



## PRESS RELEASE

Middle Edge; group show of eighteen Indian contemporary artists  
Aicon Gallery, Palo Alto  
March 21 – May 3  
Opening reception, Friday March 21, 2008, 6-9 p.m.

"Be it an abstraction or figuration, painting is experiencing oneself through colors. It is always an enjoyment with forms, colors and lines. Sense of wonder is being experienced through art. This exhibition is a celebration of abstract emotions. Emotions experienced through colors, lines, and forms. Eighteen artists and their individualities are all different from each other and also from themselves."  
-Akhilesh, Curator of Middle Edge

PALO ALTO, March 21, 2008- Aicon Gallery, 535 Bryant Street, Palo Alto, will present a group show from March 21 through May 3, 2008. An opening reception will be held on Friday, March 21 from 6-9 p.m. This is the artists' first exposure both at Aicon Gallery and in the United States.

Middle Edge brings together eighteen contemporary artists from central India. In this curatorial experiment, these artists' work is looked at geo-culturally. Their work is some of the freshest, most innovative work coming out of central India and though they have been making ripples on the Indian art scene, this is their debut in the United States. The show is curated by Akhilesh Varma, their senior colleague, and famed painter in his own right.

What the artists have in common is their subtle impression of tradition in their abstract art. To retrieve tradition, though, they do not hint at any discernible attempt. There are elements of tradition reflected in their art which relate to their innateness. The abstraction of these eighteen artists may be an endeavor to comprehend tradition and one's own self. Their abstraction pulls you towards the images, forcing the viewer to reckon with the invisible and the formless, that evoke wonder but no desire. Despite absence of any conventional stylized expression or gesture, these paintings possess their own language and form. Form is their insight and language at once surfaces on the canvas as one lends an absorbing eye.

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