

PAINTINGS & SCULPTURES

EQUUS



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SAFFRONART ALEPH

In association with *Namtech Fine Art*



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ALEPH

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FOREWORD

Artists have long used equestrian influences in their works with horses as symbols of beauty, strength, and freedom. Their presence in works of art spans centuries and cultures, and has left a lasting impression on various art forms. Although the physical presence of horses today is limited to the armed forces, sports, or wedding celebrations, horses have not just served as pets for humans but as companions for centuries. The partnership between humans and horses is one of the oldest in history. Further, this unique bond has evolved over time and has been an integral part of shaping our cultures and economies. It is an example of the profound impact animals have had on our lives.

Horses have played an enduring role in art throughout history and this relevance continues to remain strong in modern times. These magnificent creatures have been depicted using varied artistic styles, reflecting the cultural, social, and historical contexts of each era while maintaining a timeless fascination with the noble grace and elegance of the horse.

The artworks in this publication are a testament to the fact that they remain ingrained in our lives and continue to stride alongside humans, if not in the flesh, then through our art.

Tanuj Berry & Saman Malik
July 2023
New Delhi



EQUUS | UMA NAIR

Horses belong to the haunts of history. Throughout the ages, horses have had the power to delight the human imagination. In this collection of Indian contemporary horse studies, we see that horses exist in the minds of artists not just as an idea, but as a documentation of a rhetoric of dreamlike drawings/paintings, like in the hands of India's finest figurative master Jogen Chowdhury or as conceptual artwork on the canvas of modern master Manu Parekh, who extols the horse from the ageless *Guernica*.

Krishen Khanna's work from his bandwallah series personifies the horse that pulls the carriage at wedding processions, providing a commentary on the cultural fabric of Punjabi weddings and bands he would watch during the marriage season in the capital city of Delhi.

For Phaneendra Nath Chaturvedi, the horse Chetak swims in the abyss of a surrealist dream project with a scooter and a swarm of butterflies denoting life's essence and mortality. When you look at the works of Ranbir Kaleka, you know that the horse is a symbol of a remembrance with more clarity and emotion than most existing works of art. Kaleka paints the epoch of literary allusions as he creates a choreography of characters and places. Nataraj Sharma captures the patient horse waiting in anticipation against colonial architectural nuances, while Jagannath Panda uses fabric to capture the quintessence of the unique quality and beauty of the majestic animal.

In art history, horse figures have been founded upon antiquity, alchemy, as well as various mythologies and everyday items that took highly symbolic form in portraiture, still life, and other genres. Subba Ghosh dips his brush into the depths of solitude to create specific contexts of life in its many rhythms.

The sky with its cumulus clouds and mountain ranges join to form Sudhanshu Sutar's horse, but it is distinguished in all circumstances through a conception of the natural order of the world as he sees it. That is, as a devolution of the domain of light. K. G. Subramanyan's double-headed horse is listening to his master as his being evolves from his adept and keen awareness of the symbolic power of the narrative that cuts across time. Thota Vaikuntam's little rocking house appears as a toy in the maternal image of mother and son in conversation while Ompal Sansanwal infuses the horses with the Purusha–Prakriti principle of man and nature as he recreates the silhouette with the textural nuances of the verdant branches of lush trees, overflowing with leaves.

Neither grandiose nor extravagant, Adimoolam's charcoals are horse portraits that tweak the tried-and-true conventions of this popular genre to reveal the quiet grace and gravitas of sifted chapters that speak of a tranquil quietude. Young Yashika Sugandh revels in a miniature mode of composing works of equine stories, from the wide sweeps on large surfaces to concentrated performances on smaller ones. To feel the bristles of pensive and playful moments glide across a body and effectively translate this requires the mining of corporeal memory. A poetics of mark-making is thus established and remains integral to Yashika's practice. Observe the delicacy of each brushstroke as she lovingly paints these subjects that scale gesture in the power of happiness and desire in the life of an equine.

SCULPTURAL VIGNETTES

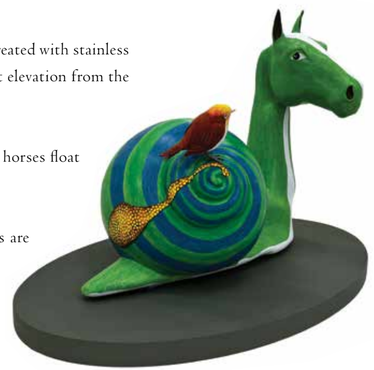
This suite of sculptures takes on the aesthetics and sentiments of spirited beings. Jogen Chowdhury's bronze goes back to the renaissance and his days in Paris when he studied the European masters. Already fixed in his mind's eye is the image of the horse's body, like a resurrection in the sky of so many stories.

In her own liberalization of folk idioms, Madhvi Parekh's horse focusses on the 'bare bones' of rustic rhythms. Veer Munshi's white horse references facets of migration as he stands in the aesthetic of silence, with the many miniature migrants walking on its back. While Munshi captures the drama with cold precision, he also seeks the coordinates of spiritual wonder within these zones of human struggles and sorrow.

Valay Shinde pursues a primordial silence, one that vibrates with sublimity. His version of the horse created with stainless steel discs prescribes a transformation, as though the experience of being inside could provide a slight elevation from the world beyond its walls.

Gaurab Das travels within the shades, pursuing a poetics of line and single colour patina. His winged horses float with ease in relation to one another.

In all these sculptures, discernible lines persist, the assertion of presence. These discernible subjects are conceived in suggestion and then articulated. These artists are interested in edges and the maintenance of visibility without exact illustration. Scale stages its own connotation as well. These sculptures offer an extended space to dwell within the minds of horse lovers across the four winds and seven seas.



