



The (in)Visible and the (un) Revealed:
Inside the Secret Worlds of Kartick Chandra Pyne

A Survey Show

19th March – 12th June

Emami Art, Kolkata





Kartick Chandra Pyne

(1931-2017)

Kartick Chandra Pyne: Short Biographical Sketch

Born in 1931 into an aristocratic gold merchant family in Kolkata, Kartick Chandra Pyne had received his diploma in Fine Arts from the Government College of Art and Craft, Calcutta, in 1955, before joining the Society of Contemporary Artists', Calcutta in 1961. Between 1974 and 1976, Pyne worked at Maha Koshla Kala Parisad, Raipur. He was one of the hundred Indian artists selected for the prestigious exhibition *One Hundred Years of Asian Art (1861-1961)* at Fukuoka Art Museums, Japan in 1979. Although widely admired as one of the early surrealist painters of India, Kartick Pyne's unique contribution to the history of Modern Indian Art has hardly been recognized by the art historians. A renewed interest in his paintings, however, grew in 2005 when one of his early surrealist paintings *Bird in a Cage* was sold through the Sotheby's auction.

Kartick Pyne's paintings shows his distinctive style, marked by playfulness. His famous nudes, painted with elegant ease and vibrant colours, are the sites of organic vitality, myth, fantasy and erotic desires. Although he drew inspiration from a wide range of western artists from Marc Chagall and Balthus to Miro and Ferdinand Leger, as well as from the traditional and modern Indian art, notably Rabindranath Tagore, Pyne is called a surrealist due to the dream-like, imaginary world he has created. "I did not really know that I worked in the surrealist style till it was pointed out to me [...] Thousands of thoughts play in my mind but the idea for a perfect picture is to create reality as a complete whole and encompass elements of both the conscious and subconscious," said Pyne, who persistently worked even after he had suffered a cerebral attack in the middle of the 1990s and the left half of his body was paralysed. The works, done in the last two decades of his life, are, therefore, particularly significant, showing a shift in terms of medium, making and approach from the works done before.

Kartick Chandra Pyne: CV

Education

1955: Diploma in Fine Arts, Govt. Collage of Art & Craft

Scholarships

Academy of Fine Arts 1968-69, 72,76

Indian Cultural Trust, Calcutta 1980-86

Awards

Academy of Fine Arts Award, Kolkata 1966, 1969, 1973, 1976

Maha Koshal Kala Parisad Prize, Raipur, 1973-74

Participation

Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta 1867, 1980,1982

Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi 1968

Mahakoshal Kala Parisad, Raipur 1974, 1976

VIII Triennial, Lalit Kala Akademi, India 1994

Exhibitions

AIFACS, New Delhi, 1961

Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta 1967,1980,1982

Lalit Kala Akademi, New delhi, 1968, 1987

Jahangir Art Gallery, Bombay, 1968

Hundred Years of Asian Art (1861-1961), Fukuoka Art Museum, Japan, 1979

Arreessa and Chitrkoot Gallery, Bombay, 1989

Bajaj Art Gallery, Bombay, 1993

Chitrakoot Art Gallery, 1991-93, 1995, 1997, 2001

Drawing Exhibition, Chandigarh, 1988

Art Mosaics, Calcutta, 1992

Gandhara Art Gallery, Calcutta, 1992

Calcutta 300, Birla Academy of Art and Culture, Calcutta, 1991, ICCR, Bangladesh, 1992

Asian Art Exhibition, Chitrakoot, Singapore 1993

VIII Triennial India, Lalit Kala Akademi, New delhi, 1994

Chitrakoot Art Gallery, Calcutta, 2005

Kartick Chandra Pyne: Retrospective, Akriti Art Gallery, 2006

Kartick Chandra Pyne, Art Konsult, New Delhi, 2007

Diversified Fantasy, Akriti Art Gallery, Calcutta, 2008

Leela, Akriti Art Gallery, Calcutta, 2009

Abanindra Puraskar. Rajya Charukala Parshad, West Bengal Government, [specify]

Shilpi Mahasamman, Rajya Charukala Parshad, West Bengal Government [Specify]

