

Priyasri Art Gallery

Presents

‘In Search of the Non-Singular’

Akbar Padamsee

Duration - The Exhibition will continue till end of March

The works will be available for viewing at Priyasri Art Gallery, Worli, Mumbai on appointment basis

Venue:

Priyasri Art Gallery

42, Madhuli Apartment,

Shivsagar Estate, Next to Poonam Apartments, Worli, Mumbai- 400018.

These selected works bring to the fore the artist's search for non-singularity through time, space, technology and self. The face, for instance, has been an intellectual haunt for many thinkers. The Levinasian interest in the face as a window into an ethics of being with the 'other' is well known. The face, in this collection, appears to mark Padamsee's artistic search for the reticent and the latent. Beings, to Akbar Padamsee, appear to be constantly enmeshed in a flux of undoing and remaking - in these particular works, made with the intention to proliferate, one may find a search for the elusive non-singular - ones that are not determined by the quality of unity promised by perhaps a zero. Instead these works are spiraling with certainty towards infinity - be it in the manner of systemic disruption as can be seen in his computer generated work, in the manner of the hazy emergence of the faces in his print works or in the manner of a resistance to be seen as seen in his later figurations.

- Srajana Kaikini

About Akbar Padamsee

Artist Akbar Padamsee was born in Bombay in 1928. Padamsee studied at the Sir JJ School of Art in Bombay. After completing his art education, Padamsee was persuaded by one of the founding members of the Bombay Progressive Artists' Group, artist SH Raza, to travel with him to France in 1951. All of 21, Padamsee rented a small room in a hotel in Paris and converted it into his studio. In 1952, he was awarded

a prize by André Breton, monikered as the Pope of Surrealism, on behalf of the Journale d'art. His first solo show was at Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai in 1954.

In 1962, Padamsee was awarded a gold medal from the Lalit Kala Akademi, and in 1965 a fellowship from the JD Rockefeller Foundation. Subsequently, he was invited to be an artist-in-residence by Stout State University, Wisconsin. In 1967, a solo exhibition of his paintings was held at the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art, Canada, after which he returned to India. Padamsee's oeuvre is a formal exploration of a few chosen themes — prophets, heads, couples, still-life, grey works, metascapes, mirror-images and tertiaries across a multitude of media – oil painting, plastic emulsion, watercolour, sculpture, printmaking, computer graphics, and photography.

In 1969-71, with the Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship funds, Padamsee set up the inter-art Vision Exchange Workshop (VIEW), where artists and filmmakers could freely experiment across various disciplines and practices. Padamsee himself made two abstract films – Syzygy and Events in a Cloud Chamber – in which he animated a set of geometric drawings.

In 1980, a retrospective of his work was organized by the Art Heritage Gallery in Mumbai and New Delhi. In 2010, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the Government of India.

About Priyasri Art Gallery

Priyasri Art Gallery is a contemporary art space located on the seafront in Madhuli, Worli. Founded in 2004, Priyasri Art Gallery has been responsive to the evolving language of art and is nurturing a gamut of artistic practices and expressions. The gallery is dedicated to its role of exhibiting modern, contemporary and experimental artworks. Besides being committed to promote young artistic talent, the gallery represents veteran artists such as Akbar Padamsee and Jogen Chowdhury. Priyasri Art Gallery also provides artists with a studio facility in Baroda called AQ@Priyasri. The artist studio in Baroda has been providing space and housing for young artists since 2003. It has recently launched a separate printmaking practice wing.

Social media handles -

1. Facebook: Priyasri Art Gallery
2. Instagram: @priyasriartgallery
3. Twitter: @artgallery42
4. LinkedIn: Priyasri Art Gallery
5. Website: www.priyasriartgallery.in / www.priyasriartgallery.com

Best Regards,

Team Priyasri Art Gallery

AQ@Priyasri - The Artist Studio