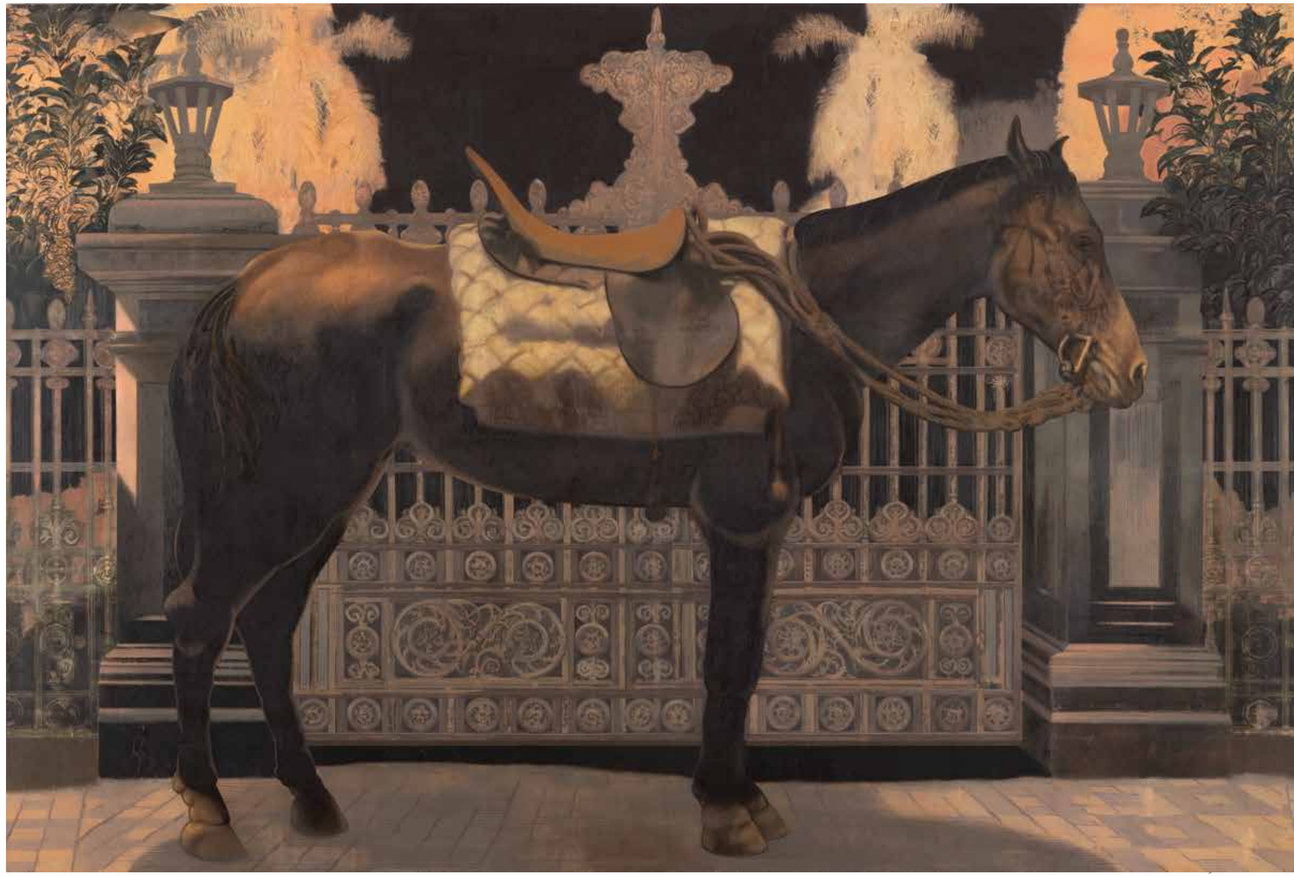
PHANEENDRA NATH CHATURVEDI
'CHETAK' MIX MEDIA ON PAPER
54 x 77"



JOGEN CHOWDHURY
ACRYLIC AND DRY PASTEL ON CANVAS
72 x 96" 2021



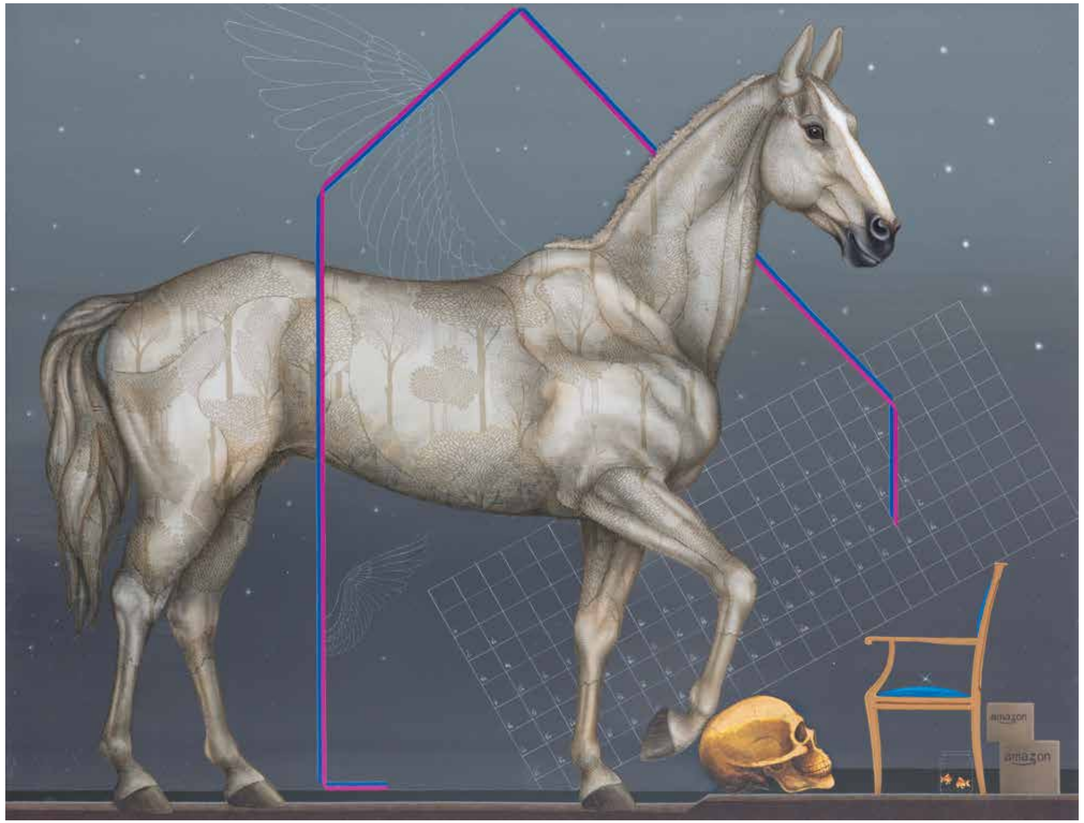
NATARAJ SHARMA
OIL ON CANVAS
72 x 108" 2021



NATARAJ SHARMA
OIL ON CANVAS
72 x 108" 2021



JAGANNATH PANDA
ACRYLIC AND FABRIC ON CANVAS
60 x 78" 2020



MANU PAREKH
'WHO KILLED HORSE OF GUERNICA FROM MY TOWN'
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
60 x 72" 2022



