



# GLIMPSES & ECHOES

*-An Illustrated Mixtape*

(Vol I)



*Illustrations by  
Vishnu Nair*

# LESSER KNOWN TALES



Ganapati Hegde	4-7
Basuki Dasgupta	8-11
Umakant Kanade	12-15
Laxman Aelay	16-19
Kandi Narsimlu	20-23
Sukanta Das	24-27
Vijit Pillai	28-31
Dibyendu Ukil	32-35
Prakash Ghadge	36-39
Sangeeta Abhay	40-43



The echoes of people we once loved and the numerous lives that we have experienced still linger in the places that we keep going back to. Some of us choose to frequent the past to revisit these moments while others venture past them, carrying untold stories and undiscovered possibilities.

Artflute takes you on a journey with some of our favourite artists, treating you with glimpses of their stories of inspiration and leading you into a future, limited only by imagination.

From the forests of Kumta and the caves of Ajanta, to the calm waters of the Ganga and the quaint village of Kaslabad, we invite you to revel in our artists' personal retelling of influences and impressions, complemented by nostalgic illustrations. Explore their works with us as we shine the spotlight on delightful nuances and the larger narratives of these artworks.

If you have traversed through the collection and have made a personal connection, we will consider our attempt to be a success.



# GANAPATI HEGDE



The Lily Pond  
Acrylic and Oil on Canvas  
36 x 36 inches  
₹ 1,85,300



I remember walking with my grandpa under towering trees and patches of herbs, with prancing animals, twittering birds and busy insects beside us.

He could sing and dance. He would also tell us, children of the house, stories from mythology. And I would, sometimes, follow him to the ponds and streams and the hills. It was where I watched the vision of nature; every fragile being doing its dance.



From chameleons and robins to butterflies and squirrels, all the original dwellers of the forest found their way into my compositions where I let them express themselves as you and I would.

They were sometimes busy and at other times dreamy. I let the characters, even the tiniest ones, find their part in my creation; not influenced by their largeness but by their voice.



## An Exploration of The Lily Pond by Ganapati Hegde



The shadows under the dragonflies indicate that the pond is viewed from above.

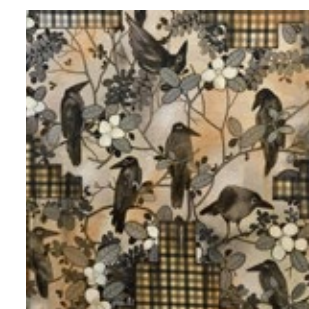
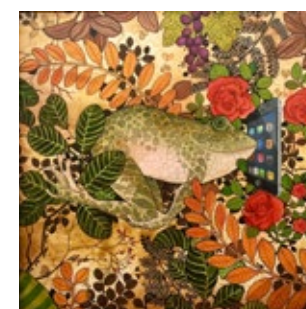


Cranes emerge from lily buds that take center stage while they are surrounded by a plethora of the lake's inhabitants.



In his paintings, Ganapati unveils a delightful habitat with a tinge of surrealism. In 'The Lily Pond', the lilies and the cranes, perched on the floating leaves, share a dance while the frogs and fish swim in and out of the frame. His paintings, delicately inspired by traditional Indian murals, are sure to have the regular residents of the lake - the dragonflies and the ants - all reflecting the natural rhythm of nature.

### Other Paintings of Ganapati Hegde





# BASUKI DASGUPTA



Kaushiki  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
36 x 48 inches  
₹ 1,93,000

I was a small town boy and my time at Shantiniketan was one of free exploration. I learned to listen to my heart beat.

I drew inspiration from the works of K.G Subramanyan and Ramkinkar Baij. And in my quest to find my own unique voice, I moved to Kolkata. But the city felt too crowded.

I had to find my home again and I did. It was in a teaching job in Tumkur(Karnataka) where I could stretch my arms to hug the sky. The little laid back town had a lot more room to breathe.



I taught many subjects using experiential art but it was not enough. I took to creating art out of necessity.

But in it, I found my language of inspiration, of childhood memories enriched by famed temples of Bishnupur fashioned with mud and clay – replete with the treasures of myth and lore.



## An Exploration of Kaushiki by Basuki Dasgupta

Paper pulp, hard boards, and thick acrylic paints are used to achieve the textures and patterns.



The women take prominence in most of Basuki's works with eyes half-closed and her countenance very still.



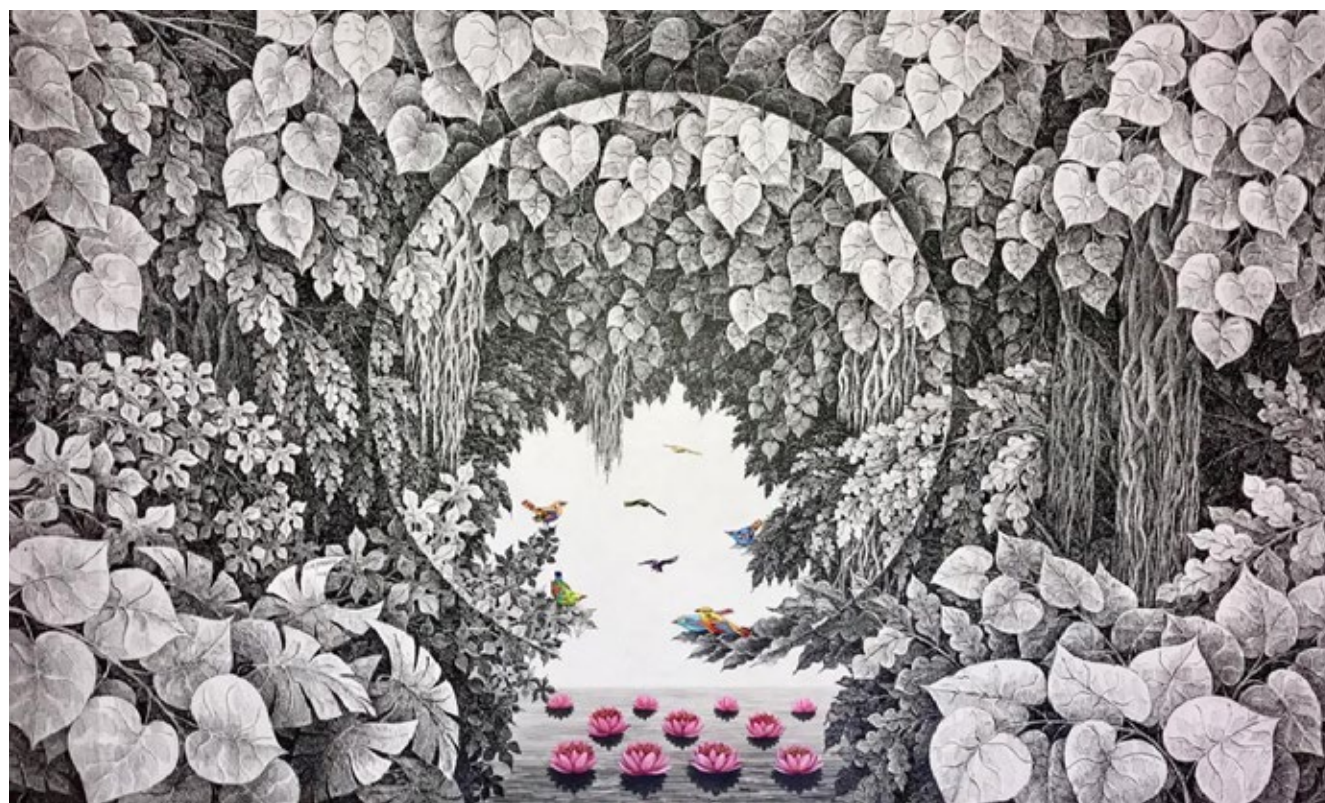
The women, in his paintings, are inspired by goddesses in his own life - his mother, aunts and his wife - as they live with incredible poise and grace. His creations are an attempt to explore the dichotomy between nature and mankind, rural and urban, or the human and divine. For, there is always a constant war of compassion and truth over greed and ego.

