

20-23

ALL INDIA OPEN CALL IMAGINARIUM 3.0

Ushnish Mukhopadhyay Aritra Majumder Richa Arya

Ahalya Rajendran

Ali Nakbhi

Deepak Kumar

Saroj Kumar Badatya

Sheshadev Sagria

Sumon Mondal

Swapna Halder

14-10-23 -

30-12-23

IMAGINARIUM 3.0

ALL INDIA OPEN CALL

IMAGINARIUM 3.0, the third edition of Emami Art All-India Open Call Exhibition, features some of the most recent artworks by ten selected young artists. The exhibition showcases an eclectic selection of works spanning a range of mediums, styles and forms. A dedicated and meticulous attempt to experiment with and expand the medium is palpable in many of their works. Coming from various institutional and social backgrounds, these artists are united by a sense of urgency to respond to the pressing concerns of the present times. In them, one can perceive traces of some of the recent seminal events that unsettled the world, the consequential impacts of which are also subtly reflected.

Ushnish Mukhopadhyay's works range from drawings, animated videos and sculptural installations, following an archival logic of citation to explore the dark, violent and morbid perceptions of death and its imaginative possibilities. **Aritra Majumder** makes his grids by maintaining a particular geometric format comprising layers upon layers. The balance between splatters, marks, and stains creates a free-flowing visual, tracing complex terrains of culture, emotion and invasion. **Richa Arya's** works are strong visual articulations of the marginal voices of concern, broadly dealing with gender-based inequalities, patriarchy, and female agency with regard to religious and moral conservatism. Born and raised in a farming family, Ahalya **Rajendran's** paintings narrate the innocent experiences inspired by the most intimate memories of her village. The nostalgia of childhood and adulthood runs throughout her works. Ali Nakbhi's visual universe reflects the interaction and connection he makes with the environment. Although bursting at the seams, urban spaces in his works bear a grim and heavy tone, depicting a sense of isolation and dejection. Through his art practice, **Deepak Kumar** explores the consequences of uncontrolled urbanisation and its effects on ecology and biodiversity. The need for sustainability and eco-sensitive thinking resonates across his works. Saroj Kumar Badatya's woodcut works trace the physical changes that abandoned places gradually undergo. Multiple perspectives and hybrid colours create a dark and eerie sense, alluding to the irreparable and irreversible changes caused by loss and abandonment. **Sheshadev Sagria's** works narrate the world of the marginalised, speculating an alternative body through the prism of caste hierarchies and their connection to health. Politics of caste. health and care are the recurring themes of his practice. **Sumon Mondal** explores the idea of a crowd through various materials and methods, articulating its diversity and characteristics on various levels. His works try to capture the sensorial experience of a multitude of people in urban areas and other public spaces. **Swapna Halder's** artworks are powerful and personalised expressions of vulnerabilities. They depict weakness, memory, pain and anxiety in the most captivating ways.

Gallery View





IMAGINARIUM 3.0

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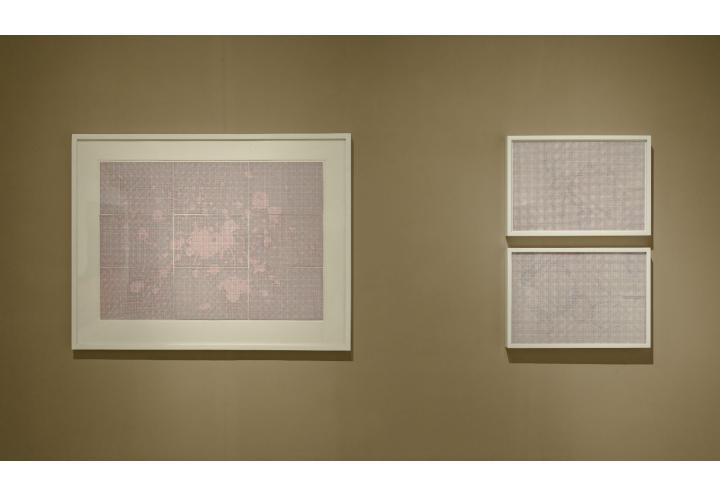
























Ahalya Rajendran



Ahalya Rajendran completed her BFA in painting from the Government College of Fine Arts, Thrissur, Kerala (2019) and an MVA in painting at Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda (2021).