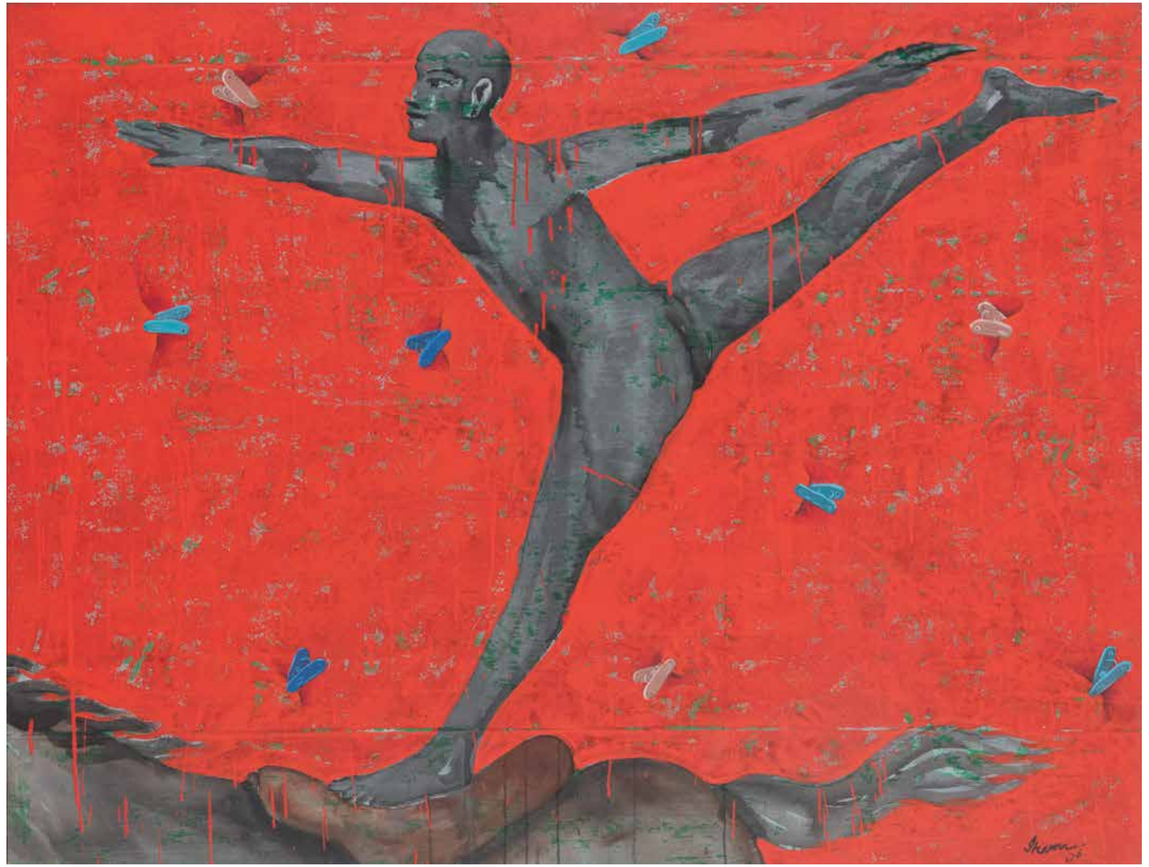
MADHVI PAREKH
REVERSE PAINTING ON ACRYLIC SHEET
48 x 72 " 2021



THOTA VAIKUNTAM
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
48 x 36" 2015



G.R. IRANNA
ACRYLIC ON TARPAULIN
52 x 66" 2006



ANANDAJIT RAY
'CHARGER MEDIEVAL'
WATERCOLOUR & GOUACHE ON PAPER
22 x 30"

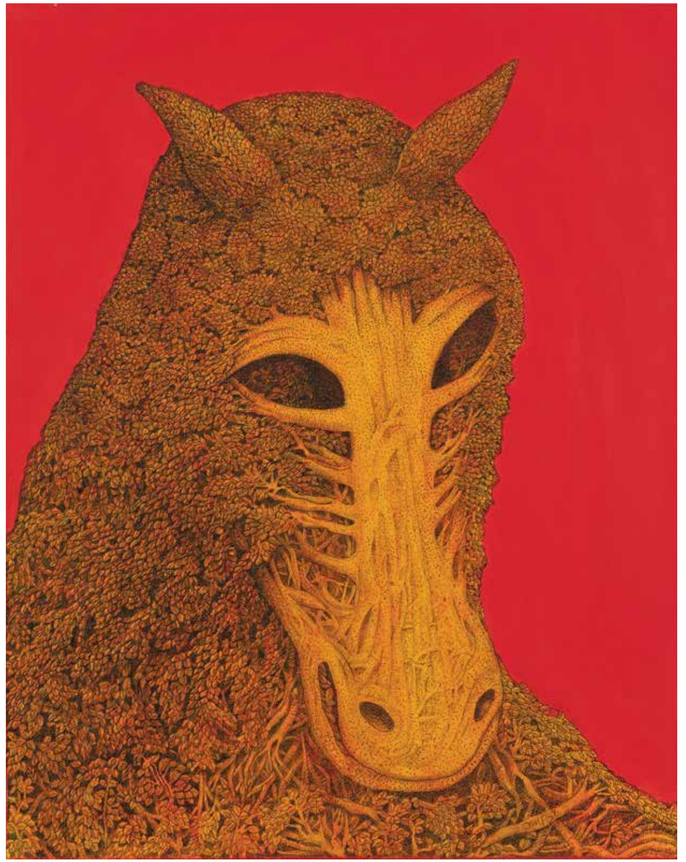


OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
28 x 22"