## Other Paintings of Basuki Dasgupta





# UMAKANT KANADE



Nature in Focus  
Pen and Acrylic on Canvas  
60 x 36 inches  
₹ 3,36,500

I started out as an illustrator sketching trees, stones and rivers outlined in black and white for the Amar Chitra Katha comics.

One fine day, the comics stopped but I did not.

I continued to develop my style working on the minute strokes mirroring the texture of each rock and bird.

Wandering in nature to find inspiration, whether in Taljai Tekadi park in Pune or my recent trek in Manali, is what drives me.

I say, 'Be like the bird that meanders and finds amusement in every little thing he sees and greets'.





## An Exploration of Nature in Focus by Umakant Kanade



His works are primarily ink on canvas and carry almost 10-12 tones of black.



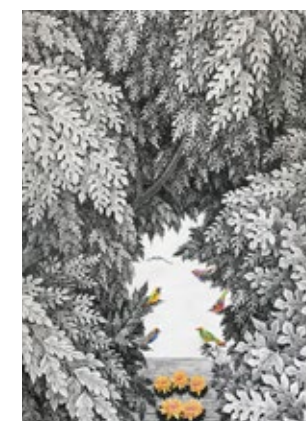
All of his works capture nature in its bare form but here, the lotus and birds come into focus in their vibrancy amidst the monochromatic hues.



The many-hued birds and flowers, in his paintings, evoke the urge to give in to the wanderlust in us. Umakant uses crowquill pen to draw the lines in his paintings and achieves lines of different thicknesses with the quill by merely varying the pressure he applies.

The older the quill gets the better it is for his work. The artist is now taking his exploration of nature into sculpture making.

### Other Paintings of Umakant Kanade





# LAXMAN AELAY



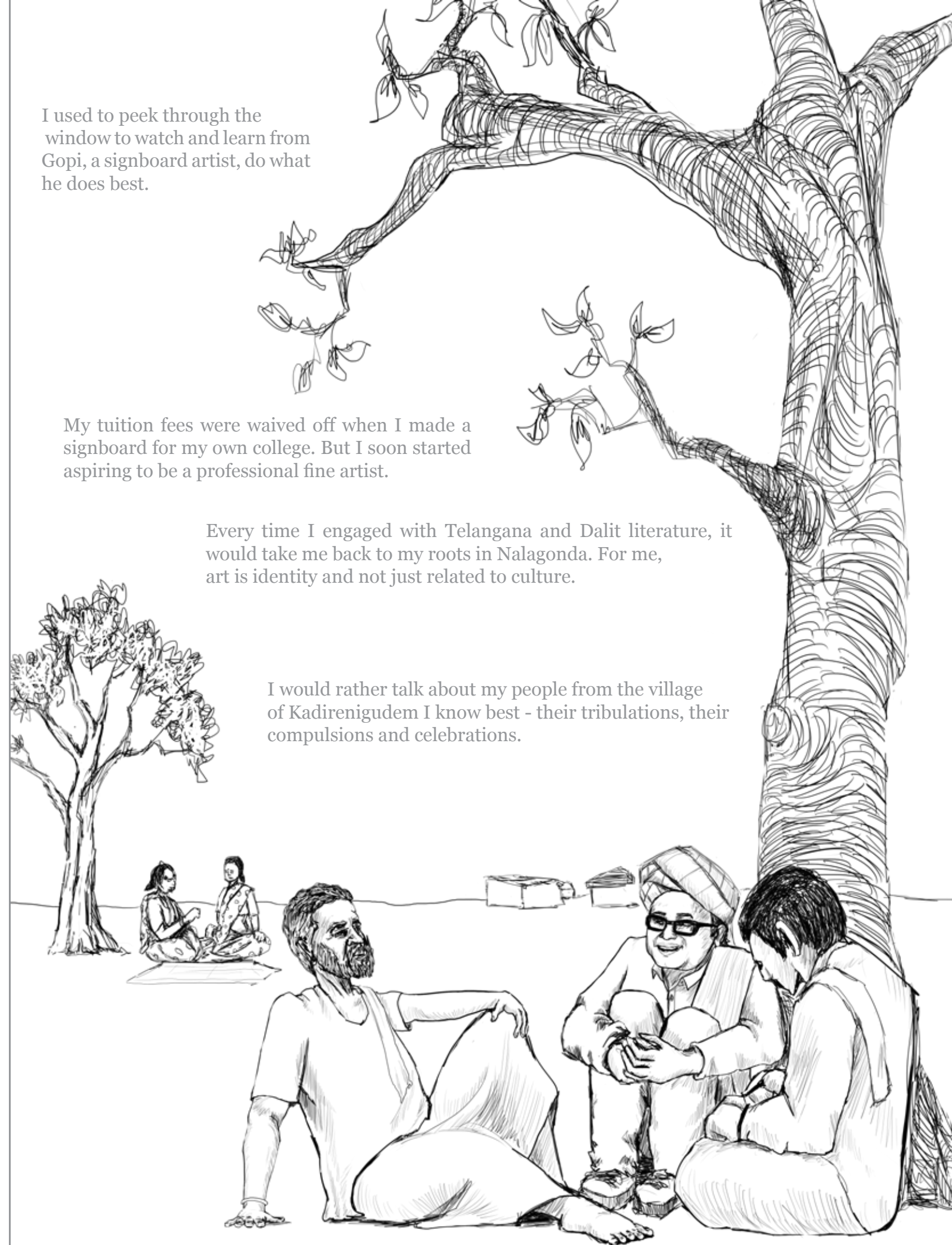
Song of the Village  
Acrylic, Pen and Ink on Canvas  
12 x 12 inches  
₹ 50,900

I used to peek through the window to watch and learn from Gopi, a signboard artist, do what he does best.

My tuition fees were waived off when I made a signboard for my own college. But I soon started aspiring to be a professional fine artist.

Every time I engaged with Telangana and Dalit literature, it would take me back to my roots in Nalagonda. For me, art is identity and not just related to culture.

I would rather talk about my people from the village of Kadirenigudem I know best - their tribulations, their compulsions and celebrations.





## An Exploration of Song of the Village by Laxman Aelay



White and black are used instead of vivid colours to depict flowers, jewellery and traditional clothing.

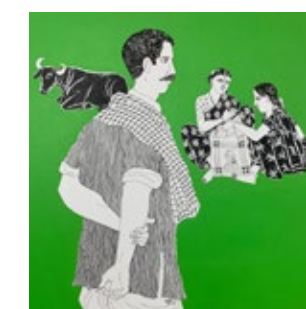
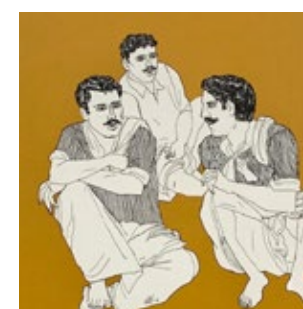


The view is captured as observed from atop a building and in the midst of an animated conversation.



