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Delhi: An all-women show (ME)(MORY) makes a splash at Vadehra Art Gallery

In this rare exhibition, 9 female artists from the subcontinent take the spotlight to define unique artistic interpretations of the 'self'

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Vadehra Art Gallery



Faiza Butt, The Sleepless Constellation



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all-women group show christened (ME)(MORY). The exhibition, curated by Dipti Anand, is available for viewing at Vadehra Art Gallery, New

Himali Singh Soin, Bhaaj Dogra, and Shilpa Saha.

“Over the immersive course of varied experiences, expressions and interests, I kept gravitating back to the idea of self-making. The genesis of this exhibition was in the contemplation of self-construction and its visual potential. The self-generating individual is a subject beset equally with conviction and vagaries, which are as cognitively expressible in art as in life; as a symbol, as a figure, as a truth, as a dream, as a myth or as a landscape,” says Anand.

Perceptual Interpretations

The exhibition traverses the multisensory and multidimensional realms of the mind, gleaning renderings of the self through such myriad windows as memory, personal history, and creative and cultural consciousness. It shines a light on perceptual interpretations of the imagined or invented self, which challenge the traditional literary genre of memoir by embracing elements of possibility rather than evidence. “In (ME) (MORY), the artists approach the construction of these artworks as they might the construction of themselves, from a quasi-dream-like state, or an ecstasis, or states of overpowering emotion, seemingly shedding their exterior bodies for the visceral and whimsical world of within,” shares Anand.

The Philosophical Currency

The featured artworks depict narratives that are as inspired by fact as they are by fiction. And the notable diversity of media and materials, visual languages, techniques and creative intentions are certainly a hat-tip to this testimony. While Himali Singh Soin’s sensory and algorithmic



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representational sculptures in Ruby Chishti's repertoire are reconnected personal memories translated to larger, shared experiences. Rakhi

AVAKAHI, WHOSE SELF-STUDY ARTWORKS ARE INFORMED BY THE INTERDEPENDENT emotional-physical body and the censoring of aggrandised values in anthropocentric human forms respectively. Biraaj Dodiya's series of abstract oil-painted landscapes, meanwhile, channel an unknown world navigated by intuition rather than vision, a sensibility echoed by Faiza Butt in her autobiographical ceramic and porcelain sculptures. Where Shrimanti Saha's art takes root in varying disciplines, ranging from cultural consciousness to the histories of myth and reality, Anoli Perera's book art explores a curious symbiosis with a selective memory of personal-historical moments.



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Ruby Chishti, An Intangible Sanctuary of Ocean and Stars



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a celebration of branches of sensitivity, particularly the feminine. When first reaching out to the participating artists, I had in mind the diversity

representationally exhaustive. In the midst of my curation, I discovered that these distinct artistic practices come together as a staging of the creative process, which is not linear or non-concurrent. Despite the overlaps, for me, the works emerged as their own encapsulations, or different attitudes of self-construction: Ruby Chishti's as experience, Himali Singh Soin's as reflection, Biraaj Dodiya's as encounter, Rakhi Peswani's as latency, Bakula Nayak's as inspiration, Anoli Perera's as translation, Faiza Butt's as illumination, Shrimanti Saha's as verification, and Apnavi Makanji's as revision," notes Anand.



Apnavi Makanji, Drawing Breath LXXIV

In-Person and Virtual Viewing



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ensure the safety of our visitors. In addition, we're embracing an immersive 3D digital technology experience via Matterport on our

artists, working from different parts of the world and expressing themselves in diverse mediums, the artists' contributions range from drawings on paper to textile installations and ceramic sculptures. The exhibition promises to be a visual treat for all our audiences, and we look forward to sharing it with everyone both digitally and at our physical space in Delhi."

(ME)(MORY) is on show at Vadehra Art Gallery, Delhi, from January 22 (today) to February 27, 2021

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