

ARTISTS AUTOBIOGRAPHY E BOOK





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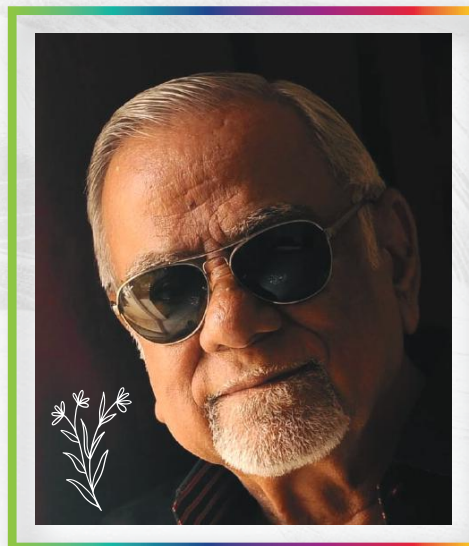
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# ICONS OF ART

Artists AutoBiography E Book

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**Sub Editor / Art Curator**

Sonal Purohit

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# Preface

## Icons Of Art

**"A beautiful body perishes but a work of art dies not"**  
- Leonardo Da Vinci

It goes so well with the artists who put some part of their soul in every piece of art they create. They see what others are unable to perceive.

Icons of Art, an initiative by The PaintBrush Art Community and The Namaste India Group aims to highlight such iconic artists who have made their mark in the world of art.

The book features the artistic journey of artists, their achievements and their rise. The book features the exquisite and unique artworks of various genres and styles that adds to the glory of the book.

The artists have liberally opened their hearts out and have shared their ideas that would surely motivate the readers abundantly. Every artist has been exclusively featured and shines like a precious pearl to add sheen in the world of art.

The world of Art is always a utopian world of the beautiful souls who continue to create immortal masterpieces. With this notion, we proudly present 'Icons Of Art' and look forward for your faith and support.



卐 Shubh Ganesh 卐



NAMASTE  
**INDIA**  
MAGAZINE



Magazine Logo Concept :

Our magazine logo is inspired by Coconut ( Shriphal ) & love for our National Indian TriColour Flag



# Namaste India Group - International

Revolutionise | Reawaken | Reform

Art & Culture | Sports | Education | Healthcare | SDGs



Namaste India Group - Int - Wings

Associate Partner



We NIG Registered with

We NIG Supported to

## Sneh Sparsh Social Foundation (R) , Pune - Maharashtra

SSSF : Regd. No. : Maha/794/2019/Pune | F-53440 / Pune , NITI Aayog Unique ID No. : MH/2020/0259380

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### ASSOCIATE COUNTRY



## About NIG - Founder

A Creative Designer by Profession, has worked in all spheres of Media and Entertainment. He has also worked with various News Channels and Animation Studios. He is an ardent lover of Arts and Culture which has made him create opportunities for people with similar goals to create a platform for future generations.

Sneh Sparsh Social ( S S S ) Foundation was the first step towards the goal he sought for. His 18+ years of experience in Media and Entertainment has led him to envision the dream of Namaste India e-Magazine.

Namaste India Magazine which has brought a revolution in the social media by its presence and promoted writers and Artists since its inception.

Sudhir's forte is his creativity and a very humble nature which has won hearts not only in India but also internationally. He is indeed a Change Maker.

A portrait of Sudhir S. Salunke, a man with a mustache and glasses, wearing a blue blazer over a white shirt. He is sitting in a wooden chair in a well-lit room with bookshelves in the background.

# *Sudhir S. Salunke*

Founder / President : Namaste India Group - International

“ EDUCATION makes humans to LIVE their life, but ARTS keep them ALIVE ”

# About The PaintBrush Art Community - Founder

Sonal Purohit is an Indian artist, who always had an inclination towards art and literature. With a degree of Masters in Literature, art has always been her escape to utopia.

She is also the founder of the PaintBrush Art Community. She has always loved to experiment with colors and different materials. Her art is always vibrant and she uses acrylic and mixed media in her art. Her famous paintings got featured in a best selling book of poetry by Roxana Jaffer, "THE PARALLEL WORLD". She also published a book dedicated to art and artists in 2021 called, "THE ART AND ARTISANS".

Art events curated by Sonal Purohit :

- 1.Hope live art (2020)
- 2.Cognizance Covid - an art exhibition dedicated to the covid warriors (2020)
- 3.The Rays of Hope (with kindergarten kids dedicated to the Mars Mission by The UAE Government.
- 4.Retro Revival

She has also participated in several art exhibitions across the UAE. Special mention to Indo-Taiwan art exhibition.

The events curated by Sonal got featured in prestigious newspapers in India and UAE including UAE NEWSPAPERS: Gulf Today, Khaleej Times, Gulf News  
Indian Newspapers : Voice of Jaipur, Rajasthan Patrika, Dainik Bhaskar, Jalte Deep.

Italian Channel : Televisionario2.net

Sonal has also successfully hosted an online talk show with artists called "CAFÉ ARTE".

In November 2021, she was honored with the prestigious "Maharana Award" for her contributions towards art.

The PaintBrush Art Community not only does art exhibitions and events but is also involved in charity and social causes.



## Sonal Purohit

Founder : The PaintBrush Art Community - UAE



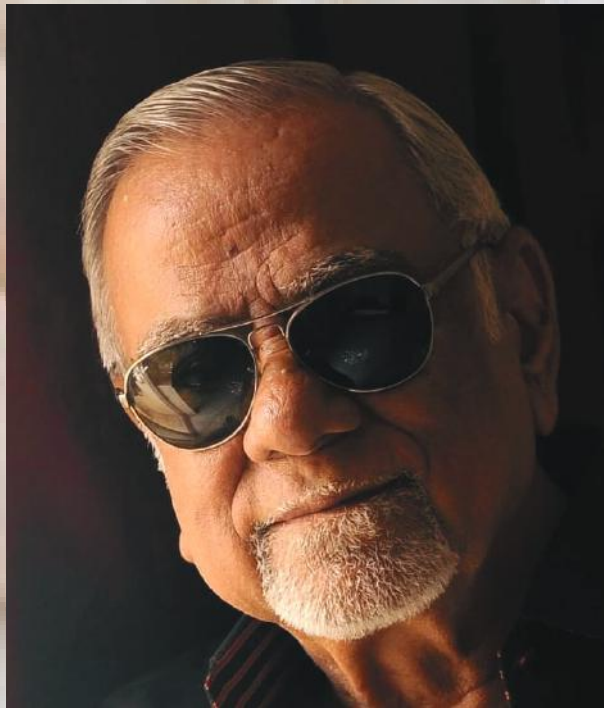
## SULTANA KAZIM

Houte Coutre Fashion Designer  
Representative of Museum of Americas in UAE, Eminent Artist

Such exciting news that the PaintBrush Art Community in collaboration with Namaste India Group will be launching an e Magazine promoting Art and Artists who are seeking to spread their wings globally.

**Wishing amazing Sonal and Dr. Romit Purohit all the blessing and luck in their new venture.**





# ANJINI PRAKASH LAITU

Legendary Artist

I am feeling so happy to learn that **The PaintBrush Art Community is launching an e magazine in the service of the artists, in collaboration with Namaste India Group,** which is registered with Government of India.

I am sure it will help Artists and Painters to get a wider platform to showcase their creations internationally.

I send my greetings and best wishes to TPBAC for a great success in their endeavour.

Blessings to Sonal and Dr. Purohit for their sincere efforts.

**Laitu AP**



## AHMED AL AWADHI (RUKNI)

Legendary Emirati Artist and Entrepreneur

Ahmad Al Awadhi is an Emirati artist, AKA "Mr. Rukni", is a senior Emirati Artist and business man started exhibiting his work in 1992 after a friend said his paintings were too good to go unseen. He has been successful in developing a distinctive style that anyone can quickly recognize.

Some of his artworks are displayed in Al Ahmediya Heritage House in Bur Dubai, The paintings inspired by the traditional houses that remind him of his upbringing in Sharjah.

One of his famous paintings is of the late Founding Father Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and his favorite and most notable piece is that of Pope Francis and the Imam of Al Azhar, created when they met each other in Abu Dhabi during a Papal visit for the signing of a Human Fraternity Document as part of the UAE's Year of Tolerance. The artwork is now displayed in the Dubai Office of the Ministry of Tolerance.

He also participated in numerous national and international exhibitions, and several foreign museums now have his works in their collections.

Art is a medium for Mr. Rukni to tell the story of his country's culture, heritage and its achievements.

He believes, Art will help to broaden the views and imagination of youth. He encourages artists from all nationalities to use their talent to represent who they are and where they come from. He became a link that connects the artists and the UAE's art scene.

Today Mr. Rukni has become an integral part of UAE Arts scene, both as an artist and as a chief guest

I wish The PaintBrush Art Community and Namaste India Group all the best for their efforts to promote art and artists. Icons of Art would give plenty of exposure to the artists and highlight their journey

**Best wishes : AHMED AL AWADHI (Rukni)**

# ARTIST JOURNEY



Art Is  
An Expression  
of Chaos  
Given Structure

Avigyan Bhattacharya



# AVIGYAN BHATTACHARYA

An Artist & An uprising Tech-YouTuber





**AVIGYAN BHATTACHARYA**

## *About the Artist*

Being a renowned visual artist, tech-You-Tuber and an academically adept student, Avigyan Bhattacharya is more ambitious individuals especially for his age. He has made rounds with his artworks in numerous high stake exhibitions to the point that he is now a holder of multiple World Records and currently his YouTube Channel 'The Tech Phenomena' has been showing steady growth for the past 2 years thanks to the attention to detail and quality of the content.

He has always been a brilliant student & Merit award holder all along in his school. He stood among top 10 in his school batch for both class 10th & 12th CBSE exams. He is now studying Btech in Biotechnology and wishes to pursue higher studies abroad in future.

Avigyan is a passionate artist from a very young age and has performed outstandingly at various levels in exhibitions & competitions to put himself at par with many established renowned national & International artists.

His journey started with a Solo Art Exhibition at an age of 13years in Muscat and got tremendous appreciation from the visitors & media and subsequently never looked back.

He has participated in numerous Competitions & Exhibitions in Muscat, Dubai, Mumbai, Delhi, Pune and achieved significant recognition and awards standing tall among many professional artists to establish himself as a serious Young Talent in artist fraternity. Over the time, Avigyan, who likes to dabble in different mediums like Oil, Charcoal, Acrylics, mixed media & Knife painting has showcased his versatile skills in various aspects of Portraits, Landscapes, Still figure & Floral Beauty.

Avigyan has been predominantly a self-taught artist, though he has taken coaching & guidance from various art teachers in his early ages. Being trained & flourished in a foreign country, there has always been a glimpse of Gulf metaphor combined with the serenity of rich Indian culture and heritage in his creations which makes his style quite unique.

