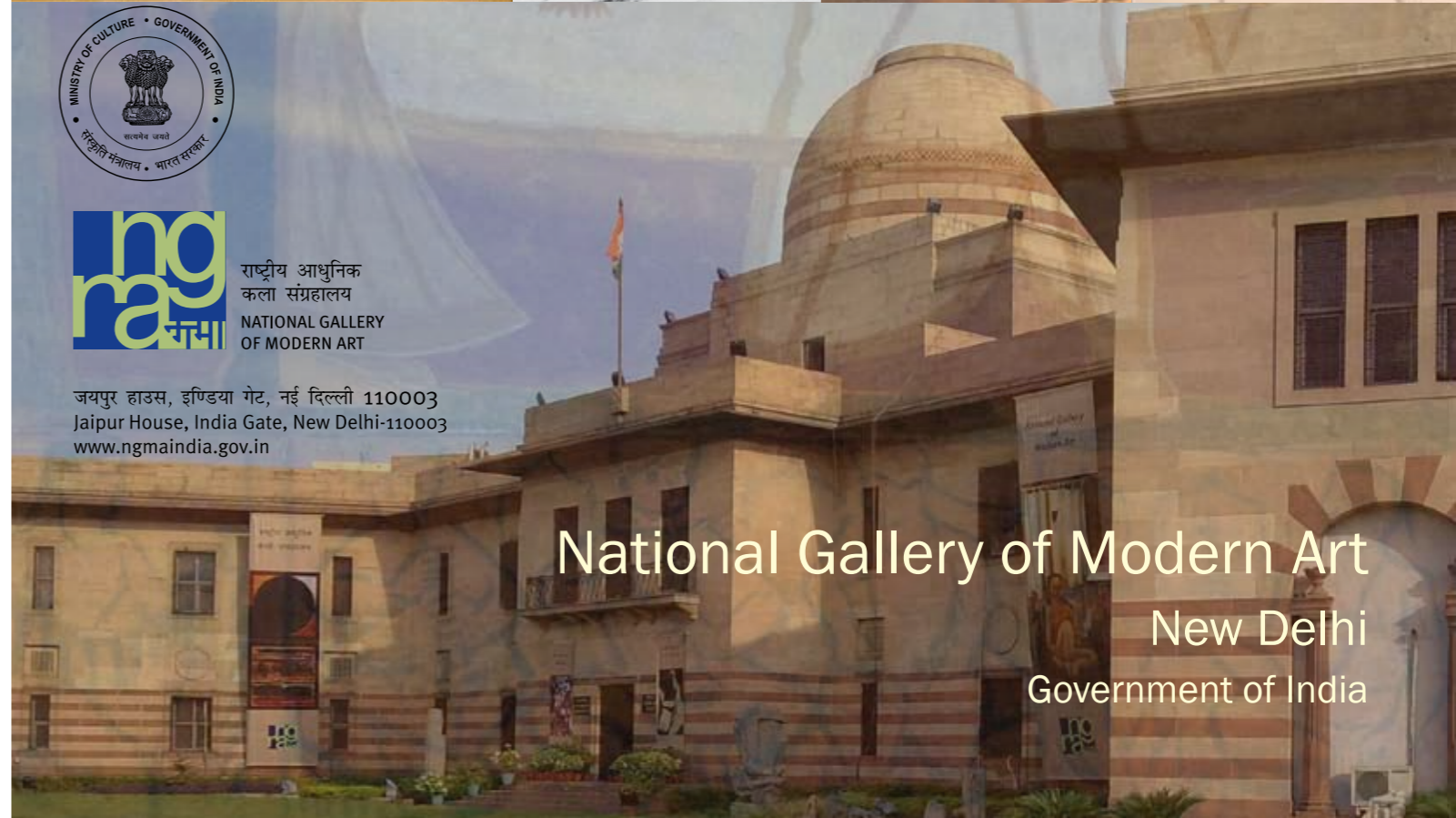




राष्ट्रीय आधुनिक
कला संग्रहालय
NATIONAL GALLERY
OF MODERN ART

जयपुर हाउस, इण्डिया गेट, नई दिल्ली 110003
Jaipur House, India Gate, New Delhi-110003
www.ngmaindia.gov.in



National Gallery of Modern Art
New Delhi
Government of India

NGMA's Newsletter Editorial Team

Ella Datta

Tagore National Fellow for Cultural Research

Pranamita Borgohain

Deputy Curator (Exhibition)

Vintee Sain

Assistant Curator (Documentation)

Kanika Kuthiala

Assistant Curator

Monika Khanna Gulati, Sky Blue Design

Design

Our very special thanks to **Prof. Rajeev Lochan**, Director NGMA without whose generous support this Newsletter would not have been possible. Our Grateful thanks to all those whose valuable assistance was received in the compilation of the newsletter

