

Exhibition of Photographs and Sketches done in the study tour.



Study Tour to Cambodia and Thailand

An exhibition of photographs and sketches by members was held in the galleries of AIFACS from 6 to 12 August 2014.

Fifteen members of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society with their spouses went on a sketching and photography tour to Cambodia and Thailand. Cambodia is known for the largest Hindu temple, Angkor Wat, dedicated to Vishnu, and there are many temples around the country.

All the members took photographs of their choice. Temples, details of frescos on the walls relief life size apsaras in Angkor Wat showed good compositions. Detail of relief of Bantey Srei temple by Biman Das was a good example of keen observation. This temple is dedicated to Lord Buddha. Though it is smaller in size but its miniature size almost surprised the visitors. It is made of red sand stone. The high relief panels are carved with Hindu mythological stories.

Giant trees grabbed the temple walls in Ta Prohm give a contrast in surface quality. Similarly the head of Buddha in Ayutthaya entangled in the roots of a tree mystified the atmosphere.

There are different assumptions regarding this. The city was defeated by Burmese army and all the temples were destroyed. The area was deserted for more than hundred years. Many trees grew during this period and the head of Buddha was covered by the roots. Second assumption is that a thief had tried to steal the head but could not carry because of its weight and left under the tree. Ayutthaya is the old capital city of Thailand for 417 years. This has been declared 'World Cultural heritage' by UNESCO.

Photographs of reclining Buddha and golden Buddha are interesting and reflect the glow of the image. Photograph of Rajendra Agarwal with Buddha's statue and an old monk is very much relevant to the subject. Ramesh Khurana associated local people in his frames. Santosh Jain was interested in exposing people with different types of caps which protected them from torturing heat of the sun.

Photographs of Paramjeet Singh are both symbolic as well as pictorial. His photograph with a lotus flower covering the major area of the picture with a pigeon flying on the top of the frame and part of the temple make a good symbolic picture of peace, purity and spirituality.

Raghuvir Khurana associated architecture with sculpture. They complement each other and a monumental feeling is depicted in the picture frame. Sham Sunder's seated Buddha in a temple in Ayutthaya makes a good environmental composition where as Krishan Ahuja created a symbolic composition with a red umbrella and a glass.

Besides these photographs sketches were also displayed which covered the landscapes, seascapes, local people done in pen & ink and some in contee. Over all it was more than a travelogue with aesthetic values.



Centenary Art Exhibition by the NDMC

by Robinson Robert

Held in the galleries of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 29th April to 2nd May 2014

The NDMC [New Delhi Municipal Council] as part of its Centenary Celebration organized an exhibition titled 'New Delhi : Then and Now' at AIFACS [All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society]. The exhibition was truly a celebration of the Spirit of Delhi through the medium of art and brought forth creative aspects on a whole range of subjects that has come to be identified with Delhi.

It is heartening to see that the NDMC has showcased art as part of its Centenary celebration and the works of the artists selected have managed to capture the essence of the many facets of the city through paintings, drawings, graphics, sculptures and photography. The works focused from the rich monumental legacy of Delhi to the modern cosmopolitan city, from aspects of its environment to the vibrancy of its people, their dreams and aspirations. The transitional fluid nature in the making of the city also finds great emphasis as many a work

seem like a virtual tour of the history of Delhi. The India Gate, Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Qutub Minar, Lodi Gardens, Lal Qila, Jantar Mantar, Lotus Temple, the Metro train network and more than anything else the people who live in the city capture the imagination of the artists and find many impressions and interpretations in the works displayed.

There were many works which touched a chord among the viewers apart from the award winning ones and it can be said that the participation was of a high standard. With over 300 works selected and on display it was a virtual feast to the eyes. The fact that the art teachers of the NDMC schools were actively involved in putting the exhibition together needs to be appreciated.

