

Monday January 9, 01:32 AM

Sexplicit drawing room HindustanTimes.com

One doesn't often come across a drawing room decorated with human reproductive organs in various suggestive acts. Or for that matter, even one which has a chair with a seat resembling a tongue, pencil box with conjoined leads and hair sculpture.

Well, artist Mithu Sen's drawing room has all this and more in the form of paintings, which she unveiled in an exhibition titled Drawing Room at the British Council on Friday. On white base, Sen's paintings showcase reproductive organs in all conceivable ways possible, suggesting intimate acts of pleasure and pain too. "Life inspires me. Whatever happens in everyday life leaves an indelible picture on my mind," said the painter.

The Queen's Gallery at the British Council was full of people, who not only admired Sen's works, but wanted to own one as well. Art frat's usual suspects like Veer Munshi, Shamshad Husain and Gopi Gajwani were present at the inauguration. Commenting on Sen's work, Munshi said, "She has used the empty spaces in an interesting manner, using a different format. The placement of the frames is impressive." Husain said that Sen had evolved her own language, quite distinct from that of the other artists. Gajwani praised Sen's ability to be different: "It's a very daring work though minimalist in style."

On being asked whether Indian drawing rooms were ready to flaunt sexually explicit works, Gajwani proffered, "Visual arts are changing and people are willing to experiment with different styles. Sunset and sunrise are so cliched." Husain too agreed that Indian drawing rooms were ready for the 'sexual' change. The exhibition is on at the British Council till January 25. It next moves to Gallery Chemould, Mumbai.