ALCHEMIES OF FORM



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

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CURATOR: **UMA NAIR**

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SAFFRONART

In association with Krishen Khanna Art LLP,
Thota Vaikuntam Art LLP and Namtech Fine Art



PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE

Public art, a profound medium of expression and cultural engagement, remains largely absent in India despite its rich artistic heritage. The Public Art initiative will introduce and integrate public art into India's urban landscapes. With the aim to create accessible and engaging art experiences for the general public, this initiative will feature eminent Indian artists including **Krishen Khanna, Thota Vaikuntam, Himmat Shah,** among other contemporary Indian artists.

The primary objective of this project is to raise awareness about Indian art, the significance of public art and increase its accessibility to a broader audience. We seek to transform urban environments into vibrant cultural spaces that reflect and celebrate India's diverse artistic talents.

Public art serves as a powerful means of communication, capable of conveying a wide range of ideas, emotions, and messages to the community. It transcends language barriers and connects with individuals on a deeply personal level, fostering empathy and understanding. Public art also plays a pivotal role in shaping the cultural identity of a place. It fosters a sense of shared heritage and collective memory, creating landmarks that resonate with the community's history and values. By transforming mundane spaces into engaging and inspiring environments, public art invites the public to pause, reflect, and interact with their surroundings in meaningful ways. Most importantly, by placing art in public domains, we democratize access to cultural experiences. This initiative ensures that art is not confined to galleries and museums but is available to everyone, regardless of their socio-economic background. It bridges the gap between artists and the public, fostering a more inclusive cultural dialogue.

The introduction of public art in India represents a significant step towards fostering a more culturally vibrant and inclusive society. This initiative would create a legacy of art that enriches our urban landscapes and connects with the community on a profound level. By celebrating the talent of eminent Indian artists, along with making art an integral part of everyday life, we can preserve India's rich cultural tapestry and to elevate public spaces through the power of art.

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VIEWING
30 January - 9 February 2025
Monday to Sunday, 11:00 am - 6:30 pm

VENUE
Bikaner House, Pandara Road
New Delhi 110003

To RSVP and for enquiries contact
exhibition@saffronart.com

Krishen Khanna Art LLP | Thota Vaikuntam Art LLP | Namtech Fine Art

KRISHEN KHANNA

‘Art can provide you with the metaphysical answers that you have been looking for even while you are involved in its creation. They call it drawing. I really have no name for it. It’s a compulsion, an itch. The more I scratch, the more I want to continue. It is enjoyable but it can also hurt when nothing emerges but an incomprehensible mess. Yet, for me, art is the ultimate bliss.’



Retired Captain Ramesh Kumar Accordion Wale
100” x 65” x 76”, Resinated Fibreglass with Automotive Paint











Davinder Raj Tutu Wale
102" x 95" x 80", Resinated Fibreglass with Automotive Paint











The function of art is not decorative. True art defeats time, place and people. Art must go beyond a pretty picture. My gaze is independent of my pencil-holding hand. I think I could shut my eyes without ceasing to scribble. People say, 'A map of an unknown galaxy', 'the pencil has become an extension of the nerves of my hand', and other such nonsense. Sustained scribbling achieves only a small inroad which may dislodge an image. Sounds dramatic, doesn't it? But it isn't always so. I would repeat the contours of a subject I have tackled before, which is not to say that I would not go back to the same subject in the hope of discovering another dimension.

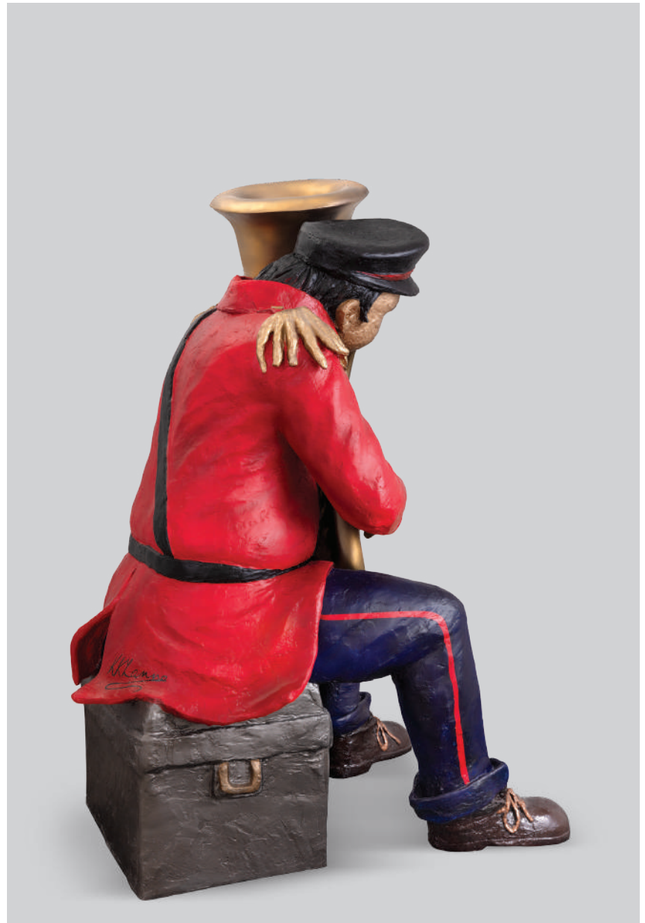




Shyam Pratap Bhompu Wale
83” x 55” x 46”, Resinated Fibreglass with Automotive Paint









ABOUT SAFFRONART

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Founded in 2000 by Minal and Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart is one of India's most reputed auction houses with its flagship gallery in Mumbai and offices in New Delhi, London, and New York. Over the past 25 years, it has set several benchmarks and played a pivotal role in shaping the Indian art market, both at home and globally. Together with its sister online auction and e-commerce platform StoryLTD, Saffronart has over six hundred auctions to its credit. It was the first Indian auction house to pioneer online auctions and embrace cutting-edge technology, bringing transparency to collecting art and expanding accessibility across geographies, and was the subject of a case study at Harvard Business School in 2005. Its services also include private sales, appraisals, and valuations for clients. Beyond auctions, Saffronart has also fostered collaborations across the art ecosystem through seminal exhibitions in partnership with galleries and industry experts in India and internationally, a Dialogues in Art series of webinars, and publications.

SAFFRONART

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