

GEN-X

September 12th-25th September,2008

Abhijit A Paul, Aji Adoor, Bhavin Mistry, Durga Prasad Bandi, Isha Diwanji, Khanjan Maru, Minesh Vaghela Narendra Patel, Prashanth A Nageshkar, Preeti Agarwall, Shahin Mansuri, Swetha BV

Cultural Symptoms

“Everything is arranged so that it be this way; this is what is called culture”.

- Jacques Derrida

Culture plays a significant role in the formation of any artistic practice. Every artist understands culture in different ways. The diversities in understanding of a single culture produce multiple visual languages; these are a kind of interpretations on certain cultural symptoms.

Globalization is creating a discursive space where multiple cultural symptoms can intersect, but one should not understand it as a mere discursive approach, but also as a systematized operation of power across regions and cultures. The artists who are part of this show work with different concerns that are contemporary and relevant significantly approaching towards the issues of gender, religion and social transformations.

Swetha BV's works attempt to articulate the state of feminine by critically understanding the experiences of female gender while confronting with the society. Shahin Mansuri's engagement stands as a nuanced example of her relation with her own religion and culture. Durga Prasad deals with the complex issues with regard to black identities within a White hegemonic domain.

Narendra Patel juxtaposes an urban scene accompanied with certain translucent imageries attempting to create a camouflage. Bhavin Mistry represents machine like creatures which speak about the mechanisms produced under urban dynamics. Aji

Adoor illustrates the transformation of rural scene into urban and tackles it interestingly through the aspect of human migration involved in it.

Abhijit Paul subverts the identities of animals which are constructed historically by situating them in newer contexts. Prashanth Nageshkar on the other hand tries to portray the animals in movement which stand as a metaphor of the fastening up of society in recent times. Khanjan Maru deals with the minute creatures like insects and re situates them in diverse spaces.

Isha Diwanji's work find its close association with photography; one would tentatively call it as a kind of Mediatc Realism. Preeti Agrawal's works situate themselves in certain kind of alienation where the figures are significantly hybrid. Minesh Vaghela's works construct an unusual narrative with their formal quality positioning objects outside their established peripheries.

Most of the articulations here enter into the domain of human without directly referring to it. The fluidity of culture the artists belong to made space for such articulations; this show is the context where all these diverse articulations intersect and form a fragmented assemblage.

Srinivas Aditya Mopidevi

Baroda

(I thank Sneha Ragavan for her valuable suggestions)