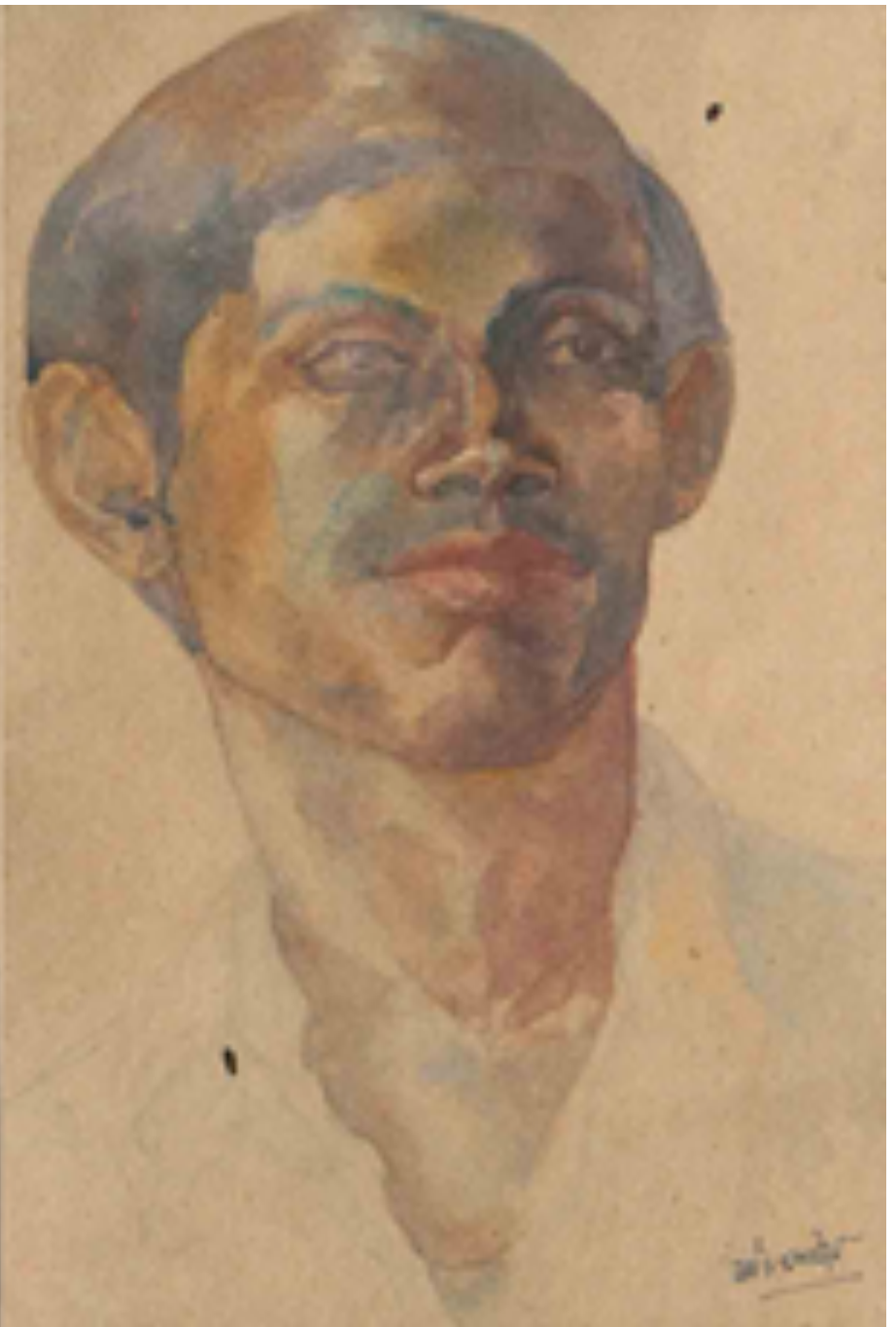
Documentary

Undying Dream, Chitrakoot Art Gallery, 2007/8

Line, story Design, Rajya Charukala Parshad (to be released), 2017

Selected images

- Early Works
 - Paintings
 - Drawings



































Selected archival material

- Links
- Auctions
- Reviews
- Catalogues

Secondary Archives: Texts

Newspaper/ Magazines

- INDIA TODAY: Swagata Sen, *Kartick Chandra Pyne: The surrealist artist from Kolkata's backstreets*, November 28 2005

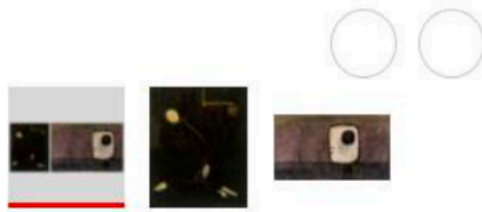
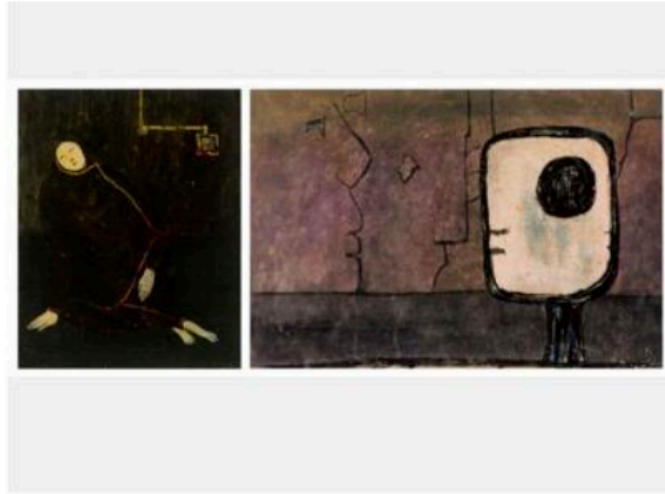
<https://www.indiatoday.in/magazine/your-week/story/20051128-kartick-chandra-pyne-the-surrealist-artist-from-kolkata-s-backstreets-786539-2005-11-28>

- Vandana Kalra. *Portrait of a Surrealist Artist*, Indian Express. September 19 2017

<https://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/art-and-culture/portrait-of-a-surreal-artist-kartick-chandra-pyne-pioneers-of-surrealism-in-indian-art-4849989/>

Christies Auction,
London, 11 June 2019

<https://www.christies.com/lotfinder/Lot/kartick-chandra-pyne-1931-2017-untitled-6212752-details.aspx>



KARTICK CHANDRA PYNE (1931-2017)

Untitled

Price realised

GBP 1,875

Estimate

GBP 2,000 - GBP 3,000

Follow lot

Add to Interests

KARTICK CHANDRA PYNE (1931-2017)

Untitled

signed in Bengali (lower left); further signed and dated 'KARTICK PYNE / 1965' (on the reverse) one

watercolour and ink on paper

15 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12 $\frac{5}{8}$ in. (40 x 32.1 cm.); 13 x 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. (33 x 59.7 cm.)

