

**champa tree**

CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY

Presents



# Why do cicadas sing?

**Chintada Eswara Rao | Gayatri Halder | Mahavir wadhwana  
Navanshu Kumar | Neelima Nath OP | Prasad Shrikant Mestri Prithwish Daw**

**Curated by Keerti Pooja**

W-114, Greater Kailash-2, New Delhi-110048  
Email: champatreeonline@gmail.com Ph: +91 98105 63000

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Preview : Friday, 14th April 2023 (6:00 ~ 8:00 PM)

On view : 15th April ~ 01st June 2023  
11:00am to 6:30pm ( open all days except Monday's & Gov. holidays)

IN SUPPORT OF



ARTIST RESIDENCIES

Gallery Champa Tree is pleased to present "Why do cicadas sing?", an exhibition of the recent works of seven young artists Chintada Eswara Rao, Gayatri Halder, Mahavir wadhwana, Navanshu Kumar , Neelima Nath OP, Prasad Shrikant Mestri, and Prithwish Daw, curated by Keerti Pooja.

Showcasing a selection of drawings and paintings and sculptures with an opening reception on April 14, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. at the gallery premises in Greater Kailash, the exhibition will be on view till June 01, 2023.

As we travel through the maze and labyrinthine lanes of our lives as human beings, we experience the many complex layers of our existence. Through the guiding beacon of experiences, we unfold our own senses in the process. Traversing through the buzzing inner thoughts, we consciously calm the chaos and try to hear the voice resounding within.

The narrative of this show is weaved to experience the innate, intimate inner voices of these brilliant seven artists culminated through their visual language. Their artworks converse with their thoughts like painted poetry and sing them to us as the songs of the inner thoughts.

These emerging artists, fresh with their degrees, come to the front to tell their unheard stories. The show envisions the amalgamating existence of the young voices in the current world masked by capitalism, symbolised through the metaphor of the singing Cicadas, whose humming we hear only in nocturnal settings.

---Keerti Pooja

**Chintada Eswara Rao**







Under construction , Iron , 15.5 x 2.75 x 15.5 inches each, 2022

INR 1,10,000 /-





**Gayatri Halder**





The Tale of Profound (ii), Needle drawn on layer of paper, Overall size variable, 12 x 12 inches, Suite of 6 works, 2023