Laxman Aelay sketches his people in black and white compositions against painted backgrounds of rustic hues (red, green, yellow or blue). Captured in their everyday routine, our focus is drawn to the men and women in conversation devoid of distractions. In these portraits, he allows the viewer to inquire about the subjects' identity, rural backgrounds and their lifestyle.

### Other Paintings of Laxman Aelay





# KANDI NARSIMLU



Village Couple  
Sculpture | Acrylic on Fibreglass  
24 x 42 inches each  
₹ 4,85,800

When I was a little boy, I could only play when I was done with all my chores. It also involved carrying water that took about 10 rounds to fill one storage container. I always remember the house I grew up in this quaint village of Kaslabad.

I still remember Kurma Lingam with whom I used to play and whose features, have unknowingly seeped into my work - tall figures, moustache, beedi, and the pouch.

It has been many years since I've moved to the city. But I find every reason to keep visiting my friends in the village.

They recognize me better today because journalists keep enquiring about a Kandi Narsimlu from Kaslabad. Or should I instead be Kaslabad Narsimlu?





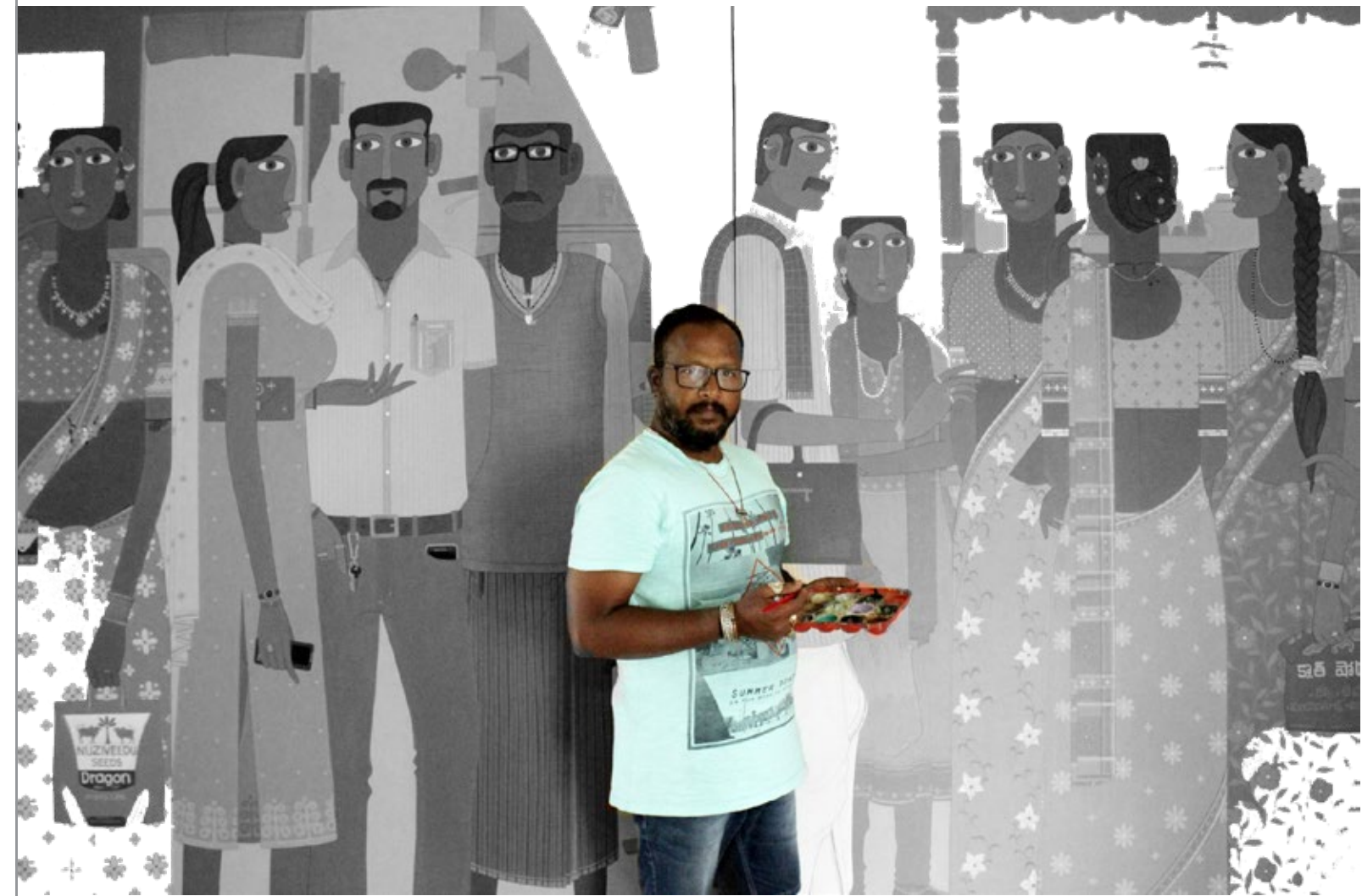
## An Exploration of Village Couple by Kandi Narsimlu



Vermillion bindis, exotic skin tones and intricate details in the form of jewellery are as in real life.

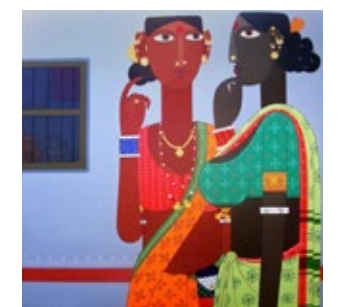
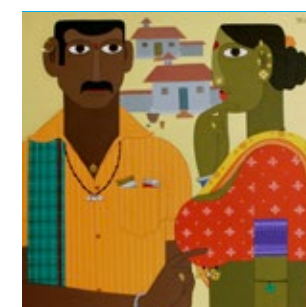


The trio of bucket, storage and vessel can be seen in all his works.



Kandi Narsimlu is committed to documenting the everyday life and culture of his family and village, through his figurative paintings in brilliant hues. This fibreglass sculpture was an attempt to give his works a larger than life perspective. The geometric style that appears frequently in his works are a reflection of his previous animation career. The signature presence of the three vessels to store water is a reminder to himself of his humble beginnings and a tribute to the village where he comes from.