Her recent participation includes 'Embark' – an annual exhibition by ARK Foundation, Vadodara, (2023); 'Deconstructed Landscape' at LATITUDE 28, New Delhi and 'Awakening' at NUGA Art House, London (2022); 'All That is Life', curated by Saloni Doshi at Space 118 Gallery, Mumbai and 'Lokame Tharavadu' (The World is One Family) curated by Bose Krishnamachari (2021); and the Kochi Muziris Students Biennale (2018 and 2021). She presented a solo exhibition titled 'THERE IS A TREE BY THE RIVER' at the Kerala Lalithakala Akademi Art Gallery, Kozhikode (2022). She was also one of the participating artists at the Summer Residency programs organised by Space Studio, Vadodara (2022) and the Shakti Women's Art Camp conducted by The Art India Company, Himachal Pradesh (2020).

Ahalya is the recipient of the Nasreen Mohamedi Scholarship Award, MSU Fine Arts, Baroda (2019), and currently lives and continues her studio practice in Baroda.



Childhood Series - I Watercolour, acrylic, and charcoal on wasli paper 13 x 14 in. (33 x 35.5 cm.) 2023, Baroda Signed in English (lower right on reverse)



Childhood Series - II Watercolour, acrylic, and charcoal on wasli paper 13 x 14 in. (33 x 35.5 cm.) 2023, Baroda Signed in English (lower right on reverse)



Childhood Series - III Watercolour, acrylic, and charcoal on wasli paper 13 x 14 in. (33 x 35.5 cm.) 2023, Baroda Signed in English (lower right on reverse)





Childhood Series - IV Watercolour, acrylic, and charcoal on wasli paper 13 x 14 in. (33 x 35.5 cm.) 2023, Baroda Signed in English (lower right on reverse)



Childhood Series - V Watercolour, acrylic, and charcoal on wasli paper 13 x 14 in. (33 x 35.5 cm.) 2023, Baroda Signed in English (lower right on reverse)



Ali Nakbhi



Ali Nakbhi graduated with a BFA and an MFA in Painting from the Government College of Art & Craft, Calcutta, in 2021 and 2023, respectively.

He has participated in the 55th Annual Exhibition of Birla Academy of Art & Culture (2022) and 'Xpression'12', an exhibition of paintings by the budding artists of Nehru Children's Museum at the Academy of Fine Arts, Kolkata (2012). He has been a part of various workshops such as the Painting Exhibition and Camp at Government College of Art & Craft organised by the Department of Visual Art of Kannada University (2019) and a handmade papermaking workshop by Nirupama Academy of Handmade Paper under the guidance of Shree Anupam Chakrabarty (2023).

Ali is the recipient of several scholarships, including the Rashbihari Dutta Memorial Scholarship, the Ajay Bankim Memorial Scholarship, and the Rabindranath Tagore Award in the annual exhibitions of Government College of Art & Craft, Calcutta, in 2019, 2022, and 2023, respectively. He has also rendered the cover page painting of three poetry books published by Udant Marutrin (2018).



Ali Nakbhi (b.1997)

Untitled I Acrylic on paper 28 x 42 in. (71 x 106.6 cm.) 2023, Kolkata Signed in English (lower right)



Ali Nakbhi (b.1997)

Untitled III
Oil on paper
20.2 x 27.7 in. (51.3 x 70.3 cm.)
2023, Kolkata
Signed in English (lower right)

AB1912

Reserved



Ali Nakbhi (b.1997)

Untitled IV
Acrylic on paper
9 x 13.7 in. (22.8 x 34.7 cm.)
2023, Kolkata
Signed in English (lower right)

Aritra Majumder



Aritra Majumder received a Diploma in Electrical Engineering (D.E.E) from Ramakrishna Mission Shilpapitha in 2014, after which he moved on to art and graduated with a BFA in Painting from Kala Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University in 2019, and an MFA in Painting from Sarojini Naidu School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad in 2021.