A. R. Ramanathan,

Advisor and Coordinator – TEAM

S. P. Dutta

Restorer

Satyender Kumar Gupta

Senior Guide Lecturer

Neelam Bhardwaj

Personal Assistant to Director

Virendra Kumar

Publication Assistant

Ashok Kumar

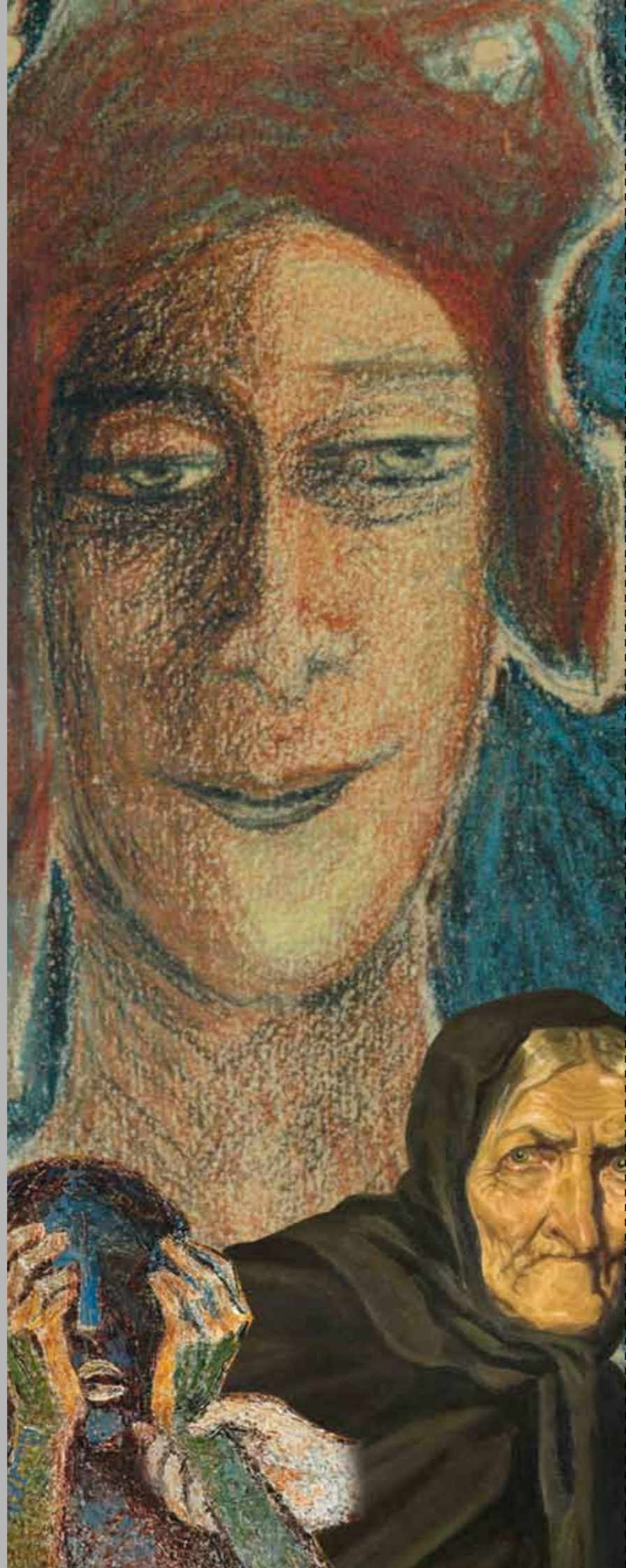
Dark Room Assistant

Himani Mahodh

Technical Assistant- Reserve Collection

Raj Bahadur

Gallery Attendant



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Update on the year's activities

The NGMA, New Delhi has been awirl with activities since the beginning of the year 2011. We decided to launch a quarterly newsletter to track the events for the friends of NGMA, New Delhi, our well-wishers and patrons. The first issue however, will give an update of all the major events that took place over the year 2011. The year began with a bang with the huge success of renowned sculptor Anish Kapoor's exhibition. The 150th Birth Anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, an outstanding creative genius, has acted as a trigger in accelerating our pace. NGMA is coordinating a major exhibition of close to hundred paintings and drawings from the collection of NGMA as well as works from Kala Bhavana and Rabindra Bhavana of Visva Bharati in Santiniketan, West Bengal. The Exhibition 'The Last Harvest: Rabindranath Tagore' is the first time that such a major exhibition of Rabindranath's works is travelling to so many art centers in Europe and the USA as well as Seoul, Korea.

The poet painter's 150th birth anniversary was also highlighted in the NGMA calendar by mounting a special seven-week long exhibition called 'Circle of Art: The Three Tagores'. The opening was attended not only by our Hon'ble Minister of Culture, Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja and our Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Shri. Jawhar Sircar but a visiting delegation of Bangladeshi dignitaries led by Air Vice Marshal, A. K. Khandker, Hon'ble Planning Minister, Govt. of Bangladesh. Later in the year there was a lecture on the subconscious in Rabindranath's art delivered by the noted psychoanalyst and writer Dr. Sudhir Kakar. A special portfolio comprising paintings of Rabindranath, Abanindranath and Gaganendranath Tagore has been published by NGMA.

Other important exhibitions that have been mounted are: 'Shesh Lekha—The Last Poems of Rabindranath Tagore', 'Stefan Norblin (1892 – 1952) A Master of Many Arts', 'An Artist's Quest: K.K. Hebbar—A Retrospective'.

As always our week-long summer workshop for young people was a great success. The demand for admission to the workshop has been growing every year and this year we increased the number of the entrants in each of the three groups.

A glance through the newsletter will show you the wide range of our activities. Many more are planned. We will keep you posted as they take shape.

Till then, hope you enjoy this update on the happenings at the NGMA, New Delhi.

With best wishes,
Prof. Rajeev Lochan



KNOW YOUR GALLERY

View of the display spaces in NGMA



Exterior view of Jaipur House, NGMA Delhi

Jaipur House, the heritage building, is used for hosting special exhibitions. In the year 2011, spectacular exhibitions like 'Circle of Art: The Three Tagores' and 'K.K. Hebbar - A Retrospective' were showcased here.



NEW WING

In the last three years National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), Jaipur House has expanded enormously. The comprehensive expansion programme of the NGMA with its new wing added nearly six times the floor area of the original building. The NGMA has a permanent modern art collection starting from 1850 onwards. The collection comprises the best of modern and contemporary art as well as a select number of miniature paintings and a substantial sampling of company paintings. There is also a small collection of excellent photographs. A very fine selection of these is on display for public viewing at the exhibition space in the new wing.



Exhibition space in the New Wing, NGMA

Exterior view of New Wing, NGMA



ART SHOP



NGMA Art Shop

Visit our well stocked Art Shop to shop for portfolios, catalogues and memorabilia – mugs, paper weights, refrigerator magnets, bookmarks published to mark exhibitions and the distinguished NGMA collection.



EXHIBITION HALL



There is an additional exhibition space in the new wing which allows for display of temporary and travelling exhibitions. The displays floors have been so designed to allow flexible display of artworks and can be manipulated to obtain required special effects. For example, the space was used to mount some of Anish Kapoor's large sculptures while small exhibits were displayed at Jaipur House. Additionally there are outdoor display spaces, such as the courtyards and sculpture gardens.





Introducing PROF. RAJEEV LOCHAN

“Men make history and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better”.

Keeping in mind these words by Harry S. Truman, Prof. Rajeev Lochan, Director, National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), commenced his tenure at the NGMA in 2001 and has been at the helm of affairs ever since.

It has been during his stewardship of this pioneering institution of modern art in India, that the NGMA has been galvanized into action and has mounted several significant exhibitions from its permanent collection and also mounted exhibitions of renowned international masters such as Pablo Picasso and Nicholas Roerich. Two of the most recent and landmark exhibitions that NGMA mounted during Prof. Lochan's tenure was an exposition of art installations by London-based artist of Indian origin, Anish Kapoor and *The Master's Strokes: Art of Rabindranath Tagore*. It has been Prof. Lochan's insight that has led the NGMA to mount nine retrospective exhibitions of some of the most revered and esteemed artists that modern Indian art has witnessed starting with the retrospective exhibition of eminent artist *K.G. Subramanyan (2003)*, *A. Ramachandran (2003-04)*, *Jehangir Sabavala (2005-06)*, *Satish Gujral (2006)*, *Binodebehari Mukherjee (2006-07)*, *Raghu Rai (2008)*, *Homai Vyarawalla (2010)*, *K.K Hebbur (2011)* and most recently that of seminal artist *Ramkinkar Baij (2012)*.

“While one listens to music at a concert, it is the sheer joy of the experience, of the harmony and the symphony created which we may not hear in nature, they are a culmination of a variety of sounds. Such is the nature of art; an artist or a painter transports the viewer into a world of sensation created by the juxtaposition of colour and the harmony created by light and shade and the subject depicted stands independent of all these factors”, says Prof. Lochan; he adds *“to enjoy this emotive quality of art one must leave behind the knowledge of the period, ideas and allow the work to transport us from the world we know to the world of aesthetic exaltation, only then shall we understand the true nature and spirit of art”.*

It has been under his term that the NGMA has mounted several significant exhibitions such as *Sign Posts of the Times - A Golden Trail*; *Edge of Desire*; *From Script to Screen - Satyajit Ray*; *Amrita Shergil - An Artist Family of the 20th Century*; *Archetypes: A Tribute to Brancusi*; *Vanishing Points: Japanese Contemporary Art*; *Swasti - S.H. Raza: Selected Works*; *Rhythms of India: The Art of Nandalal Bose*; *Indian Life and Landscape by Western Artists - Paintings and Drawings from the V&A 1790 – 1927*; *Exhibition of paintings of Mexican artist Mr. Fernando Garcia Ponce*; *Bhutan: An Eye to History*; *Nicholas Roerich: An Eternal Quest*; *Historic Delhi: Early Explorations of the Camera, c. 1860-1950* ; *Circle of Art : The Three Tagores and many others.*

Prof. Lochan believes *“Every artist dips into the recesses of his heart and soul for inspiration and paints his own character; and each painting, to me, is a unique and extremely intimate experience. Each work is a surprise and has its own personal and intuitive meaning, which is why I advocate collaborations; to take the art of my country, to a more global audience”.*

Major exhibitions showcasing the works of Amrita Sher-Gil and Nandalal Bose among others were exhibited at leading museums across Europe and USA respectively. Currently Prof. Lochan has been occupied with coordinating a major exhibition of the works of Rabindranath Tagore, curated by eminent art historian Prof. R. Sivakumar and collated from the collections of Kala Bhavana, Rabindra Bhavana and the NGMA. This exhibition is a path-breaking exercise as it is the first time such a large and definitive exposition of Rabindranath's art is touring three circuits across the globe at nine important museums.

