

THE ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION ROOM

A SPECIAL FEATURE BY THE KALA CHAUPAL TRUST- JUNE 2020

Shubam Kumar
Ali Akbar
Ritesh Khowal
Vishal Prajapati
Nitheen Ramalingam
Kapil Jangid
Madhurjya Dey
Hardik Chavda
Poorvi Sultania
Swagata Bhattacharya
Chetna R. Wagh
Purvi Mistry
Ashutosh Bharadwaj
Sasidharan N
Vasudevan Akkitham
Indrapramit Roy
Arvind H Suthar
Debashri Gupta
Ekta Makwana
Piyush Thakkar
Riya Patel

DIVERSE REFLECTIONS

FOREWORD by
PROF. INDRAPRAMIT ROY

EDUCATOR NOTES ON 'DIVERSE REFLECTIONS' IN THE 'ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION ROOM' - JUNE 2020

FOREWORD

The months of March and April are usually the busiest in the department with the faculty and students giving finishing touches to their works, planning the degree show, readying the space for the exhibition, preparing for the theoretical studies exams, readying their dissertation thesis – the studios are abuzz till late at night.

This year everything was different.

For nearly two weeks from end February the news channels and the print media were rife with the news of the spread of the global Novel Corona virus pandemic and the anxiety levels were rising. Then suddenly at the end of the second week of March came the news that students are required to vacate the studios for an indefinite period within a couple of hours.

Then came the daylong token national curfew on 22 March and before you even started digesting the implications of that, within two days, the whole nation was in a lockdown. We were still hoping that such an extreme measure could only be short term. But dashing all hopes the lockdown kept getting extended and finally vacation was declared till June 20.

None of us experienced anything like this in our lifetime!

Students were going through panic, disorientation, anxiety attacks, despondency and all kinds of negative feelings. Many were stranded thousands of miles away from home. They left unfinished and undocumented works in the studio to which they had no access. We kept in touch through WhatsApp, text, phone, email, whatever and nudged them to work and finish all academic requirements to the best of their abilities and circumstances. Most did using whatever means they could muster! Some, understandably, could not.

So, when the offer came from Kala Chaupal to host an online show we collected images from the students who were to have their Painting Master's Degree show in late April. Admittedly not all works are done during the quarantine period but most are. All works are done this year and a reflection of the wonderful diversity of practices that we have. I hope the viewers will get a taste of the range, if nothing else. We also included works of the teaching Faculty done during the lockdown. A testament that even in the darkest hour the show must go on and it does! I am deeply thankful to the Kala Chaupal for hosting the show, which allows the students an alternative avenue to showcase their works to a wider audience.

Indrapramit Roy

30 May 2020

SHUBHAM KUMAR



TITLE-DERA , MEDIUM-WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER , SIZE-5 in X 7 in (each) ,YEAR-2018

SHUBHAM KUMAR



Pursuing Post graduation (2018–20), M.S.U., Baroda
Undergraduate: 2014–2018: Maharaja Sayajirao University,
Faculty of Fine Arts, Baroda
Major in Painting with Minor in Graphics

Shubham Kumar is an artist from Gaya, Bihar and currently lives and works in Baroda. His practice stems from the concerns of his present and ancestral landmarks in Gaya. Experiencing and unravelling the recent shifts of his family and people. He works with images, video and other documentary material from his farmland and house, transforming and translating these images into compositions through paintings, as well as into digital material. These works, as such, are investigations into the digital and photographic nature of these materials, focused on minute, subtle changes (organic and intervened). These investigations occur employing various devices - primarily painting, accompanied by image transfer, installations and software manipulation of images. His paintings are made to mimic the digital photograph, or video still from which they are derived – confusing the viewer of the authenticity of the medium, and invoking larger questions of photography, memory and the homeland.

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ALI AKBAR



Ali Akbar N Untitled Various size Digital collage 2020

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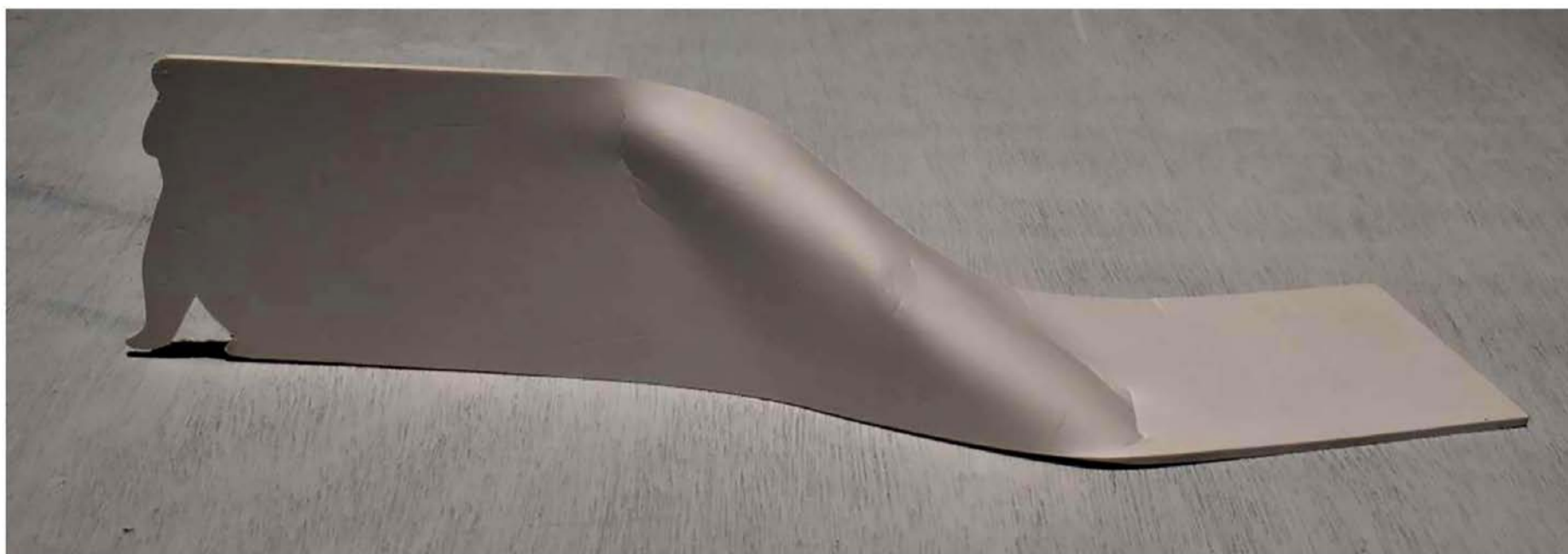
ALI AKBAR