Executed in 1965; two works on paper

Primary Archives: Catalogues

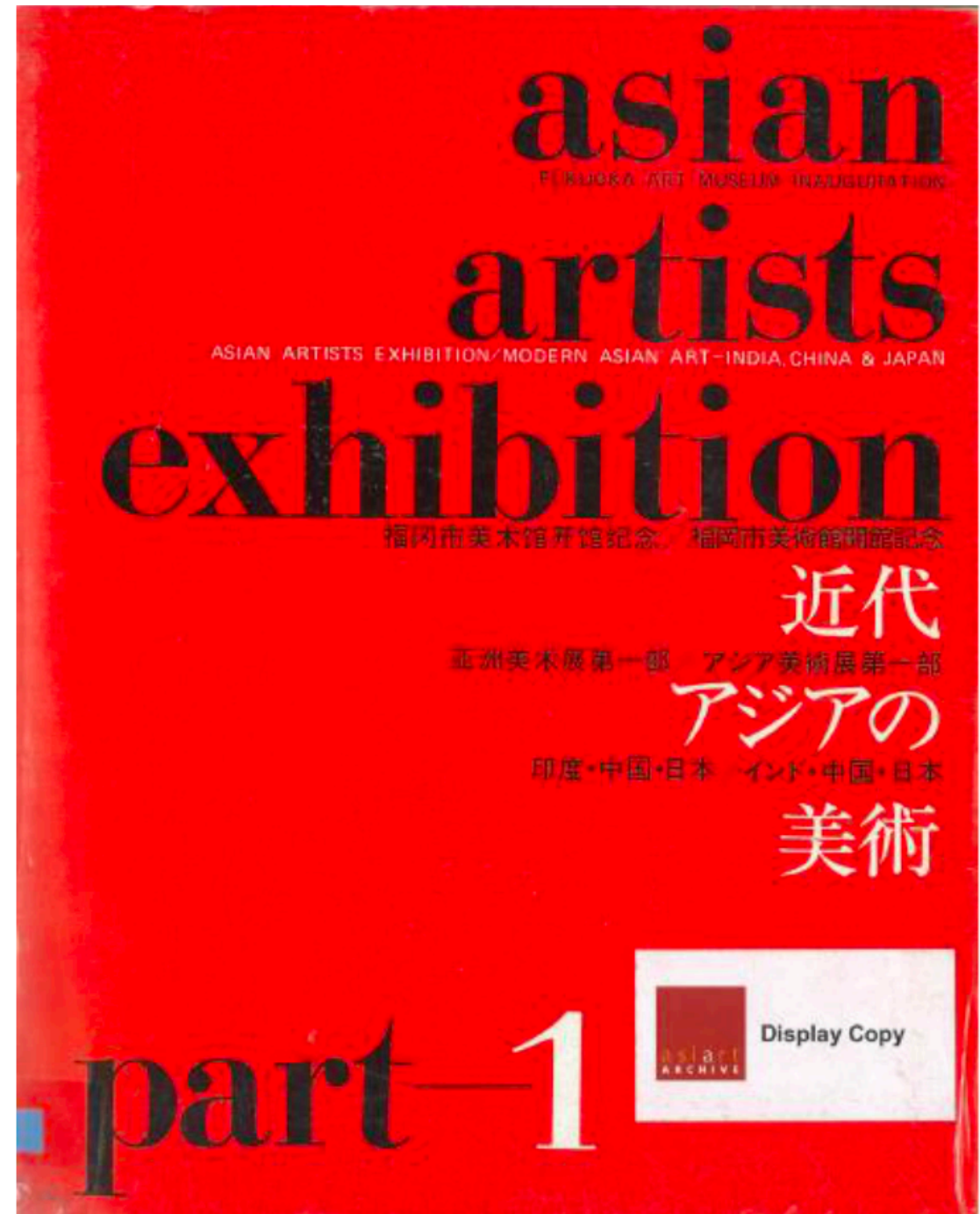
Asian Artists Exhibition

Catalogue (part 1)