Shows like these are mutually beneficial and enable the City to showcase its richness of spirit. The NDMC can make this an annual event or rather have constant shows just like the European municipalities and other City Commissions have been doing elsewhere in the World. This will also enable young artists to strive for creative excellence. The effort put in bringing forth this exhibition New Delhi: Then and Now is commendable and could be a path breaker in more ways than one.

Chief Guest Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Delhi Sh. Najeeb Jung releasing the catalogue of the exhibition. On his right is Sh Ram V Sutar President of AIFACS and on left Sh. Jalaj Srivastava, Chairman, NDMC

Sh. Najeeb Jung admiring a sculpture in the exhibition



EXPRESSIONS-2

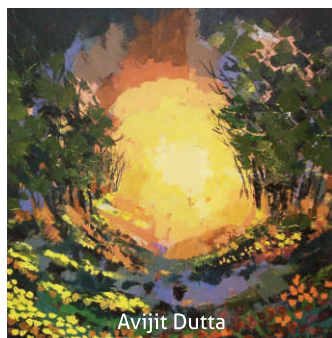
A group show of contemporary artists

Twelve artists held an exhibition of paintings in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 30th July to 5th August 2014.

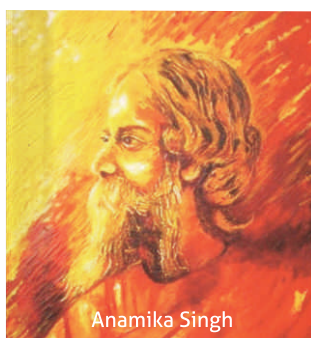
Anamika Singh exhibited paintings with various subjects with a portrait of Rabindranath Tagore. A simplest of subjects with depiction of pleasant expressions. Amit Kumar has simplified tones in his works and few half tone and flat surfaces tried to bring dimension in his paintings. Avijit Dutta created some imaginary landscapes with huge glowing background like a sun. Small flowers and trees on both sides created the feeling of space.

Deepika Mishra's meditative figure of a pandit with decorative linear face and spontaneous flow of trees and leaves create contrast. Dr. Neena Khare Exhibited paintings of bathing beauties.

Three female figures and three swans symbolizing the rhythm created by them. Dr. Vandy Jais has created wavy texture and created her compositions. It makes a cliff like shapes which carry many kinds of elements. Gajanan Sitaram Shepal Created his compositions with some wavy textures. His Buddha's head is in a meditative mood. Flowers around the face softens the whole atmosphere. Harisankar Kalavoor represented very simplified figures as his subject matter demanded. Purnesh Pamarthi has many elements in each composition. His elongated figures in an intimate position seen through a window like structure. Rakhi Baid has made his paintings in a deeper mood of Krishna like figure. Floating lotus flowers and their leaves create serenity. S Kamal Nath's pleasing devotee makes the atmosphere happy too. Floating strokes balance well. Seema Gupta places her human figure along with nature to balance the painting.