**Among the numerous accolades & awards he has won in his young age, a few are highlighted here:**

1. Avigyan won First place in the art competition organised for Oman's 45th National Day and secured his place in the historic book 'Oman-in-Their-Eyes' published on this auspicious occasion in 2015.
2. Avigyan won the prestigious Ratan-e-Hind award 2018 in Wildlife category at Artizen Art Gallery, Delhi and Ratan-e-Hind award 2019 (Excellence in Arts) at All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society Art Gallery, Delhi.
3. He has received the Honorable Mention award in Traditional category at 3rd Annual Colours Art Exhibition 2019 by Fusion Art California
4. He won Swami Vivekananda Excellence award in 2019 presented by Seva Youth Guild (affiliated by Ministry of Sports & Youth affairs dept ; Govt of India) in recognition of his achievements in the field of Art & Culture. The award has been presented by Governor of West Bengal
5. He won the First place in Category -1 painting in Ramadhan Theme art competition at Dubai Outlet mall in 2019 organised by Art4you gallery





# Avigyan's Paintings & Exhibitions



Facebook Profile: [avigyan bhattacharya](#)

| Instagram: [@avigyan\\_artspace](#)

My  
father  
and his poetry  
is my inspiration



# DR. POONAM CHAUHAN

Professional Artist



Icons of Art |

015



DR. POONAM CHAUHAN

## About the Artist

**Dr. Poonam Chauhan**, born in Agra, India, is a professional artist from India holding a doctorate in Drawing and Painting. She studied and completed her master's degree from Baikunthi Devi Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Agra, India and was a topper in the university. She received a Doctor of Philosophy in Drawing and Painting from Doctor Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra and presented her thesis in *Bhartiya Chitrakala Mein Mahaganadhipati Ankan (1100-1950 AD)*. Dr. Poonam lives and works in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

She started her career as a lecturer and taught fine arts at Doctor Bhimrao Ambedkar University to graduate and postgraduate students.

She conducted multiple educational tours and live painting events for university students. She worked for the Kokuyo Camlin and providing special classes across northern region of India. Besides her initial career, she is now working as a solo artist.

Since her first solo exhibition in Taj Mahotsava Agra, Dr. Poonam's works have been shown in major galleries and institutions. She has been awarded for her artwork by many organizations. She closely associated with Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi and Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Bengaluru for conducting fine arts classes and exhibiting artworks.

Dr. Poonam has received numerous awards and honours in recognition of her artwork. Notably, Sanskar Bharti Awards for the Art "Maut ka Ghatak Sparsh" and multiple awards from Wakankar Kala Kendra. Her artwork was selected for the National Painting Awards Lucknow.

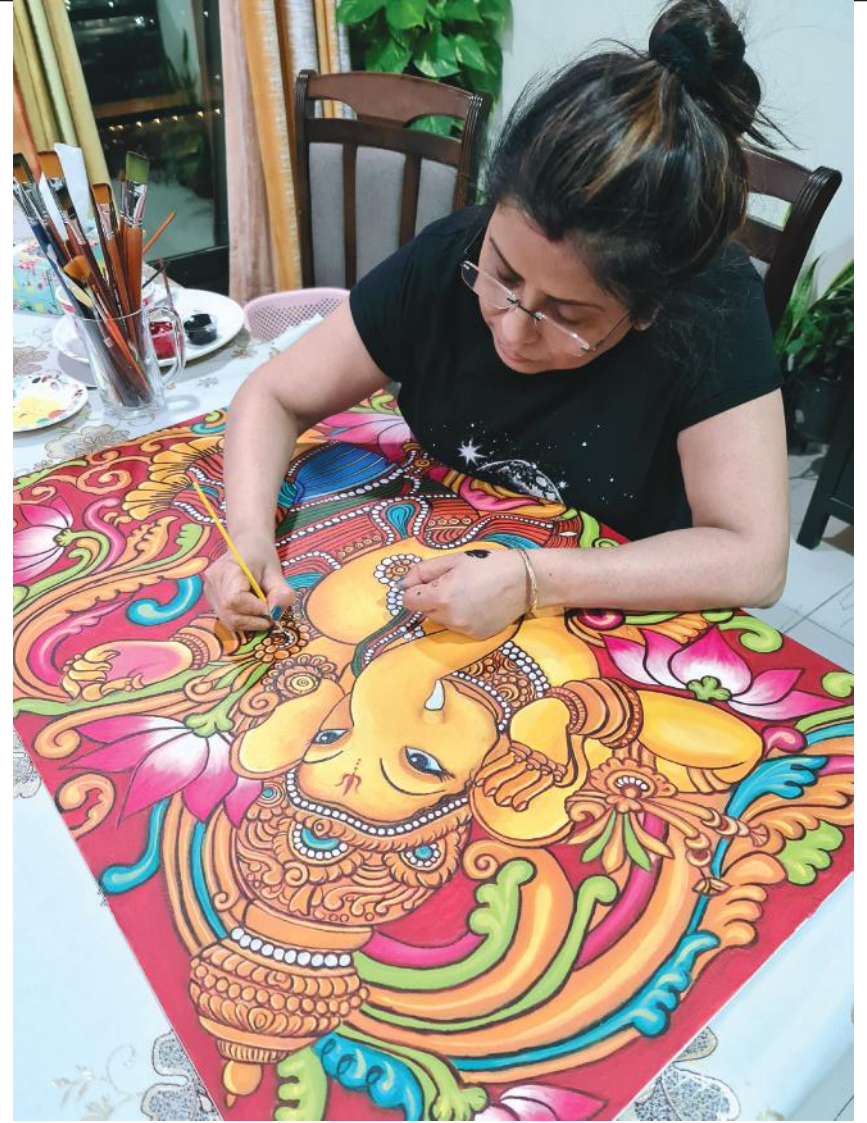
Her abstract and landscape artworks were exhibited at Cantor Arts Centre at Stanford University and Student Galleries at San Jose state university, USA. She was extremely delighted to exhibit her artwork at MutualArt and Antwerp Art galleries in Antwerp, Belgium for presenting abstract and Indian folk art for European society.

Dr. Poonam is widely known for her knife paintings. She primarily uses water colour, Acrylic and oil as mediums on Silk and Canvas. Her specialties include Abstract, Landscapes, Portrait, and Indian folk art with Tanjore and Kerala Mural.

Her recent exhibitions include artwork for National Day United Arab Emirates 2022 for TESLAM UAE and Retro Revival organized by The Paintbrush Art Community. She exhibited her artwork for the National Day United Arab Emirates 2022 exhibition at Dubai International Art Centre, National Day year 2022 event at the International Studio of Arts and Galleries. She exhibited in "SHAKTI", Indian Folk Art, a group exhibition. She contributed artwork for SAMAY2023, a year 2023 calendar organized by Vidisha Creations and launched at Consulate General of India, Dubai.

Along with her profession in Art, she has been an active athlete and received multiple awards at the State level. She has been playing long jump, high jump, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho at various levels while being captain of Kho-Kho and Kabaddi team for a long time.

As an artist, she intends to celebrate humanity using portraiture and drive her inspiration from everyday events and people.





Dr. Poonam's Paintings & Exhibitions

CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA  
DUBAI

Instagram: @drpoonamchauhan



I paint to  
make up  
the gaps  
that  
language  
just can't fill."

Efrat Cybulkiewicz



# EDCEL LA ROSA CABALAN

Architect | Artist | Photographer



# About the Artist

**EDCEL LA ROSA CABALAN**, a Visual Arts Awardee for Harvest of Honors (Ani ng Dangal 2022) of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts under the Office of the Philippine President, and a Dubai-based Filipino architect.

Edcel's artistry goes beyond the scope of architecture. He is also invested in photography and has been given several local and international recognitions in the photography society. Among his awards include International Photography Awards, Buildings (IPA-PH), Sultan Bin Zayed Photography Competition, The Society of Wedding and Portrait Photographers UK, Xposure International Competition, A Falcon's Shadow (Best of the Emirates), and many others.

Watercolour painting has provided an even extended arena for Edcel to feed his fascination in freezing the moments that are worth to keep- from scenic imageries, familiar affairs of everyday life, to remarkable elements of modern and Renaissance architecture. His Impressionist watercolour paintings are a coalescence of the right stroke, the right colours for the right emotions he wanted to convey.



**EDCEL LA ROSA CABALAN**

## List of Art Exhibitions:

2020 Current - Art contributors for Kobo Art Online Gallery, a Dubai based art gallery

2022 Current-Art Contributors for Gallery Vibes-Mall of the Emirates

2022 Current-Art Contributors for Artsmiley

2020 "Staycation in Ajman" art exhibition in collaboration with The Paintly

Store and Ajman Tourism Development Department.  
"Valley of Colours" -Watercolour on Paper

2022 "ISOAG Annual Art Exhibition" by International Studio for Art and Galleries

"Valley of Colours"-Acrylic Paint on Canvas

"Ananuri Fortress"-Watercolour on Paper

"Stroll in Bur Dubai"-Watercolour on Paper

2022 Art Contributors of Gallery Vibes-Mall of Emirates Dubai

“Valley of Colours”-Acrylic Paint on Canvas

“Ananuri Fortress”-Watercolour on Paper

“Wanderer in Thira”-Watercolour on Paper

“Una Vista de la Catedral de Barcelon”-Watercolor on Paper

“Stroll in Bur Dubai”-Watercolour on Paper

“A Glimpse of St. Paul’s Cathedral”-Watercolour on Paper

“An Alley in Holy City”-Watercolour on Paper

“Alley of Artisan”-Watercolour in Paper

“Navata a Firenze”-Watercolour on Paper

“Bogu Iza Nogu” In the Middle of Nowhere-Watercolour on Paper

2022 A Group Art Exhibition at Gallery Vibes-Mall of the Emirates  
(August-September)

“Valley of Colours”-Acrylic Paint on Canvas

“Ananuri Fortress”-Watercolour on Paper

“Wanderer in Thira”-Watercolour on Paper

“A Glimpse of St. Paul’s Cathedral”-Watercolour on Paper

“An Alley in Holy City”-Watercolour on Paper

“Alley of Artisan”-Watercolour in Paper

“Navata a Firenze”-Watercolour on Paper

“Bogu Iza Nogu” In the Middle of Nowhere-Watercolour on Paper

2022 “Art Amour”-A Group Art Exhibition in collaboration with  
Ace Carpet and

Souk Al Marfa-Dubai Island-Dubai

(10th – 25th Sept.)