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Masters in Visual Arts (2018-20), M.S.U., Baroda
Faculty of Fine Arts

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RITESH KHOWAL



TITLE - BODY IN SPACE II
MEDIUM - PVC BOARD
SIZE - 1' x 4" x 6" DIMENSION
YEAR - 2020

• RITESH KHOWAL



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Ritesh Khawal is currently in the final year of his Master's degree in Visual Art (Painting) from the Faculty of Fine Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.

Ritesh's artmaking is an extension of his affinity towards the Sufi way of thinking – a questioning of dualities and finding purpose in existing between such dualities/binaries. His interest in philosophy encourages him to critically view his social and cultural context; the critique of which is manifested in his work. His inquiry with self and surrounding world revolves around questions triggered by time, human condition, behaviour and the survival instinct.

VISHAL PRAJAPATI



TITLE- QUARANTINE DAYS, MEDIUM-MIXED CLOTHES, THREADS, BUTTON, SIZE- 15" X 18", YEAR-2020

VISHAL PRAJAPATI



I am currently a post graduate student under the department of painting,
M. S. University Baroda.



TITLE-‘THEY WANT TO LIVE HOW OTHERS LIVE’, MEDIUM-DIGITAL COLLAGE & GRAPHITE YEAR-2020

NITHEEN RAMALINGAM



Nitheen Ramalingam, originally from Chennai, Tamilnadu currently lives and works in Vadodara, Gujarat.

He is currently completing his master's course in Painting from the Fine Arts Faculty in the M.S. University of Baroda.

His concerns in Art include figuration, movement and the human psyche.



TITLE-'THEY WANT TO LIVE HOW OTHERS LIVE', MEDIUM-DIGITAL COLLAGE & GRAPHITE YEAR-2020

KAPIL JANGID



Kapil Jangid is a graduate from the department of Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda in 2018. Currently in final year of MVA in Mural design.

His work talks mostly on the dreams of architecture and addresses the issues of urbanization. His work practice is all about his imagination of architecture and utopian dreams. He is interested in process and technique due to his father being a carpenter.

He has been a part of five group shows including Thinking matter, an exhibition of Objects curated by Mario D'souza in Space Gallery, Vadodara 2020. He is second runner up in Emerging Artist of the Year, Glenfiddich Air Art Award in Delhi and did group show there in Art District gallery, Delhi 2019.

He received the Kalpana Reddy Memorial Award in the year 2018 and Nasreen Mohammadi scholarship 2017.



TITLE: A letter (THE SHEPARD TONE) MEDIUM: OIL ON PAPER AND DIGITAL TEXT YEAR: 2020

MADHURJYA DEY



Madhurjya Dey is a graduate from the department of Painting, Faculty of Finearts, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. And is currently a post-graduate student under the same faculty.

Starting with the simplest correlations between cinematic strategies applied to sculptural forms, to broader parallels being drawn between imagined realities, the distortion of individual and collective memory, and narratives (that exist in his work as neither fiction nor reality), Madhurjya constantly attempts to create loops in both time and space, forcing the viewer to string together the happenings he narrates.

He has participated in the Project Ecowalk at Sara centre, Karnataka, India, 2017. He has been a part of four group shows starting with Transformation of Ideas in the year 2016, Degree show in the year 2018, a preview show called 'In Making' 2018 and 'Terra-Incognita', an online show in the year 2019.

He is also a recipient of Jeram Patel Award in the year 2018.

HARDIK CHAVDA



TITLE CITY PLAN 03, MEDIUM- CERAMIC (UNFIRED) , SIZE 20.5"

HARDIK CHAVDA



Hardik Chavda is currently a post-graduate student under the department of Painting, M.S. University Baroda.

He works with the idea of City Planning, its structural aspect, and develops various city-scapes from the ruined once, both real and fictional.



TITLE-GRID NO. I MEDIUM- INK,PASTEL GRAPHITE ON PAPER

POORVI SULTANIA



Poorvi Sultania has her BA (Hons) Graphic Design from Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London and is about to complete her MFA in Painting from the Fine Arts faculty at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda.

She is interested in the natural world, and issues of memory, space and the idea of home.