Fukuoka Art Museum, 1979

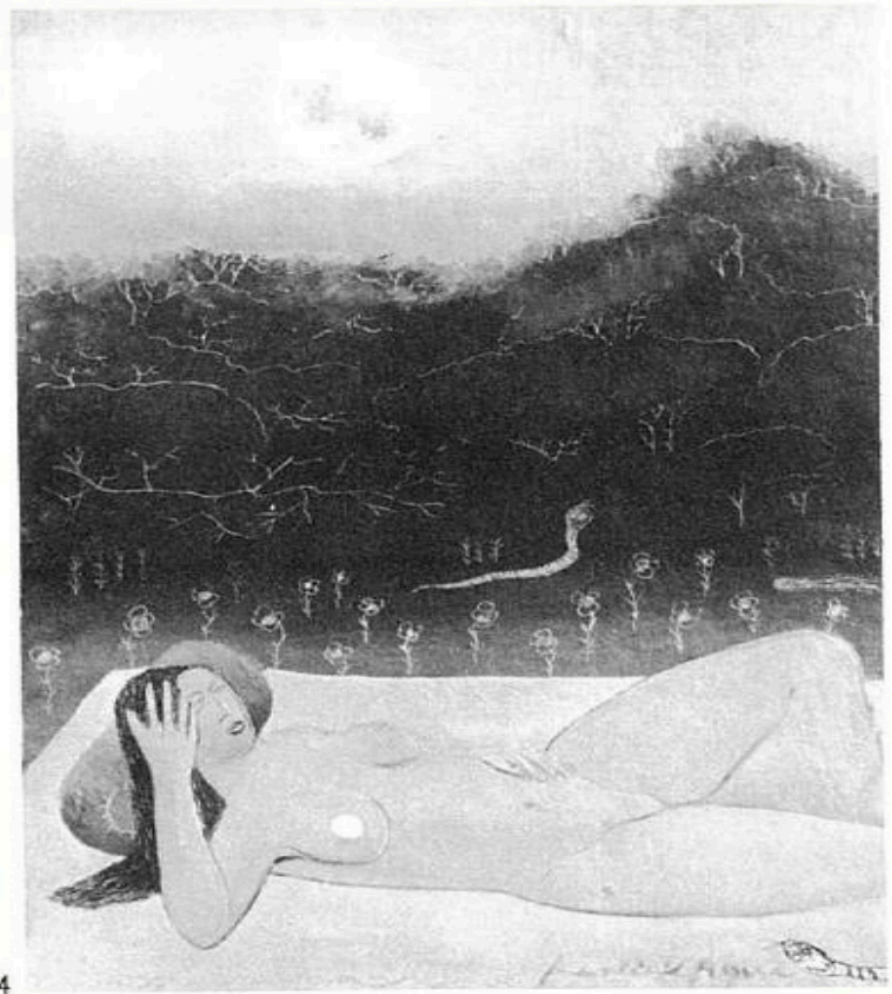
Text: 100 Years of Modern Indian Art by [Laxmi P. SIHARE](#)

- Source: Asia Art Archives, Hong Kong (scan copy/ pdf)





44. 月とあびて 1962 Moon Bath | Pyne, Kartick Chandra
45. ラム・ラマール (L'Amor) | Kertel, Hans
91 1963 Tones



Primary Archives: Catalogues

Kartick Chandra Pyne

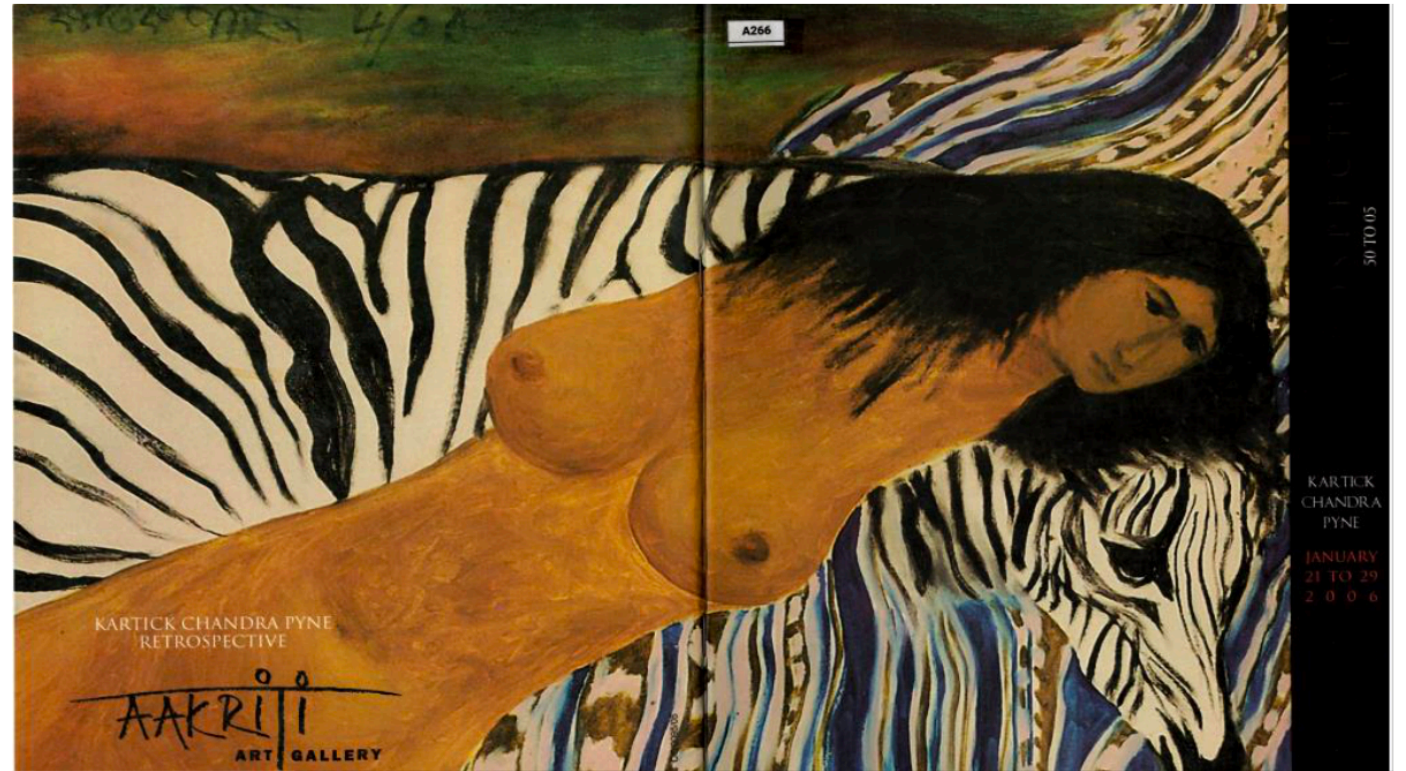
Retrospective Catalogue

Akriti Art Gallery, 2006

Text by Samir Dasgupta

Acc. No. A266 (PDF available)