“Una Vista de la Catedral Barcelona”-Watercolour on Paper

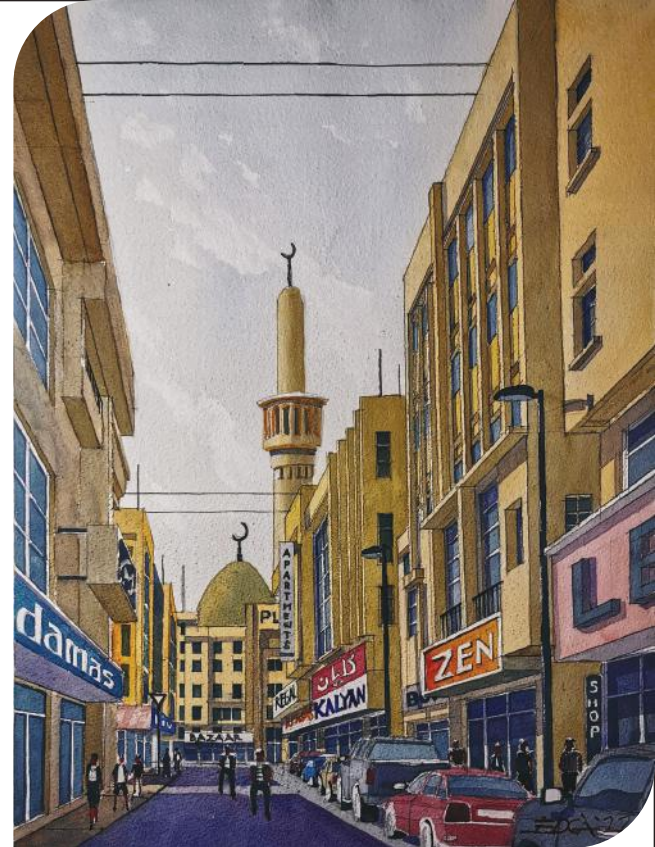
“Ye Old York Inn”-Watercolour on Paper

2022 5th Tbilisi International Watercolor Festival at Tbilisi,  
Georgia

(22-31 Oct.) organized by Mimo Art Foundation-Georgia

“An Alley in Holy City”-Watercolour on Paper

2022 “Art Beyond Boundaries-3” one of the largest online  
exhibition of the region by ARTOZE Gallery and Exhibitions





## Edcel's Paintings

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/edcelcabalan/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/edcel.cabalan>

“I believe  
when you are  
comfortable,  
you are at  
wrong place  
and it is time  
to learn  
something new”



# HEENA JAIN

Artist



Icons of Art | 023



HEENA JAIN

## About the Artist

I am a professional licensed artist residing in UAE since 2015. My specialization is in colorful and playful art possesses a magical optimism that enchants and delights. I have experimented with variety of mediums including Acrylic, Oil colors and Resin to give luxury look of my art work. My art works are made of "thoughts that create reality"

Painting brings me calm and advances me a place to mediate on the beauty in the world!!!

"I believe when you are comfortable, you are at wrong place and it is time to learn something new"

I have exhibited my art work in World Art Dubai in March 2022

**Education Background** – I have done BTech Engineering from Udaipur, India

**Achievements** – I have put up my art work at different restaurants and office in Dubai. Also, I take classes and workshops for Art and Resin

Back in 2016, I was featured in an Article in Khaleej Times. Below is QR code



# Heena's Paintings



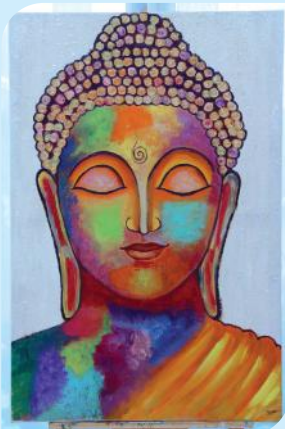
Blue Horse Face



7 Horses Grass Painting



Colourful Flower



Colorful Buddha



Ganesh Ji



Blue & White Flower



Real Stones & Shell



Orange Pagdi



Orange Pagdi Big



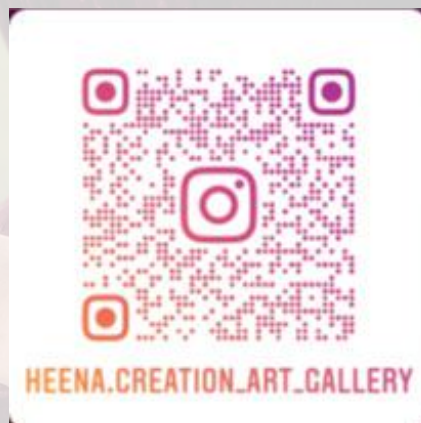
Girl In The Water Resin



# Heena's Exhibitions

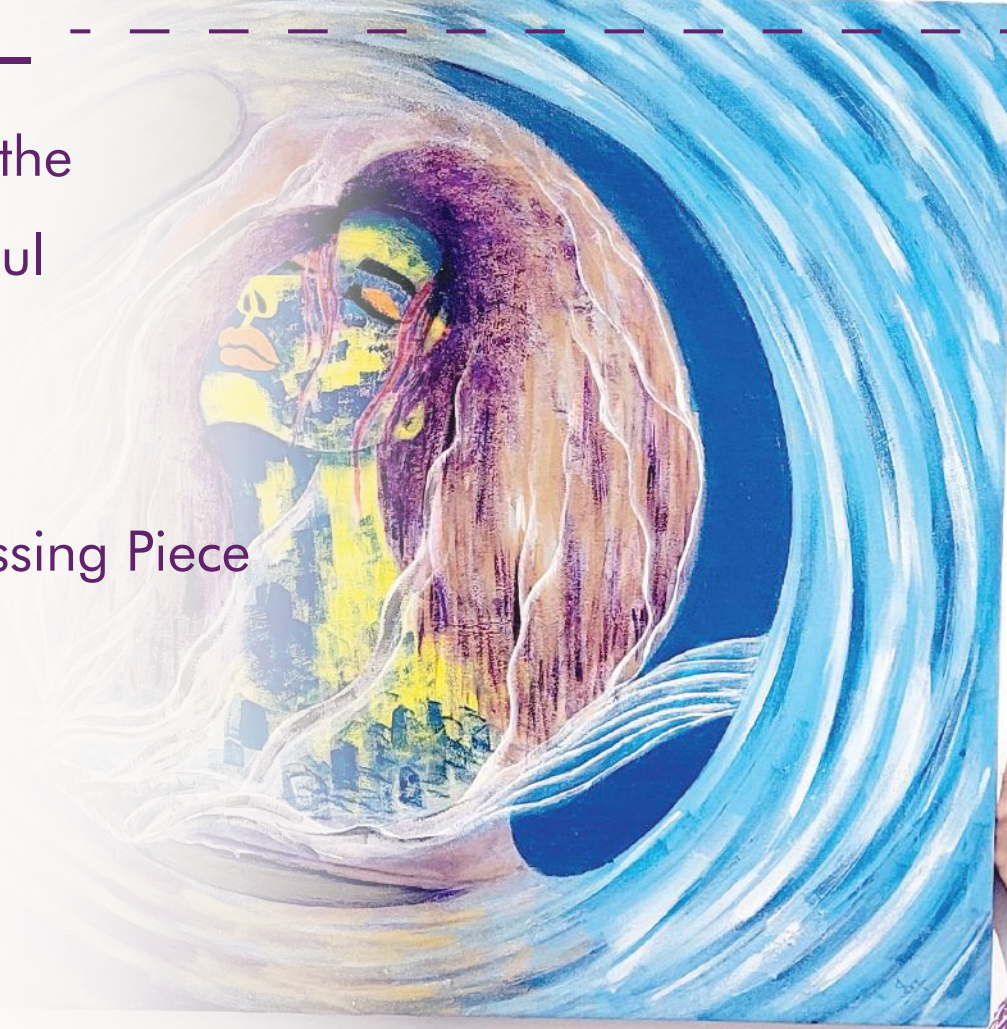


Scan below QR code to view my artwork on Instagram:



ART -

To Soothe  
The Soul  
and  
Find  
the Missing Piece  
in you



# JASMINE MOHAMMED RIZVI

Artist





JASMINE MOHAMMED RIZVI

## About the Artist

**Jasmine Mohamed Rizvi** Indian artist who started chasing her artistic dreams in the lap of her foster mother UAE. Jasmine loves experimenting with mediums and colors and glass painting being her forte witnessed many deviations from the traditional ways in her studio. She tries to spread positivity and peace through her paintings.

Jasmine's recent artwork in collaboration with Raisa Mariam Rajan was in the headlines as it was a tribute to UAE on its 50th National Day. Their work, named, The Journey of JAWHARA, is an exquisite piece comprising 7 custom-made canvases on which the history of UAE unravels. Jasmine is actively involved in the Dubai art world, constantly learning, relearning, and experimenting with techniques, mediums, and colors. Jasmine's artworks were exhibited in more than 30 national and international exhibitions including the World Art Dubai and Qatar International Art Festival, and an International Art exhibition in Georgia.

Jasmine's Art works have been added to the collection of Indian consulate in Dubai and Geoje Museum in Korea. She also worked with an International Art Gallery called First Wish Art Gallery as a BDM with from April 2022 – Nov 2022 and organized events and gatherings related to ART and ARTIST

# Achievements

## 1. Organized and Participated a non-profit art exhibition – AL THAHYIA on International Labor’s Day – May 2022

- A group art exhibition has been organized by myself in Souk Al Marfa , Diera Islands , Dubai with the support of Mr. Saju Nair and the Sahra Art Gallery , which was a non-profit art exhibition conducted to express the gratitude towards the workforce of the country on International Labor’s day

## 2. Art Project – The Journey of Jawhara – Dec 2021 – A 5\*6 meter sized artwork Launched at Dubai International Financial Center

- The artwork was in collaboration with my friend Raisa Mariam Rajan was in the headlines as it was a tribute to UAE on its 50th National Day. The work, named, The Journey of Jawhara, is an exquisite piece comprising 7 custom-made canvases in the shape of UAE Map on which the history of UAE unravels.

## 3. His Excellency SAZ \*\*\*Certificate distribution Ceremony-Jan 2021

- My Artwork has been collected and added to the private museum of His Excellency Sohail Al Zarooni, a businessman from the United Arab Emirates, an Emirati Collector and Guinness World Record holder



# Jasmine's Paintings



**Be Resilient**



**The Journey**



**Reflection**



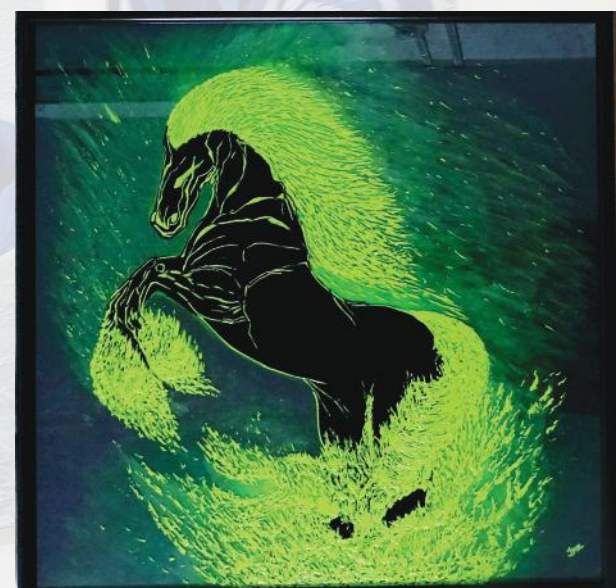
**The Mist**



**Circle**



**Harmony**



**Horse - Gale of Gustoes**

**Facebook Profile:** [jasmine.m.rizvi](#) | **Instagram:** [art\\_by\\_jasz](#)

" Do What,  
you can with  
what you have  
where you are " -- Kavitha Vinod



# KAVITHA VINOD

Artist , Art Teacher



## About the Artist

**Kavitha Vinod** is an Artist from Kerala living in Dubai and working as an Art Teacher in New Indian Model School Dubai. Her Passion is Art.