INR 1,20,000 /-

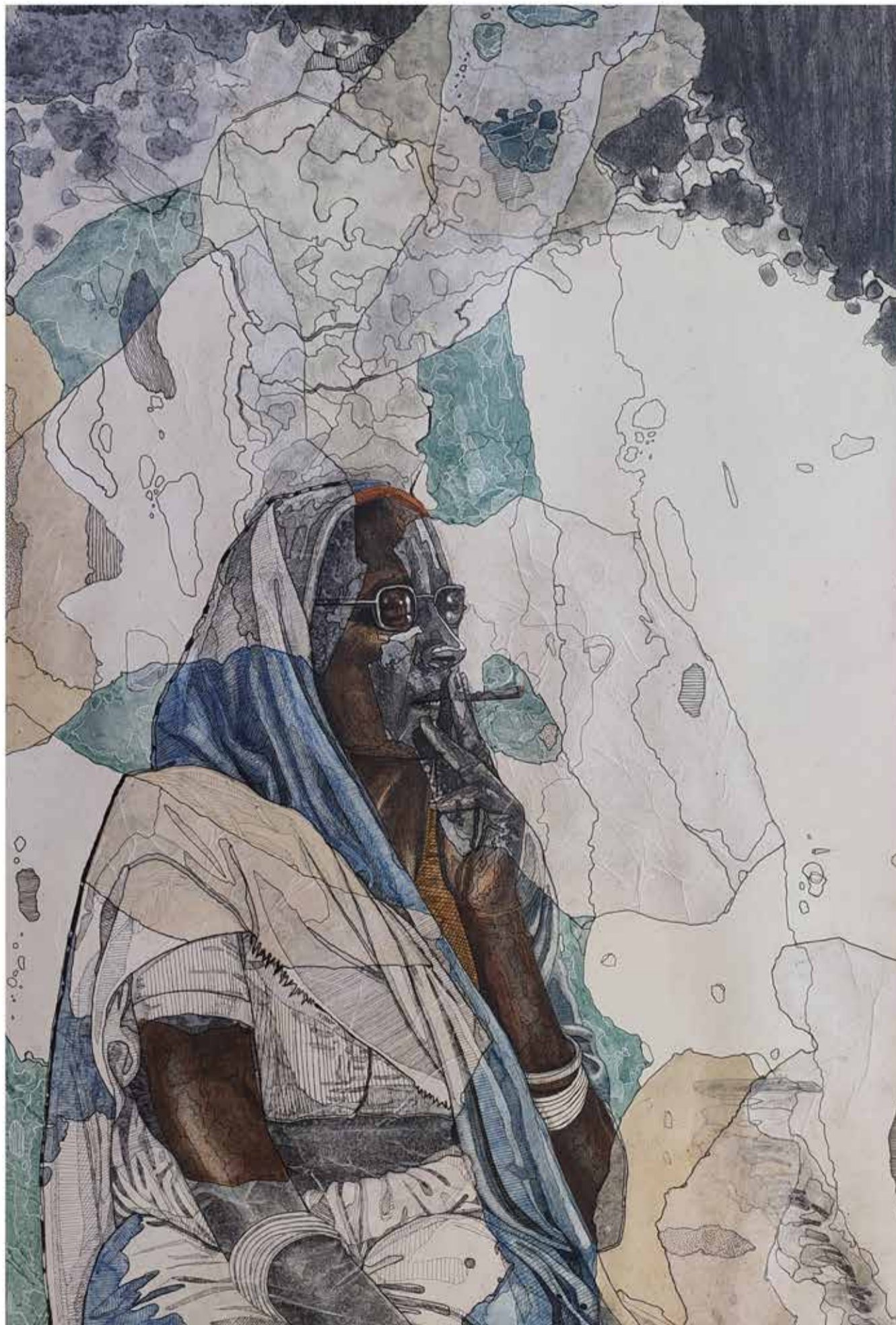
**Mahavir Wadhwana**





**Navanshu Kumar**

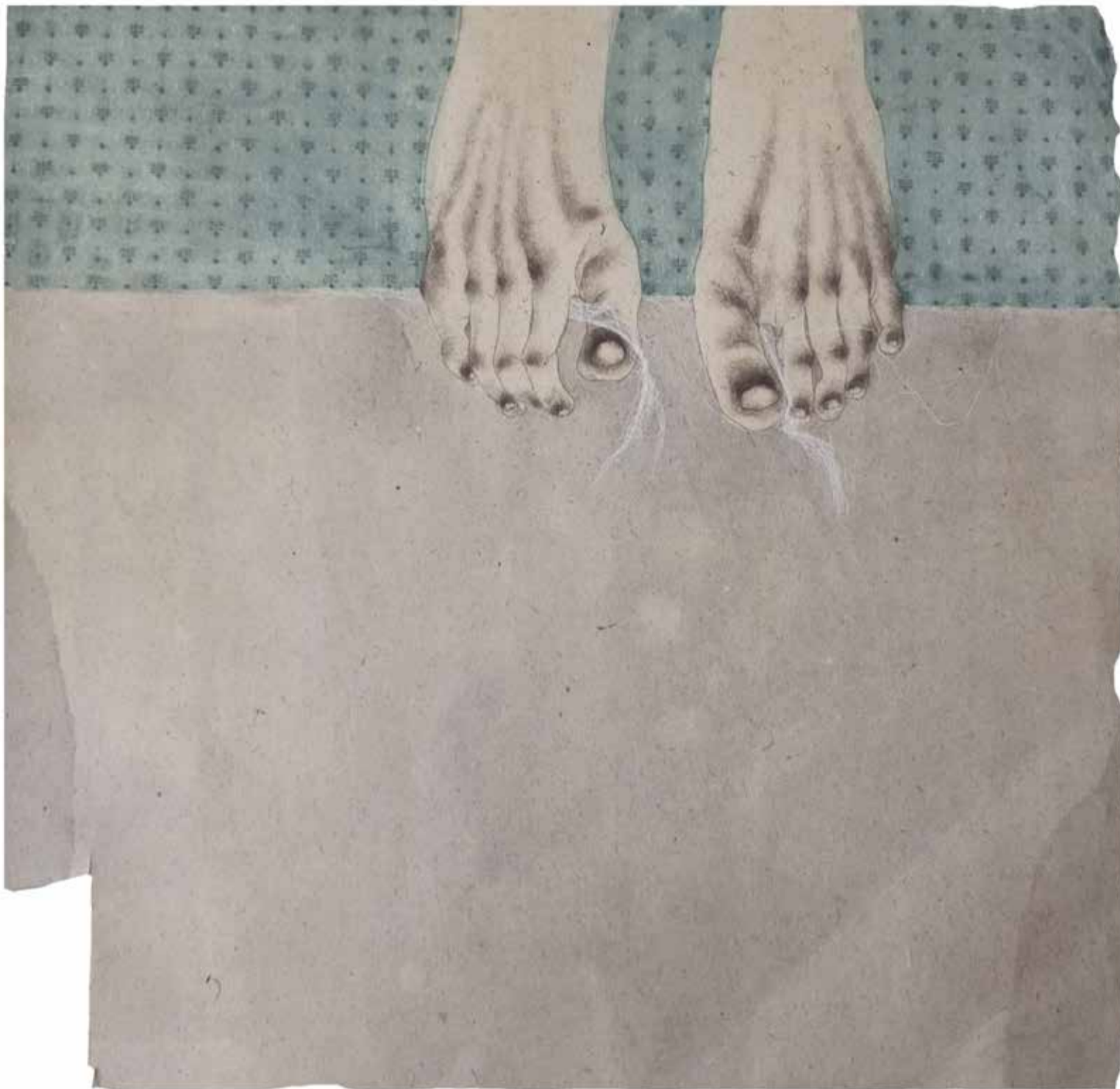






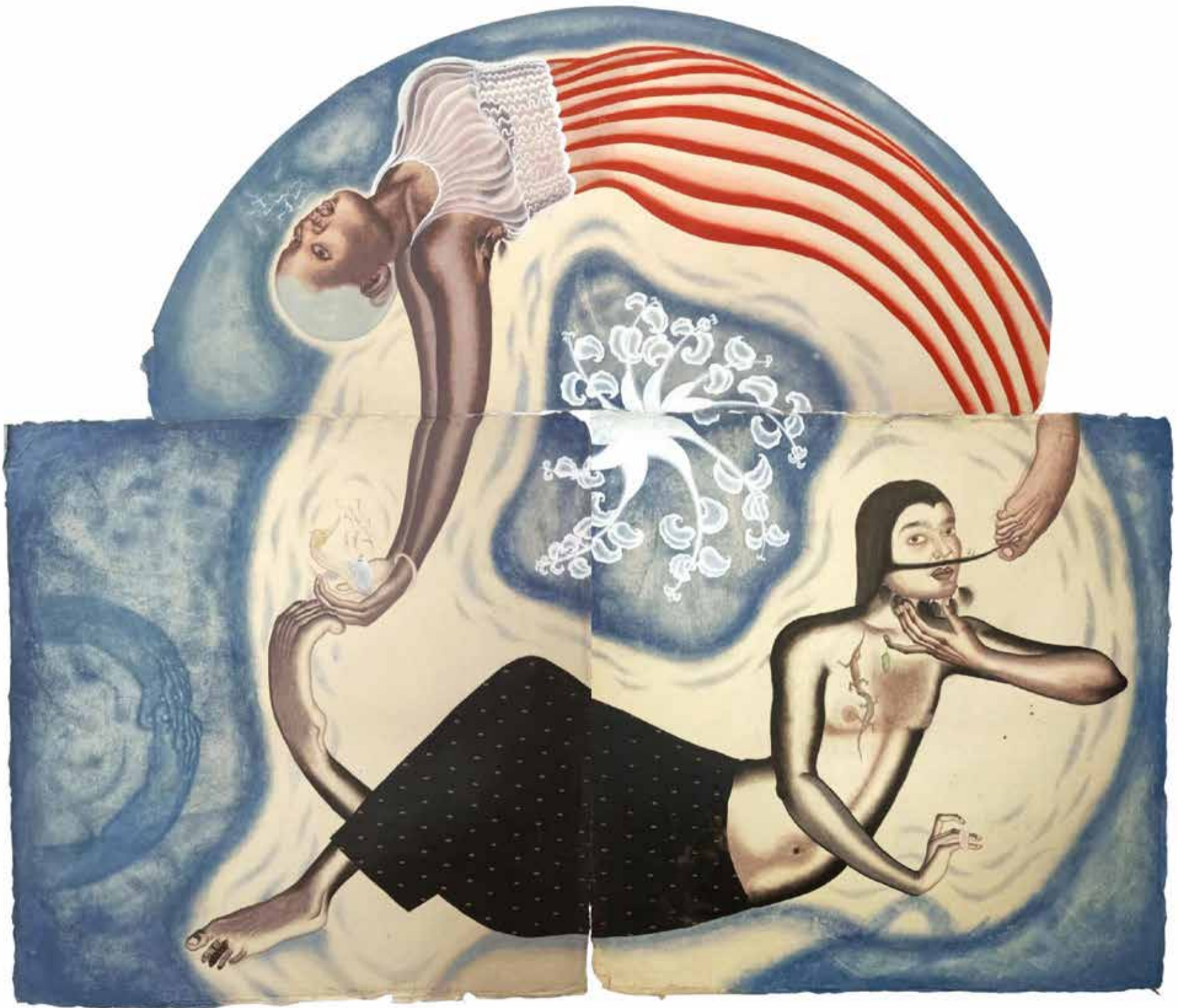


**Neelima Nath OP**





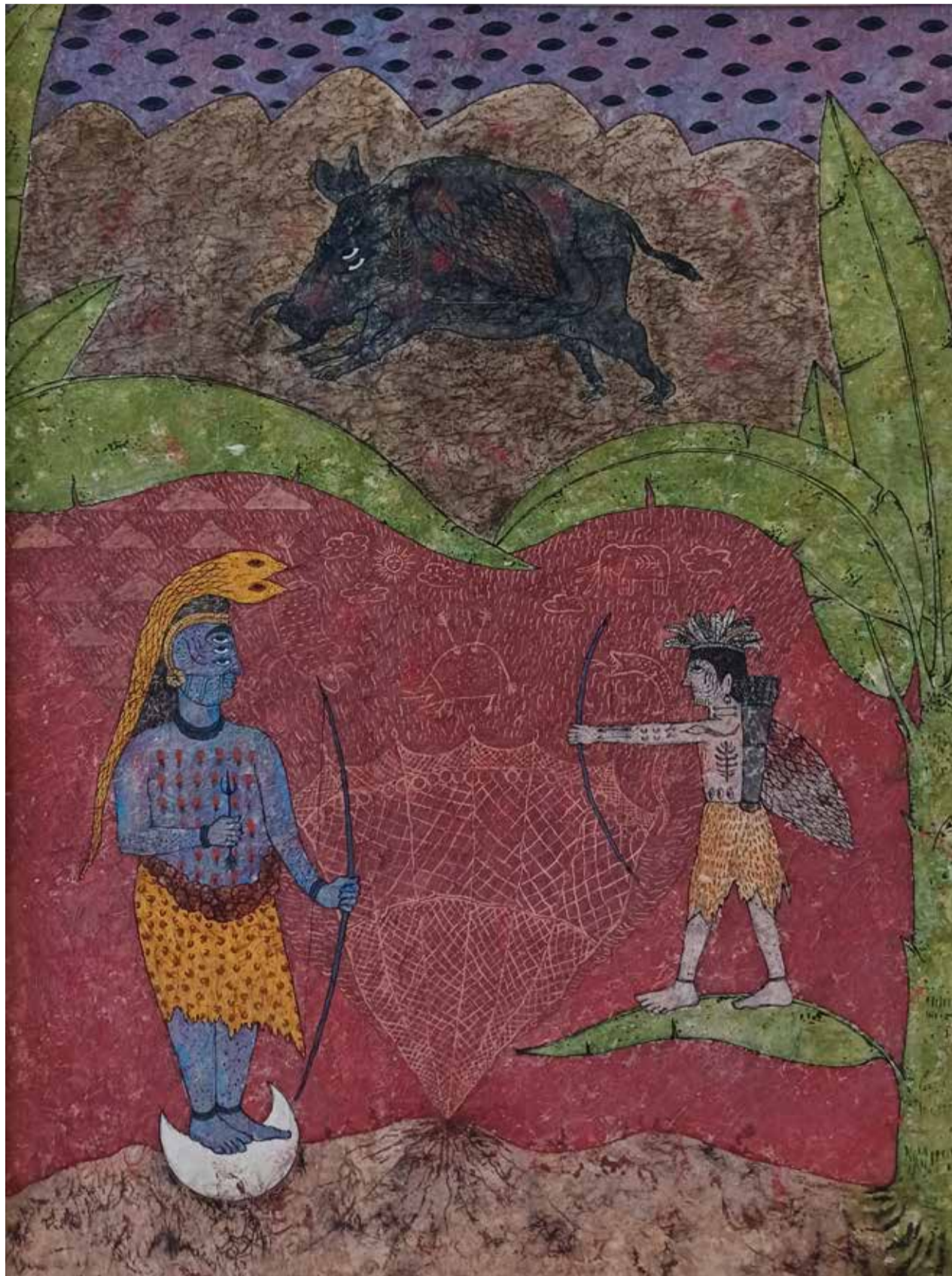




**Prasad Shrikant Mestri**

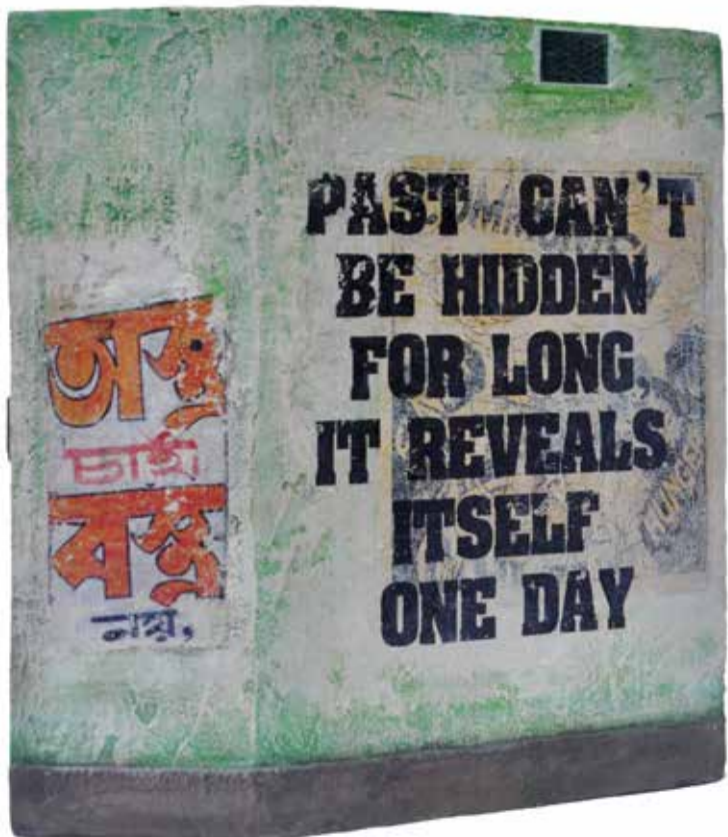






**Prithwish Daw**





Cacophony of Calcutta XI, Acrylic, Marble and Brick dust, color on Plywood block, Variable dimensions, 2022

INR 1,60,000 /-

**Gayatri Halder** (b. 1995, Diamond Harbour, West Bengal, India) completed her BFA & MFA in Painting from Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata.

She has participated in many exhibitions including Charukala Annual Exhibition, (2019); Birla 53rd Annual Exhibition (2020); Kochi Muziris Student's Biennale, Kerala (2020); Tagore International Exhibition of Painting, Bhopal (2020); Imaginarium, Emami Art, Kolkata (2021); Emerging palettes 12 th Edition (2021); CIMA Award Show, (2022); Yours In Truth, Space 118, Mumbai (2022); In her work, she looks closely at subtle patterns of veneration and repeated floral motifs, exploring the abstruseness and intricate complexity of nature.

Gayatri lives & works in Kalyani, West Bengal, India.