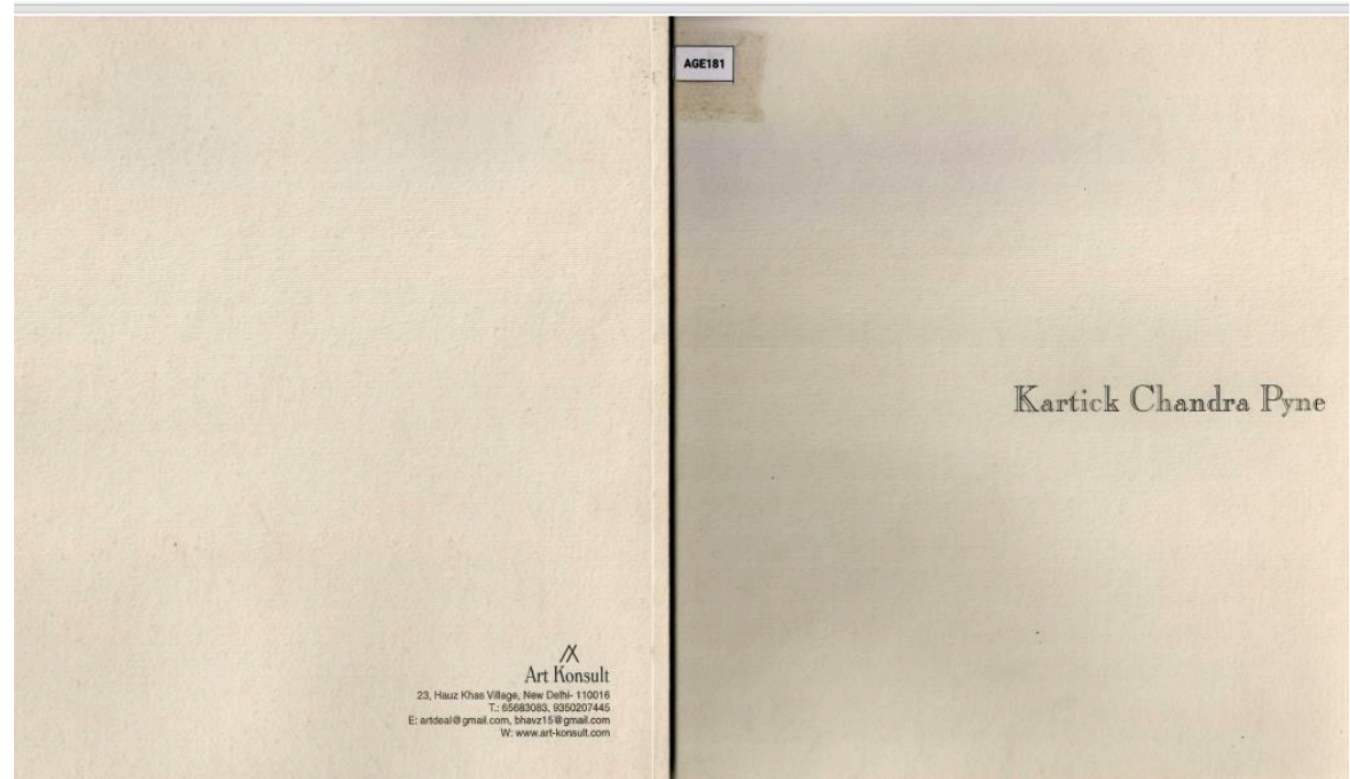
Details:



Kartick Chandra Pyne
Solo Exhibition Catalogue
Art Konsult, Delhi
2007
Acc. No AGE 181 (pdf available)