## Other Paintings of Kandi Narsimlu

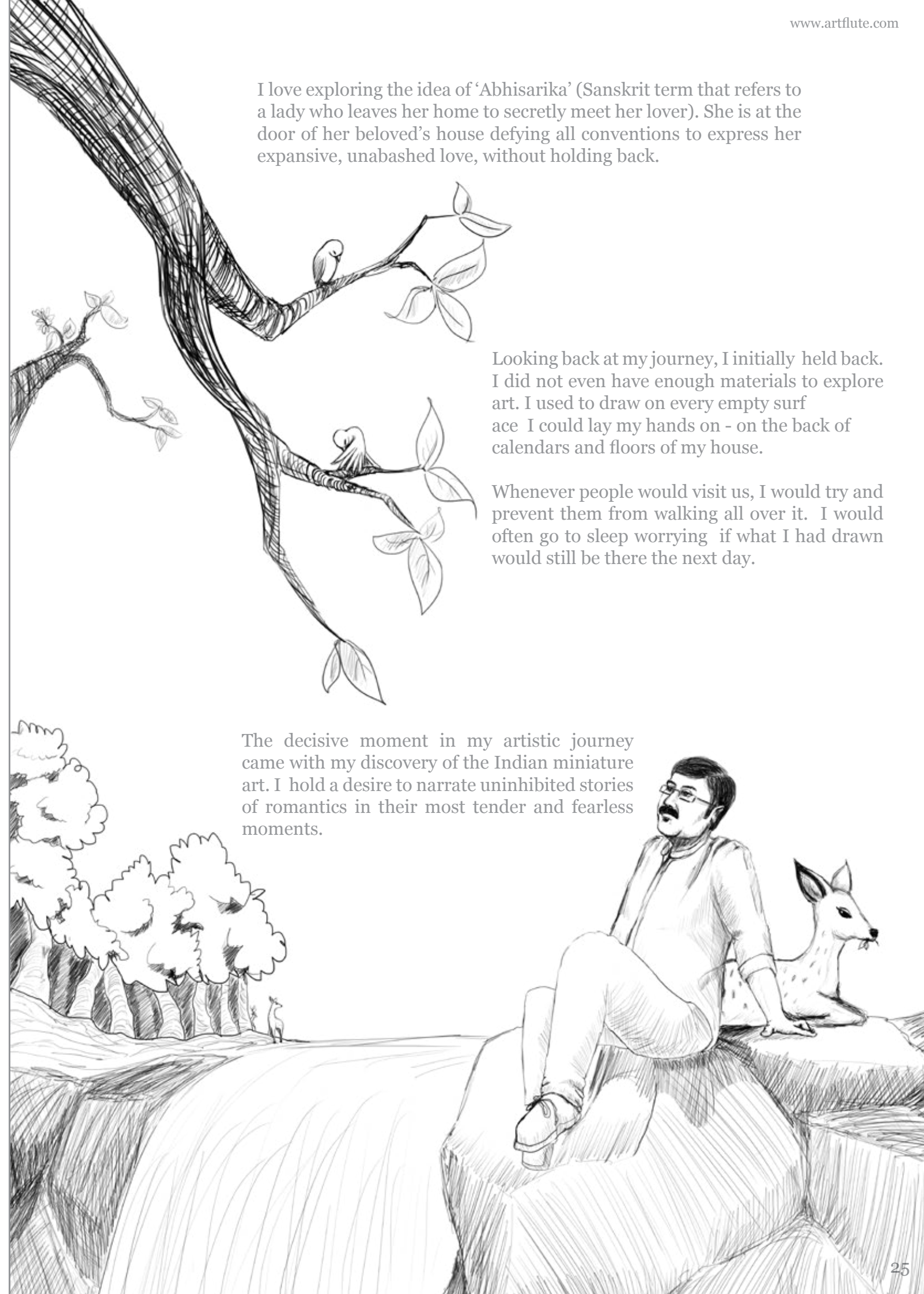




# SUKANTA DAS



Abhisarika  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
36 x 36 inches  
₹ 1,06,900



I love exploring the idea of 'Abhisarika' (Sanskrit term that refers to a lady who leaves her home to secretly meet her lover). She is at the door of her beloved's house defying all conventions to express her expansive, unabashed love, without holding back.

Looking back at my journey, I initially held back. I did not even have enough materials to explore art. I used to draw on every empty surface. I could lay my hands on - on the back of calendars and floors of my house.

Whenever people would visit us, I would try and prevent them from walking all over it. I would often go to sleep worrying if what I had drawn would still be there the next day.

The decisive moment in my artistic journey came with my discovery of the Indian miniature art. I hold a desire to narrate uninhibited stories of romantics in their most tender and fearless moments.



## An Exploration of Abhisarika by Sukanta Das



Within the body of the painting's subjects, the artist sketches stories inspired by Rajasthani miniatures.

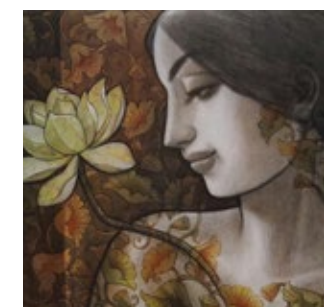
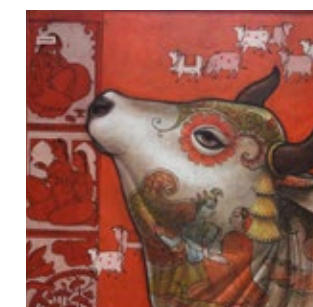
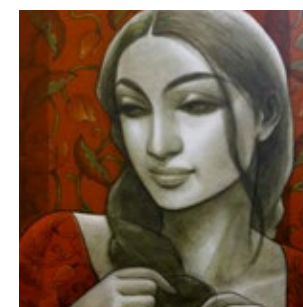


While the details on the body are a representation of traditional Indian art, the human figures are contemporary.



Sukanta Das' works have a surreal and dreamlike quality and often portray the grace and beauty of the feminine form. The miniatures, usually portraying the stories of Krishna, speak of emotions and desires held deep within his characters. He often portrays his figures as a unique blend of nature, mythology and human relationships.

### Other Paintings of Sukanta Das





# VIJIT PILLAI

---



The Maharaja  
Acrylic on Canvas  
36 x 60 inches  
₹ 4,56,300

I still remember how I was fascinated by the smell of paint. I devoured all kinds of medium and tools to make art - watercolour at the age of 5 and oil by 13.

My mother would take me to the galleries and introduce me to the world's museums and Indian master artists. Krishen Khanna and Jehangir Sabavala inspired me the most.

And my father introduced me to the world of jazz that got me through my identity crisis and more.

But if I were to kindle the same love for art in my children, what would I do? How would I explore the forts and palaces, folk and tribal dances of India, among others, with them?

I seek answers to this question and my own solitude through my creative process, not the one to fit into a box.





## An Exploration of The Maharaja by Vijit Pillai

The Maharaja, seen here, is Duleep Singh, the last emperor of Sikhs.

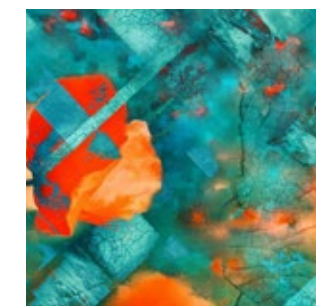


This work, unlike his previous series of digital art, has been hand painted with several layers of colours and textures.

In Vijit's new handpainted series, he has used his experience in digital art to conceptualize the framing of the piece and the tones of colour. Though there is a change in the medium he manages to maintain his original style and composition. The ebb and flow in his paintings are reflections of his love for jazz music.