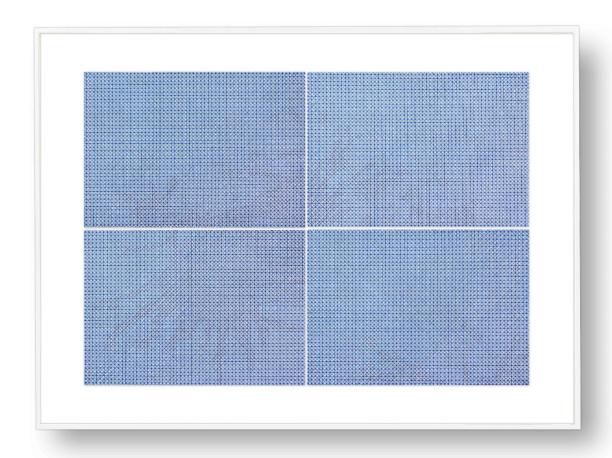
His work has been displayed at various exhibitions, such as The Ravi Jain Foundation Annual Award at Dhoomimal Gallery (2022), the Annual Santiniketan Artists Exhibition at SSVAD, Santiniketan (2019), the Camlin Art Foundation online exhibition (2018) and 'Pride of Bengal' an exhibition dedicated to Mahanayak Uttam Kumar, organised by Art Mikado, Kolkata (2016).

Aritra was awarded the best entry in an oil medium by Camlin Art Foundation in 2017 and has been a part of several workshops such as a Workshop on Gouache at Kala-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University (2017), Gagan Mela Annual Painting workshop at Visual College of Arts and Craft, Kolkata (2019), Evolving Realities – a workshop on process-based Art and Ecology, at Khwaabgaon, Jhargram, organised by Chalachitra Academy in 2021.



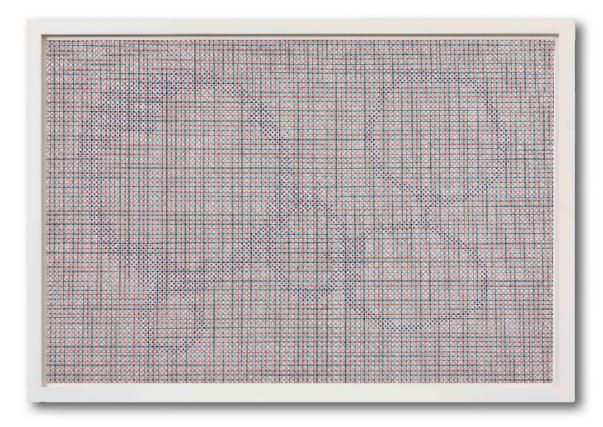
Aritra Majumder (b.1992)

Tracing the Errors
Ink on paper
24.8 x 35.4 in. (63 x 90 cm.) overall
8.3 x 11.8 in. (21 x 30 cm.) each
Work consists of 9 units
2023, Nagaland
Signed in English (on the reverse)



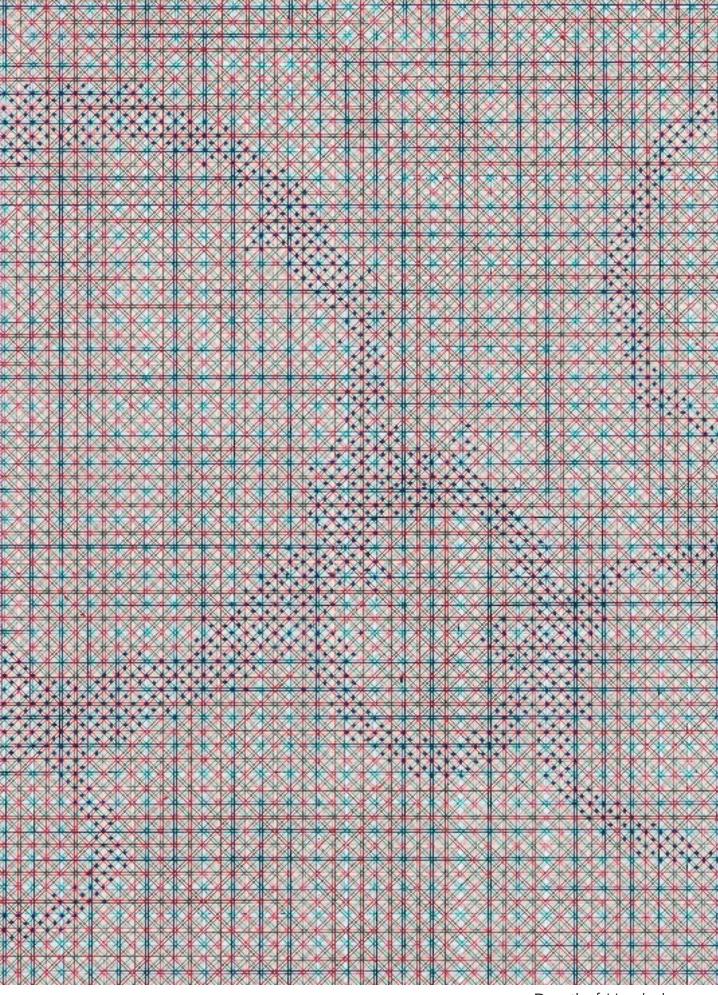
Aritra Majumder (b.1992)