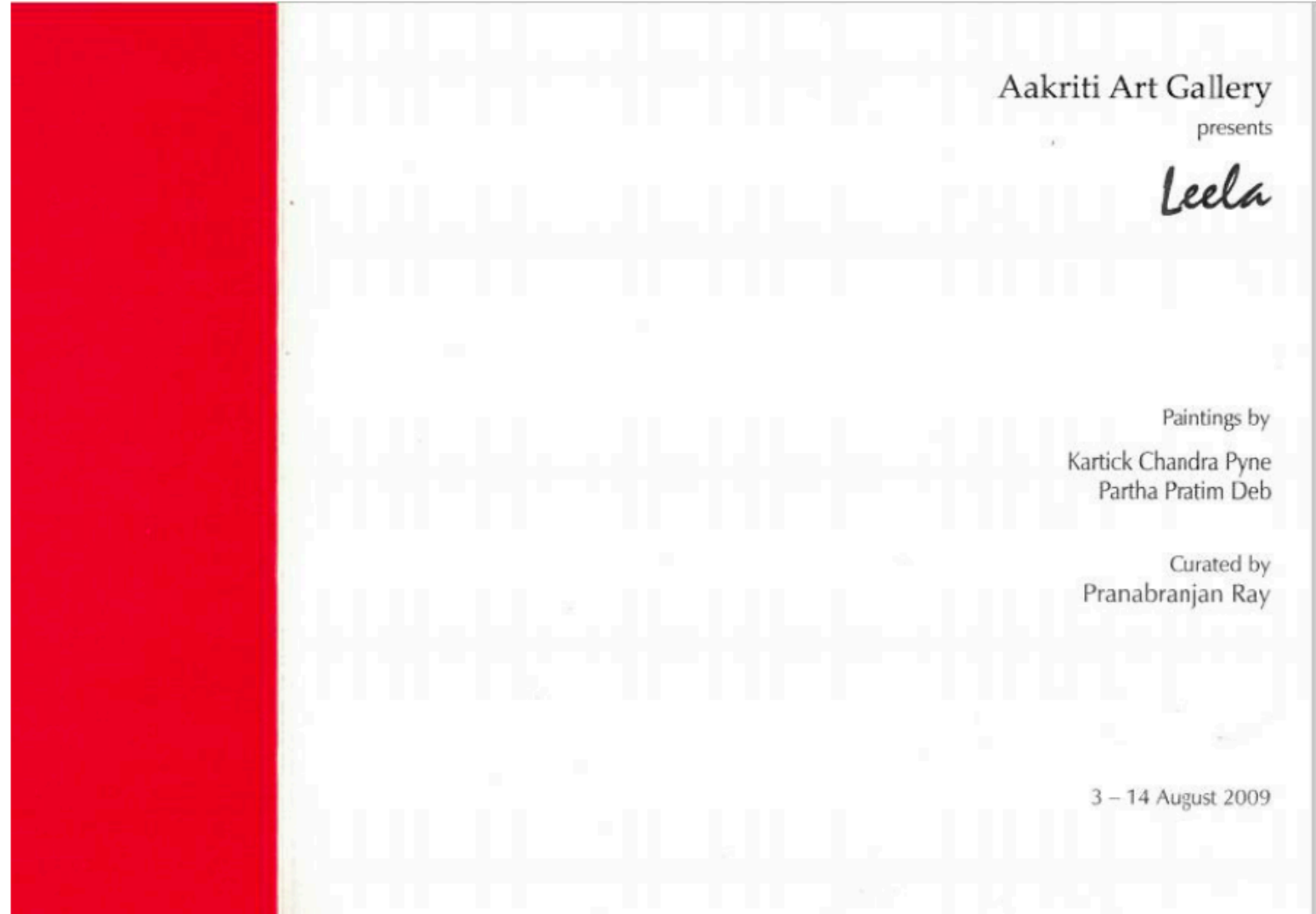
Text: Curatorial note by Pranab Ranjan Roy
Biographical Note and Bio Data of the Artist