## Other Paintings of Vijit Pillai





# DIBYENDU UKIL

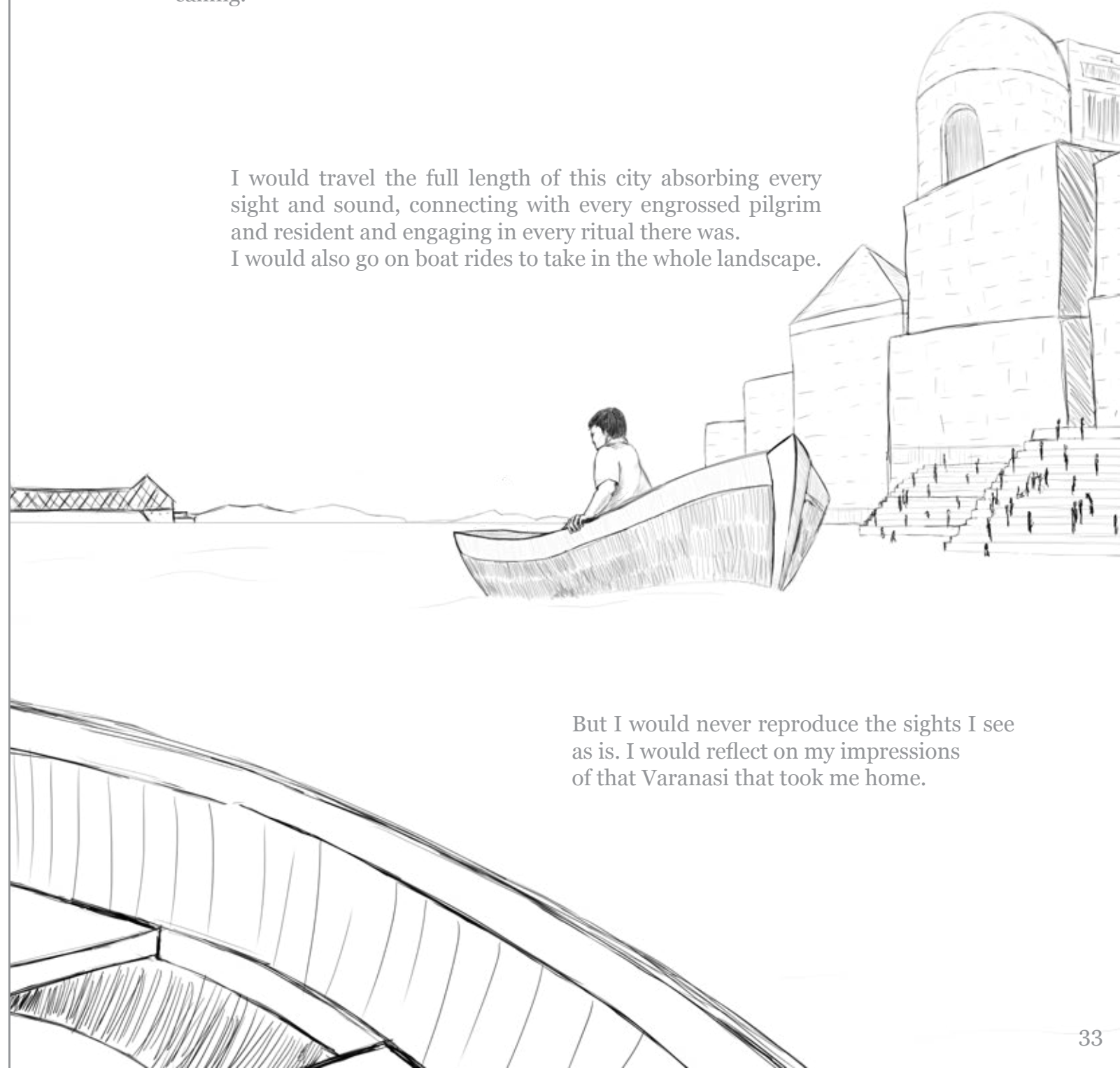


The Ritual Offering  
Acrylic and Oil on Canvas  
36 x 48 inches  
₹ 1,50,000

I grew up on the banks of Ganga(Hoogli) in Kolkata. When I travelled to Varanasi, I was pleasantly surprised to find the familiarity of an environment back home.

What was it about the lanes and ghats of this sacred landscape? A world that is still present and can be heard by those that seek to hear and those that respond to its calling.

I would travel the full length of this city absorbing every sight and sound, connecting with every engrossed pilgrim and resident and engaging in every ritual there was. I would also go on boat rides to take in the whole landscape.



But I would never reproduce the sights I see as is. I would reflect on my impressions of that Varanasi that took me home.



## An Exploration of The Ritual Offering by Dibyendu Ukil

Everyone has a prayer they want heard. And each person's expression is personal to his/her connection with God



For the pandit (priest), the Ganga Aarti holds a muscle memory. He does this every day with an undisturbed, elegant movement and unwavering devotion and care.



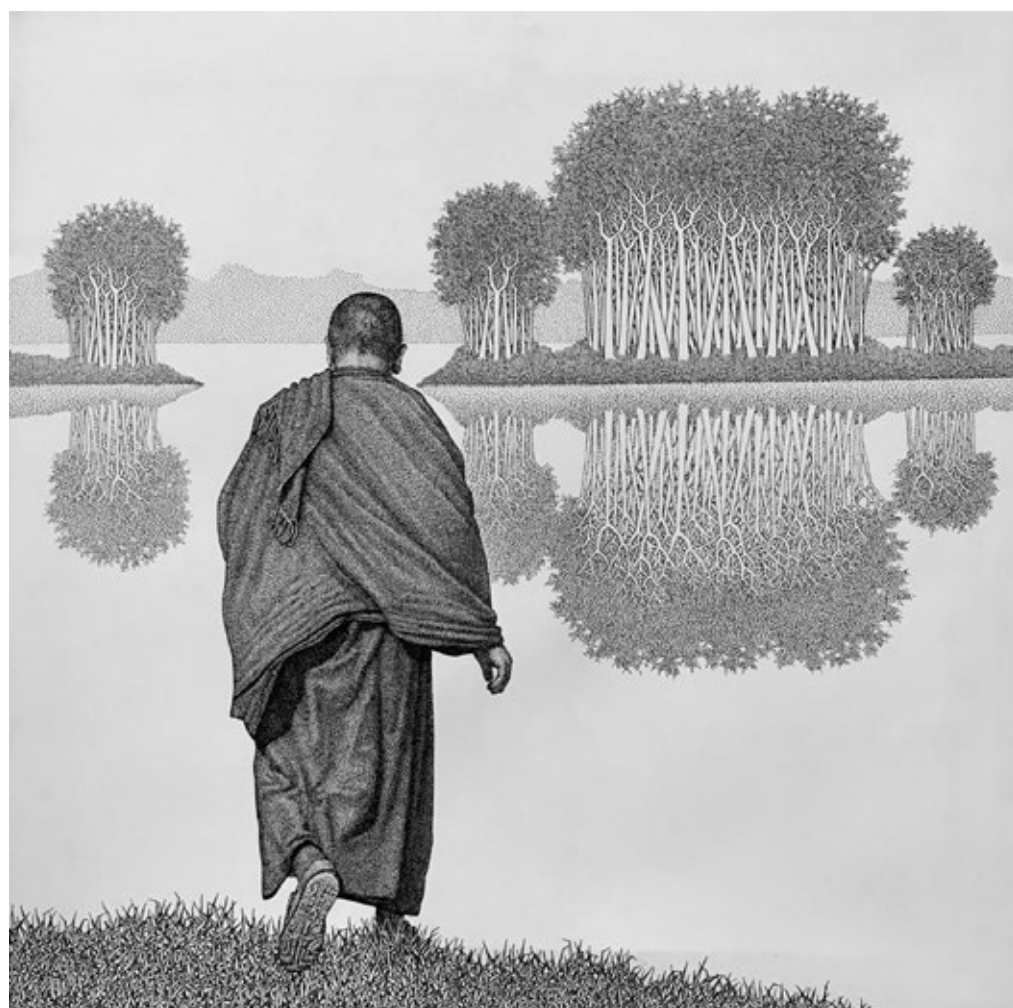
Dibyendu Ukil's realistic landscape, 'The Ritual Offering', brings alive the everyday ritual of the Ganga Aarti by a group of young priests, dressed in silky saffron and white robes. The Aarti begins with the blowing of conch shells and the priests move the lamps up and down in a coordinated motion. The artist absorbs what he sees on the banks of river Ganga and let his memories take over in his creations.