Besides his keen interest in showcasing modern Indian art across the globe Prof. Lochan's approach has been nation-centric and he has been an ardent believer of giving back to the community and its people. He believes in the importance of familiarizing and making modern Indian art accessible to Indian audiences across the nation which is why under his tenure the NGMA branched out to formulate its regional branches at Mumbai in the west and Bengaluru in the south.

Mounting significant exhibitions and branching out across the nation has been of top priority for Prof. Lochan, however, he also accredits due importance to outreach which is why he revitalized the publishing programme and extended the range of memorabilia like mugs, paperweights, coasters etc in the Museum Shop along with initiating book releases, lectures, workshops, walks etc. at the NGMA.

George Kneller once said *“Creativity, as has been said, consists largely of rearranging what we know in order to find out what we do not know. Hence, to think creatively, we must be able to look afresh at what we normally take for granted.”* Taking a fresh look, and a new approach Prof. Lochan initiated the NGMA to substantially build its contemporary art collection to fill the gaps previously present in the vast collection of the NGMA. Significant artists like Atul Dodiya, Jitish Kallat, Subodh Gupta to name only a few, began entering the collection.

A practicing artist, Prof. Lochan graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S University of Baroda with a specialization in Creative Painting. He remained a U.P. Lalit Kala Akademi Cultural Scholar (1987) and was a National Scholar (1980) of the Union Ministry of Education and Culture. He was a recipient of the Japanese Government, Monbusho, Research Scholarship (1985-87). Subsequently he also received the Japanese Government Research Fellowship in 1994 and Senior Fellowship, Ministry of H.R.D., Dept. of Culture, Govt. of India (1997).

He has extensively lectured at several important universities and forums both in India and Japan. He has been an academician and was on the Faculty of Delhi University and Jamia Millia Islamia along with other important institutions like Mass Communication and Research Centre, CCRT, etc.



Nov 28, 2010 - Feb 27, 2011
Exhibition

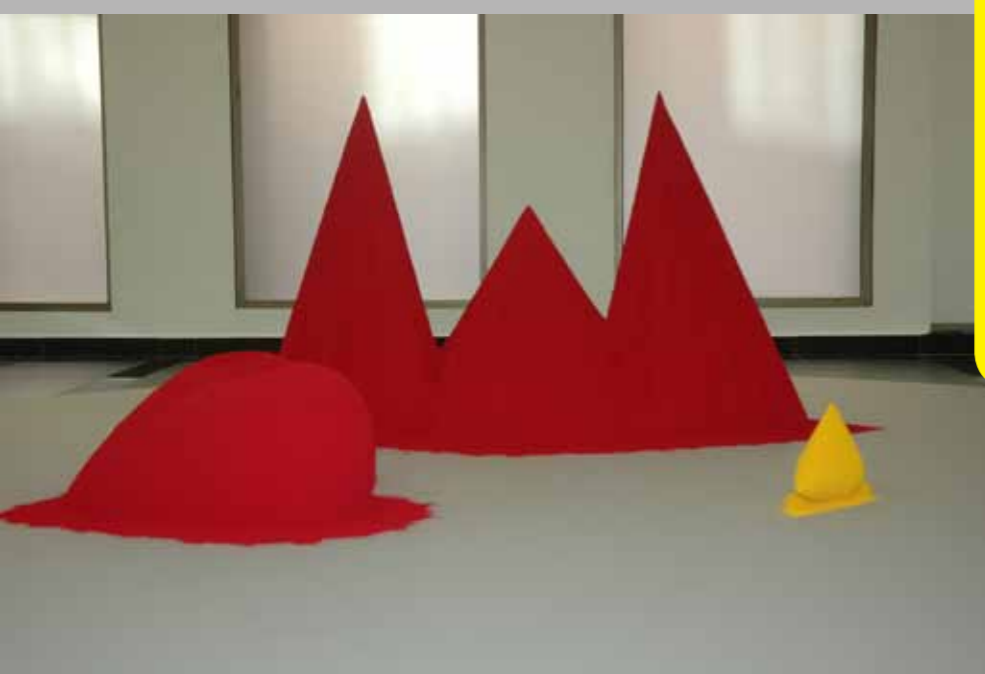
Anish Kapoor



The exhibition was on view from November 28th, 2010 to February 27th, 2011 at National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi. The exhibition at NGMA, Delhi was inaugurated by Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson of the National Advisory Council (NAC). The exhibition has set a benchmark in terms of footfall with approximately 40,000 visitors over three months as well as a huge demand for the exhibition catalogue. The show featured 42 architectural models and 17 installations across three spaces of the NGMA.

Anish Kapoor's work on display in the Exhibition Hall

Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson of the National Advisory Council (NAC) at inaugural ceremony of Anish Kapoor's exhibition.



NGMA, Ministry of Culture, Government of India along with the British Council and Lisson Gallery, in association with Louis Vuitton and the Tata group, presented an exhibition of works by world-renowned artist Anish Kapoor for the first time in India at Delhi and Mumbai.



January 23, 2011
Talk

Open session
with Anish Kapoor



February 17, 2011
Guided Walk

Specialist Guided Walk
in the Anish Kapoor
Galleries - Nancy Adajania



On February 17th, 2011 at 5 p.m., NGMA, Delhi had organized a guided walk by well-known cultural theorist and curator Nancy Adajania who guided the participants through the Anish Kapoor exhibits at the New Wing Gallery and Jaipur House Gallery. Adajania discussed the dynamic interplay between the philosophical and the material in Anish Kapoor's work. A large audience was given a rare insight and new perspective on how to look at Anish Kapoor's works.

Nancy Adajania speaking to the audience in the NGMA, New Wing



Anish Kapoor in open session with the audience at NGMA, Delhi with moderator Geeta Kapur.

NGMA, Delhi organized an open session with sculptor Anish Kapoor which was moderated by noted art critic and historian Geeta Kapur on January 23rd, 2011 at 2.30 p.m. It was extremely well attended by a large audience that included cultural personalities, art enthusiasts, scholars, artists, media persons and students.



NGMA, Delhi in collaboration with Lisson Gallery, London hosted a special programme held in conjunction with India Art Summit 2011 on 21st January at 9.30 a.m. with sculptor Anish Kapoor giving a walkthrough of the galleries and discussing his works. This morning function was well attended by about 500 guests, special invitees and VIP pass holders of the Indian Art Summit.