The journey of Kavitha Vinod as an artist started when she was working as an Accountant in Dubai. She worked in different fields as an Auditor in India, Co-Ordinator of Different stage programs in Dubai, Sharjah and Umm Ul Quain. She was also an Abacus Teacher in Dubai.

First, she started the project when her daughter was studying in Grade 1 in New Indian Model School Dubai. After that she started to give colors in her life in small canvas. The attention and applause that she received inspired her to pursue drawing and painting consistently and devotedly. Her love for painting beckoned her to concentrate her attention completely on her artistic strengths. She decided to support herself through her artistic endeavors and she started to explore her talent through different exhibitions. First Exhibition was in Umm Al Qwain where she has showcased her art works. After that her daughter also started to give colors in her life. They together started the journey to art. After that she started getting the never-ending orders for Portraits and other paintings. In Different venues she showcased her Artworks.

In 2019 she joined as an Art teacher in NIMS Dubai which was the turning point in her life. There she shared her knowledge to students and gave opportunities to Talented Students to showcase their talents. Her goal is to learn more about art and share her knowledge to others and promote them. Her Daughter also got opportunities to explore her Talent. Her daughter has a great talent in Mandala Art and One stroke painting.



**KAVITHA VINOD**

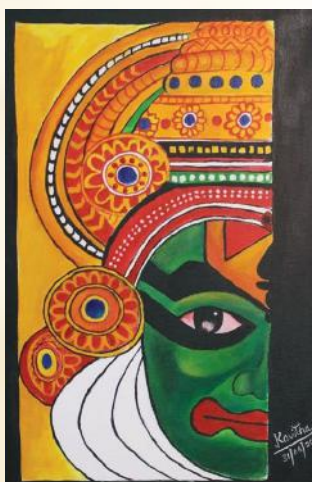
## Achievements:

1. Classical dance program Co- Ordinator at Indian Council ate Dubai, 2017.
2. Solo Painting Exhibition at Sharjah Expo Centre, 2017.
3. Solo Exhibition at Umm Al Quwain, 2017.
4. Dr Abdul Kalam Award from Famous Indian music director Jassie Gift, 2018.
5. Program Co Ordinator with Famous Indian music Director Sir Jassie Gift in Silicon Oasis, 2018.
6. Got opportunities to meet Famous Malayalam Actors like Tovino Thomas, Kunchacko Boban, Chemban Vinod etc. and present them my Art work of their picture (Portrait).
7. Exhibition " Freedom "conducted on 7th August 2021 organized by The Paint Brush Community.
8. Art exhibition on 2nd Dec 2021 at Ibis one central, World Trade Centre Dubai, Organized by Funun Arts Group along with @ibisonecentral under the patronage of His Excellency @suhail - al - Zarooni  
20 students from NIMS participated in this exhibition where she got an opportunity as a mentor along with her daughter Kavya.
9. Honored to be made judge for the drawing competition held on 29th Dec 2021 at Al Khali mall, Dubai.
10. Received "Gold award" for the Exhibition conducted on 26th December, 2021 Organized by Dakshitha art Delhi. Her daughter received "Subash Chandra Bose" award for the same exhibition.
11. Co Ordinator for "Expo Indian Pavilion Art Exhibition" held on 19th March, 2022.  
and also Conducted the exhibition with NIMS students and Nims art teachers and My Daughter
12. Participated in Art Exhibition and competition conducted on 31st December, 2022 and got "Nandalal Bose award" in which her daughter received "gold award" in the competition.
13. Honored for the opportunity to be interviewed by three Dubai based channels NTV and Asianet Plus Channel, and The Kairali channel.



**Mrs. Kavitha's motto** is to spread her talent and nurture the artistic skills of many little upcoming Artists, show them the path of opportunities and so give the world a fresh fragrance of art for the future generation. Mrs.Kavitha Vinod has also started her social media channel where everyone could find detailed videos of lessons right from basics of Art to different Art works, paintings and crafts. Her channel proved very useful to her students and many other children as well as provide ideas for teachers and parents for doing their kids for School projects. Mrs. Kavitha says "I am really thankful to God for giving me this talent, and I show the gratitude by spreading the same to as many as possible."

## Kavitha's Paintings & Events



**Instagram:** @Kavitha.Vinod .927

**Facebook:** Kavithavinod04

Dream  
so  
big,  
you  
can't  
sleep



# KALOPSIA WIZ

Artist and Poet



**Kalopsia Wiz**, currently 21; is in the last year of university pursuing her Masters in International Business Management with Marketing at Heriot-Watt, Dubai.

She is a multi-talented individual having interests and achievements in various aspects; painting, sketching, digital artworks, poetry and creative writing, photography and fashion to name a few.

Having started as a hobby, this brilliant self-taught artist has been sketching, doodling, painting and developing her creative mind since a very young age. She is now emerging as an award winning artist on various platforms. She aspires to be a successful and a globally recognized artist one day.

Having been invited to UAE's largest LIVE painting at Index, where she beautifully portrayed the skyline of Sharjah. This achievement has also been published by Khaleej Times, a leading newspaper in the UAE.

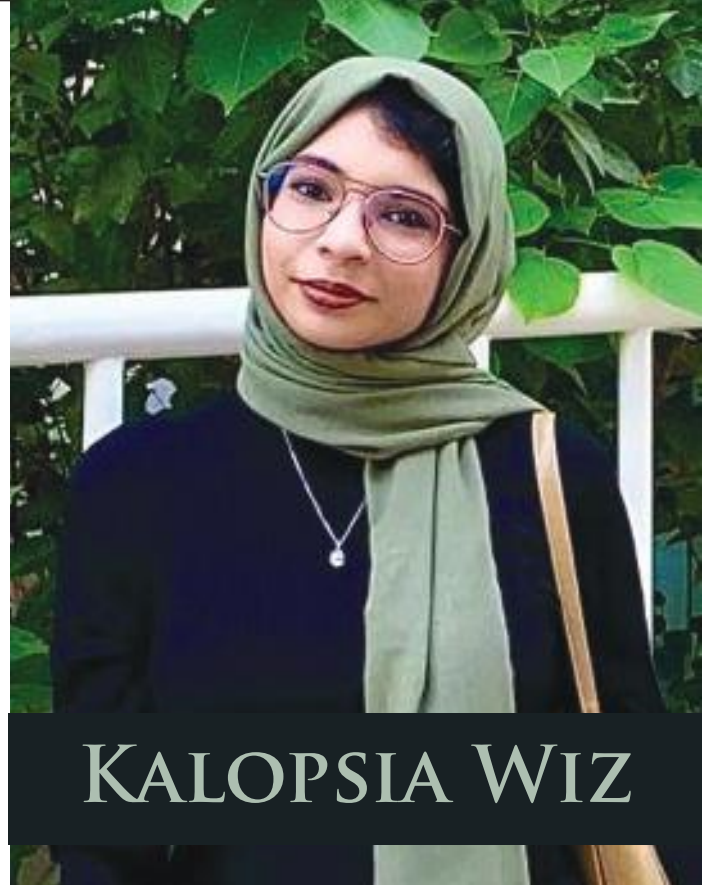
Apart from painting, Kalopsia is a "Rabindranath Tagore Award" winning poet who expresses thoughts through pen. She not only writes about her feelings, but also ones that is relatable to each and every one. She tries capturing the attention of her audience through mere words. Her poetry is a combination of love, grief, sorrow, relationship and friendships. Elegy- A serious reflection of grief and sorrow. Don't miss out on my poetry at the end.

### What is Art?

There is no right or wrong answer to this question. Art is described in numerous ways depending on each individual.

Art according to Kalopsia is an emotion, it is a feeling. Something that cannot be described even if you have a million words to talk about. Art is all about creating what you feel, what you think but cannot speak; hence pouring it out.

Art is also an escape from reality, it is where you can be as creative as possible, creating something unreal, something you wish to be, a place you want to explore, or a feeling you want to fall into. "To me painting is an art of brushing down what I feel and see around me. Some of my artworks are about the feelings that are almost impossible to word". – **Kalopsia Wiz**



KALOPSIA WIZ



## Inspiration

Finding inspiration for art or poetry is not something you get instantly, it slowly creeps into your mind unknowingly urging you to jot it down.

Kalopsia Wiz believes that inspiration is everywhere, sometimes being strongly present and other times as a little hint. It's up to you to either take it to your best advantage or let it go for something different. "Everyone's artwork has a story behind it, and so does mine, but there are times when I cannot seem to find the words to describe my artworks as they hold dear feelings which seem unmanageable for me to frame" added Kalopsia