Avijit Dutta



Anamika Singh



Seema Gupta



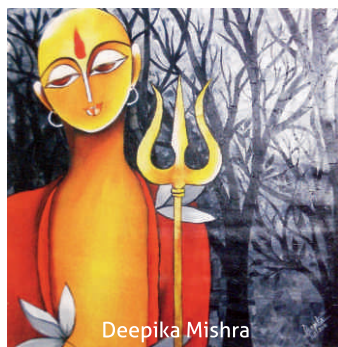
Gajanan Sitaram Shepal



Dr. Vandy Jais



Dr. Neena Khare



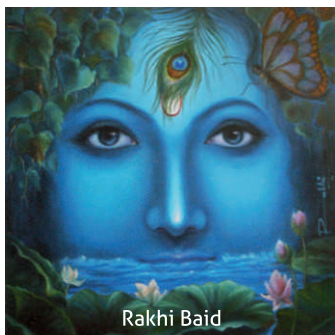
Deepika Mishra



Amit Kumar



Purnesh Pamarthi



Rakhi Baid



Harisankar Kalavoor



S Kamal Nath

SPECTRUM

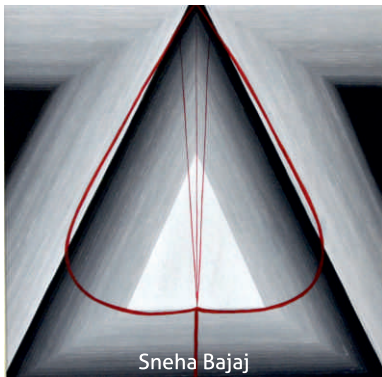
An exhibition of paintings by Beenu Gupta, Sneha Bajaj and Vedika was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 20 to 26 August 2014.

Beenu Gupta held ten solo shows and participated in many group shows. She exhibited two different concepts in this exhibition. One is inspired by nature where leaves are used to make composition with hidden faces and other living beings. Spontaneity in arranging the leaves creates rhythm in the whole composition. Involving in observing nature is meditation in itself. Seeing nature round the year and observing the changes in forms and colours makes her to select the right colours for her paintings. Her thinking is pure and undisturbed. Beenu presented also compositions with mythological theme. There are simplified figures

with textured surfaces around create dimension in the composition.

Vedika Aggarwal has been inspired and guided by Beenu Gupta. Vedika is a textile designer. Her work has more design elements. In the learning process the basic elements are explored. Her subjects are simple but divisions within the shapes are divided in triangular shapes to fill the object area. The feeling of mosaic creates interest. Backgrounds are textured with some floral shapes but do not disturb the objects which she wanted to bring out.

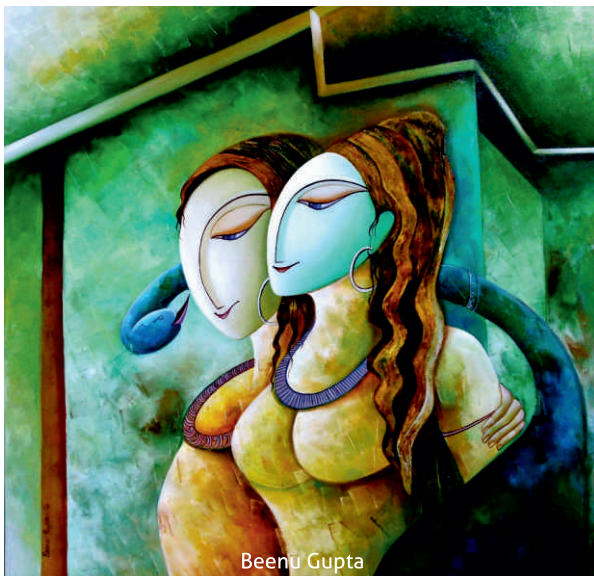
Sneha Bajaj is also guided by Beenu Gupta. She is more experienced with one solo show to her credit. She is also in the learning stage and created some basic designs. worked with repetition of objects and created various dimensions. Straight lines with a number of gradations create interesting shapes. The central square or triangle starts receding when one sees in the centre. An illusion is also created. These black & white works are impressive.



Sneha Bajaj



Vedika Aggarwal



Beenu Gupta



Beenu Gupta

The Forgotten Frames

A Photographic Voyage with the people of Bastar

An exhibition of photographs of people of Bastar by Manoj Kumar Jain was held in the Visual Art Gallery, Habitat Centre from 9 to 15 August 2014.

Bastar is a district of Chhatisgarh state in central India. It is a land of tribes. These tribes are well known for their unique and distinctive tribal cultural heritage in the world. Each tribe has its own dialects. They differ from each other in their costumes, customs and worship different Gods and Goddesses. They mostly depend on forest produce and agriculture. These tribes are known for their arts and crafts and colourful festivals.

Their Lost wax process of casting called Dhokra is famous all over the world. Beautiful figures of their tribal Gods, animals, oil lamps are well identified images are popular.