**Neelima Nath OP** (b. 1997, Kerala) practice is primarily rooted in painting and explores themes as 'Self' is the center of her artistic practice, creating layers of autobiographical and fictive elements in a particular way which makes them interconnected.

Neelima completed her BVA and MVA in painting from MS University Baroda Gujarat.

She has been part of many exhibitions including Baroda Annuelle, Gallery White, Baroda (2022) LOKAME THARAVADU (The World is One Family) Group show Curated by Bose Krishnamachari, Kerala.

Neelima lives and works in Vadodara, Gujarat.

**Mahavir Wadhwa**, Born in 1994 in Surendranagar, Gujarat, India, Mahavir Wadhwa's work appreciate and celebrates intricacies of struggling-class life and serendipitous insights into the social paradigm.

He has completed his BVA & MVA with a specialization in painting from MS University, Baroda receiving gold medal in his masters and have received Jayram Patel Scholarship Award, in 2018. Besides shows, he has been part of numerous workshops and residencies including Arts4All Sonalika Residency Delhi, Space Studio Baroda and have been part of residencies with local artisans exploring and experimenting with pigments and fabric materials to bring down in his works.

Mahavir lives and works in Baroda, Gujarat.

**Navanshu Kumar**, Born in 1995 in Bhilai, Chattisgarh. Navanshu has completed his BVA and MVA in painting from IKS Khairagarh, Chhattisgarh. He is awarded many awards and scholarships, including the Ministry of Culture Scholarship for Young Artists in Painting (2017), the Prafulla Dhanukar State Award (2017), and more. Apart from this, he has been part of the Student Biennale in Kochi (2018).

Navanshu artworks are treated as allegories that are made from stories derived from different characters from different walks of life.

He lives and works in Chattisgarh.

**Prithwish Daw** (b. 1990, Kolkata). He has received his Bachelor's from Indian College of Art and Draftsman ship and Master's from Rabindra Bharati University. He has been part of many group shows - Birla Annual show (2021), Cima Award Show (2022), Lalit Kala Academy 62-National Exhibition 2022, Ravi Jain memorial award show org by Dhoomimal Art Gallery (2021), 19th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh 2022, 'Immerse' exhibition conducted by carpearte, youngart support and "Somiya University" 2022. "Separation" Exhibition org by hidden artist group at M.S.U Vadodara 2022. Art incept grant show 2023.

He lives in Kolkata and develops his artwork which is based on the old Calcutta's wall, and architecture in North Kolkata.

**Prasad S. Mestri**, Dahanu, 1996. Prasad comes from the tribal area and is inspired by his love for Tribal Culture and Nature. He has done bachelors and masters in painting from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. Painting and Installation are the ways through which he expresses himself. Prasad is a recipient of Hyundai -Art for hope Grant 2023, Emerging pallates-2022 at Shrishti Art Gallery-Hyderabad, Kochi Biennale 2023 and many more national awards.

**Chintada Eswara Rao**, born in 1998 in Andhra Pradesh. He has completed his BVA from Andhra university and MVA specializing in sculpture, from the Faculty of Fine Arts, collage of art Delhi.

His works evolve from the daily observations of his surroundings and psychological journey. He uses Iron in his works as the main form to represent the Constitution in its original form. Iron cannot be fixed by its material appearance. It keeps on changing by rusting itself with climatic conditions, similarly Eswara tries to put forth his works with rusted effect that changes time to time.

Eswara works in Chennai as a Lalit kala scholar.

**Keerti Pooja (curator)** (b.1995, Jamshedpur) completed her BFA in Painting from Andhra University in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, and MFA in Printmaking from M. S. University, Vadodara, Gujarat.

She has been the recipient of accolades from Prafulla Dhanukar Art Foundation for three consecutive years –

Keerti has been awarded the Vishakhapatnam City award for painting in 2016, Women Artist award for Andhra Pradesh in 2017, Andhra Pradesh State award in 2018, Abir's first take 2019 winner, Indian Print Maker house as Runner up (2021), MAP Grant Bangalore (2021) and more. She has participated in many art exhibitions and workshops in India and Belgium and her works were showcased at the Indian Art Fair recently. Keerti's works are part of private collections both in India as well as overseas.

Presently, she lives and works from her studio in Vadodara.

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