NGMA, Delhi organized a talk with noted filmmaker Kumar Shahani on February 10th, 2011 at 5 p.m. The talk was an extension of the exhibition of renowned artist Anish Kapoor. The talk touched on less discussed yet relevant topics and ideas relating to the works of the sculptor. Kumar Shahani plans to work on a film together with Kapoor in the near future. The program was well attended by scholars and artists.



Kumar Shahani, noted filmmaker speaking to the audience about Anish Kapoor's works



November 28, 2010 -
February 27, 2011
Film Shows

Anish Kapoor

A 50-minute documentary film on Anish Kapoor and his art, made on the occasion of his exhibition at the Royal Academy in 2009, titled 'Imagine: A year of Anish Kapoor', was screened at the NGMA auditorium. 574 shows of this documentary were screened to packed audiences.



Guided Walk

Specialist, Guided Walks with architect and installation artist Vishal Dar

NGMA, Delhi organized a guided walk for specialists with architect and installation artist Vishal Dar. Architecture student groups and design students attended and learnt about Anish Kapoor's works.



March 10, 2011
Exhibition

Something That I'll Never Really See

Contemporary Photography from the
Victoria & Albert Museum, London

NGMA, Ministry of Culture and the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), London presented an exhibition on March 10th, 2011, 'Something That I'll Never Really See: Contemporary Photography from the V&A'. The exhibition was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja in the presence of Secretary, Culture, Shri. Jawhar Sircar and Ms. Kate Bellamy, Head, International Audiences, V&A, London.



Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja releasing the catalogue at the inauguration.

The exhibition was curated by Martin Barnes, presenting 40 works of over 30 photographers from pivotal moments in photographic history. The exhibition included works by internationally-acclaimed photographers such as Nan Goldin, Cindy Sherman and leading fashion photographer Tim Walker.



March 24, 2011
Talk

"I am as I am" Dayanita Singh in conversation with Namita Gokhale



Dayanita Singh, contemporary photographer
in conversation with well-known writer, Namita Gokhale.

NGMA, Delhi and Penguin Books India organized the talk "I am as I am" by Dayanita Singh, India's leading contemporary photographer in conversation with Namita Gokhale, well-known writer, on March 24th, 2011 at 6 p.m. The talk was an extension of the exhibition "Something That I'll Never Really See" from V&A Museum, London. The talk was well received by a responsive audience.



March 17, 2011
Art Workshop

Participatory workshop for working with children in an art gallery



The Directors of Flow Education and Culture Consultants, Katherine Rose and Eliza Hilton, conducted a workshop on March 17th 2011 from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm at NGMA, Delhi. The photography exhibition 'Something that I'll Never Really See - Contemporary Photography from the V&A' was used as a focus for the workshop. The workshop was conducted for school teachers (primary and secondary), art educators, workshop facilitators, museum education personnels and staff to explore ideas and learning tools to help them use the gallery for educating groups. They were shown how to engage children in interpretation of art and photography. The workshop was well attended by art educators.



With the exhibition 'The Master's Strokes: Art of Rabindranath Tagore, inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh at NGMA - New Delhi, started the year long celebration of Rabindranath's Tagore's 150th birth anniversary in the year 2011. Through the year NGMA hosted national and international exhibitions with related events to commemorate the artistic genius of Rabindranath Tagore.



Hon'able Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh initiating the 150th birth anniversary celebration of Nobel laureate, Rabindranath Tagore at NGMA, New Delhi



May 7, 2011
Exhibition

CIRCLE OF ART

THE THREE TAGORES



Prof. Rajeev Lochan, Director NGMA welcoming Air Vice Marshal, A. K. Khandker, Hon'ble Planning Minister, Govt. of Bangladesh.



Artists Manu Parekh, Madhavi Parekh and Jatin Das



Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja releasing the portfolio of Circle of Art



Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja at the inauguration of the exhibition

To commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, NGMA, Delhi organized a special exhibition 'Circle of Art: The Three Tagores' from May 7th to July 31st, 2011 at Jaipur House. The exhibition was inaugurated by Air Vice Marshal, A. K. Khandker, Hon'ble Planning Minister, Govt. of Bangladesh, and Kumari Selja, Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India at NGMA, New Delhi.



The exhibition focused on the impact of the three Tagores - Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Abanindranath Tagore (1871-1951) and Gaganendranath Tagore (1867-1938) on modern Indian visual culture. The three pioneering figures of modern Indian art have been shown together with a new perspective. Besides paintings and drawings, the exhibition had mounted a family tree of these creative personalities as well as old portrait photographs and photographs of their habitat. There were around 111 paintings along with photographs and texts. The exhibition had works from the permanent collection of NGMA and was curated by Ms. Ella Datta, Tagore National Fellow for Cultural Research.



May 18, 2011
Talk

The Lotus and the Mud: The Subconscious in the Paintings of Rabindranath Tagore by Sudhir Kakar



NGMA, Delhi organized a talk on May 18th 2011 at 6.30 pm, by well-known psychoanalyst and writer Sudhir Kakar. The talk was an extension of the exhibition 'Circle of Art: The Three Tagores'. Kakar looked at the subconscious elements in Tagore's paintings that have been largely underplayed compared to the spiritual aspect of his oeuvre. While discussing the paintings, Kakar sensitively probed into the poet-painter's psyche. The talk was well-attended by a distinguished group.



August 10, 2011
Exhibition

The Last Poems of Rabindranath Tagore

Shesh Lekha



To celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore, NGMA, New Delhi in association with Art Alive Gallery presented a unique exhibition from 10th to 28th August, 2011 which saw the creative collaboration of writer Pritish Nandy and artist Paresh Maity in memory of the masterful bard. Maity's paintings corresponded visually to the last fifteen poems written by Rabindranath and translated into English by Pritish Nandy. These poems of Rabindranath were published posthumously and are considered to be some of his finest works.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja with Secretary, Culture, Shri. Jawhar Sircar as the Guest of Honour.



Inaugural ceremony of the exhibition
Shesh Lekha – The Last Poems of Rabindranath Tagore