Six years of hard work by Manoj Kumar Jain

has brought a wonderful and meaningful documentation of the people of Bastar. He could successfully capture the soul of the land and people. His black & white photographs enhanced the aesthetic of each frame. He has covered all aspects of the life style of that tribal region whether it is Bison Horn Dances or Cock Fights. The dark all weathers seasoned skins of people has been recorded in true sense.

Stonehenge like huge stones placed in the landscape of the land tells the story of Neolithic or Bronze age.

This land has many gods and goddesses. With this, there are many types of rituals also to please them or worship them. Different kinds of dresses are used for these rituals. Different head dresses and other decorations of bodies made with indigenous materials are covered by Manoj in a very subtle way to bring out the real essence of the ritual.



'Amor Fati'

An exhibition of Digital works by Santosh Jain was held in Gallery Pioneer, Lado Sarai, New Delhi from 29 August to 20 September 2014. Amor Fati is a latin word means 'Love of ones fate'. It is an attitude in which one sees every thing happens in one's life including sufferings and losses.

Since its introduction in an exhibition of digital art prints exhibited at NGMA in early 70's, today it has made its place in the art mediums. Digital technology has become part of creative process. This is termed in many ways like computer art, digital art, multimedia art, fractal art and they all come under new media art. Technology and aesthetics result into a creative work of art. Santosh Jain is a print maker. She attended print making workshops of Prof. Paul Lingren on etching and workshop of Carol Summers on his wood-cut method organised by USIS, New Delhi. She was a recipient of Netherlands Government Fellowship to study print-making, awarded by Ministry of Education, Government of India. There are many awards to her credit including the "Kala

Shree" awarded by All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, New Delhi.

She excelled in photography as well and her subjects are different moods and positions of human beings in their environment.

She has used photographic images in her compositions which are more like collages and different layers of digital images and textures create a montage like images. Combination of photography and her long experience of print-making infused to create compositions to interpret her subject matters in a subtle manner. Her frozen images 'From My Attic' series tell many tales by positioning human figures sensitively.

Santosh is attached to NGO which works for the children of poor families. She has experienced the problems and poverty and its consequences on children. She has also photographed many of such locations in urban landscape which she has used in her compositions. The paintings of Paul Gauguin painted the French Polynesian landscapes of Tahiti fascinated Santosh to use in her compositions. "The Siesta" of Gauguin is well exploited by converting one figure in negative form. Similarly another painting of Gauguin "Never More O Tahiti", a nude juxtaposed with our local elements is well used to give a title "Geisha".



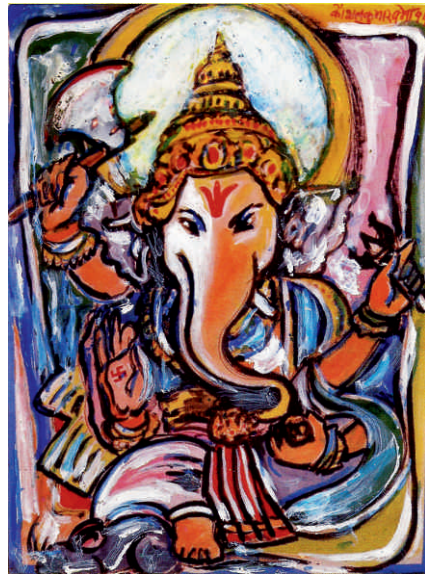
Solo show of paintings by **Koshal Kumar Verma**

His 9th solo show of paintings was held in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society from 23 to 29 July 2014.

He graduated from Government College of Art, Lucknow in 1960. He studied under the guidance of Sudhir Khastgir, a noted painter, teacher and Principal who gave new direction to teaching in Govt. College of Art, Lucknow.

Koshal Kumar Verma exhibited paintings with different concepts and subjects. On the occasion of the Independence day near, he exhibited portraits of many freedom fighters and stalwarts of that era like Rabindra Nath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa, Bhagat Singh, Swami Vivekanand. His paintings had many common subjects of day to day life in city as well as in villages. He is a veteran artist with confidence in thinking and application of colours and strokes in his paintings.