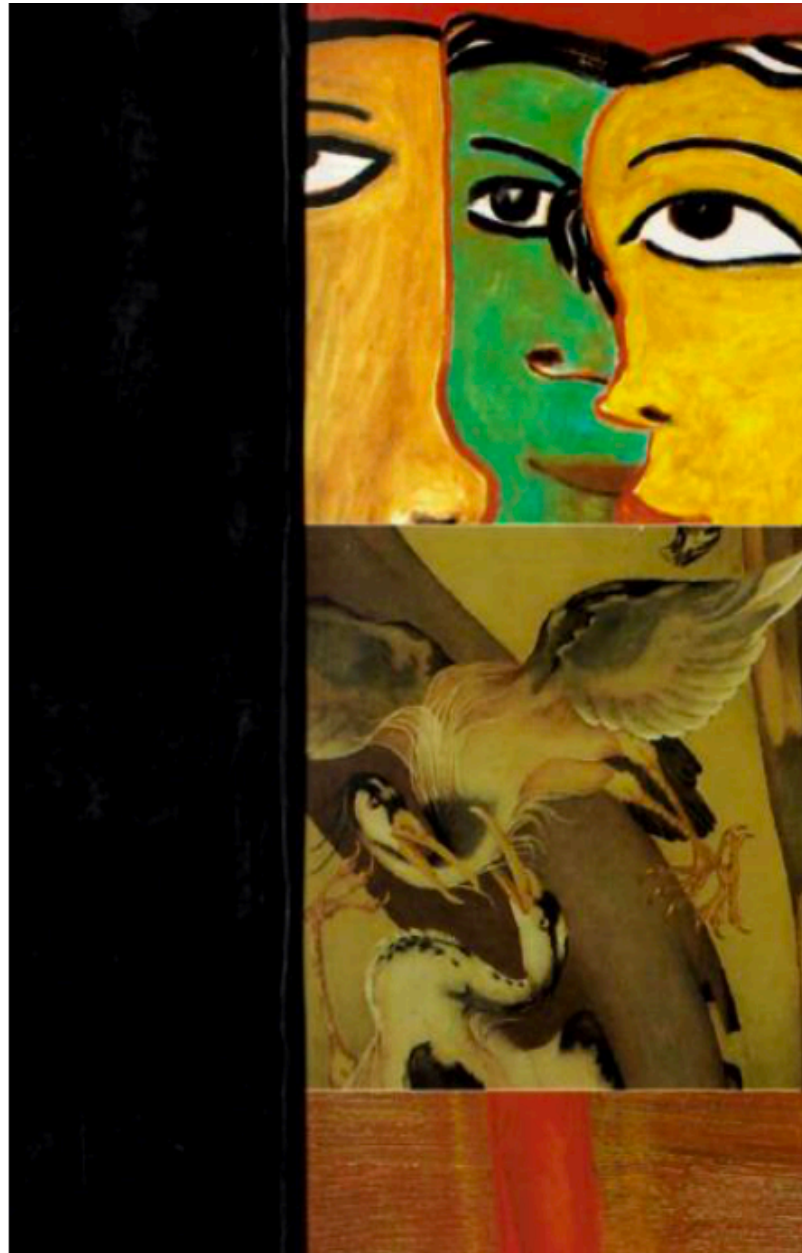
Details of the Images



Leela
Exhibition of KCP and Partha Pratim Deb
Curator: Pranab Ranjan Roy
Akriti Art Gallery, 2009
Kolkata
Acc. No. A311 (pdf available)

Text: Pranab Ranjan Roy





Aakriti
Art Gallery
presents

DIVERSIFIED FANTASY

Diversified Fantasy
Exhibition of KCP and others
Curated by Mrinal Ghosh
Akriti Art Gallery, 2008
Kolkata

Text: Mrinal Ghosh
PDF available



Kartick Chandra Pyne
Contemporary Monograph Series
Emami Chisel Art, 2013
Kolkata
Acc. No. EEC024

Text: Nanak Ganguly

EEC024



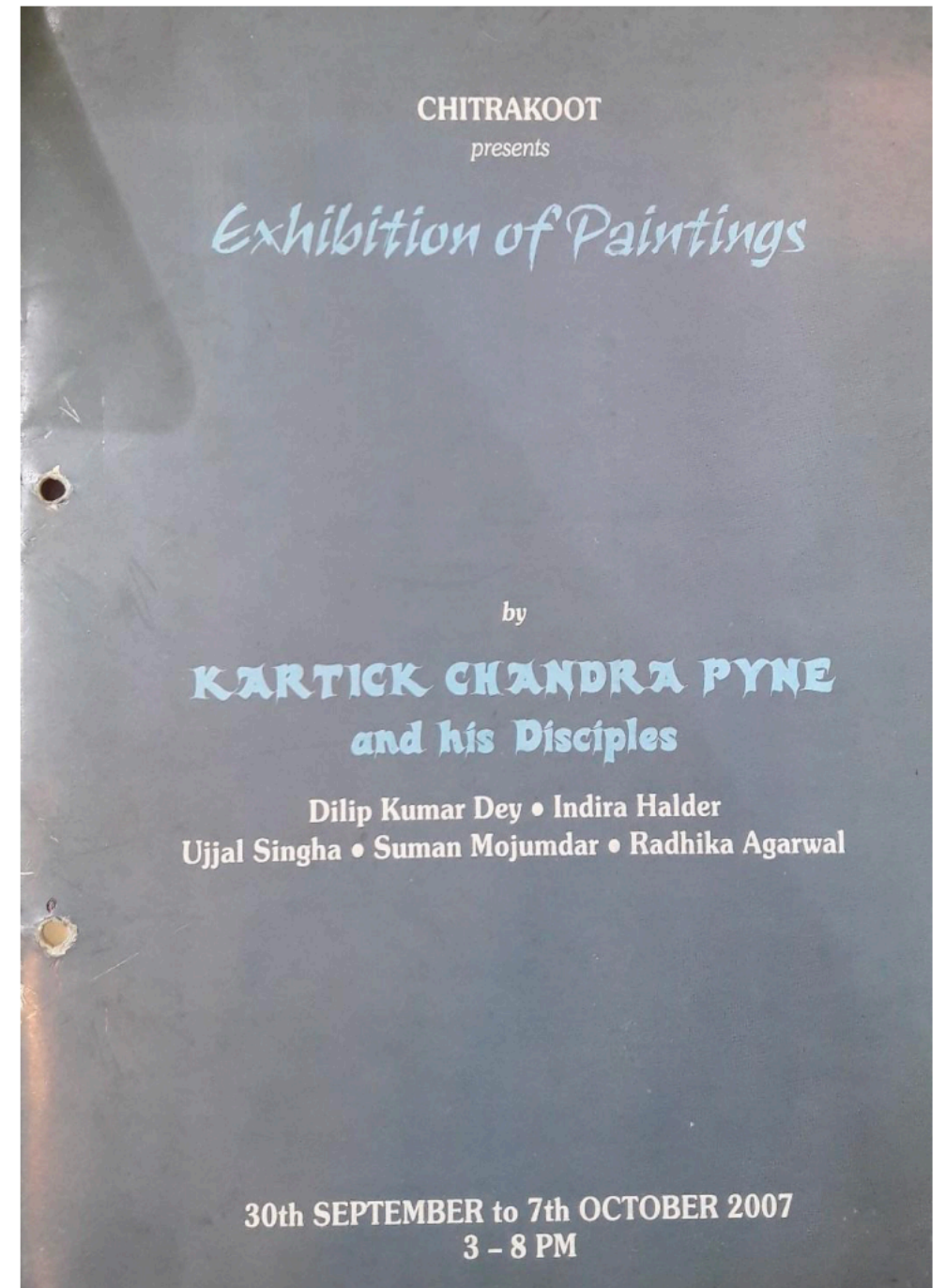
Kartick Chandra Pyne

Contemporary Monograph Series



Kartick Chandra Pyne and His Disciples
Exhibition Catalogue
Chitrakoot Art Gallery, Kolkata
October, 2007

