

PRESS RELEASE

Gallery ArtsIndia

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gallery artsindia

Confluence 2004: A Group Show

Featuring Sakti Burman, T. Vaikuntam, Anjolie Ela Menon and more

September 10 – October 3, 2004

Gallery ArtsIndia presents Confluence 2004: A group show of works from the New York Artist Retreat. The exhibition will open on Friday, September 10 and will be on view until October 3, 2004. There will be an opening reception on Friday, September 10th from 6 to 9 pm. The gallery is located at 206 Fifth Avenue (@ 25th St.) on the Fifth Floor. The public is invited.

In May 2004, Gallery ArtsIndia hosted an art retreat for nine leading contemporary Indian artists.

For one week, the artists painted in studios at Concordia College in Bronxville, New York and visited museums and galleries in Manhattan. Although these retreats are common practice in India, it was the first time such an event was sponsored in the United States.

Confluence 2004 features the diverse works created during the retreat and presents an interesting juxtaposition of current styles and themes being explored by Indian artists. All of the works in the show are figurative; however, each artist navigates his or her subject matter in different ways resulting in an exhibit that spans the spectrum of realism. The rapid brushstroke of Sunil Das contrasts the painstaking detail and painterly smoothness of Sakti Burman as both artists depict human figures interacting with animals. Burman's work hovers in a dreamlike state, as does the work of Anjolie Ela Menon. In her canvases, Anjolie Ela Menon displaces both humans and objects and creates new relationships between forms. Her haunting figures challenge the viewer and negate typical sensibilities.

Paresh Maity uses bold colors and strong lines to paint Rajasthani musicians that dominate his large-scale canvases. His figures are flat yet infused with energy, and they draw the viewer into the scene.

T. Vaikuntam focuses on regional figures as well, and he paints women and men from Andhra Pradesh with full, voluptuous forms. The detail of their attire and jewelry combined with the vivid colors and clean brushstrokes are reminiscent of folk art. Ved Nayar's figures are also highly stylized. He suspends elongated figures in nondescript environments with objects anchoring them to the picture space, a commentary on mass production. Gogi Sarojpal explores women and societal roles as she paints rounded female forms on printed fabric. Vasundhara Tewari also addresses women's issues as she examines the polarities between the inner and outer worlds in her works. Conversely, Rameshwar Broota's black-and-white work is highly masculine and suggestive, as he uses a blade to scrape away black paint from the canvas to shape his forms.

Confluence 2004 celebrates the confluence of styles and talent emerging across India by leading Contemporary Indian artists

For more information, please call 212-725-6092
Gallery Hours: Tues to Sat -11 am to 7 pm
Sunday – 12 noon to 5 pm
Monday closed

For further information, Contact: Alka Singal, *Gallery Director*,
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ArtsIndia comprises three divisions aimed toward promoting Contemporary Indian art outside of India: an online gallery at <http://www.artsindia.com>, a gallery in New York, and an exhibitions and events division. The online gallery is the only gallery devoted to contemporary Indian art in the United States. The exhibits division recently curated shows in Chicago (May 2004), Seattle (March 2004), and Washington D.C (Oct. 2003) and will be traveling to Texas in September 2004.

EVENT LISTING

Confluence 2004: Collected Works from the ArtsIndia Artist Retreat

Common practice in India, ArtsIndia held the first week-long Contemporary Indian artist retreat in the United States. Featured artists: Anjolie Ela Menon, Sakti Burman, T. Vaikuntam, Sunil Das, Rameshwar Broota, Ved Nayar, Paresh Maity, Vasundhara Tewari, Gogi Sarojpal

Date: September 10 – October 3, 2004; Opening Reception on September 10, 6-9 pm

Location: Gallery ArtsIndia, 206 5th Avenue, Fifth Floor, between 25th and 26th Streets

Gallery Hours: Tues to Sat 11 am to 7 pm, Sunday 12 to 5 pm

Tel: (212) 725-6092

This event is FREE

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