Swagata Bhattacharyya

Title: अतर्किक सजा के भागीदार होंगे

Medium: Graphite, pen, pastel on paper

Size: (47/25) inches

Year: 2020

SWAGATA BHATTACHARYA

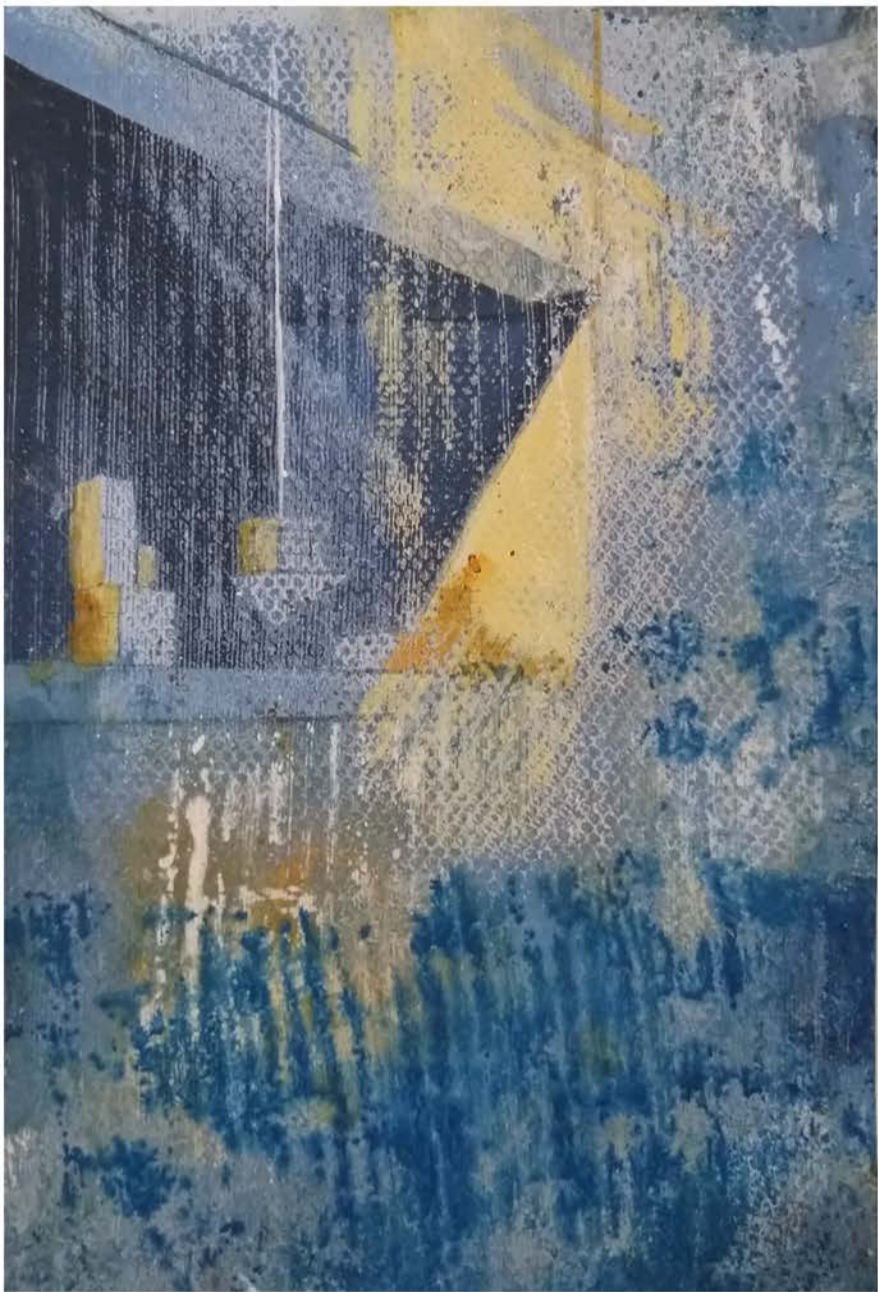


Swagata Bhattacharya is currently pursuing master's degree in painting from M.S.U Baroda, Swagata Bhattacharyya completed his B.F.A in painting from Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata in the year 2018.

His practice revolves around the mass destruction of nature and livelihood by the name of development and prosperity. The continuous effort to rewrite the history through myths and fault lines of urban design and contemporary society explored through mediums beyond drawing, such as video, photography, and building three dimensional model of a city.

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CHETNA R. VAGH



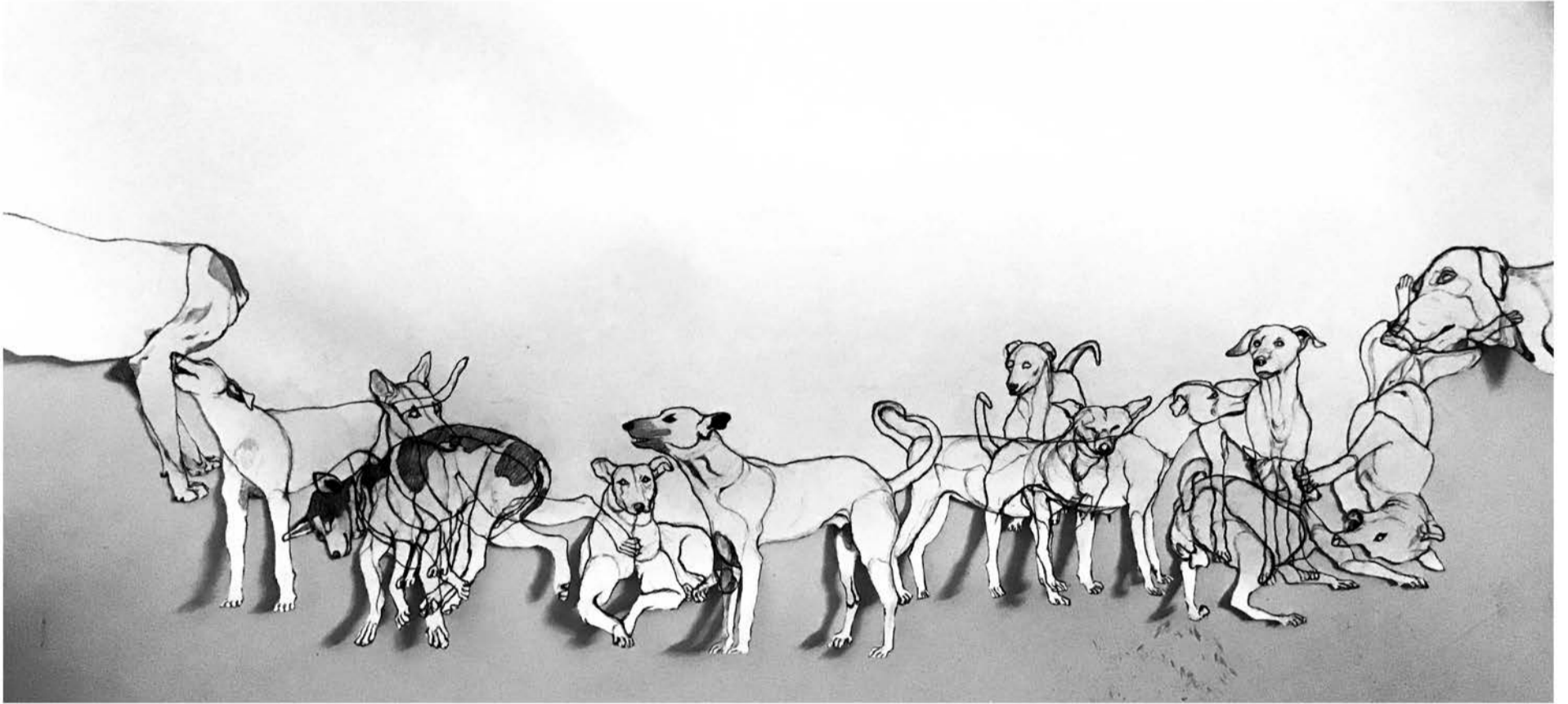
TITLE -UNTITLED NO.1 MEDIUM - MIXED MEDIA ON PAPER SIZE- 8" X 12"