Text: Sandip Sarkar





Documentary

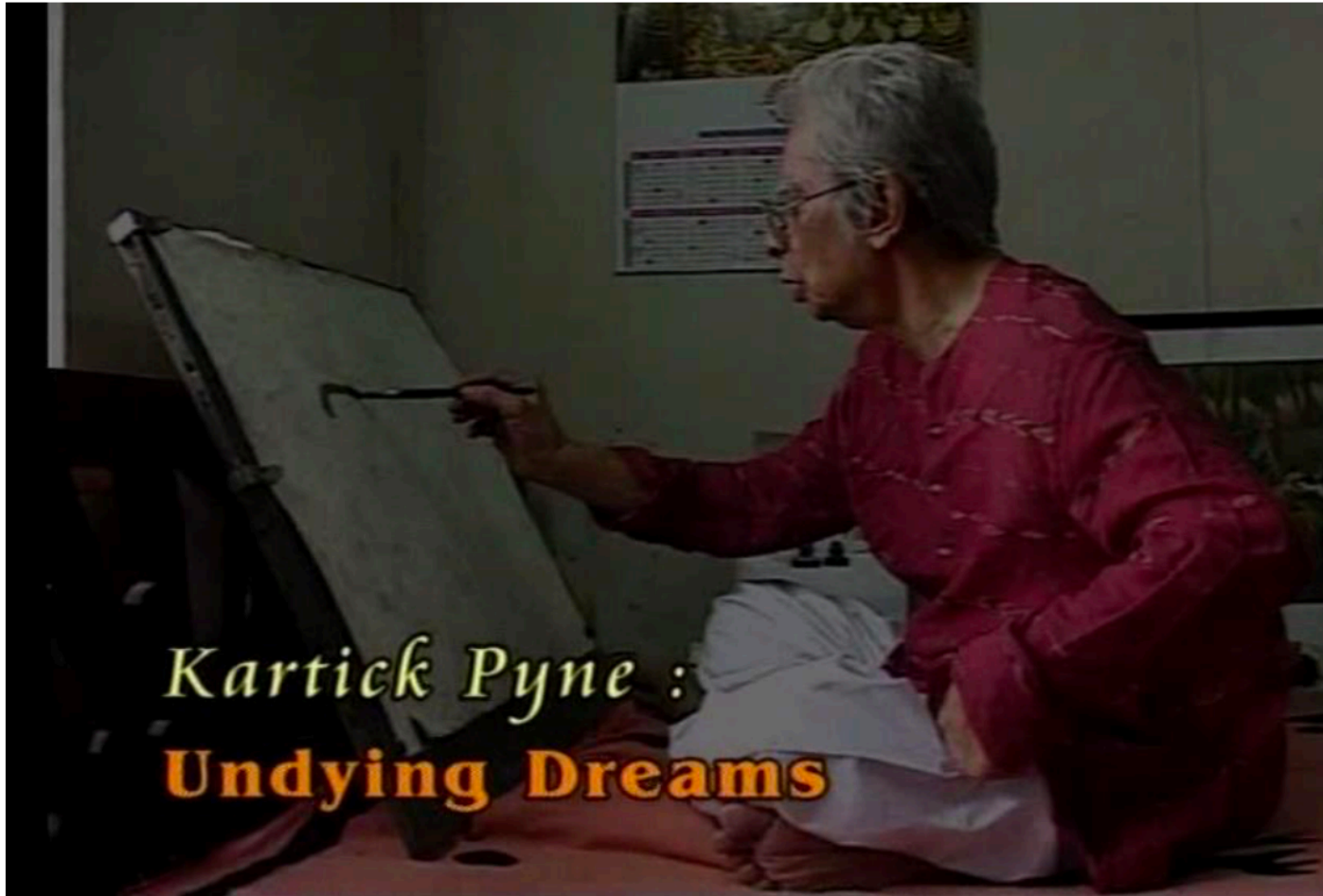
Line Galpo Design: Kartick Pyne

Rajya Charukala Parshad

Govt. of West Bengal

Released: 2017

Kartick Pyne: Undying Dreams



Chitrakoot Art
Gallery Presents

Director: Sankar
Majumdar

Year: ?

A part of the
documentary film: 8
Contemporary
Artists of Bengal



A destination for Modern & cutting- edge Contemporary Art, Emami Art is a one-of-a-kind art space built in keeping with international standards. Positioned as a key destination for artists, visitors and art collectors, the gallery aligns with the Emami Group's mission to support artists & artisans and contribute to society's wellbeing. A regular programme of curated exhibitions, includes the works of new talents and eminent masters of regional, national and international repute, that aligns with the promoters' ideology that while the popular contributes to the academic, the academic uplifts the popular. Spearheaded by Richa Agarwal, Emami Art's new 10,000 sq.ft. art space is located in the Kolkata Centre for Creativity (KCC), a state-of-the-art multi-disciplinary interactive art centre, off Eastern Metropolitan Bypass, Kolkata, India.

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