Losses Remind
Ink on paper
16.5 x 23.5 in. (42 x 69.6 cm.) overall
8.3 x 11.8 in. (21 x 30 cm.) each
Work consists of 4 units
2023, Nagaland
Signed in English (on the reverse)

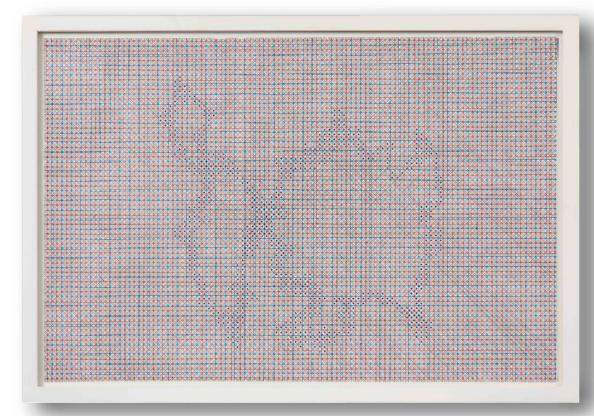


Aritra Majumder(b. 1992)

Untitled Ink on paper 14.7 x 21.5 in. (37.5 x 55 cm.) 2022, Kolkata Unsigned



Detail of Untitled



Aritra Majumder (b. 1992)

Stain Remains
Ink on paper
14.2 x 21.5 in. (36.5 x 54 cm.)
2022, Kolkata
Signed in English (on the reverse)

Deepak Kumar



Deepak Kumar graduated with a BFA and an MFA in Painting from the College of Art at Delhi University, New Delhi, in 2015 and 2017, respectively. He also holds a Diploma in Graphic Design and Creative Art & Design from Arena Animation Academy, New Delhi, received in 2010.

He has exhibited at institutions across the country – including the MASH Young Artists' Exhibition at IIC, New Delhi (2022), Terrain Offline at Bikaner House, New Delhi (2021), Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi and Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Kolkata (2020), AIFACS Gallery, New Delhi (2017), and Dhoomimal Gallery, Delhi (2016), among several others. His works are in the Reserve Bank of India collection, and his titled solo exhibition 'Live Location', curated by Aditya Mopidevi, was held at the Bikaner House, New Delhi (2022).

Deepak was awarded the Prafulla State Art Award in 2019, and in 2017, he was the 1st runner-up for the Glenfiddich Emerging Artist.



Deepak Kumar (b.1993)

Refused Habitat Acrylic and oil on canvas 48 x 48 in. (121.9 x 121.9 cm.) 2020, Delhi Signed in English (lower right)



Deepak Kumar (b.1993)

Dry Land
Acrylic and natural pigment on paper
12.3 x 68 in. (31.2 x 172.7cm.) overall
Polyptych
2020, Delhi
Signed in English (lower right)

Richa Arya



Richa Arya graduated with a BFA in Sculpture from Kurukshetra University in 2018 and an MFA in Sculpture from the College of Art at Delhi University in 2020.

As a researcher, she has spent years studying the ways in which gender shapes our perceptions of art and how women artists have been historically marginalised. Using diverse media, she uses her art to explore women's societal experiences and challenge traditional gender roles. Over the past few years, her work has been displayed at several group exhibitions across India, including the Young Collective Week, New Delhi (2023) and Space118, Mumbai (2022), and a solo exhibition at Triveni Gallery (2021), supported by Raza Foundation. She has participated in various workshops, such as the Wood Carving Workshop in NGMA, New Delhi (2018), and Kala Uday Society, Kurukshetra (2016 and 2017).

Richa has won multiple awards, such as the Prafulla Dhanukar All India Merit Award (2021) and the 8th Woman Artscape Merit Award (2019), among others.