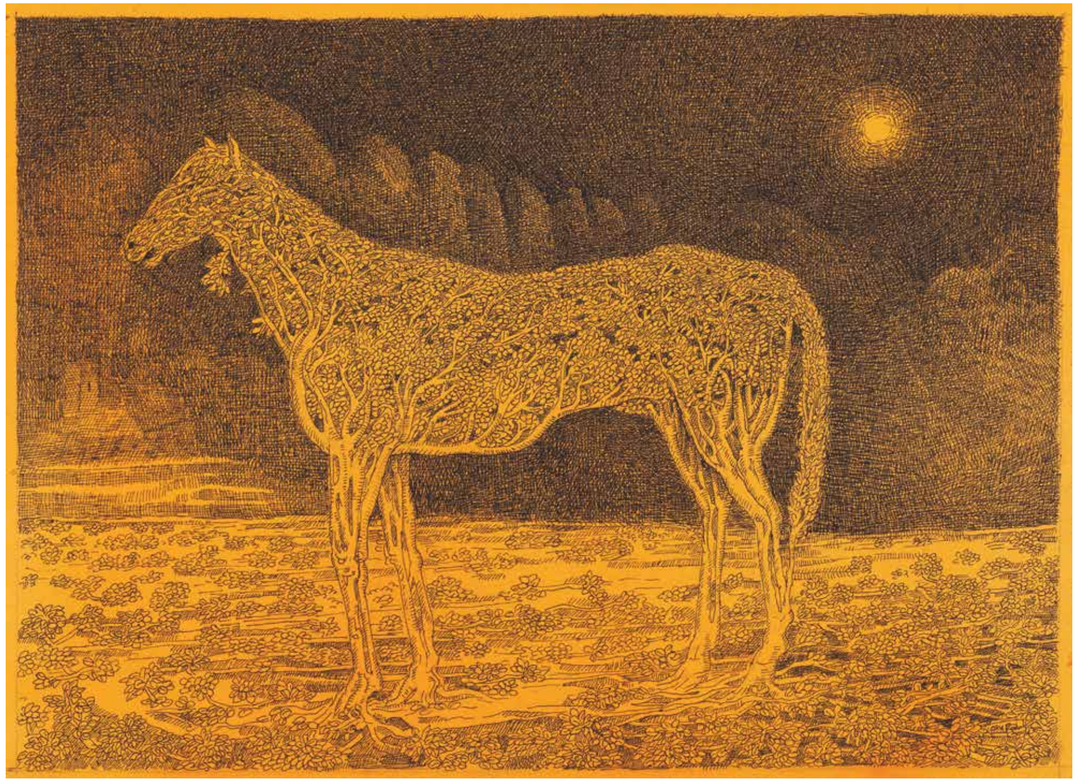
OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
28 x 22"



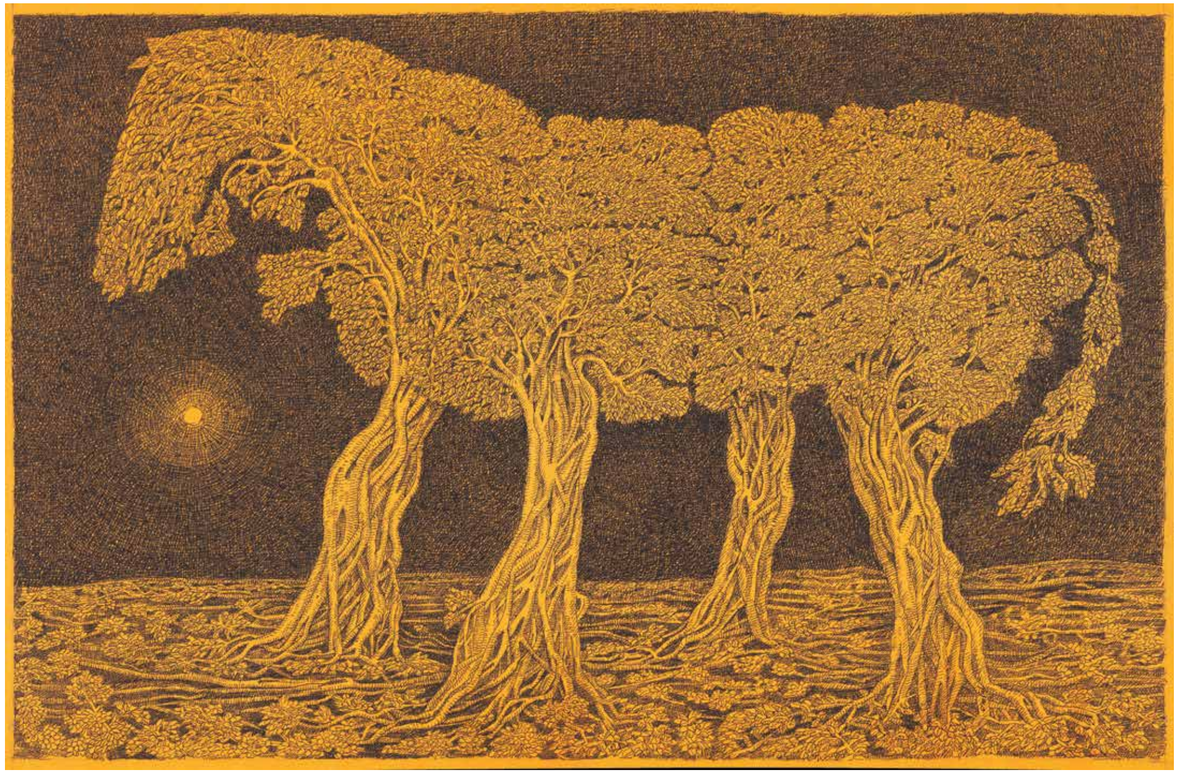
OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
28 x 22"

OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
30 x 24"





OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
10 x 14"