During his life time experiences he has worked in many styles, mediums and techniques. His Indian style wash paintings take the viewer to that era of 40's and 50's. On the contrary his abstract compositions are bold and confident in thought and application. His colour schemes become strong and vibrant. His landscapes are



also vibrant in colours and serene. Quietness of nature can be experienced in his landscapes. Village scenes and cultivation of paddy in water colour with very sketchy treatment creates the women folks' action.

The exhibition was a treat of many moods.

He traveled extensively and met many artists who inspired him in his creative pursuit, namely Nandlal Bose, Ram Kinker Baij, Kripal Singh Shekhawat, Ram Gopal Vijay Vargia, Jeram Patel, Radha Mohan and Sobha Singh.



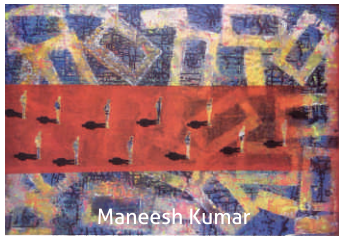
Golden Times

A group exhibition of Paintings, Sculptures and installations

was held in the Visual Art gallery, Habitat Centre, New Delhi from 27 to 31 July 2014.

This exhibition was dedicated to Shri Keshav Malik, Poet, Art Critic, Curator and Art Lover. A special section was created for Shri Mohamed Yasin who was the senior most artist. Besides him the participating artists were - Mukesh Kumar who exhibited abstract landscapes. Ishwari Rawal's canvas is a mirror of life and surrounded by elements of nature. Arshi Hafeez presented landscapes titled 'Nature Decoded' with serene beauty. Jay Kay exhibited collage like installation made of metal spare parts of clocks etc. Golmei Gandumpu painted flying human figures among heavy textured strokes. Anita Tanwar created human relation in a natural

environment. Her figures create a rhythmic movements. Mahmood Ahmad created landscape burning with red flowers. Parul Arya is inspired by her surroundings and happenings around like nature, humans, buildings etc.. Lalit Mohan Pant is known for his compositions in charcoal smudging it like storm. Ramesh Rana's rockscapes speak its own story. They are positioned in natural form but speak for itself. Maneesh Kumar Paints rectangular shapes which covers the full canvas. Naresh Kapuria does installations for which he is known. Arshi Ahmed's abstract work expressed a kind of chaos. Bheem Malhotra's dark blue landscapes create an atmosphere of coolness. Biplab Sarkar presented flying cranes to migrate in bronze medium. Alpna Mahajan's sculptures made of bronze presented some acrobatic plays. Himanshu Rai created rhythm through his works. Ravi Prakash created mystic sculpture. Rajeev Semwal's drawings created relationship among human and birds.



Maneesh Kumar



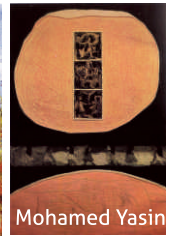
Alpna Mahajan



Biplab Sarkar



Mahmood Ahmad



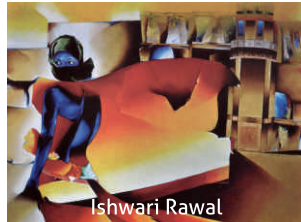
Mohamed Yasin



Arshi Ahmed



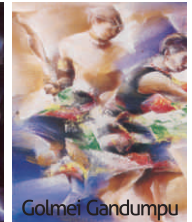
Himanshu Rai



Ishwari Rawal



Bheem Malhotra



Golmei Gandumpu



Anita Tanwar



Arshi Hafeez



Ramesh Rana



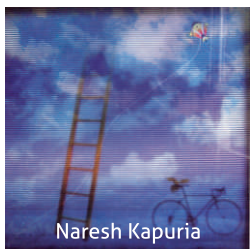
Mukesh Kumar



Lalit Mohan Pant



Rajeev Semwal



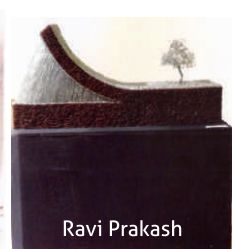
Naresh Kapuria



Jay Kay



Parul Arya



Ravi Prakash

Niren Sen Gupta's 40 years. 40 Paintings.