Richa Arya (b.1997)

Arrangement - II
Iron, aluminium, brass sheet and brass wire 34.3 x 85.4 in. (87 x 216.9 cm.) overall A - 34.3 x 30.7 in. (87 x 77.9 cm.)
B - 17.7 x 52 in. (44.9 x 132 cm.)
Suite of 2 works
2021, Delhi
Unsigned

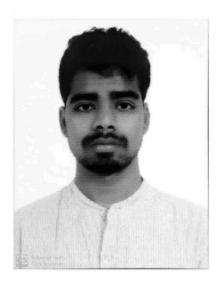




Richa Arya (b.1997)

Threaded Lives
Iron sheet and brass wire
46.5 x 72 in. (118 x 182.8 cm.) overall approx.
A - 46.5 x 37 in. (118 x 93.9 cm.)
B - 36 x 35.5 in. (91.4 x 90 cm.)
Suite of 2 works
2023, Delhi
Unsigned

Saroj Kumar Badatya



Saroj Kumar Badatya graduated with a BVA in Printmaking from the Government College of Art & Crafts, Khallikote, under Utkal University of Culture, Odisha (2017) and an MFA in Printmaking from S.N. School of Arts & Communication under the University of Hyderabad, Telangana (2019).

He has presented his work at exhibitions such as the Annual Exhibitions on "Form & Space" by GCAC, Khallikote at Lalit Kala Akademi Regional Center, Bhubaneswar (2015), and the Annual Exhibition of S.N. School Arts & Communication, Telangana (2019). He has participated in other exhibitions, such as the 4th Basudha Art Festival, Bhubaneswar (2016), and Pedagogical Clutch, an online group exhibition organised by the Hyderabad Literary Festival, Hyderabad (2021).

Saroj was a part of workshops such as the Kochi Muziris Students Biennale, Kerala (2016), Intermedia Arts: Sound & Visual Expressions Workshop by Dr. Igal Myrtenbaum at the University of Hyderabad (2018), and the State Level Printmaking Workshop organised by Odisha Lalit kala Akademi (2021), among several others. In 2013, he was awarded the Jajpur Chitrakala Akademy Award and won the IPCA MFA Scholarship Award in 2017.



Untitled - I Woodcut on paper 12 x 11 in. (30.4 x 27.9 cm.) 2023, Kolkata Signed in English (lower right) Unique work



Untitled - II Woodcut on paper 12 x 11 in. (30.4 x 27.9 cm.) 2023, Kolkata Signed in English (lower right) Unique work



A House in the Middle of the Village - I Woodcut on paper 31.5 x 48 in. (80 x 121.9 cm.) 2023, Kolkata Signed in English (lower right) Unique work



A House in the Middle of the Village - II Woodcut on cloth 31.5 x 48 in. (80 x 121.9 cm.) 2023, Kolkata Unsigned Unique work

Sheshadev Sagria



Sheshadev Sagria graduated with a BVA from the Government College of Art & Crafts Khallikote, Bhubaneswar (2017) and an MVA in Printmaking from Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara (2019).