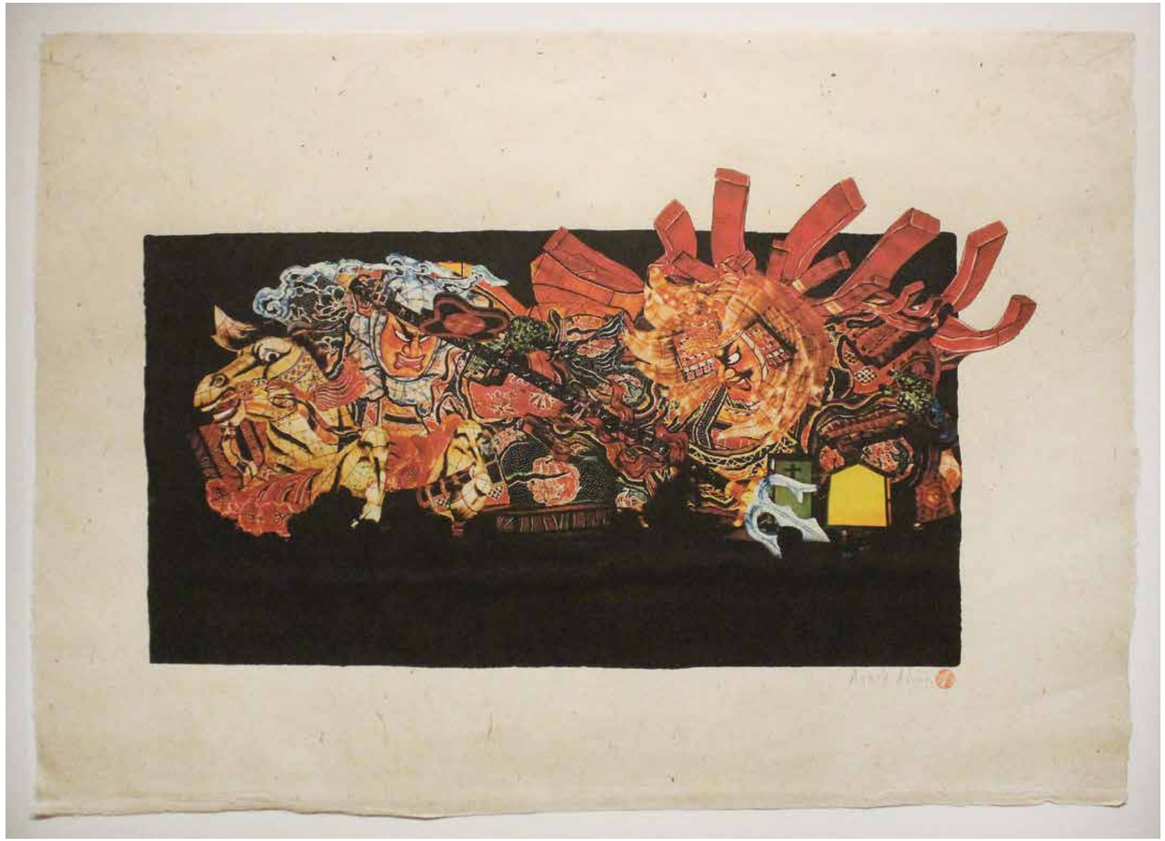
OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
13 x 20"

OMPAL SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC AND PEN AND INK ON CANVAS
60 x 84"



ASHOK AHUJA
'WINDMILL MONSTER'
TO RID THE WORLD OF ITS ILLS
MY ADORABLE FARAWAY FRIEND
TILTS AT THE WINDMILLS.

INKJET PRINT ON HANDMADE RICE PAPER
23 x 32" 2013-2017
EDITION OF 7



ASHOK AHUJA
'SUN'
THE SUN
LETS THE BRAVE
SHINE BRIGHTER

INKJET PRINT ON HANDMADE RICE PAPER
23 x 32" 2013-2017
EDITION OF 7





RAM BALI CHAUHAN
'ROMANCE' ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
72 x 48" 2022

SUBBA GHOSH
OIL ON CANVAS
27 x 36" 2022



SUDHANSU SUTAR
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
48 x 36" 2022





SUDHANSU SUTAR
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
48 x 36" 2022



SUDHANSU SUTAR
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
16 x 12" 2009



SUDHANSU SUTAR
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
16 x 12" 2009

SUDHANSU SUTAR
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
66 x 90" 2009



DILEEP SHARMA
ACRYLIC ON WOOD
60.6 x 24 x 8" 2021



DILEEP SHARMA
'GOOD LUCK' ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
65 x 86" 2021

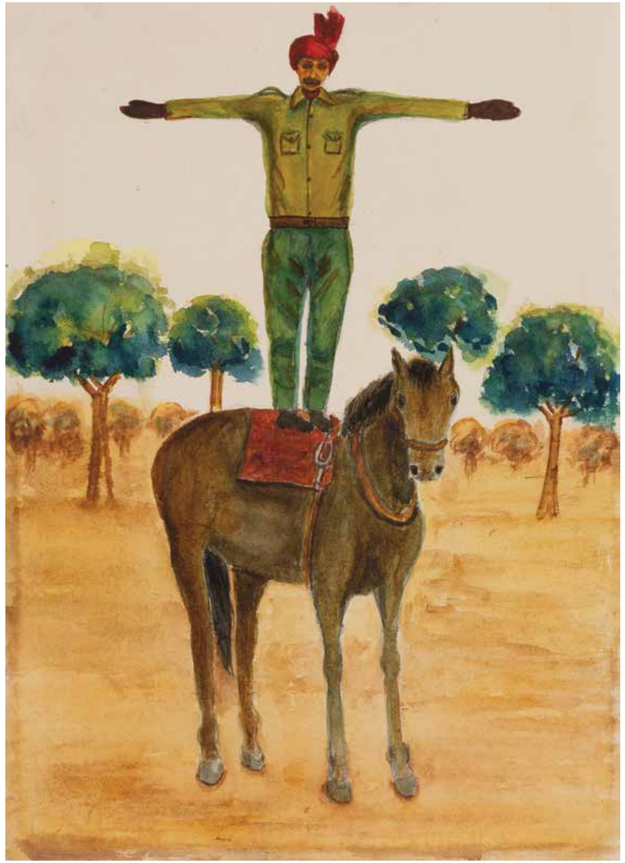




FARHAAD HUSSIAN
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
36 x 48" 2023



FARHAAD HUSSIAN
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
36 x 36" 2023



RAM PRAKASH JOSHI
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
11.5 x 16" 2021



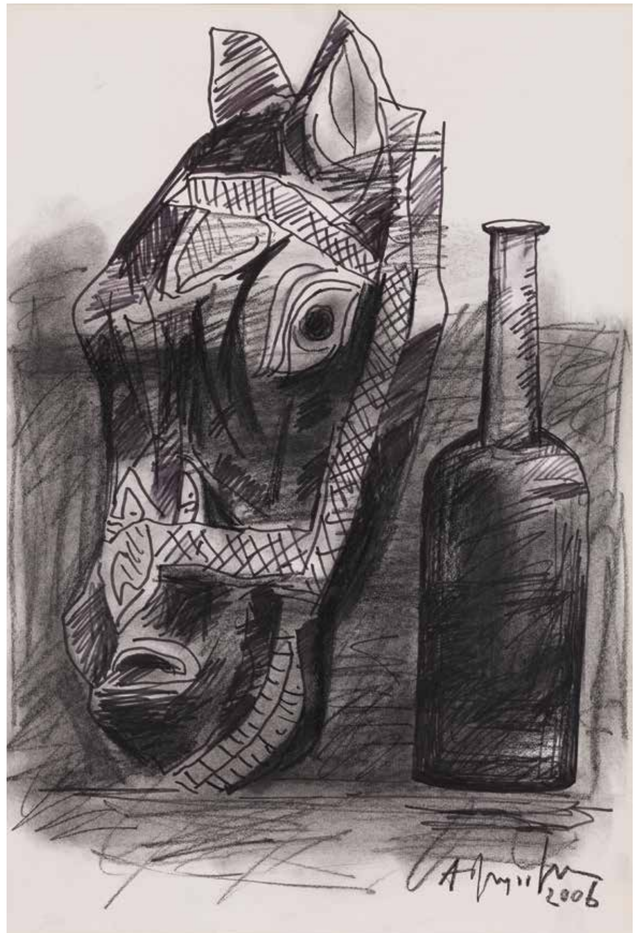
RAM PRAKASH JOSHI
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
45 x 33" 2018