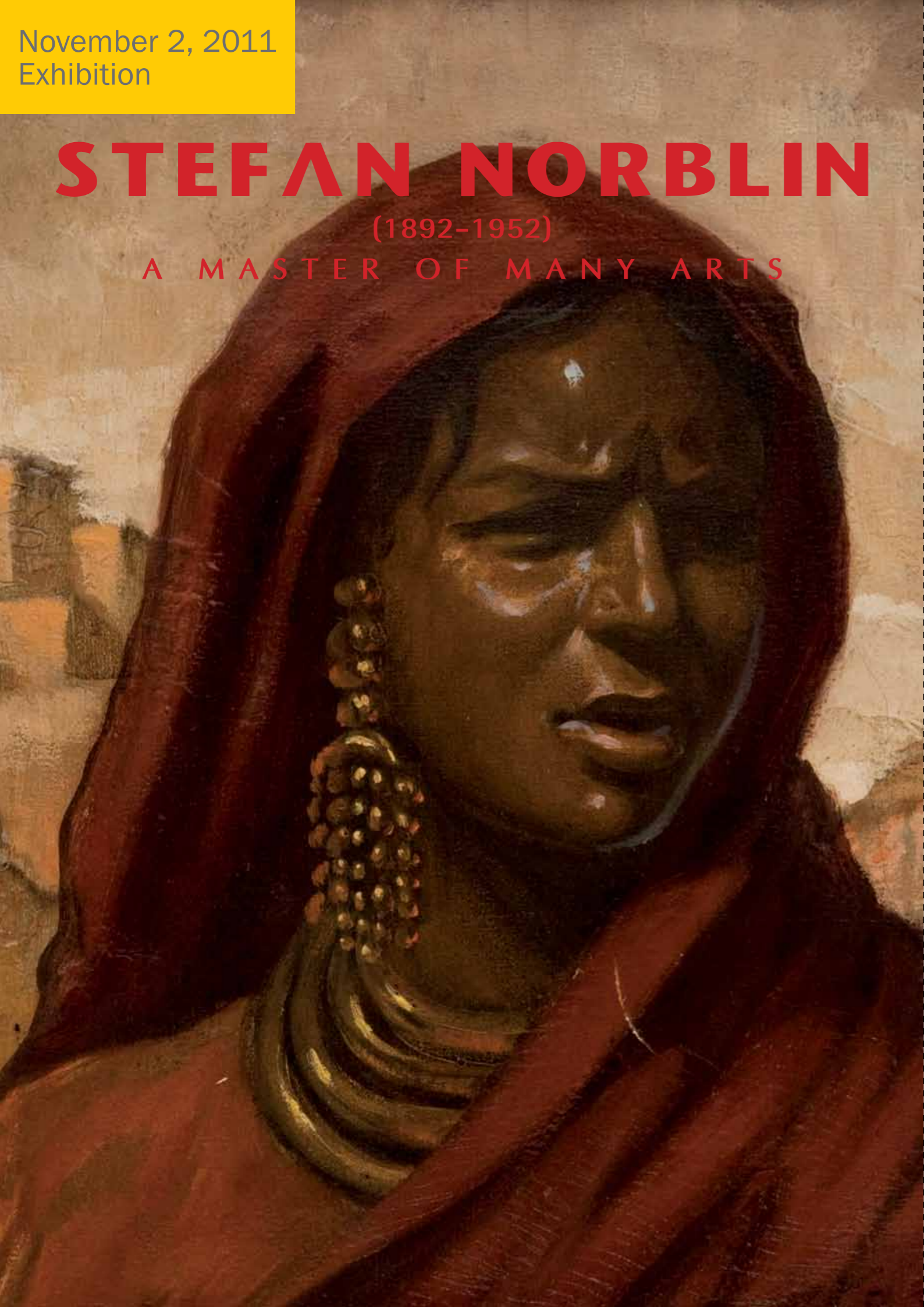


November 2, 2011
Exhibition

STEFAN NORBLIN

(1892-1952)

A MASTER OF MANY ARTS



NGMA, Delhi and the Regional Museum in Stalowa Wola, Poland jointly exhibited Stefan Norblin (1892-1952): A Master of Many Arts. The exhibition was inaugurated on 2nd November, 2011 at 6:30 pm at NGMA, New Delhi by Kumari Selja Hon'ble Minister for Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India along with H.E. Mr. Bogdan Zdrojewski, Minister of Culture and National Heritage, Republic of Poland.

Stefan Norblin, the famous Polish artist of the 20th century, travelled across three continents and also visited India. The exhibition lays special emphasis on his life and work in India from 1941-46 while also bringing together his works from Poland and USA. These included portraits of Poland's pre-war elite, art déco posters, book covers, illustrations and designs for theatrical costumes.



Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja at the inauguration of the exhibition



November 22, 2011
Exhibition

Gallery Walk

Stefan Norblin (1892 – 1952):
A Master of Many Arts



Prof. Rajeev Lochan briefing the audience about works of Polish artist Stefan Norblin.

A special walk was held in conjunction with the exhibition Stefan Norblin (1892 – 1952): A Master of Many Arts undertaken by Director, NGMA. The walk on the Polish artist was well attended with Prof. Lochan briefing the gathering on the nature of works done by the artist who travelled across the globe on painting commissions.

An Artist's Quest K.K Hebbbar

A Retrospective

NGMA, New Delhi, Ministry of Culture presented 'An Artist's Quest: K.K. Hebbbar - A Retrospective'. The exhibition coincided with the birth centenary of this seminal artist. The exhibition was curated by the artist's daughters, Ms. Rekha Rao, renowned artist and Ms. Rajani Prasanna, art scholar. The exhibition was inaugurated on November 22nd 2011 by Shri. Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Shri. Krishen Khanna, eminent artist was the Guest of Honour. The Retrospective glanced through the various stylistic phases of the artist's works and the exhibits were lent by the Hebbbar Art Foundation, Venkatappa Art Gallery, J.J. School of Art to make the exhibition truly exhaustive along with NGMA's own collection of Hebbbar's works. Documentary films on Hebbbar were screened at regular intervals and guided walks were conducted through the exhibition for visitors.