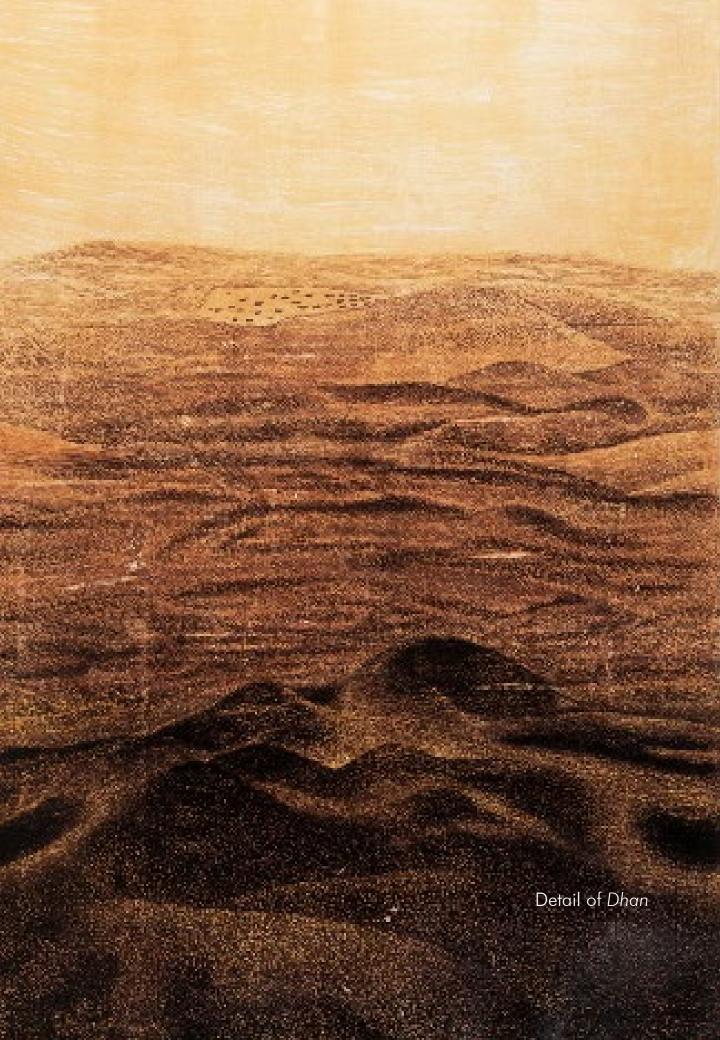
Using printmaking as a language to create an interactive space, Sheshadev has had his work presented at various exhibitions such as the final show of MVA II (Graphics) at Vadodara and 'Alap', a group show at Academy of Fine Arts, Kolkata, and 'Pushing Print', curated by Dr Bess Frimodig at Art Buzz Studio, New Delhi (2019); the Kochi Muziris Students Biennale in 2014, 2016, and 2018 respectively. He has been a part of several workshops, including the National Level Students Printmaking Workshop and Seminar at Kala Bhavana, Visva-Bharati (2016) and Relief Printmaking conducted by Walter D'Souza at Baroda (2018), and conducted a Reduction Woodcut Print Workshop at Art Buzz Studio, New Delhi (2020).

Sheshadev was awarded the Manorama Young Printmaker Award (2019), and he won the INLAKS Fine Art Award (2023).



Sheshadev Sagria (b.1996)

Dhan
Woodcut on paper
87.7 x 188.8 in. (222.7 x 479.5 cm.) overall approx.
87.7 x 47.2 in. (222.7 x 119.8 cm.) each
Quadriptych
2022, Hyderabad
Unsigned
Unique work



Sumon Mondal



Suman Mondal graduated with a BFA and an MFA with a specialisation in textiles from Kala Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, in 2020 and 2022, respectively.

He presented his work at exhibitions such as the International Fiber Arts of Time Exhibition at Nandan Art Gallery, Santiniketan and a group exhibition at Lalit Kala Akademi of Fine Arts, Delhi (2022). In 2019, he received certification for a Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations, China, and secured the Young Santiniketan Artists Certificate of Appreciation from the Santiniketan Society of Visual Art and Design, Santiniketan (2019) and the National Students Workshop Certificate from Chamarajendra Government College of Visual Arts, Mysuru (2020).

Harbouring a deep interest in crowds of people and making this the subject of his work, Sumon currently works from and is based in Santiniketan.



Sumon Mondal (b.1995)

Finding 1 Cotton, nylon threads, cloth, wool, net, and iron wire 49.5 x 116.2 in. (125.7 x 295 cm.) approx. 2022, Santiniketan Unsigned

AB1906

Reserved



Sumon Mondal (b.1995)

Finding 2 Cotton, nylon thread, cloth, wool, net, and iron wire 33 x 63.5 in. (83.8 x 161.2 cm.) approx. 2023, Santiniketan Unsigned

Swapna Halder



Swapna Halder graduated with a BFA from The Indian College of Arts and Draftsmanship in 2021 and an MFA from Kala Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, in 2023.

She has had her work presented at various exhibitions and festivals, such as a group show at Lalit Kala Akademi, Delhi (2022), the 55th Annual Exhibition of Birla Art and Culture, Kolkata(2021), Beyond Binaries: Sensing Art through Queer Lensing – an online exhibition by Kolkata Centre for Creativity(2021), a group online exhibition by VUSAWTHIS.ART, USA (2020), the ICAD college exhibitions in 2017, 2018, and 2019, respectively and the Behala Art Festival (2019).