Exhibition of paintings by Niren Sen Gupta was held at Visual Art Gallery, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi from 1 to 7 August 2014. He dedicated this exhibition to his Mother. As the title of the exhibition there were 40 paintings starting from 1977 and the latest work was of 2013.

Niren Sen Gupta did his graduation from Government College of art & Crafts, Kolkata. His early works with pen and ink are angels which are personified in very common human characters with wings. These angels see through the viewer with some hope and acceptance. Niren says, "Life is a constant seeking of answers, and finding one's own path to salvation. My own spiritual journey is integrated with my work, and I find ready inspiration in the treasury of wisdom the Ramakrishna Mission has to offer. In my paintings, I often portray monks

from the mission in saffron robes, symbolizing the spirit of sacrifice. A long association with them has made me richer by experience and brought peace in my life. I have come to discover that spiritual life and religion are very different. While religion might be restricting, true search for spirituality uplifts one and gets one in touch with his inner self. It teaches one the meaning of compassion and to serve all mankind in a selfless manner."

In the span of 40 years Niren have crossed many phases. His princess series depicts the personality with grace and elegance. Dominance and affection both play to equal the balance of personalities. His other paintings have contact with nature where human figures have close contact with nature, birds and animals. Lotus comes with the monks, teachers, Purushottam, Celebration and other spiritual works. Simplification of figures and relevant spaces in compositions is the identity of his works. He continues the journey for future pursuit.

Marvel 2002 Oil on Canvas 36" X 36"



Visible Spirits

Vol.5

Manaf Edavanakad held an exhibition of paintings, Photographs and Fractal Art in the gallery of All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, New Delhi from 20 to 26 August 2014.

Manaf is a graduate in communication Engineering and has done a Diploma in Electronics Engineering. He has also done a 'Higher Management Executive Excellence Programme' at American University of Sharjah.

Manaf's talent in painting was recognised and nurtured by his teacher at his school. He is a self taught photographer. Fractal Art is relatively a recent addition to his artistic endeavors.

At present he is the Vice-President of Broadcast Operations at Tensports, a TV channel on sports.

Manaf's paintings are mainly inspired by his impressions and reflections of his own life. These paintings reflect the emotional journey culminating in hope and a resolve to overcome. These paintings also portray the artists resent towards the present day world and used his brush to express, feeble yet bold, a protest on the heinous events happening around.

Various styles and techniques are used to express different subjects. His subjects also add the happy and lighter side of life through his musical subjects. 'Mother and Child' is very rhythmic in movement. Colour scheme divides into warm and cool colours in composition.

A self taught photographer, Manaf has a prolific collection of frames to his credit. His photographs mainly illustrate the beauty of nature and project it as an earnest way of the photographer's desire of conserving the places he has visited. Nature has the process of change in every moment. what ever has been recorded in a moment will not be repeated. His favorite subject is the clouds which changes it shape every moment. The atmosphere at sun set is another subject he admires more and try to capture it as it is, where it is.

His third medium was Fractal Art. It is indeed the mathematics behind fractals got his attention in the beginning. The precision of images and the way a mathematical equation turns into visual image of the unimaginable- became a striking new platform for him.