CHETNA R. VAGH



Chetna R. Vagh has completed her diploma from C.N. Vidyalaya, Ahemdabad. She is currently in final year of a Post Diploma in Visual Arts in Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU.

PURVI MISTRY

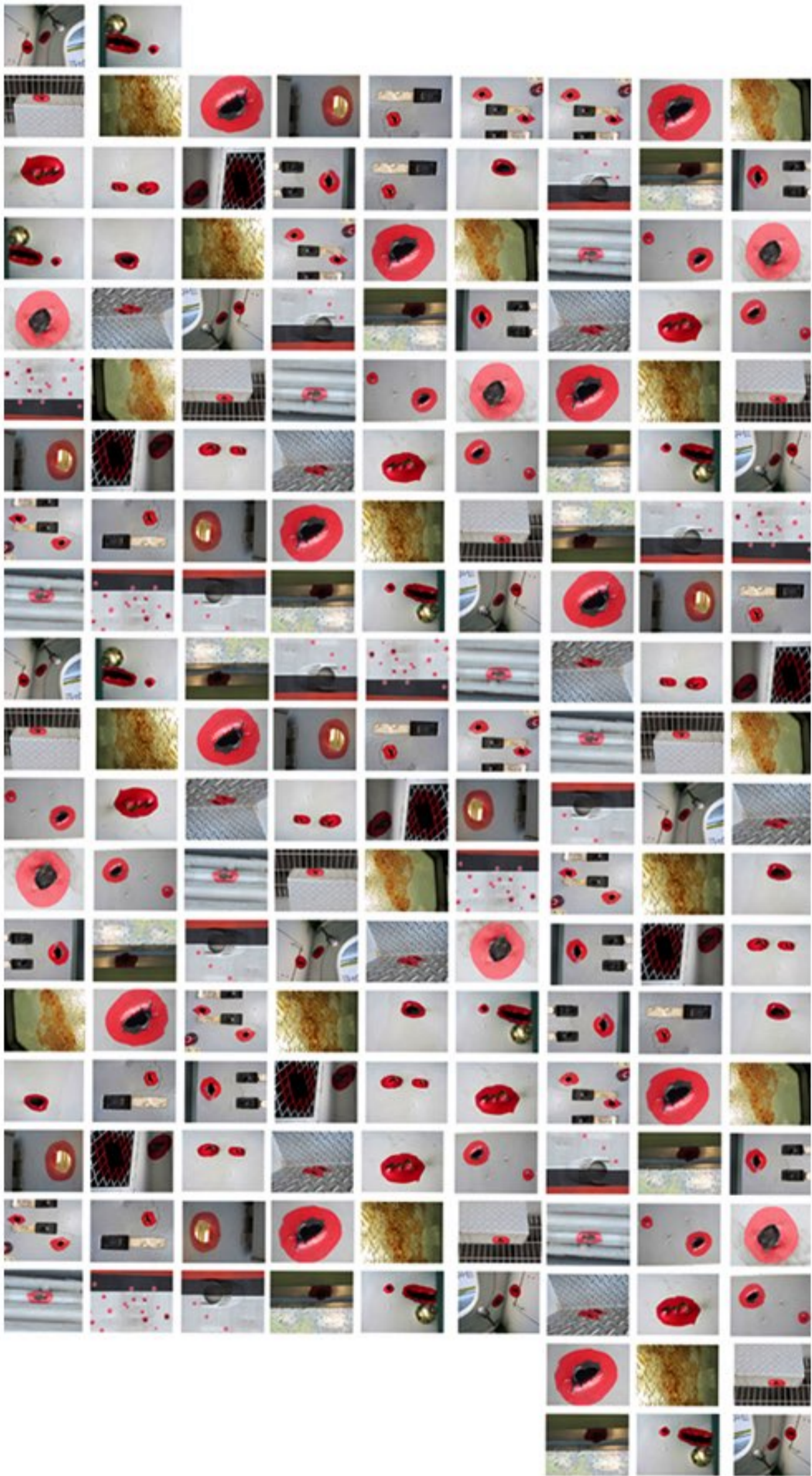


TITLE-WATCHMAN MEDIUM- PAPER CUT

PURVI MISTRY



Purvi Mistry is from Baroda and is currently pursuing a Master in Visual Arts in Painting. She has participated in many group shows, like the preview show in bachelor final year at Faculty of Fine Arts.