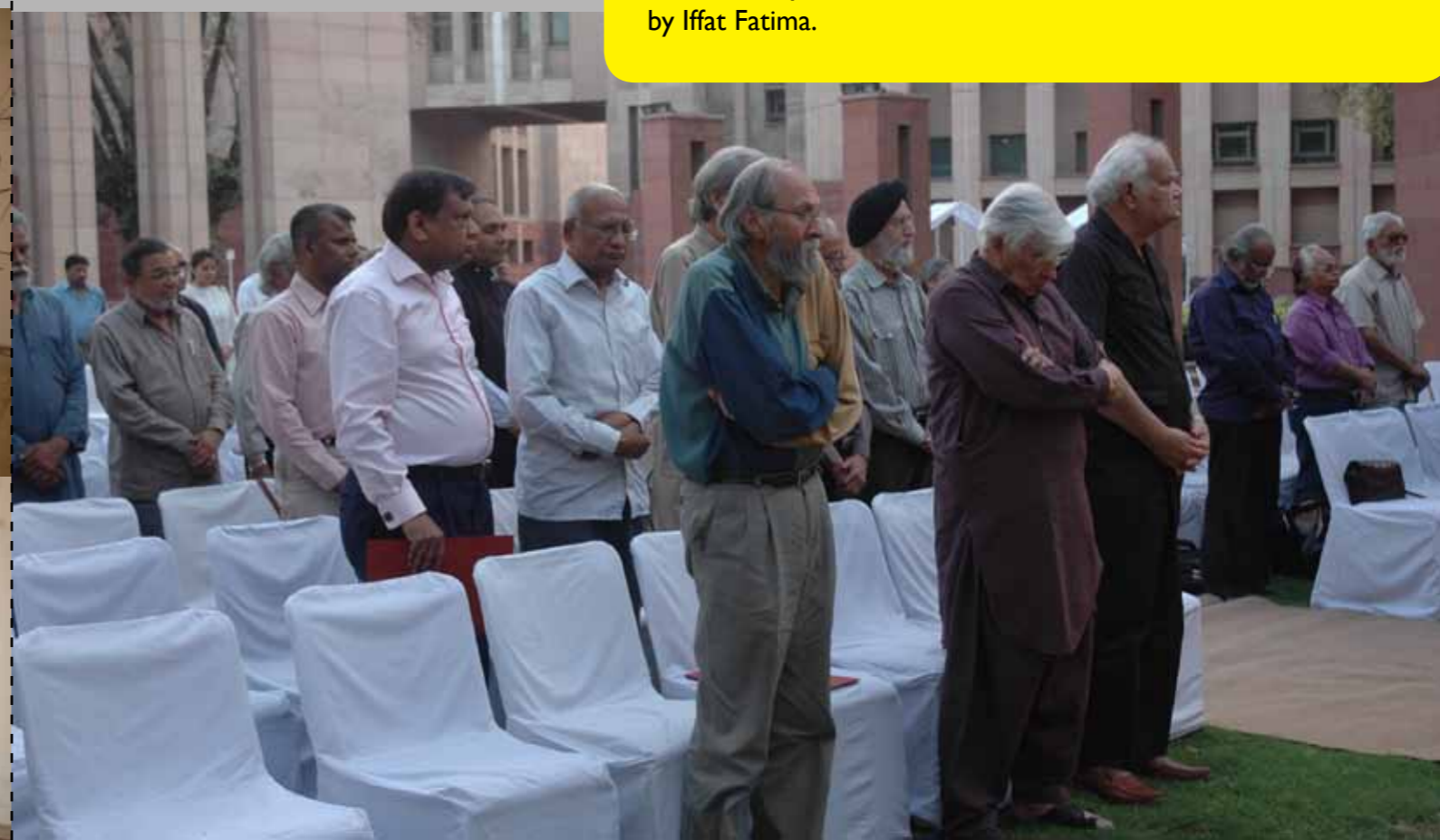


Remembering Dashrath Patel: 1927 -2010



A special walk was conducted by the curators, of the Hebbar exhibition, Rekha Rao and Rajani Prasanna taking visitors through the display and explaining the style and body of work done by this eminent artist. The curators added personal anecdotes relating to the artist's life, being his daughters and having watched him paint so closely.

NGMA, Delhi jointly with Lalit Kala Akademi, Delhi and SPACES, Chennai convened an evening in the memory of Dashrath Patel, one of the most versatile artists and designers of post-Independence India, who passed away on December 1st, 2010. The function was organized on January 27th, 2011 at 6 p.m. at NGMA, New Delhi. The programme was accompanied with a musical tribute by vocalists Vidya Rao, Priya Kanungo and the Gundecha Brothers. There was also a screening of an hour-long documentary film on Dashrath Patel 'In the Realm of the Visual' by Iffat Fatima.





NGMA, Delhi mourned the passing away of two eminent artists: Biren De (1926-2011) and Sohan Qadri (1932-2011), both belonging to the Neo-Tantric group, by holding a memorial meeting on March 28th, 2011 at 6 p.m. On the occasion NGMA, New Delhi mounted a small exhibition of their works from its permanent collection.

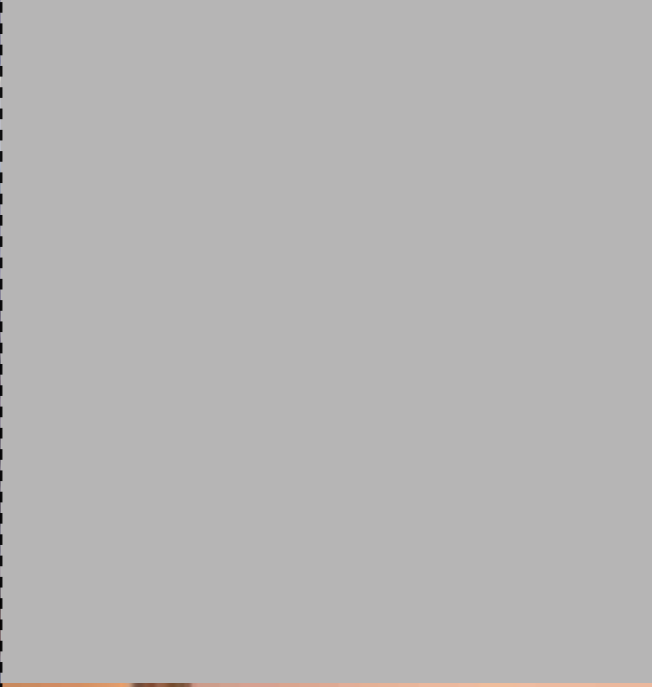
Gathering at the Memorial meet for artists Biren De and Sohan Qadri



As in previous years, this year also NGMA, Delhi organized its summer workshop for school children during the month of May. The workshop proved a great success with an increase in demand for admissions. It lasted for ten days from May 22nd to May 31st where around 240 students participated along with seven teachers. The children were divided into three groups as Junior, Middle and Senior on the basis of their age. They were given certificates from NGMA, for their participation in the workshop.



School Visits



'NGMA organises on a regular basis school trips for children to see the museum's collection'





Prof. Rajeev Lochan in an interactive session with visiting students from the SAARC nations organized by UNESCO

NGMA Director in an interactive session with school children from Pakistan, Korea and other neighbouring nations explaining the nuances of contemporary Indian Art and initiating students to the habit of appreciating fine art practices. The session was organized by UNESCO with NGMA.



A special session was organised for the students undertaking Management studies at IIPM, Delhi. Director NGMA answered queries on the works and style of Rabindranath Tagore for a case study, with the exhibition 'Circle of Art: The Three Tagore's' as reference for the case study.