### Other Paintings of Dibyendu Ukil

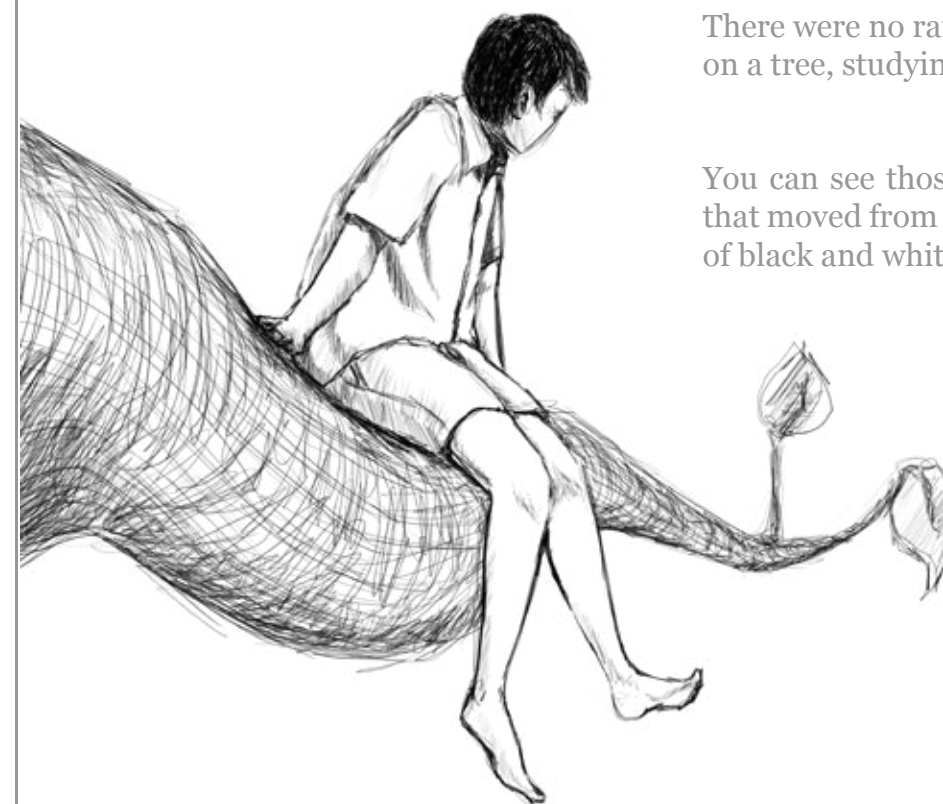




# PRAKASH GHADGE



Monk  
Pen and Ink on Canvas  
24 x 24 inches  
₹ 1,35,200



I was a lone wolf going away into the jungles of Satara. There were no rains. I used to spend hours perched on a tree, studying and taking in all the views.

You can see those barren trees in most of my drawings that moved from linear to finding depth with the contrast of black and white.

The waters in my drawings reflect a lot and are sometimes a little unclear. Until now, when the waters have become still and the reflections are clear too.

It was not deliberate. It was, perhaps, the practice of Vipassana (a meditation technique) where you observe thoughts and let them go until you reach a thoughtless state.