## Artwork Style and Materials

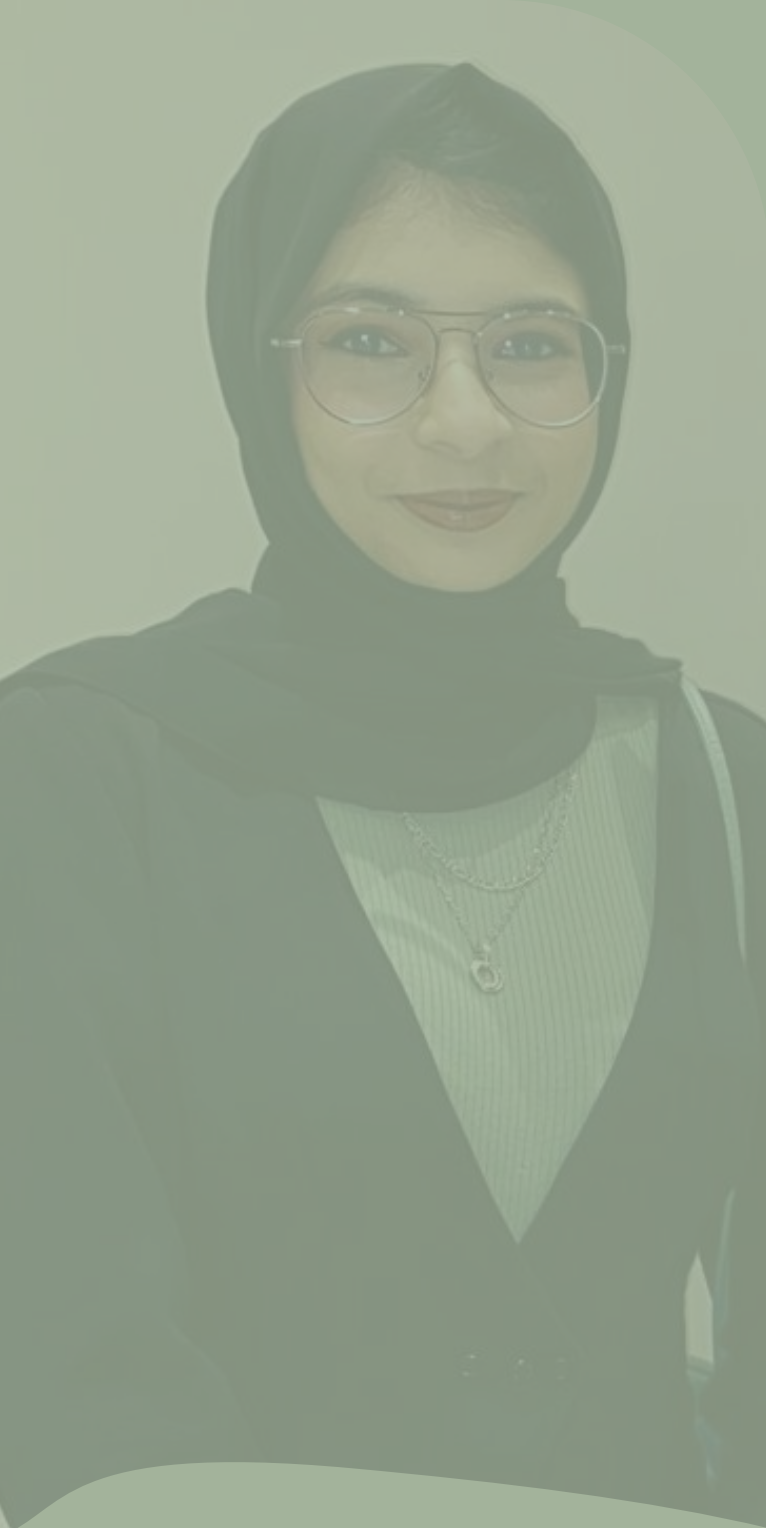
She uses freestyle for her artworks creating different styles such as Abstract, Portraits, Nature, Landscapes, Waterscapes, Calligraphy, Thread Art as well as Still Life.

Her abstract paintings are usually based on life. Particularly about the struggles of life as they are the most relatable to all. She creates abstract art in forms that one can feel and understand quite deeply. She makes use various mediums to create her pieces like Acrylic and Oil on Canvas, Watercolors Poster Colors, Glass, Flakes, Graphite pencils, Markers, Silicon, Chalks, Primer, Metallic Pens, Sponges, and Palette knife. She loves trying new materials for her paintings to create different looks and textures.

Awards:

- Magical Hands Award by Indian Art Factory 2023.
- Secured Second Place at the Annual Student Art Show by FununArts 2022, Dubai.
- Youth Achievers Award by Glorious India Awards 2022.
- Medal for Art Contest Senior Category (21-39 years) Season 4 by Indian Art Factory.
- Rabindranath Tagore Literature Award for my poetry book "Elegy".
- International Literature Award by learningaveinfotech.
- Solo article feature in Hindustan Chronicles.
- Global Pride award for talent and achievement by Indian Art Factory.
- Positioned at 22nd Place out of 8,633 for the best writer competition organized by Hashtag Kalakar.
- Gold medal of "Appreciable Artists" and L.O.R for artworks by International Art Contest.
- Inclusion of poems in "Anthology" magazine 'Beautiful Mishaps' | The Quill House.





## I'M FREE

Don't grieve; because now I'm free.  
Away from all the pain, that I felt each day.

Don't stand on my grave and weep,  
I won't be able to wipe it away.

Don't be sad 'cause I'm gone,  
Just remember the day we smiled.

Don't cry 'cause I'm gone,  
Smile as I was once there.

Don't cry 'cause I'm gone,  
Be glad I am.

Away from all the pain.

Alone, yet free.

**Instagram:** [x.\\_wizard.x\\_x \(https://www.instagram.com/x.\\_wizard.x\\_x/\)](https://www.instagram.com/x._wizard.x_x/)

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/safa-peshimam-kalopsia-wiz-226999215/>

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkL2spaDaRNkYGQn3AkHKWg>

**Art Website:** <https://www.kalopsia-wiz.com/>

“Every natural talent is a special gift from God”



# KAOUTAR SABBAAHI

Artist



## About the Artist

**Kaoutar Sabbahi** ; The shy artist who makes paintings express her. paintings include colors that reflect the vitality of life, textures that communicate the physicality of nature, and strong meanings with open spaces that evoke a sense of freedom.

Born in the heart of "Fez", Morocco on 3th June 1988, it's the spiritual city, as the country's cultural capital that inspired a lot of artist through history.

From an early age, everything that bore colors, such as pictures of books, cartoon films, and even drawings on clothes, attracted her attention, as she drew them on papers and presented them as gifts to class teachers. For a talented girl of her age, it was a starting point. Her happiest moment was hanging her drawings on classroom walls ; In addition to writing poetic verses for short fictional stories that were admired by all; she participated in several compilations and won first positions. But for reasons that reversed her passion she put down her crayons and paintbrushes and did not pick them up again for another 10 years.

After she finished her studies in the Department of Science, she decided to work as a French teacher but in different way, Her talent brought her back as she was making all pedagogical materials by hands and teaching the students in artistic way using different mediums and handcraft workshops And Involve them in mural paintings of their school. those activities were inspiring her more and makes the learning super easy and happy for



kids. Its most important topic became "the child" and how to develop his skills through art; She was active in volunteer work, such as painting murals in children's hospitals, She also participated in many exhibitions, through which she showed her distinctive artistic sense in her paintings.

Her travel to the UAE was a coincidence, as all the circumstances contributed to her stability in the country that has always welcomed artists and talented people, where she found herself and completed her career as an art teacher and communicated her passion to everyone around her.

As every artist who dreams of bringing his paintings to the world, kaoutar is making her way to the best.



Kaoutar's Paintings & Events



Leaving in frame



Instagram: @fassia\_artist

Email: Kaoutar.sabbahi@icloud.com

No act of  
kindness,  
no matter  
how small,  
is ever wasted.



# KUSUM DUTTA

Artist | Philanthropist





## About the Artist

Kusum Dutta, a social worker who creates magic on canvas as an artist - is a story of a lady with visionary zeal. Born in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh her achievements since early life remain a treasure house of inspiration to one and many. From being an organizer of several camps as an officer with the National Cadet Corps (NCC), mountaineering in Uttarkashi, winning the All India shooting championship to other records of appreciation for her social services - all speak of the dynamic, fearless lady blooming as Kusum.

What shaped the enigmatic persona of Kusum Dutta, has its origin in childhood years. Brought up in a social ambiance where young Kusum saw a life of the Indian heartland from close quarters. Her proactive role in Kuwait during the Gulf war helping Indians in distress was just the beginning of a new chapter that continues to date in UAE. Be it local laborers trapped in stressful situations, young girls or women being subject to oppression, children with special needs, or supporting orphans - she has done it all. It was not only time and money that she has offered with generosity, she has been an exemplar of leadership leading by example and raising the morale of others.

Her passion for art got kindled once she was in Dubai in the early 90s. A passion she put into social good by donating around 6-7 of her major creations to auctions, raising money for the community. Her interpretation of art as a timeless medium to express and connect to ones higher self is a thought of profound spirituality.

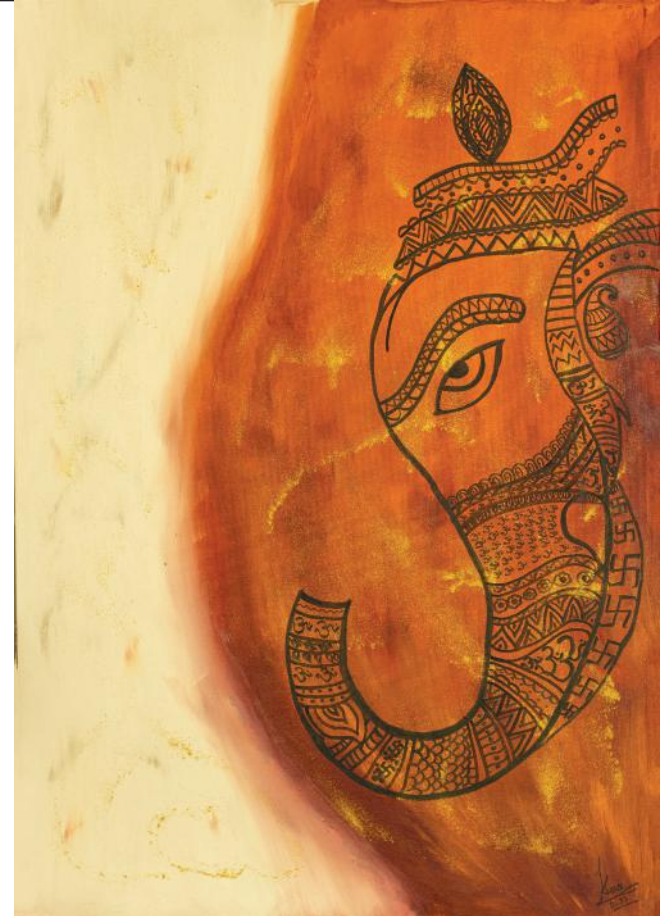
A spiritual person at heart and a soul dedicated to the community, Mrs. Dutta has essayed several roles of esteem and has been recognized for her contribution to society.

- 2010 saw the birth of a service-minded group (about 10 women) named Community and Services (CAS) which she led from the front. In association with the local government of India wing of Bharatiya Provasi Sahayata Kendra, CAS started making serious interventions at several labor camps spread all over UAE (Sharjah, Ajman, RAK, Dubai).
- Her engagement with orphanages supported by her family for generations to other notable efforts from renowned personalities like Kiran Bedi is noteworthy.