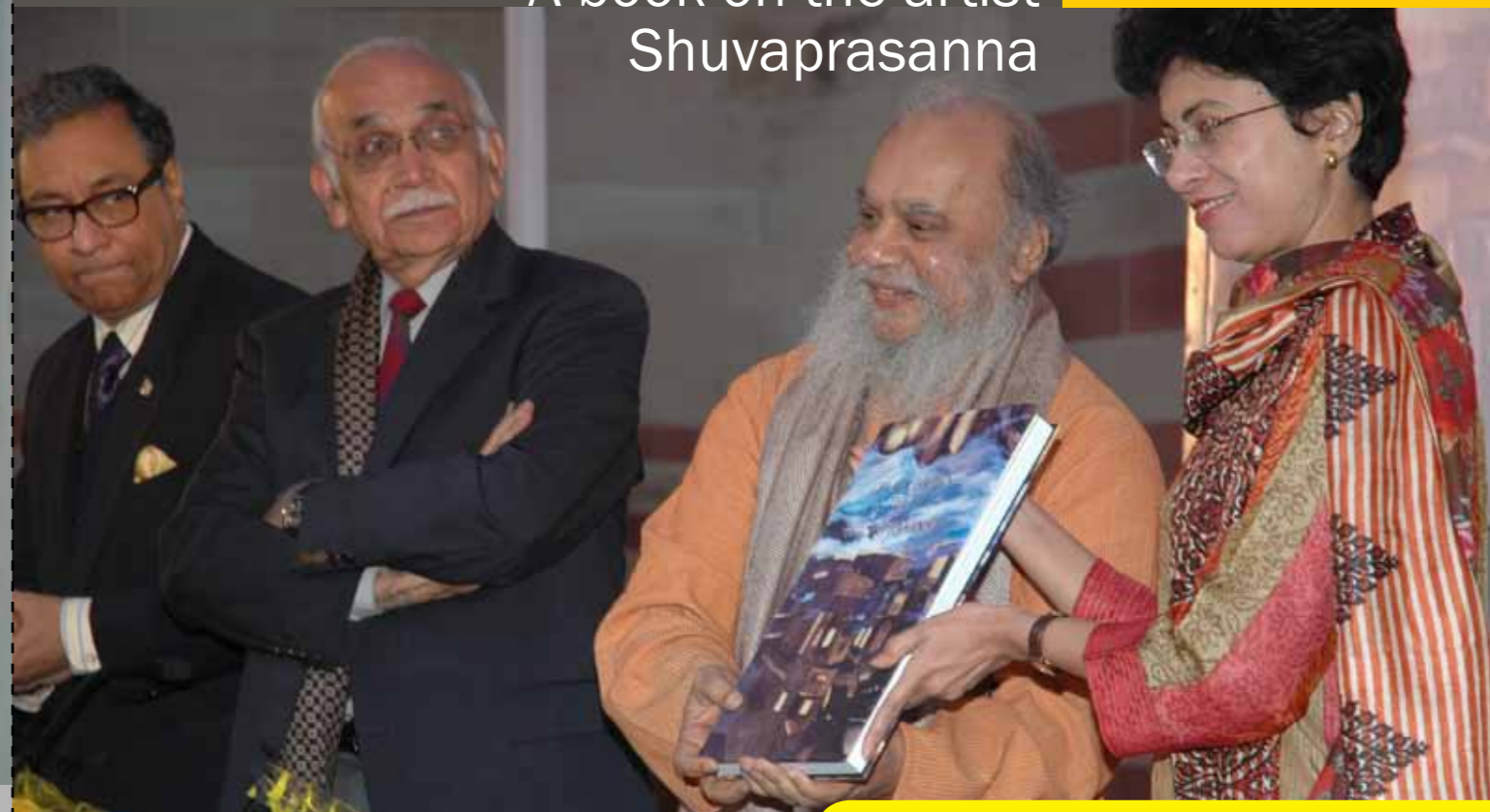


February 11, 2011
Book Release

"BLACK, BROWN & THE BLUE"- A book on the artist Shuvaprasanna



Sh. Satyender Kumar, Senior Guide Lecturer, NGMA giving a guided tour to the visiting delegates through the galleries of the New Wing and the permanent collection of NGMA.



Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja releasing the book on artist Shuvaprasanna.

NGMA, Delhi in collaboration with Art Indus, Gallerie Nvya, Emami Chisel, Tao Art Gallery & Roli Books, released BLACK, BROWN & THE BLUE - A book on prolific artist Shuvaprasanna Bhattacharya on February 11th, 2011 at 5 p.m. The book was unveiled by Hon'ble Minister of Culture and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Kumari Selja followed by a discussion amongst the distinguished panelists: Prof. B.N. Goswamy, Art Historian, Shri. Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Dr. Kaushik Basu, Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India, Smt. Sushma K. Bahl, Editor of the book, in the presence of the artist.





Well-known art scholar, Member of Parliament, and Chairperson IIC-Asia Project, Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan released Marg Publications' book Something Old, Something New, Rabindranath Tagore 150th Birth Anniversary Volume edited by eminent art historian Dr. Pratapaditya Pal, on April 14th, 2011 at the NGMA, Delhi.

Prof Rajeev Lochan, Director, NGMA with Dr. Karan Singh on his visit to the museum

Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan with Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Shri. Jawhar Sircar at the release of book on Rabindranath Tagore



Prof Rajeev Lochan, Director, NGMA with President, European Union on a State visit

Through Anish Kapoor's Exhibition, visits were made by important figures in the social, cultural and political field. A few of them were: Mrs. Gursharan Kaur, wife of Hon. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh; Mrs. Sonia Gandhi Chairman of NAC; Home Minister Shri P. Chidambaram; Chief Minister of Delhi, Smt. Sheila Dixit; Shri Mani Shankar Iyer, Parliamentarian; Dr. Karan Singh, Parliamentarian and President (I.C.C.R.); India U.K. Round Table Members, Co-chairs Dr. Nitin Desai and Lord Chris Patten; Fellows of Contemporary Art of Los Angeles; Scientists of the Max Planck Institute-Partner Group, an Indo German collaboration; Ms. Tora Aasland, Norwegian Minister for Higher Education and Research, Norwegian Ambassador and members of staff.





Prof. Rajeev Lochan, Director NGMA with Dr. Sayed Makhdoon Raheen, Afghanistan's Minister of Information and Culture



Prof. Rajeev Lochan with Delhi's Chief Minister Smt. Sheila Dixit.

On June 25th, 2011 at 3.30pm the members of Asia Society and the Indo- US Commission on Museums and Cultures visited the National Gallery of Modern Art. They were taken on a guided tour by Prof. Rajeev Lochan through the permanent collection and temporary exhibition in NGMA.



Visit of French delegation led by
Mr. Henri Loyrette President
Louvre Museum, Paris



Director NGMA on 2nd December 2011 received the French delegation led by Mr. Henri Loyrette, President, Louvre Museum, Paris and walked the guests through the permanent and temporary exhibition spaces of NGMA.



Prof. Rajeev Lochan with the French Delegation



The Last Harvest -
a remarkable exhibition of
Rabindranath Tagore's art



September 1, 2011

Asian Art Museum, Berlin

The Last HARVEST Rabindranath Tagore



Prof. Rajeev Lochan, Director, NGMA giving the inaugural speech.



Inauguration ceremony of 'The Last Harvest' at the Asian Art Museum, Berlin.



Prof. R. Siva Kumar of Visva Bharati University, Curator of the exhibition 'The Last Harvest' with guests.

Guests at the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition 'The Last Harvest'



On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of renowned poet-writer Rabindranath Tagore, a specially curated exhibition 'The Last Harvest' of his lesser known yet exquisite paintings and drawings was organised by Ministry of Culture through NGMA. The exhibition is travelling to major international art centers in different circuits through the years 2011-12 and is curated by Prof. R. Siva Kumar of Visva Bharati University. NGMA co-ordinated this major international exhibition with the collections of NGMA, Kala Bhavana and Rabindra Bhavana of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal. The exhibition in the current year has travelled to the following art institutions.

September 15, 2011

Asia Society, New York



Lighting of the inaugural lamp of 'The Last Harvest' exhibition at Asia Society, New York by Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, Co-Chair, Asia Society; Shri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Ministry of Culture; Shri. Rajeev Lochan, Director, NGMA; Shri. A.R. Ramanathan, Advisor, The last Harvest; Ms. Melissa Chiu, Vice President, Global Art Programs and Museum Director, Prof. R. Siva Kumar, Curator, The Last Harvest and Ms. Vishakha Desai, President, Asia Society, New York.



Prof. R. Siva Kumar, Curator, The Last Harvest

The Last Harvest opened at the Asia Society, New York from 15th September 2011 - 2nd January 2012. The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Ms. Vishakha Desai, President, Asia Society, New York and Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, Co-Chair, Asia Society.

Nearly 60 of the most splendid works of Rabindranath Tagore were on display in this exhibition organised by NGMA and curated by Prof. R. Siva Kumar of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan.

September 19, 2011

National Museum of Korea



Inauguration ceremony of 'The Last Harvest' at National Museum of Korea

The Last Harvest organised by Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India and NGMA, New Delhi was curated by Prof. R. Siva Kumar of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan. The exhibition opened at the National Museum of Korea, Seoul on 19th September until 27th November 2011.