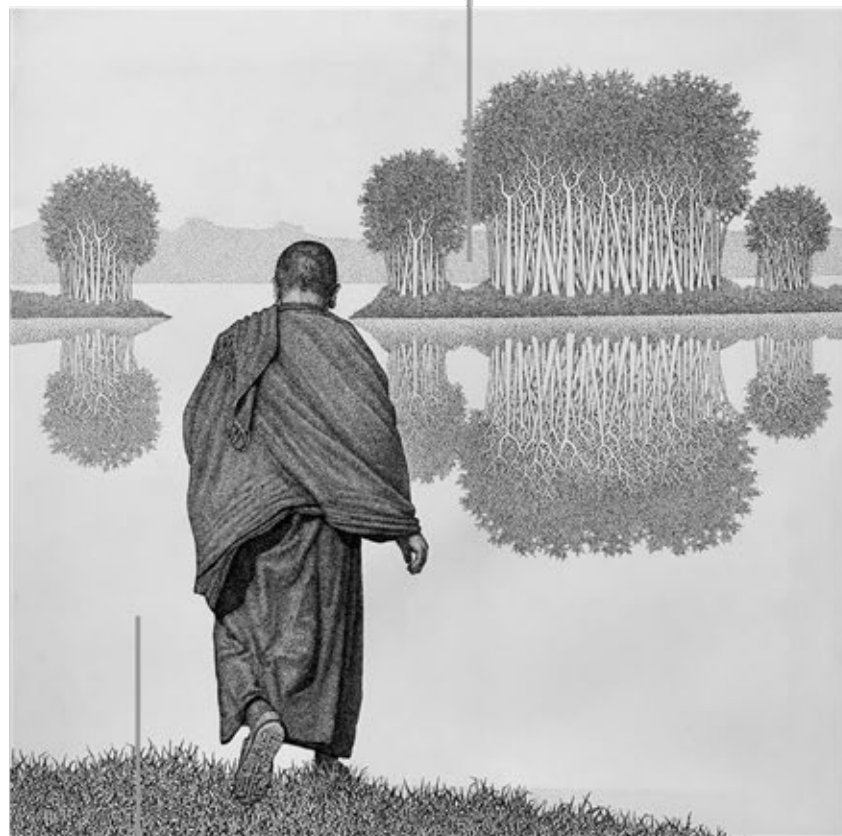




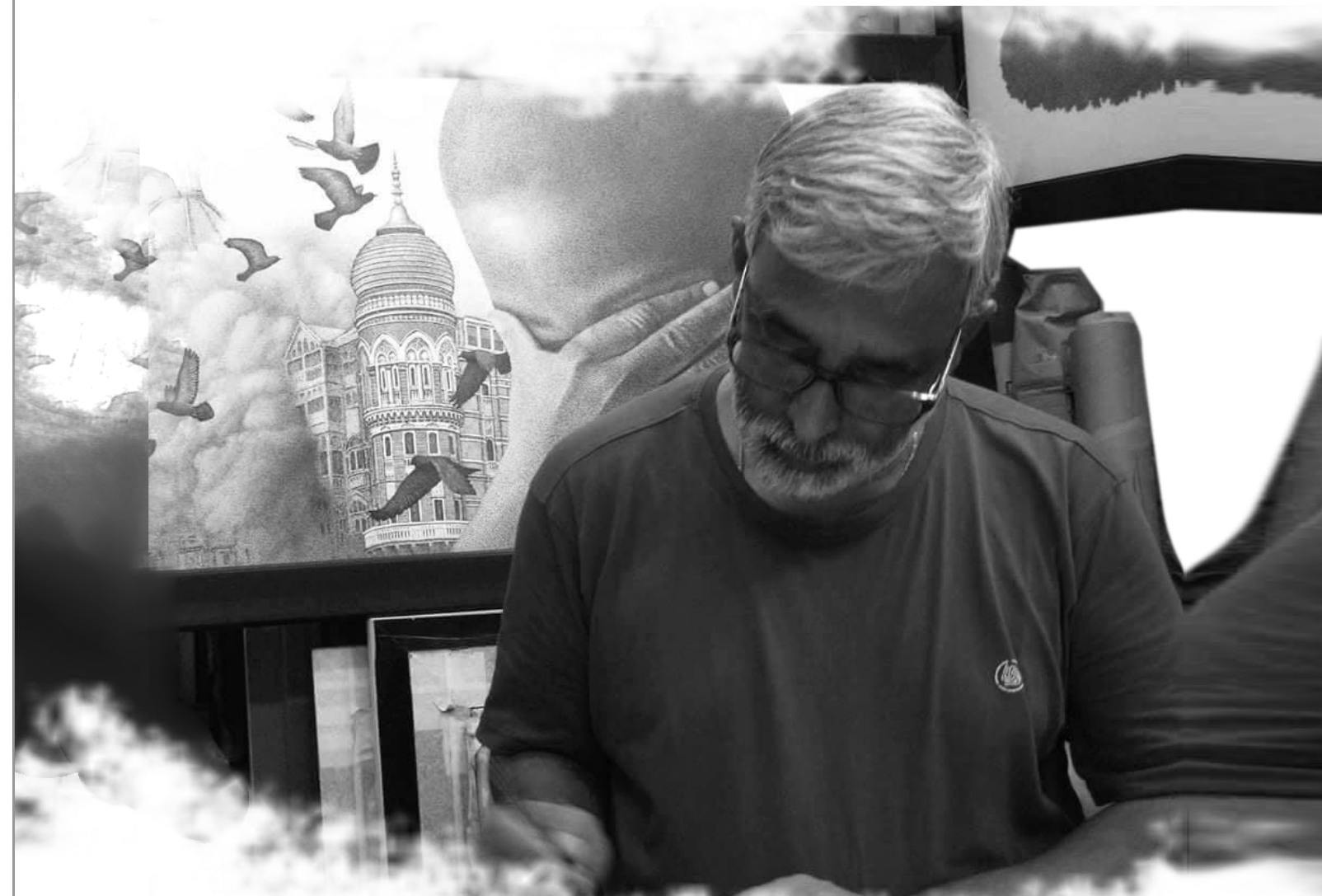
## An Exploration of Monk by Prakash Ghadge



Using styles of stippling and crosshatching, the artist achieves an effect of tonality.

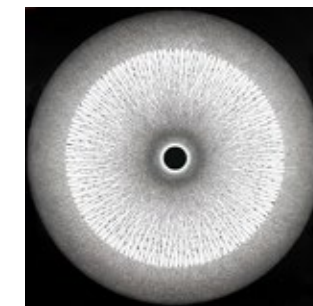
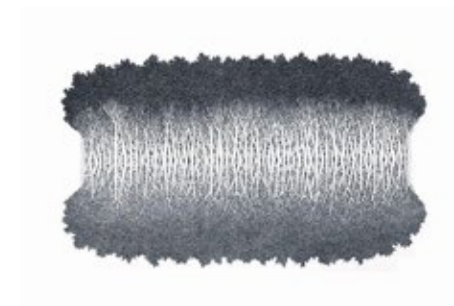


The single monk is seen walking towards the river of his thoughts.



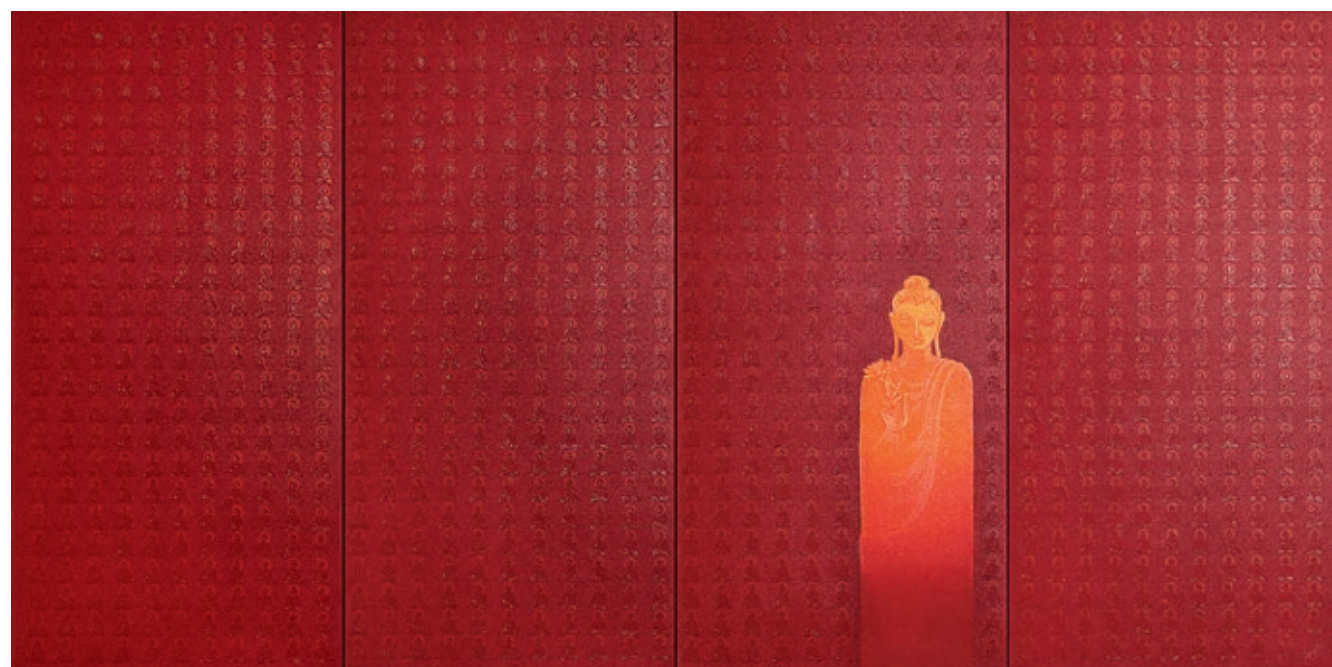
The contrast of black and white in Prakash Ghadge's works are a representation of two energies (positive and negative). And the trees present life's complications and examines the quality of peace achieved with the play of contrasting hues. His monk series usually carries a spiritual warrior giving his thoughts absolute attention rendering, eventually, a sense of contentment.