TITLE - INFECTIOUS LOVE

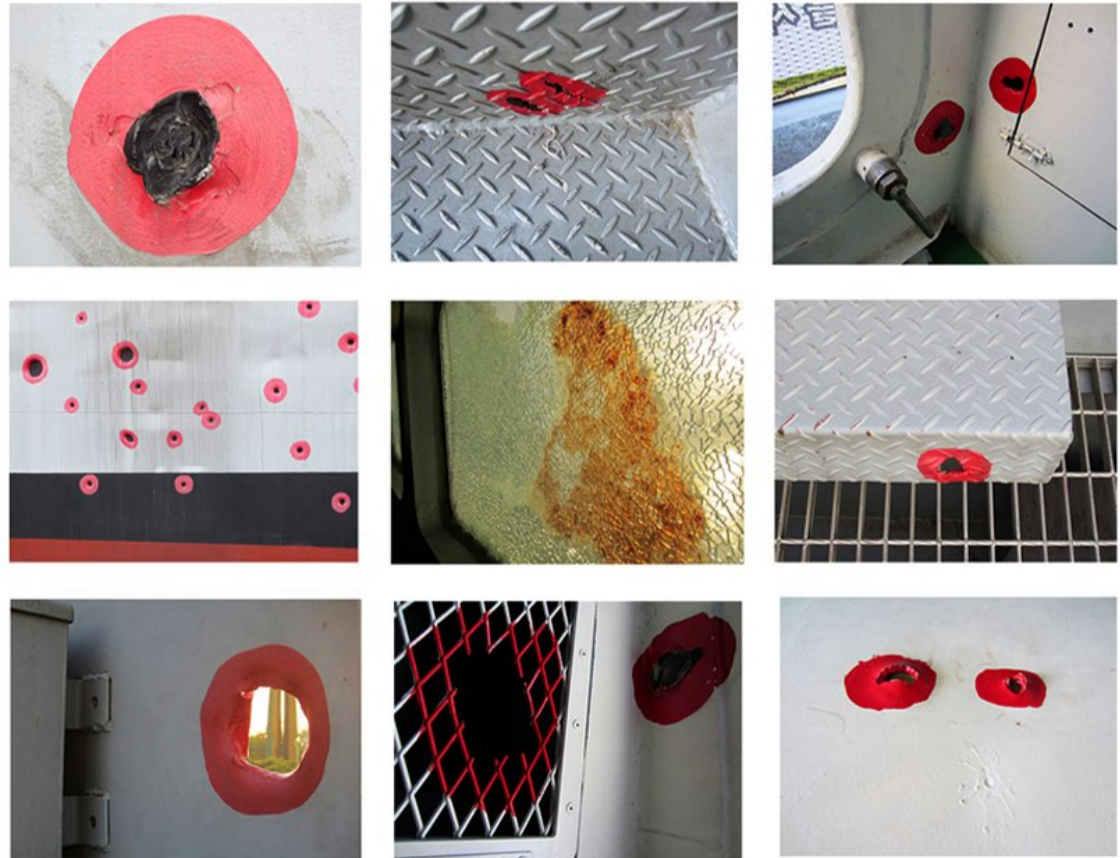
ASHUTOSH BHARDWAJ



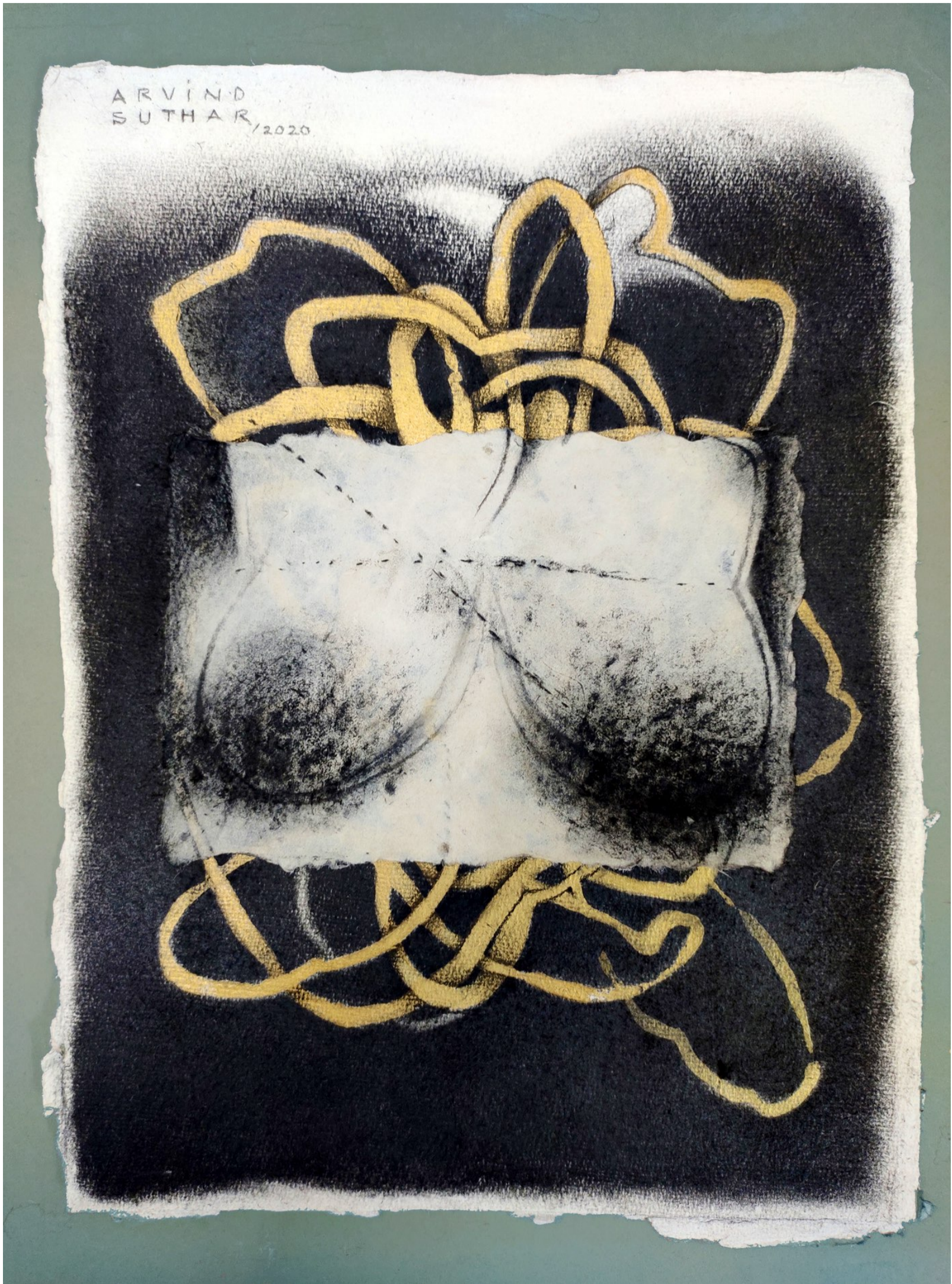
Ashutosh Bhardwaj (b.1981) lives and works of in Baroda, and currently teaches at Faculty of Fine Arts, The M.S. University. He received both his BVA and MVA from the same Faculty.