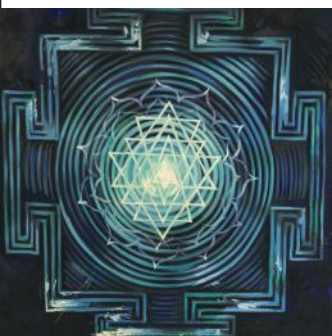
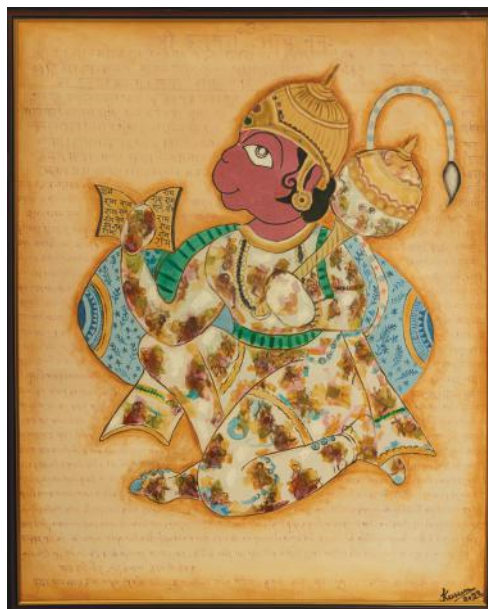
- Several organizations have acknowledged her contribution in the form of awards.
- A prestigious award from Science India Forum (SIF), Dubai recognizes her as the Philanthropist of the year 2022 for her precious contribution to the region.

Her mantra in life has always been - "once you decide to achieve something in life, the universe conspires to push you towards achieving it, however tough the hurdles may be."

Some life stories are inspiring, some are about keeping count of "how many benefitted"! But it's rare to find ones, where the impact is so magnanimous that society is left counting the blessings. Where flowers bloom, there is hope!



## Kusum Dutta's Paintings





International Women's Day 2008



Part of several social initiatives and running orphanages. With Ms. Kiran Bedi.



Women Excellence Awards, Dubai



Annual event Prerna, Children with special needs

Instagram: @kusumdutta30

Every child is  
an artist.

The problem is  
to remain an artist  
once they grow up.



LAXMI RUNGTA

Artist



## About the Artist

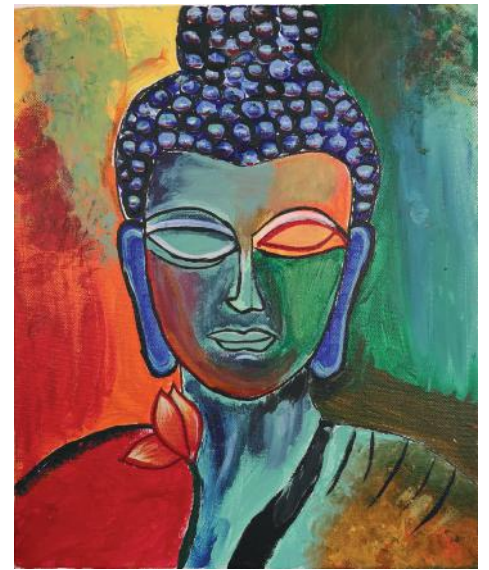
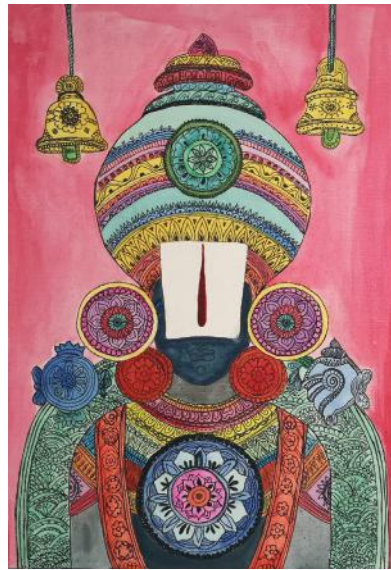
**L**axmi recalls a quote by Aristotle saying “ reality is created by the mind, we can change our reality by changing our mind”, which struck a deep vigor within her to explore the expanse of this world through her imagination. Laxmi’s art is divergent hence exploring many genres, inspired by her will to connect with her wondering mind as a child, something she regrets overlooking during her youth. She describes her journey as an artist as the re-exploration of her surroundings in a manner which she deems is necessary, in order to practice gratitude, hence her attention to detail which captures the ever-present beauty around us. Her paintings play with realistic characteristics of objects through using different tones and colors, which she explains allows her to view objects in differing views. Although this is her primary zeal to reopen her journey as an artist, Laxmi has grown a fondness for realism, as her primary focus at the moment is perfectly capturing the beauty of mother nature in all forms, being humans, landscapes, and much more. However, her work never fails to show her personality, evident through an artwork she entered into a local competition which aimed to capture the unconditional love a mother harbors for her child, the background is a realistic capture of our universe symbolizing the infinite nature of a mother’s love, the foreground highlights a mother bracing her child in a circular formation, which aims to embody the world symbolizing the ability to sustain and breed life.



LAXMI RUNGTA

As seen, Laxmi’s work is one that requires an attention to detail, her work expresses her soft view of the world she hopes to influence other’s with. Having said, Laxmi’s aspirations for her work is furthering her influence, first starting through social media where she aims to share her favorite pieces, she hopes for her work to evoke an appreciation for our natural surroundings within her audience. As she believes in the healing quality of nature, and regrets how often that is overlooked. Thus, she hopes for her work to become a story that portrays different views of our surroundings, in different genres all with the purpose of appreciation and ultimately gratitude.

# Laxmi's Paintings



# Laxmi's Painting



**Instagram:** @passionrevived\_bylaxmi

**Facebook:** @Passionrevived\_bylaxmi

Painting is a reality,  
among realities,  
which has been  
felt and formed



# MAHFUZUR RAHMAN

Art Curator, Activist & Contemporary Artist





**MAHFUZUR RAHMAN**

## *About the Artist*

Hi, I am **Mahfuzur Rahman** and I am a Bangladeshi art curator, contemporary artist and art activist currently residing in Dubai, UAE. With a passion for art from a young age, I pursued a career in the field, eventually becoming an accomplished and respected figure in the international art community.

I have achieved numerous prestigious awards throughout their career, including being listed in the Guinness World Records for most nationalities in a art workshop. In addition to these accomplishments, I have also exhibited their work in over 50 international exhibitions and 10 national exhibitions. Furthermore, as an art curator and art activist, I have sponsored and organized 8 national exhibitions and 5 international exhibitions, showing their dedication to promoting the arts and giving a platform to emerging artists.

One of my most notable achievements is being the first ever artist to be exhibited as a solo artist at the 8th edition of World Art Dubai in 2022. This accomplishment is a testament to my skill and creativity as an artist, as well as their dedication to their craft.

My main concentration in art is impressionism and has created their own unique style called "Blended Impressionism" which combines traditional impressionism with a more contemporary style. Their favorite medium is oil and acrylic on canvas, which they use to create their visually striking and emotionally evocative works.

My work is known for its bold, vibrant style and its exploration of themes related to nature specially the expression of trees. Their work has been praised for its ability to evoke emotion and provoke thought in the viewer.

Overall, I am a highly accomplished artist, who continues to make a significant impact in the art world both in the Middle East and globally. Their unique blend of impressionism and contemporary style sets them apart and makes them one of the most promising artists of the region. Their role as an art curator and art activist further highlights their dedication to promoting the arts and giving a platform to emerging artists.

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

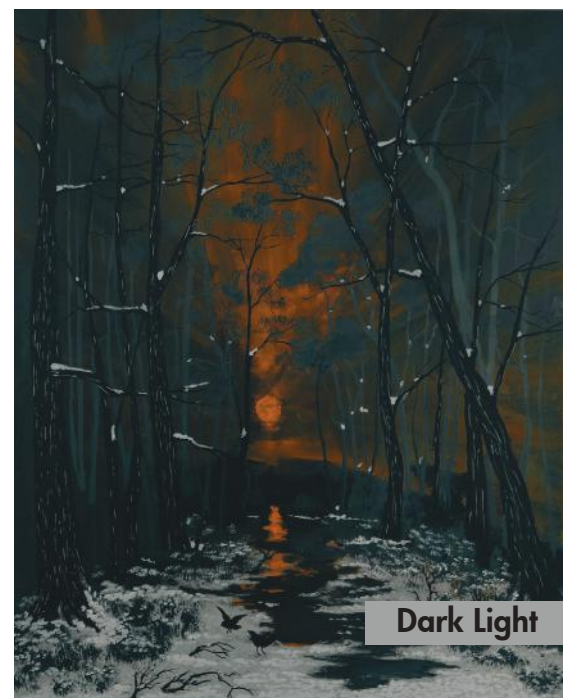
**"Painting is a reality, among realities, which has been felt and formed"**

As a professional artist the pleasure I receive from creating art that it helps me develop my coping mechanism in life. I produce art to express an image of impressionism form but with my own artistic style. In each work of art, my intent is to depict compositions with lifelike details and qualities.

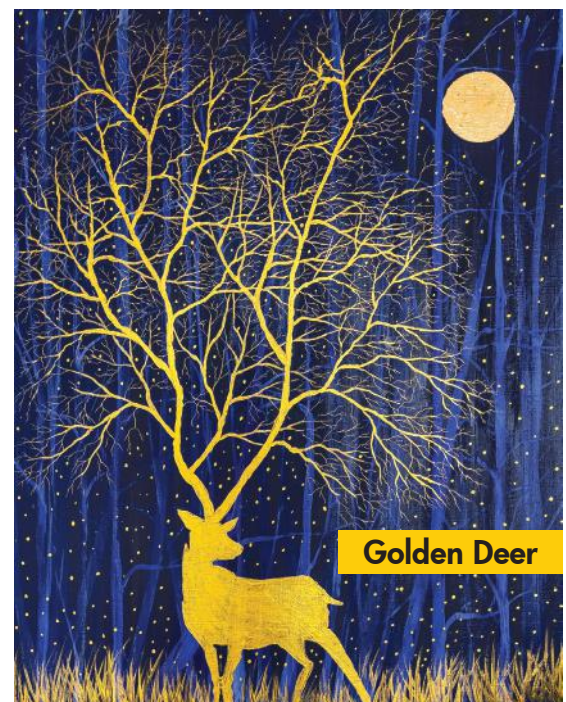
Over the previous few years, my artwork has changed immensely while still showing a hint this is uniquely my very own. I come to the canvas free of preconceptions and open to possibilities. There is a form of flow that transpires in which my inner phrenic conceptions and feelings pour out through my brushes. While I am into a new canvas, it feels as if I am on a constant quest for discovery and knowledge and clarity and insight into perception – thought, dreams, emotion, habits, mediocrity, and brilliance. For a long time now, I have found myself committed to illuminated landscapes. There is an eternal romance between light and color that bathes the landscapes, where the magic of the rays of light that affect the surfaces and explode in colors and textures that give life to the space. I began my artistic journey to explores the beautiful aspects of nature and focus on what lies between them. I consider my work to be a dialogue, a spiritual expression in which the physical and psychological properties affect the viewer.