### Other Paintings of Prakash Ghadge





# SANGEETA ABHAY



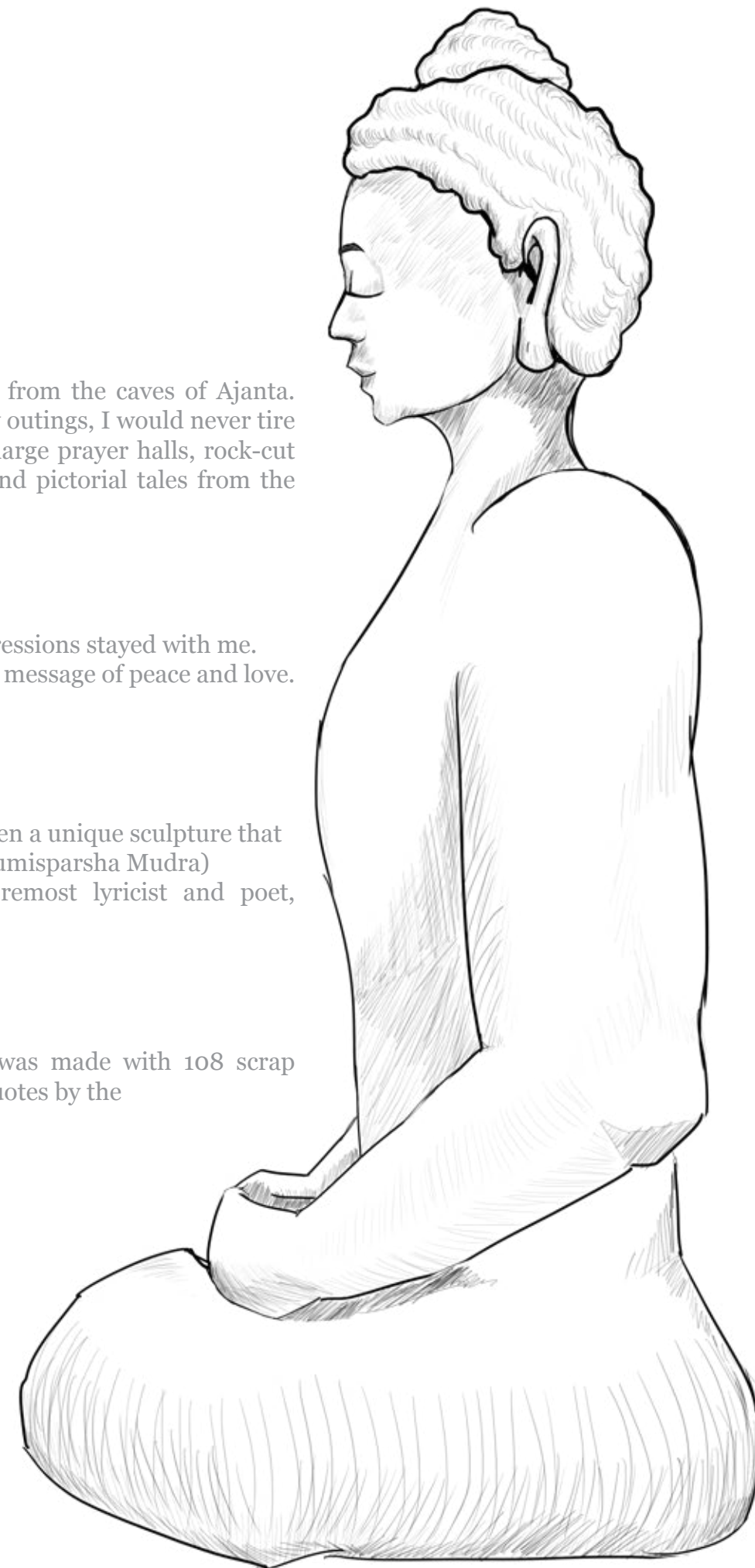
Omnipresence  
Oil on Canvas (4 panel)  
120 x 60 inches  
Price on Request

My home was not too far away from the caves of Ajanta. Whether school picnics or family outings, I would never tire of visiting this place filled with large prayer halls, rock-cut sculptures of Buddhist deities and pictorial tales from the Jatakamala.

All through the years, those impressions stayed with me. I had to find a way of sharing the message of peace and love.

I felt connected with the flow when a unique sculpture that I made of the Buddha (in the Bhumisparsa Mudra) also resonated with India's foremost lyricist and poet, Gulzar.

This sculpture, Reincarnation, was made with 108 scrap keyboards incorporating eight quotes by the Enlightened One.





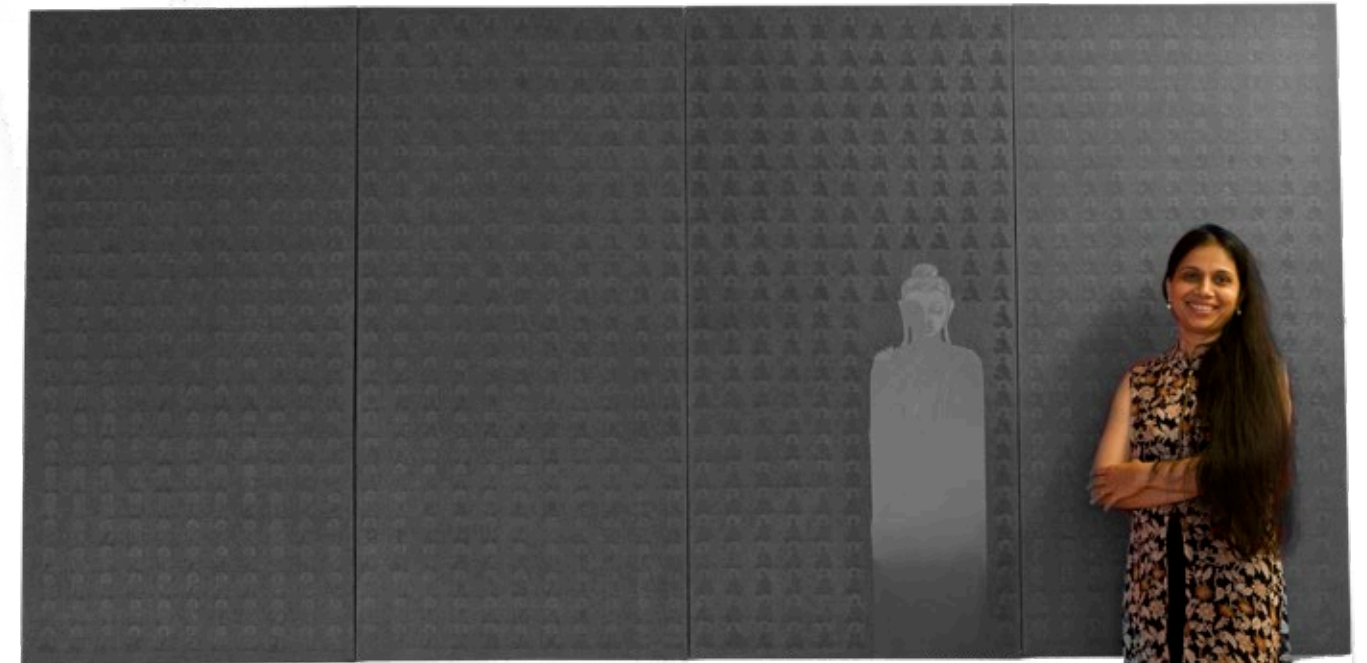
## An Exploration of Omnipresence by Sangeeta Abhay



The 999 small Buddhas in her work, Omnipresence, are hand painted with 8 layers to render an embossed effect.



The 1000<sup>th</sup> Buddha represents the one that is present in all of us.



The 1000 Buddhas, according to the artist, are representations of Shravasti Aavishkaars. Shravasti is closely associated with the life of Gautama Buddha because it is the place where Lord Buddha stunned the non-believers with a million fold manifestation of himself, seated on the thousand-petaled lotus and emanated fire and water from his body. Sangeeta incorporates the timeless teachings of Buddha in her paintings and sculptures. And one of the finest is witnessed in the brilliant Bhoomi Sparsha concept that has Mother Earth in all her glory at its centre.

### Other Paintings of Sangeeta Abhay







We hope you loved reading the lesser known tales of the artists you love and admire. Share with us your favourite story.

And if there's a particular work that you'd love to own, reach out to us on +91 8088 313131 or drop us a note at [experience@artflute.com](mailto:experience@artflute.com).

And we will do all we can to bring you home your favourite piece of art.