Ashutosh has had three solo shows SleepWalker 2008 Vadehra Art Gallery at New Delhi and Onlookers 2012 Guild Art Gallery Mumbai are among them.

He is been part of several international curated Exhibitions and has shown at the New Museum, New York. Phaidon Publication included him in their project Younger Then Jesus in 2009. He has been teaching at Painting department since the past three years as a temporary Faculty.



TITLE - INFECTIOUS LOVE (DETAILS OF THE ARTWORK ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE)



TITLE- UNTITLED MEDIUM- MIX MEDIA ON PAPER SIZE-12" X 16"YEAR- 2020

ARVIND H SUTAR



Born in 1976, Anand , Gujarat.

Completed BFA and MFA from the Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU of Baroda.

Received Gold Medal at Kanagawa Biennale-Japan, Fellowship From Gujarat Lalit Kala Akademi,

Solo shows in Ahmedabad, Baroda, Mumbai and Leicester, UK. He has been to De Montford University of Leicester on teacher exchange programme.

Teaching at the Department of Painting since 2003.



TITLE-UNTITLED MEDIUM-CHARCOAL AND GAUCHE ON PAPER SIZE- 21X15 CMS YEAR-2020.

Sashidharan N

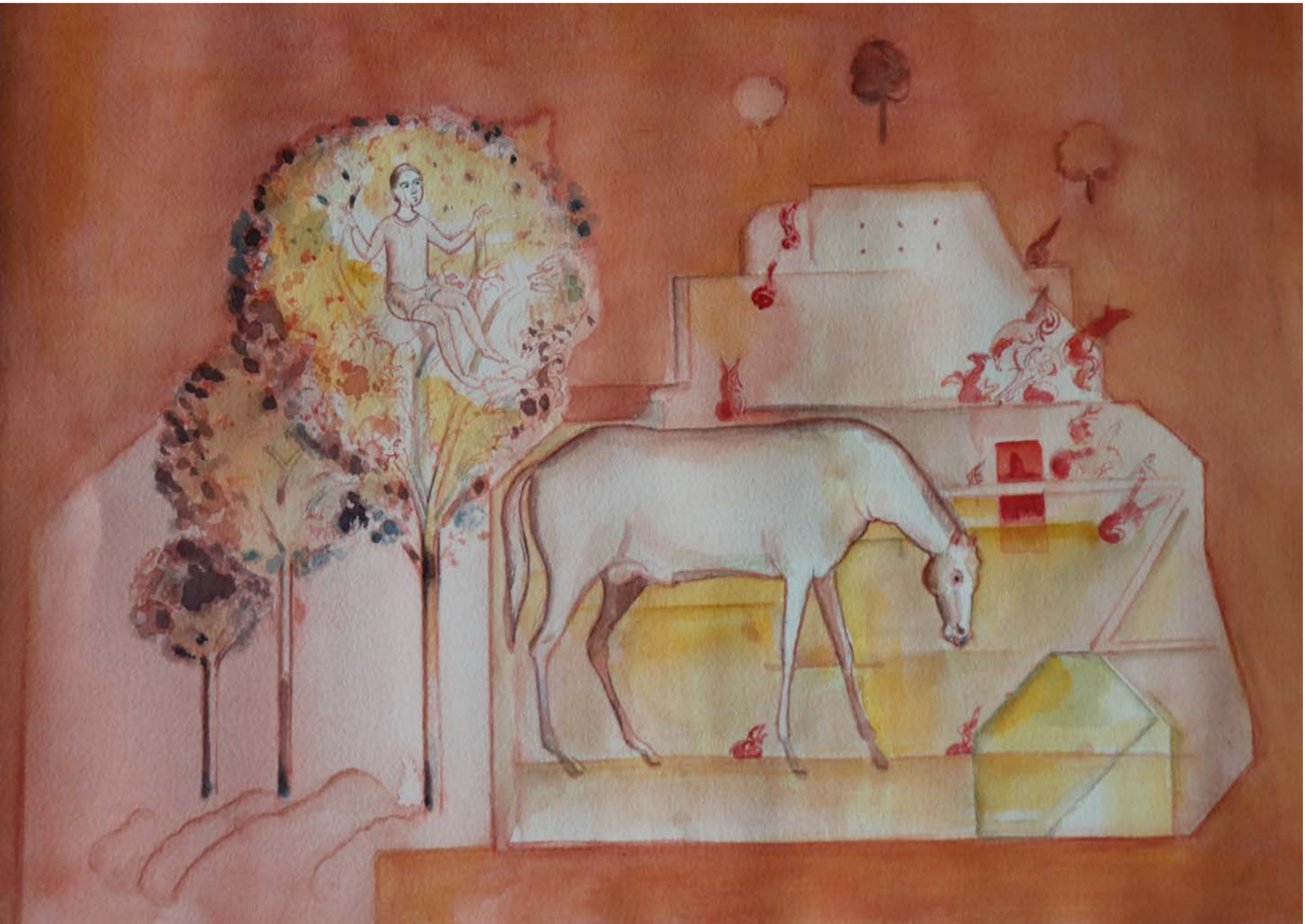


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Born in Velamanoor, Kollam district, Sasidharan, completed his post-graduation in Mural painting from the Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda, where he specialised in Italian and Indian fresco traditions.