K. G. SUBRAMANYAN
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
24 x 24"



K. G. SUBRAMANYAN
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
24 x 24"

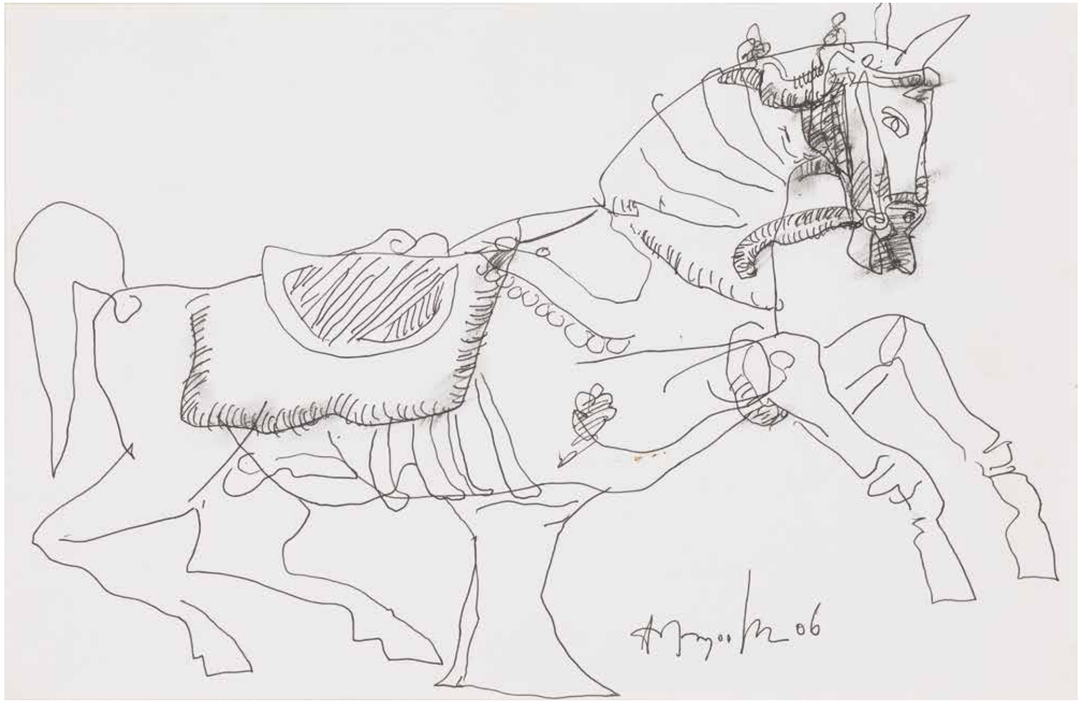




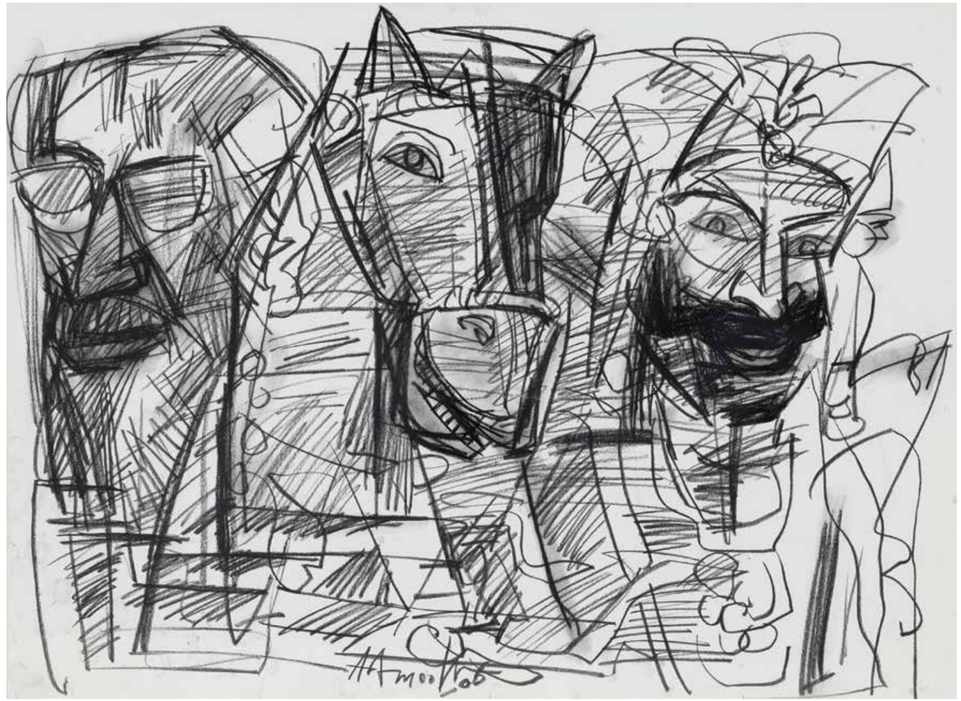
K. M. ADIMOOLAM
CHARCOAL ON PAPER
21 x 14" 2006