Starry Might over Eiffel Tower



Dark Light



Golden Deer



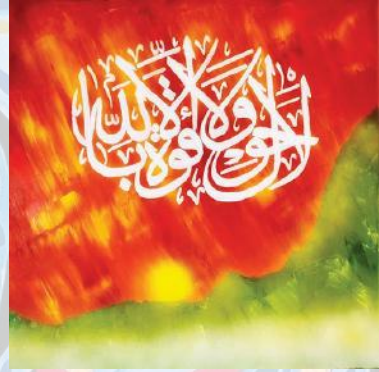
Flint Of The Sun



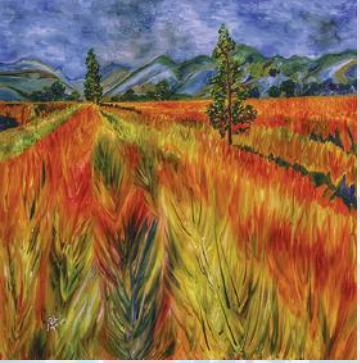
Frozen Blue



Transition of Life



Arabic Calligraphy (La Hawla Wala Quwwata Illa Billah)



Red Grains



Arabic Calligraphy (Surah Ikhlas)



Arabic Calligraphy



Pride & Prejudice

# Mahfuzur's Paintings & Exhibitions

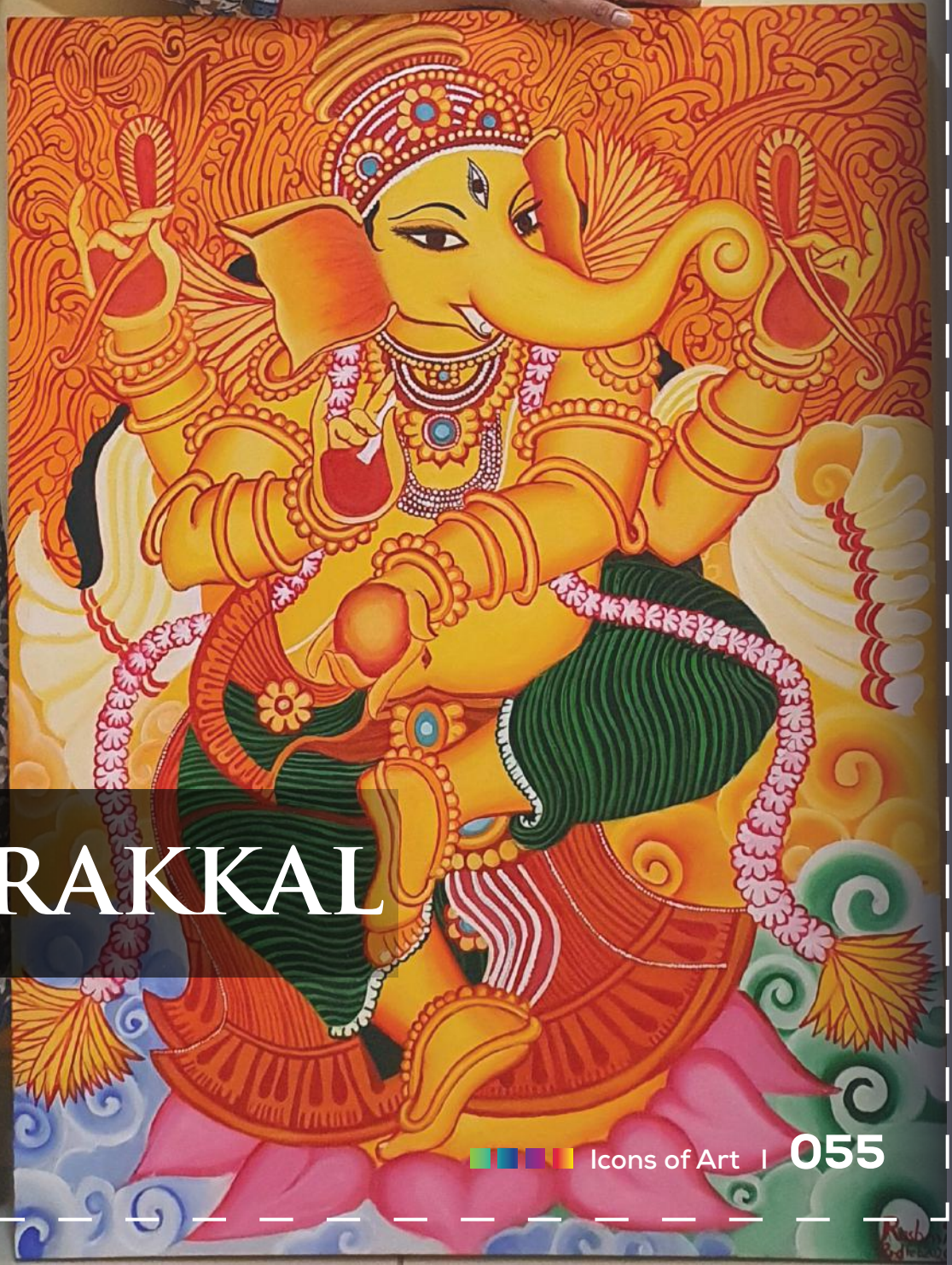


Facebook Profile: @mahfuz.canvasart | Instagram: @mahfuz.ur\_rahman

LinkedIn: @mahfuzart

“Creativity is nothing,  
but a mind set free”

-Torrie.T. Asai



# RASHMI PARAKKAL

Artist





RASHMI PARAKKAL

## About the Artist

**R**ashmi Parakkal is an exploratory artist with a creative outlook towards every aspect of life. Growing up amidst the vividly colourful traditions, culture, people and ethereal landscape of Kerala, India, thoroughly inspired her innate artistic inclinations, blossoming into art journeys through childhood and adulthood. Her fascination for both art and Indian music (carnatic), complemented each other during her growing years, enhancing a variety of her creative dimensions. After post graduating in Nutrition and an absorbing stint in teaching, her longing and enthusiasm for art and music got the better of her as she also deep-dived into the chaotic happiness of homemaking and motherhood.

Over the years, the constant learner in her ventured into the path of yoga and martial art (kalaripayattu) further ensuring that her key to happiness has been her yearning for versatility. This yearning translated and invariably reflected in her art explorations on various mediums, styles, techniques and surfaces.

Rashmi's childhood years waded into water colours and her earliest themes celebrated the aesthetic festivities of her roots. The art contests and exhibitions during her academic years fostered her exposure and proficiency, enabling her experiments with oil, acrylic, glass, fabric, wood, gold-foil, mix media, 3d art with ceramics and clay.

Rashmi believes that art facilitates a platform to align with who we truly are, thereby her vibrant personality dominates her canvasses as bright colors and textures. She engages in art as an extension of real life, a heterogenous mix of contrasting outlooks, dimensions, a space to live the realistic yet fictitious. Being a commissioned artist, she conceptualizes diverse art themes for her clients, varying from traditional Indian murals, spirituality and nature to portraits, abstracts and whacky tale-telling caricatures.

Rashmi's creative goals at conceiving art that connects to the lighter side of life finds expression through her witty caricatures. Her personalized caricatures are unique stories, highlighting a slice of life of the personalities, their traits, philosophies, hobbies and friendships. Occasionally, she dramatizes her caricatures as comparable characters from stories, history or mythology making her art-humor truly inventive. Rashmi relishes caricaturing as a channel to cumulate simple joys into the lives of people, and each of her 100 odd caricatures have been welcomed well with hearty laughter's.

While she believes there's a lot more for her to adventure and capture during the course of her life, her crazy romance with the inquisitive spirit of art continues, networking with art lovers through her social media presence.

Divine trio- oil on canvas



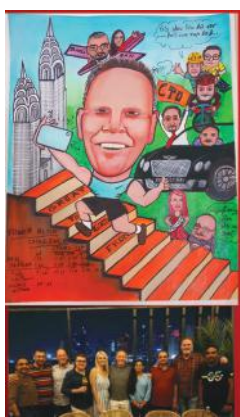
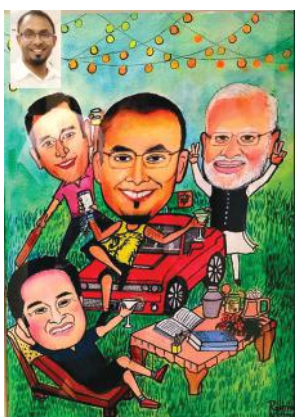
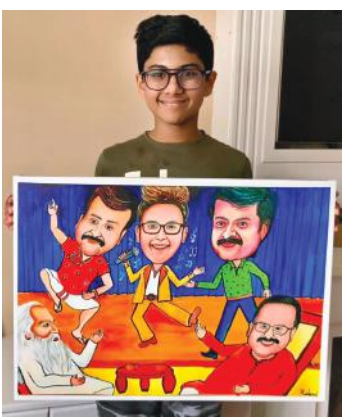
# Rashmi's Paintings



Eternal- Oil On Canvas



The Striking Blue Vase

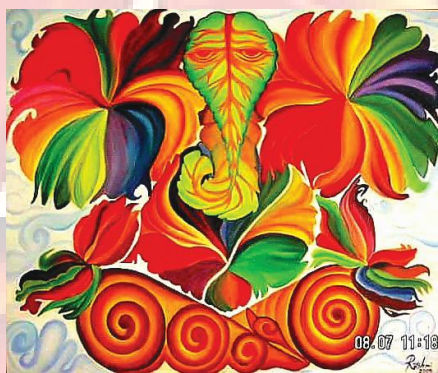




## Rashmi's Paintings & Exhibition



Grace- O- Ganesha



Your Florally, ganu- Acrylic- 2019



The Divine Kanyakumari



Maple Nature



Messi Magic

Instagram: @suvrshti  
 Facebook: @suvrshti  
 Art Website: [www.suvrshti.com](http://www.suvrshti.com)

08

Art is not a  
handicraft,  
it is the  
transmission  
of feeling  
the artist has  
experienced.

-Leo Tolstoy



# SANA BANO MOIN AHMED

Artist



# About the Artist

A 29 year old , mother of two. An Indian Dubai based Abstract and Resin artist.

## ART FOR SANA

Art is all about being positive and spreading happiness. Art is all about expressing not perfection. It is my stress reliever, so when words are not enough make art.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Sana has participated in several art events across U.A.E and India. Sana has participated in group and solo exhibitions with reputed art Galleries like , Raw, coffee, Company, paintbrush Art Community, Pottery Barn, Khawakeb Art, Bid Gala and many more.

Sana has been featured into prestigious books, dedicated to the art, called the art and Artisans and "Arab 22" encyclopedia.

Sana was featured in local magazine name, Megazoid and local newspapers in UAE, such as Khaleej Times, Gulf news, and Indian newspaper as well.

Sana has also designed lab coats for Frontline heroes and designed T-shirts for the blue colored labours at the Consulates General of India.

Sana was honored with prestigious, Maharana Award for her contribution towards art by RBPG group in Dubai.