Sasidharan has been a faculty member of the Department of Painting, at his alma mater since 1992. He also studied Glass at Edinburgh College of Art on Charles Wallace India Grant.

Moreover He is a visiting Professor at NID, Ahmedabad. Works in painting, glass, stained glass and has shown widely.



TITLE-COURTYARD SIZE-12”X16”YEAR-2020 MAY

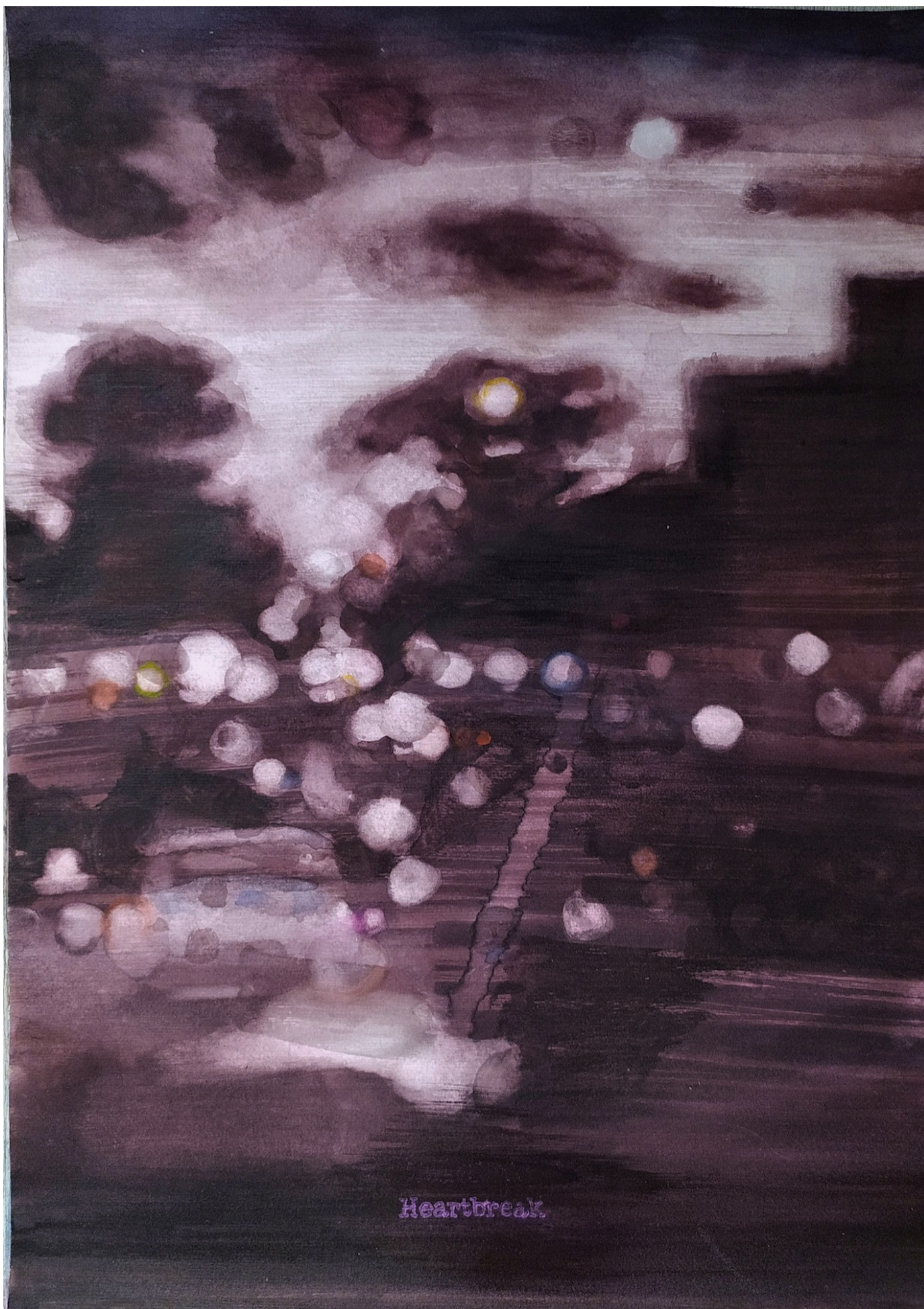
Vasudevan Akkitham



Vasudevan Akkitham has been teaching in the Painting department since early 1990s and served as its Head for nearly a decade. He was born at Kumaranallur, Kerala in 1958.

He completed his Diploma and Post Diploma from the Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda.

In 1988 he did his MA from the Royal College of Art, London on Inlaks Scholarship. He has received Fulbright Fellowship.



TITLE-QUARANTINE DIARY-4 MEDIUM-WATERCOLOUR SIZE-15X11 INCH-2020

INDRAPRAMIT ROY











Indrapramit Roy is an artist, illustrator and occasional writer. He studied at Santiniketan, Baroda and RCA, London and has been teaching art at Baroda since 1995 at MSU of Baroda.

He has been showing since 1990 and has had 17 Solo exhibitions so far. He has also received a Fulbright Fellowship and Artist-in-Residence at Siena Art Institute, Italy.