December 13, 2011

Victoria and Albert Museum, London



The Last Harvest at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London



The Last Harvest organised by Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India and NGMA, New Delhi was curated by Prof. R. Siva Kumar of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan. The exhibition opened at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London on 13th December 2011 until 4th March 2012 and was inaugurated by Shri Rajesh N. Prasad, Acting High Commissioner and Shri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary, Minister of Culture.

The Telegraph

Rabindranath Tagore: Poet and Painter, V&A, review

Sameer Rahim reviews an exhibition of paintings by the Bengali poet and polymath Rabindranath Tagore at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

★★★★★



Rabindranath Tagore: the private world of Indian women is glimpsed but not revealed.

By Sameer Rahim (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/culturecritics/sameer-rahim/>)

Prospect recommends: Rabindranath Tagore | Prospect Magazine | <http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk>

The perfect gift for the curious mind.

Prospect

Prospect recommends: Rabindranath Tagore

LAURA MARSH — 20th December 2011



Rabindranath Tagore: Poet and Painter
Victoria & Albert Museum, 11th December-4th March, Tel: 020 7942 2000

A new exhibition at the V&A shows Tagore's paintings of imaginary creatures

The 150th anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore's birth this year has seen a resurgence of interest in his work. Yet two of his most prominent champions, Amartya Sen and Amit Chaudhuri, have complained that his poems—written in Bengali and difficult to translate—are under-read in the west.

Unlike his poetry, Tagore's paintings do not suffer from the language barrier; he even declined to give them titles. An exhibition opening at the Victoria & Albert Museum in December offers another approach to this extraordinary figure, who had already won the Nobel prize for literature when he took up painting in his sixties.

Tagore's early sketches—doodles he drew around the crossed-out words and revisions on his manuscripts—are some of his most immediate works. They show fantastical creatures, which he would later describe in a typically poetic fashion: "a bird that can only soar in dreams" or "a probable animal that had unaccountably missed its chance of existence."

On loan from Visva-Bharati University, many of the paintings on show have never been displayed outside India, where Tagore's work has been a major influence on artists such as Jamini Roy and Eileen Bank. This exhibition, one of only a handful in Britain since the 1930s, is a rare chance to appreciate Tagore first-hand.

The 'Last Harvest' received highly appreciable reviews in the British newspapers *Daily Telegraph* and *The Independent*; the latter has rated the exhibition as one of the five best shows to have opened in London in 2011.

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A Poetic Frame Of Reference

RABINDRANATH TAGORE EXHIBITION IN LONDON BEGINS FRIDAY

BY MAEVE HOSEA | DECEMBER 14TH 2011 | 07:30 PM

The 150th anniversary of the birth of a man most widely recognized for his poetry arrives in London this month with a collection of his paintings at the Victoria and Albert Museum. A cultural icon for much of South Asia, creative polymath Rabindranath Tagore pursued a working life as a writer, statesman, playwright, songwriter, poet, philosopher, educator and artist. The son of a wealthy Bengali Brahmin family, he became the first Indian winner of the Nobel Prize for his collection of poetry, *Gitanjali* (meaning 'Offering of Songs'), in 1913.

'Untitled', Rabindranath Tagore, 1931-32. Photo © Rabindra Bhavana

In 1928, aged 67, he took up the brush and produced more than 2,000 paintings in the 13 years that remained of his life. The riches of life experience, as well as his worldly outlook inspire his work. Just as he stretches language towards abstraction in his poetry, he explores elements of surrealism, fantasy and dreams with his painting.

Particularly intriguing is a series of animal images painted in dark hues and conjuring a haunting atmosphere. "Imaginary creatures reflect an interest in the subconscious," explains Sai Fong Chan, assistant curator of the exhibition. "For him the purpose of art was self-expression which is very different from his peer group."

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Five best London shows

Rabindranath Tagore Victoria & Albert Museum
Fifty highly individualistic paintings, shown for the first time outside India, of landscapes, animals and faces to mark 150 years since the great Bengali's birth. *To 4 Mar*

Wilhelm Sasnal Whitechapel Gallery
A decade of images from comics to photographs reworked by Poland's pre-eminent post-war painter. Eclectic but impassioned. *To 1 Jan*

Painting Canada: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven Dulwich Picture Gallery
The friends who gave Canada the images of itself and helped define its character a century ago. *To 8 Jan*

Royal Manuscripts: the Genius of Illumination British Library
A fluttering exhibition showing that British kings were no slouches when it came to commissioning these supreme works of medieval majesty. *To 13 Mar*

The Spanish Line: Drawings from Ribera to Picasso Courtauld Gallery, Somerset House
The graphic genius of Ribera, Murillo, Goya and Picasso, alongside lesser known artists from Spain's Golden Age. An overdue look at this aspect of their art. *To 15 Jan*

Alluring glimpses of private worlds

EXHIBITION

RABINDRANATH TAGORE: POET AND PAINTER

V&A

THE poet, novelist and songwriter Rabindranath Tagore was the renaissance man of early 20th-century India. Not only was he the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize for Literature (in 1913), his songs were used as the national anthems of two countries: independent India and Bangladesh.

Tagore, though, is less well known for his paintings,

which is something the V&A's new exhibition hopes to rectify. He had no formal training and only started drawing in his sixties. The images emerged from revision marks on his manuscripts that he distorted into animal shapes. His early paintings are slightly crude renderings of fantastical animals – a sad-eyed fox or dog, a stretching leopard with a reptile's head – the highlight of which is an enchanting painting of two metal birds with what looks like a dervish.

Tagore said his paintings did not contain "any interpretation of an idea or representation of fact". This might be true for the animal

images and the landscapes, but not for the most compelling part of this exhibition, where the connection with human lives is at its strongest. His tableau of shrouded women with their backs towards us has a mysterious allure: the private world of Indian women is glimpsed but not revealed.

Looking at another of the portraits here, I was reminded of the sad story of Bimala, a housewife tragically drawn to a fiery Indian nationalist, in his great novel *At Home in the World*. A veiled woman raises her arm to her face, either about to rest her head or wipe away a tear; her breast is exposed, as though she had

just torn her clothes in mourning. Compositionally balanced and painted in varieties of brown, this is one painting from which you will not want to turn away.

The question overhanging the exhibition is whether the paintings would be displayed at all if they were not by a genius in other mediums. In all honesty, perhaps not, but Tagore is such a fascinating figure that for fans of his work the art will illuminate his poems and fiction; and for those coming cold, this serves as a delightful introduction.

Dec 12 - March 4, free entrance
RATING ★★★★★
Sameer Rahim



Jaipur House, the 75 year old heritage building now home to National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), the premiere art institution of India has been selected by the national daily The Hindustan Times as one of New Delhi's 100 icons. Jaipur House, built in the year 1936 was the erstwhile residence in the capital of the then Maharaja of Jaipur.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

NGMA, Delhi is planning the execution of the following exhibitions to be organised in the year 2012.

The Last Harvest – An International Exhibition of Paintings by Rabindranath Tagore

The exhibition is scheduled to open at these centers:

- National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**
- NGMCA, Rome, Italy**
- McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Toronto, Canada**

An exhibiton of German Artist Rebecca Horn Titled ‘Rebecca Horn: Passage Through Light’.

Exhibition on Kalighat Paintings in collaboration with Victoria & Albert Museum, London