K. M. ADIMOOLAM
CHARCOAL ON PAPER
21 x 14" 2006



K. M. ADIMOOLAM
PEN AND INK ON PAPER
12 x 19" 2006



K. M. ADIMOOLAM
PEN AND INK ON PAPER
20 x 26" 2006

SAKTI BURMAN
PEN AND INK ON PAPER
VARIED SIZES, SET OF 10



















KRISHEN KHANNA
PEN AND INK ON PAPER
8 x 12"
COPENHAGEN, 9 JULY 1988



KRISHEN KHANNA
OIL ON CANVAS
36 x 48" 2022



RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2019



RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2020





RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2018



RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2019

RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2019



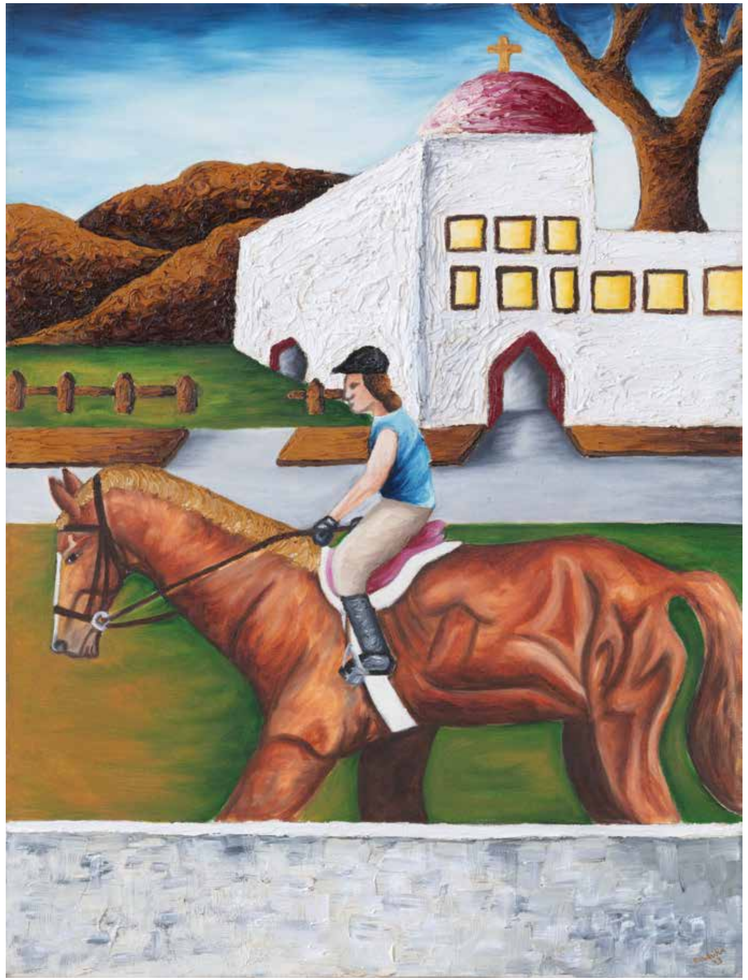
RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2020



RANBIR KALEKA
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 36" 2018



RADHIKA SETH
OIL ON CANVAS
24 x 18" 2023



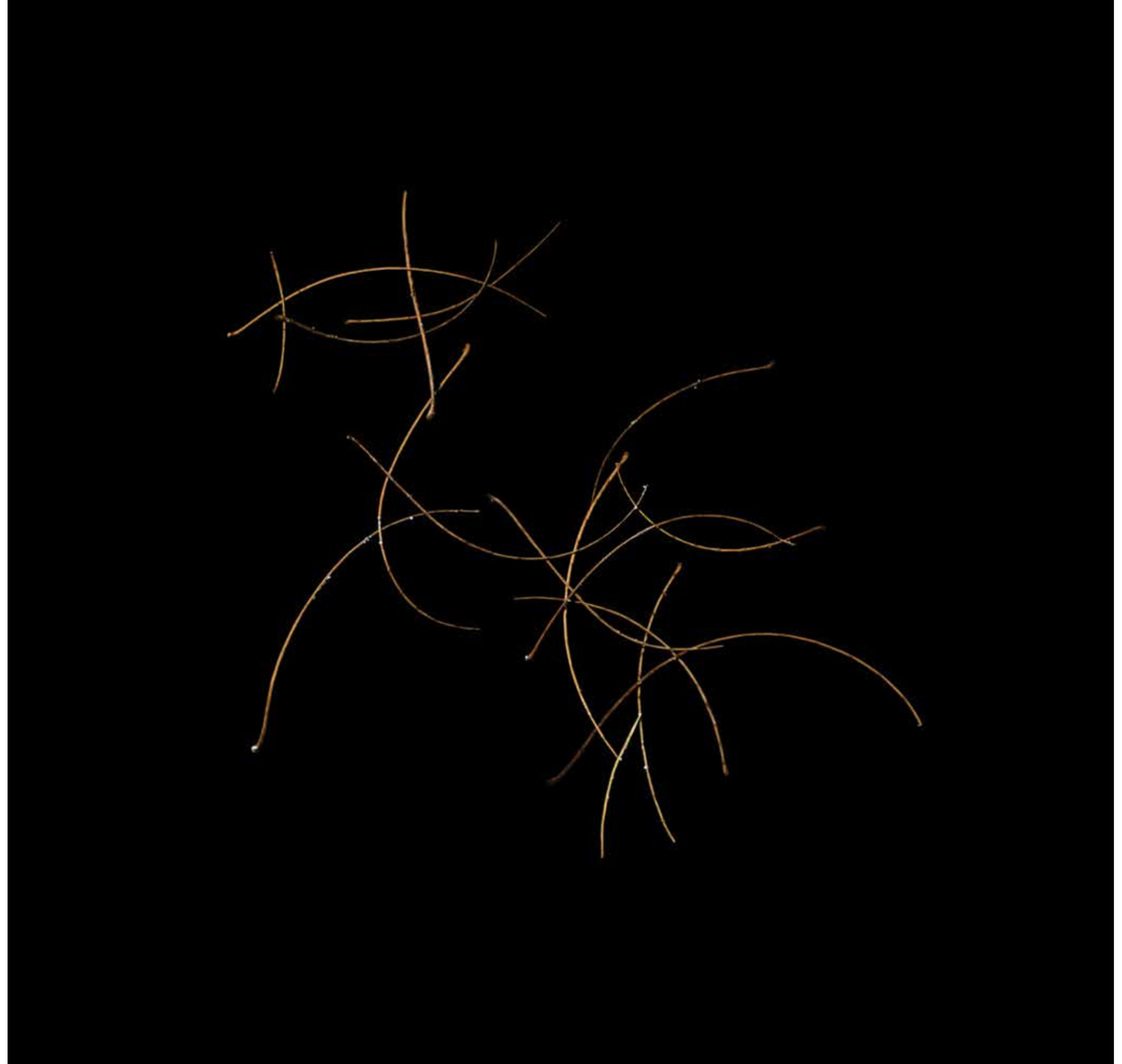
SHIFALI N. MEHRA
'BROWN BEAUTY'
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
66 x 59"