He has served as the Dean of Students of the Faculty from 2016 to 2020.



				
				
DEBASHRI GUPTA	“RAPTURE”	6 X 8 inches(set of 100)	Mixed Media	2020

DEBASHRI GUPTA



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Debashri Gupta completed her BFA in from The Indian College of Art and Draftsmanship, Kolkata. She is currently a final year student of MVA (Painting) at MSU of Baroda.



TITLE-WOMAN SIZE- 5" X 6" MEDIUM- INK,PASTEL GRAPHITE ON PAPER 2020

EKTA MAKWANA



Hailing from Ahemdabad, Ekta Makwana is currently pursuing her master's final year at the Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda.

She is very interested in dealing with the formal elements of shape-colour-texture-design and pattern in her paintings along with the human figure.



TITLE - EXCERPT FROM A STORY OF A MAN WITHOUT HEAD

PIYUSH THAKKAR



Piyush Thakkar is an academician, poet, painter and art-writer. His fort  is drawing. His works have been exhibited in various Group Shows across India. He has papers presented and essays published on art and literature in Gujarati, Hindi and English.

His poems have been featured in anthologies of modern Gujarati Poetry and translated in Indian languages. *Lakhun Chhun...* (2015) is his first collection of poems in Gujarati. He has read his poetry at distinguished literary meets across India.

He is recipient of the Nasreen Mohammedi Award; a residential fellowship at Kanoria Centre for Arts, Ahmedabad; Raza Fellowship for art-writing and *Takhtsinh Parmar Paritoshik* by Gujarati Sahitya Parishad for *Lakhun Chhun...* as the best first book of creative writing published in Gujarati during 2014-2015.

Piyush is presently working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara and is concurrently associated with Balvant Parekh Centre for General Semantics & Other Human Sciences, Vadodara.



"Texture"

RIYA PATEL



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Riya Patel is currently a post-Diploma student at the Department of Painting, M.S. University of Baroda. She completed her BVA from the same Department in 2018.

Riya works with naturally found textures and patterns.

The combination of textures of barks, twigs, branches, flowing water, stones etc. are meticulously rendered to create evocations of landscapes. Riya is a specially abled student.

AN AFTERWORD 'DIVERSE REFLECTIONS'

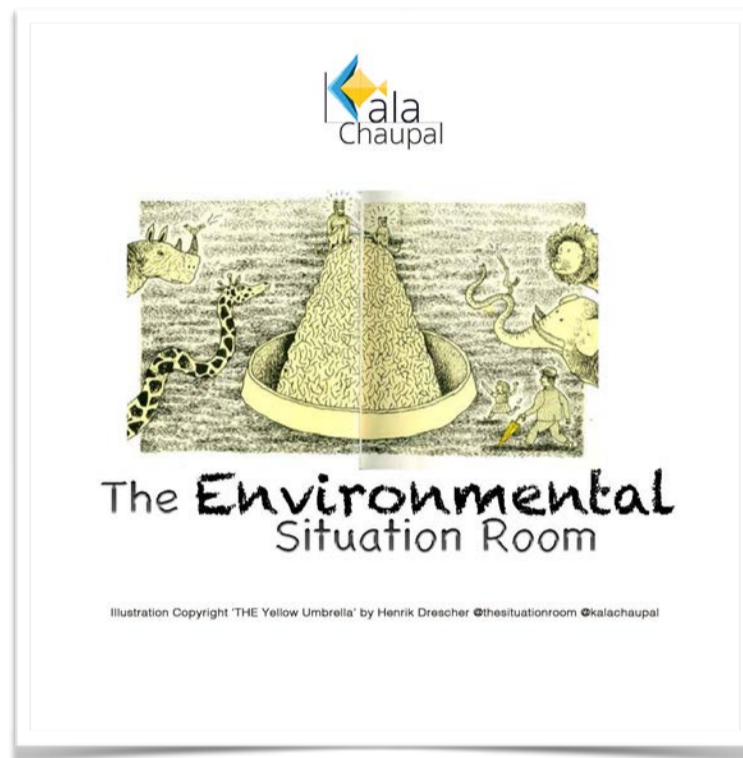
"What an honour to showcase the work by students and faculty of MSU Baroda, a glorious place I had the chance to visit many years ago with artist Jyoti Bhatt. And although the students of MSU were derailed from presenting their degree exhibition at the university, their works, that richly speak for themselves within the pages of this feature story, exemplify a dynamic knowledge of craftsmanship, innovation, and expressive explorations in mixed media, guided by a masterful academic program.

A degree show is a very special moment in a student's life. It also resonates with faculty who have guided the students and now will become their friends, and in some cases, colleagues in the coming years. The evocations of, and between the faculty represented here, are a cohesive picture of accomplishment that significantly has migrated to the students' professionalism.

Congratulations to all of you for making it through the quarantine with brilliant work."

- **Helen Frederick**, Organisation Curator, The Kala Chaupal Trust

HELEN FREDERICK is recognized as a distinguished artist, curator, educator, coordinator of international projects, and as founder of Pyramid Atlantic, a center for contemporary printmaking, hand papermaking and the art of the book. As an advocate for and an active participant in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area arts scene, she has served on the directorial boards of alternative art spaces, various local and national boards including the College Art Association, and national peer-review panels. Her work has been exhibited at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., The Eleanor D. Wilson Museum at Hollins University, Dieu Donne Gallery, New York, Henie-Onstad Museum, Norway, and the Museum of Modern Art in Kyoto, Japan, and is in collections of the Whitney Museum and Brooklyn Museum in New York, the National Gallery of Art, Library of Congress, and Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., among many others. Frederick who is a Professor Emeritus in the School of Art at George Mason University, has fulfilled speaking engagements around the world, always emphasizing collaboration across disciplines.



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FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES OR INTEREST IN THE ARTWORKS KINDLY CONTACT:
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on email: indrapramitroy@gmail.com