It is a geometric pattern that is repeated smaller or larger scale to produce regular or irregular shapes. Relative to the Digital Art form

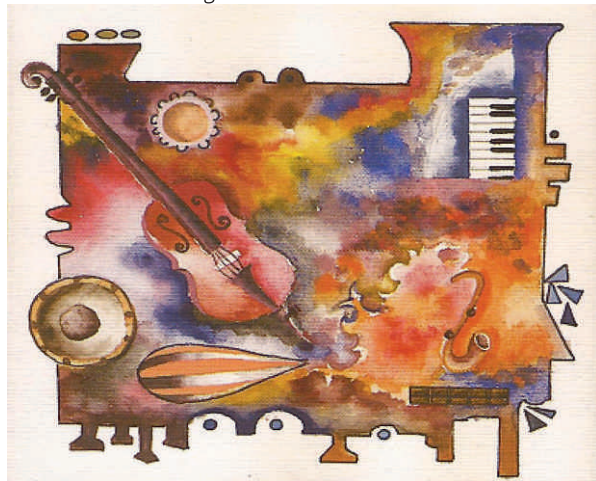
fractals are unique digital form made by using mathematical formulas.

Many fractal images are admired because of their perceived harmony. This is achieved by the patterns which come out of the balance of order. Manaf has created many such patterns to achieve desired results. 'The Mighty Dance' is one of the works can be admired.

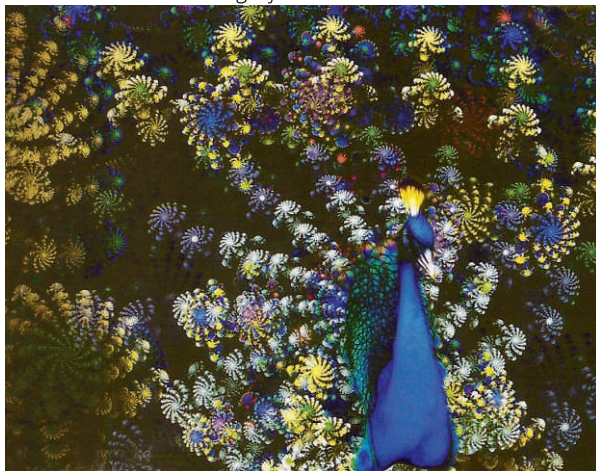
'Musical Shop' oil on canvas



'Jugalbandi' Water colour



'The Mighty Dance' Fractal Art





R S Yadav

13. 7. 1928 - 9. 8. 2014

Members of AIFACS and artist community is deeply grieved by the demise of Sh R S Yadav on 9th August 2014.

Sh. Yadav was closely associated with the Society. To celebrate his 82 birthday on 13 July 2010 an exhibition of paintings by Ranjan Ghosh, S K Sahni, Prem Singh, Santosh Verma, Jivan Adalja, Hemraj, N K P Muttu Koya and Shovin Bhattacharya was also held in the gallery of AIFACS. Along with this a poetry session was also held. It was perhaps first time that an exhibition of paintings had been organised in collaboration with AIFACS to pay tributes to a veteran art critic.

Sh R S Yadav was born on 13th July 1928

From 1951 to 1962 he lived in Mumbai as writer, writing both in Hindi as well as English magazines and periodicals. He shifted to Delhi in 1962. He started writing for the National dailies and periodicals in the Hindustan Times and Indian Express group of journals. He also contributed to magazines like 'The Century', 'Thought' and 'Saptahik Hindustan'.

In 1964 he started a journal called

'DHARA', a magazine of translations into English from Hindi and other Indian Languages.

He started reviewing art exhibitions when old stalwarts like Charls Fabri and S A Krishnan were dominating the art scene. Later on he shifted to the Evening News of Hindustan Times in which he started contributing weekly art columns for more than a decade.

He was closely associated with Dhomimal Gallery's director Ravi Jain and his successors Uma Jain and Uday Jain who had been a good company in some of the most hectic years of his art journey.

He was also associated with many art galleries for reviewing art shows held in their galleries like Gallery Espace, Gallery Anant, Art Konsult, Krishna Art Gallery and Vadhera Art Gallery. His demise is a great loss to the artists at the time when there is need of good and experienced art critics.

This loss will never be filled. Members and Staff of the Society share the loss with family and pray to the almighty for peaceful journey to the heavenly abode.