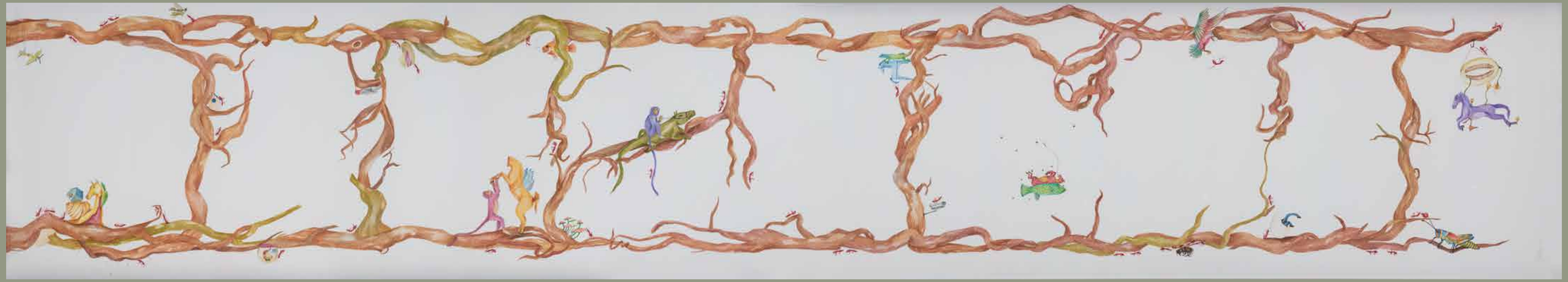


SUSHMITA CHOWBEY
'ASHWIN'
ACRYLIC OIL AND GOLD FOIL
36 x 42" 2022-23



ASHISH DUBEY
'TWIGS FLOATING ON WATER SURFACE'
PHOTOGRAPH
20 x 20" 2012





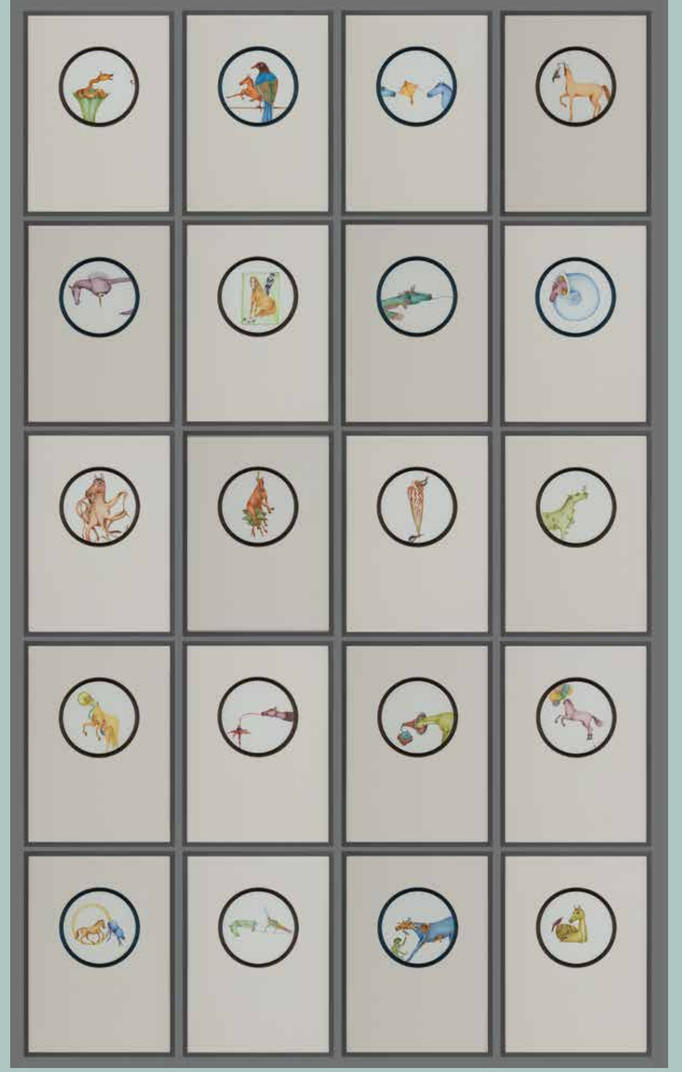


YASHIKA SUGANDH
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
17 x 95"





YASHIKA SUGANDH
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
SET OF 20, 6 x 6" EACH 2021





YASHIKA SUGANDH
WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER
SET OF 7, 12 x 8" EACH 2021

SCULPTURE



JOGEN CHOWDHURY
BRONZE
19 x 24 x 8"





MADHVI PAREKH
BRONZE
12 x 17 x 5"



VEER MUNSHI
'FACETS OF MIGRATION'
ACRYLIC ON FIBER RESIN
79 x 74 x 24" 2023











VALAY SHENDE
'FALLING VICTORIA'
STAINLESS STEEL DISCS AND GOLD PLATED BRASS DISCS
98 x 80 x 34" 2022





'HORSE'
STAINLESS STEEL DISCS
74 x 99 x 24"
2022





PRAMOD MAAN
BLACK MARBLE
41 x 30 x 18" 2021







YASHIKA SUGANDH
ACRYLIC ON POLYLACTIC ACID POLYMER
(BIO-DEGRADABLE FILAMENT)
18 x 19 x 12" 2022



MEENA SANSANWAL
ACRYLIC ON PAPER MACHE
SET OF 5, 24 x 18" EACH









SUJAT BAJAJ
ACRYLIC ON FIBER RESIN
41 x 25 x 9"







GAURAB DAS
BRONZE
9 x 10 x 7"





GAURAB DAS
BRONZE
9 x 10 x 7"

ABOUT SAFFRONART

Founded in 2000 by Minal and Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart is a leading international auction house, and India's most reputed, with nearly five hundred auctions to its credit. Its flagship gallery is in Mumbai, with offices in New Delhi, London, and New York. At the forefront of selling Indian art, Saffronart has, over the past twenty-one years, held online and live auctions, exhibitions, and Dialogues in Art, working with collectors, gallerists, and artists to develop a strong market for art and aesthetics. Its focus is to bring transparency to the auction process and provide easy access and information to collectors around the world. Saffronart's services go beyond auctions to include private sales, appraisals, and valuations for clients. Saffronart has set several global benchmarks for online auctions and was the subject of a case study at Harvard Business School in 2005.

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