Swapna works on fabric medium on a large scale. Stitching, natural dyeing and merging painting and photographs are significant parts of her process. Her art practice revolves around the uncertainty of the material she uses.



Rebirth

Enamel, acrylic, lacquer, glitter crayon and photo transfer on self-processed fabric 72.5 x 75 in. (184 x 190.5 cm.) 2023, Santiniketan Unsigned



"Wake up little angel and march the thorny path!"
Natural dyed fabric, acrylic, enamel, photo transfer, beads and threads 63.7 x 72.8 in. (161.7 x 184.9 cm.)
2022, Santiniketan
Unsigned



Lost in Her Memories - I Pen, ink, found object and enamel on paper 7.8 x 11.5 in. (19.8 x 29.2 cm.) 2022, Santiniketan Signed in Bengali (lower right)



Lost in Her Memories - II Pen, ink, found object and enamel on paper 7.8 x 11.5 in. (19.8 x 29.2 cm.) 2022, Santiniketan Signed in Bengali (lower right)



Barren Land, Kaalu and Mother Pen, ink, and watercolour on paper 7.8 x 11.5 in. (19.8 x 29.2 cm.) 2022, Santiniketan Signed in Bengali (lower left)



In Search of Love - I Pen and ink on paper 7.8 x 11.5 in. (19.8 x 29.2 cm.) 2022, Santiniketan Signed in Bengali (lower right)



In Search of Love - II
Pen and ink on paper
7.8 x 11.5 in. (19.8 x 29.2 cm.)
2022, Santiniketan
Signed in Bengali (lower left)



The Bride
Pen, ink, and watercolour on paper
7.8 x 11.5 in. (19.8 x 29.2 cm.)
2022, Santiniketan
Signed in Bengali (lower middle)



Ushnish Mukhopadhyay



Ushnish Mukhopadhyay graduated with a BFA in Painting from the Government College of Art & Craft, Calcutta, in 2016 and did his MVA in Painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda in 2019.

His video art has been screened at festivals such as the Emami Art Experimental Film Festival, Kolkata and the 'EYE/VIEW x REX Box VII' in Bern, Switzerland, in 2022, the 2nd edition of 'Puntomov: Festival Internacional de Video', Mexico in 2021, among others. Much of his work has been displayed at various exhibitions – both online and physical, such as the 56th Annual Exhibition at Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Kolkata, in 2023, the 6th Graphic Art Biennial of Szeklerland in 2020 and the Pune Biennale in 2017. He has won several awards and scholarships, including the Sarala-Basant Kumar Birla Award for Outstanding Work in Video Installation (Shared) from Birla Academy, Kolkata, in 2020.

Ushnish is based in and works from Konnagar, Hooghly, in West Bengal.



Video still

Ushnish Mukhopadhyay (b.1994)

Acts for Nothing
Double-channel video with audio
Duration: 3.39 min
Format: MP4 1080P
2023, West Bengal
Edition of 6 + 1 artist's proof



Ushnish Mukhopadhyay (b.1994)

Untitled

Oil pastel on printed paper and digital print on paper Overall dimension variable Suite of 11 works 2022-23, West Bengal Signed in English



Video still

Ushnish Mukhopadhyay (b.1994)

A Minute of Banging
Double-channel video with audio
Duration: 1.12 min
Format: MP4 1080P
2022, West Bengal
Credits at the end of the video
Edition of 6 + 1 artist's proof

EMAMIART

KOLKATA, INDIA

Emami Art is a contemporary art gallery based in the green purpose built Kolkata Centre for Creativity building in Kolkata, India. Promoting emerging, mid-career and established artists and engaging with contemporary and historical material, the gallery produces exhibitions of modern, contemporary and cutting-edge art as well as commissioning artists to create site-specific pieces.

The gallery programme includes a regular lineup of talks, seminars, panel discussions and conversations with artists, curators and key partners. The gallery delivers its commitment to providing a long-term supportive environment for emerging talent through free access to mentorship programs, workshops, residency opportunities and innovative educational activities that facilitate artistic development. It also stages events across the cultural spectrum, such as concerts, performances, symposiums, publications, collaborative projects, film screenings, and learning-orientated incubator programmes.

EMAMIART

Kolkata Centre for Creativity
777 Anandapur | E.M. Bypass | Kolkata 700107 | 033 6623 2300