**SANA BANO MOIN AHMED**



## Sana's Paintings & Events

### Artistic Perception of SANA

Never lose your identity behind while chasing success, Always be creative and create stress-free art without any restrictions or boundaries. Sana believe in supporting other artists and their work. It is OK if your art has no story at times Art just happens.



# Sana's Paintings & Events



Instagram: @luxuryhomedecorbyana

Facebook: @Sana Ahmed

“Paint  
the world  
beyond  
your  
imagination”



# SAIMA HASAN

Artist





**SAIMA HASAN**

### *About the Artist*

**S**aima Hasan is an Award-winning Indian Visual artist, art educator and a free lancer based in Dubai for more than a decade now. She completed her education from New Delhi and ever since won accolades galore in Dubai and India. Her never ending zeal for education led her to pursue a diploma in Special Needs Education from Cambridge College of Britain. She has deep rooted interest in nature and all the things around her that are pure and free from human influence. From a very young age she was attracted towards colours and was fascinated by the idea of using them to express her feelings. Over the years she kept on exploring her passion but got real direction to her thoughts and skills from her graduate school where she learned commercial arts. She has now transformed herself into a full-fledged Fine Artist. She initially started experimenting with water colors but later switched to oil and acrylics colours to obtain greater detail in her artworks. Through her art she has always tried to depict the might of nature on this earth and its interaction with all other forces. She has always tried to make sure that her standard reflects a perfect amalgamation between traditional art and the standards set by modern art. Her craft and techniques continued to evolve and the range of her work expanded from basic landscapes, seascapes, deserts, camels,

horses, flowers, calligraphy etc. to more complex imagery and abstract concepts. She is a regular participant in various group exhibitions and demonstrated her creativity in Solo as well, across locations. During one such event she quoted "Though the subject matter of my work may vary, colour remains its constant theme. I prize colour for its powerful symbolism and apply it to communicate emotion and mood." Above all, whatever she creates, it is with the intent to evoke a sense of vitality and joy, a celebration of the greatest art of all.... 'A life well lived'.



**Question 1: you seem to have a liking for the classical school of art. what attracts you to it?**

Response: I am very expressive & imaginative since my childhood. Colors always attract me. I always wanted to live life full of Colours. I express myself better on canvas rather than penning my thoughts down on paper. This is because I feel that collaboration of my brush and Canvas helps be break the 'Language' barrier and I can freely create or show what I truly want to communicate through my choice of colours and expressions. For me sky is not just blue as we've been taught through conventional wisdom generations after generations. At a deeper more microscopic level it carries Pattern, shapes and forms of existence which is way beyond our comprehension. I want to see reality in ways and colors beyond common imagination. I believe my universe in my own unique way lies ahead of the conventional thinking. I want to first learn and venture into areas where common masses have not been before. And there after impart this knowledge and expressions on paper to other human beings especially my next generation to take this forward in their own creative ways and take life to the next level.

**Question 2: You have a background in computers and advertising. Were you a hidden artist all along?**

Response: Yes, personally speaking I have always been chased by a sense of incompleteness and dissatisfaction with self while going through the ladder of conventional education. There was always a feeling that something is missing in what I am doing, until someone gifted me a paintbrush and a few Colours. That was my AHAA moment!! Ever since that time, I never looked back and continued experimenting with various forms and

mediums of fine arts. It medium of conversation that does not need my target audiences to be educated or even literate.

**Question 3: What is the difference between commercial art, which you have done, and fine art? are there common elements?**

Response: Although all forms of Arts are expressions of thoughts, emotions and imaginations through creative means, there is a subtle difference between commercial arts and fine art. Commercial art mostly remains focused on some objective around a commercial interest and may include advertising, product / graphic design, branding, logos and book illustrations. Fine art on the other hand does not follow these restrictions. You are free to express limitless variety of topics using various mediums including but not limited to paintings, sculptures, carvings, printmaking, photography, installation, multi-media and much more. I prefer fine Art over the commercial form of Art as it gives much wider spectrum of addressable topics to play with using multiple mediums without any limitation.



## Award and Recognitions :

- Navya Naari Samman on March 8, 2022.
- Corona warrior Award on December 25, 2021.
- Awarded "PRERANA RATNA SAMMAN" Award on 23th December 2021.
- Excellence Artist Award "DREAM", Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Foundation, on December 10, 2021.
- Best Still Art Award on January 2, 2022.
- Awarded "Bankim Chandra Chatterjee KALA SAMMAN" PHD A Convocation Award on 28th December 2021.
- Certificate of Appreciation "SPIRIT OF THE UNION" art Exhibition on November 2021.
- Certificate of Appreciation "YOUTH" Special Needs Future Development Center, live Art on December 5, 2021.
- Certificate of Appreciation "WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY EVENT" art Exhibition by DUBAI MUNICIPALITY, on October 10, 2021.
- Certificate of Appreciation for THE OUTSTANDING ARTIST by His Excellency Suhail Mohd. Al Zarooni Year 2021.
- Certificate of Appreciation for THE OUTSTANDING ARTIST by His Excellency Suhail Mohd. Al Zarooni Year 2020.
- Certificate of Appreciation "SPIRIT OF THE UNION" Live Art on November 2021.
- Certificate of Appreciation from Special Needs Future Development Center, for Volunteer to the SNF Kids on January 29, 2020.
- Chosen the Brand Ambassador of Medeor Hospital Dubai on July 27, 2019.
- Certificate of Appreciation "HER STORY" by w2w art Exhibition for the year 2019.
- Certificate of Appreciation from Special Needs Future Development Center, for Volunteer to the SNF Kids on March 23, 2019.
- Certificate of Appreciation "THE WALK OF LIFE" by Funun Arts art Exhibition in September year 2019.

# Saima's Paintings & Events



Instagram: @colour\_joy | Facebook: @colour joy

'A thing of  
beauty  
is a  
joy forever.'

- John Keats, poet



Sharmila's first solo show  
'COLORS' in India, March 2014

# 47 Scarlett

# SHARMILA LAGHATE

Artist



Icons of Art |

067



SHARMILA LAGHATE

## About the Artist

Meet artist

**Sharmila Laghate**, for whom art is a part of daily life and daily life often finds its way into art. For whom the joy of creating something new is the biggest reward of her career.



'Scarlett'... Sharmila's Signature Painting & Identity  
(Ink & Watercolor on Handmade Paper)

Sharmila's journey as a fine artist began in 1994. After graduating in art and design, she began self-exploration and delved into different media like pencil, charcoal, acrylics, watercolor and mixed media painting. Her work comprises realistic depiction in a semi-abstract rendering style, often inspired by Impressionism. Her favorite artists are Monet and Van Gogh.



'Afternoon Siesta'... (Charcoal on Handmade Paper)

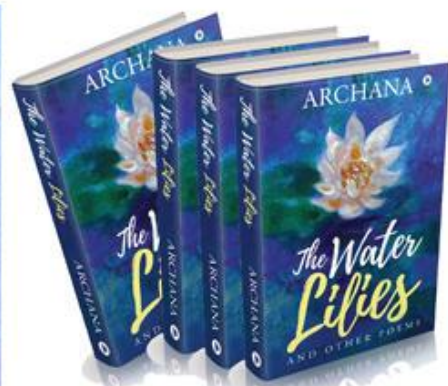
An open secret in her paintings is her wont of suggesting human presence without drawing actual human figures. In her sketch of a traditional Indian abode, for example, human presence is merely suggested by clothes drying on the line in the courtyard.

Sharmila's art journey is dotted with successful painting exhibitions and events. An intuitive art teacher, she encourages individual expression while effortlessly imparting knowledge of art. She conducts classes and posts free art resources on her socials. She has served as jury for graphic design and aesthetics in leading art colleges in India. She has conducted a collaborative 'Yoga and Art' workshop series on meditative art.



Demo Painting from Sharmila's Art Tutoring classes (online & offline)

*Her painting 'Serenity' was adapted for cover design of a book of poems.*



Poetry Book' Photo Credit: @author\_archana

The sources of inspiration for Sharmila's paintings are many, such as her own travel photography, but above all, it comes from nature and life itself. She believes that life and color go hand-in-hand, one incomplete without the other... even in grayscale, where the tones play instead of color, thereby representing the myriad shades of life.

Bridging art to life has led to some truly memorable moments and a genuine connect with art enthusiasts who follow her work. It was a special moment when, during Sharmila's first art exhibition in 1998, she received a pat on the back from not just her own art teachers, but their Gurus as well. Sharmila's commissioned painting assignments and her being a much loved and sought-after art tutor, testify to her growth as an artist.

Sharmila believes that art has a universal language and can be sought by everyone willing to explore it and express themselves through it. In spite of new technology in art, she believes it is the human expression in hand-painted canvasses that truly speaks to our hearts. She aspires to spread joy through her art, not just locally, but across borders.



WORLD ART DUBAI 2019 with her 'Forest Series', April 2019



**'Wilderness' ...  
(Acrylics on Canvas)**



**'Hope' ...  
(Color Pencils on Handmade Paper)**



**'The Pearl of the Gulf' ...  
(Acrylics on Paper)**



**'In Remembrance' ...Commissioned work  
(Color Pencils on special Handmade Paper from Nepal)**



**In the studio**

## Sharmila's participation in Art Exhibitions

### Sharmila Laghate's Art Exhibitions and Shows

- 2023 Jan.: 3D Virtual Exhibition 'New Beginning' by Arteom Gallery
- 2022 Dec., Dubai: Group 'Global Art Show' by Suan Artland Gallery
- 2022 Mar.: Online Group Show by Art Beats Foundation on Women's Day
- 2021 Mar.: Virtual Art Show & Blog feature with Vulcan Art Gallery
- 2020 Dec.: Virtual 'Global Art Festival', via Belgium
- 2020 Aug.: Virtual 3-D Gallery Group Show 'Wide Canvas 2020'
- 2019 Oct., India: Group Show 'Art Bazaar'
- 2019 Jun., Dubai: Group Show 'Ramadan' with ArtSmiley Art Gallery
- 2019 Apr., Dubai: World Art Dubai with my paintings 'Forest Series' (with Uchaan Gallery)
- 2019 Mar., Abu Dhabi: Group Show by women artists on Women's Day
- 2014 Mar., India: Solo Show of 100 paintings & 30 photograph limited edition prints
- 2009 Oct., India: Group art & craft exhibition
- 2008 Aug., India: Group Show on varied themes
- 2000 Feb., India: Group Show of 'Nature Inspired' paintings
- 1998 Dec., India: Joint Show with 98% sellout of my 50 Floral paintings

**Facebook Profile:** Sharmila's Paintings

**Facebook Fan Page:** Sharmila's Paintings & Art |

**Instagram:** @sharmila.paintingSheetal

Sharmila's Paintings

"What you do  
makes a difference,  
and you have  
to decide  
what difference  
you want to make."

Jane Goodall

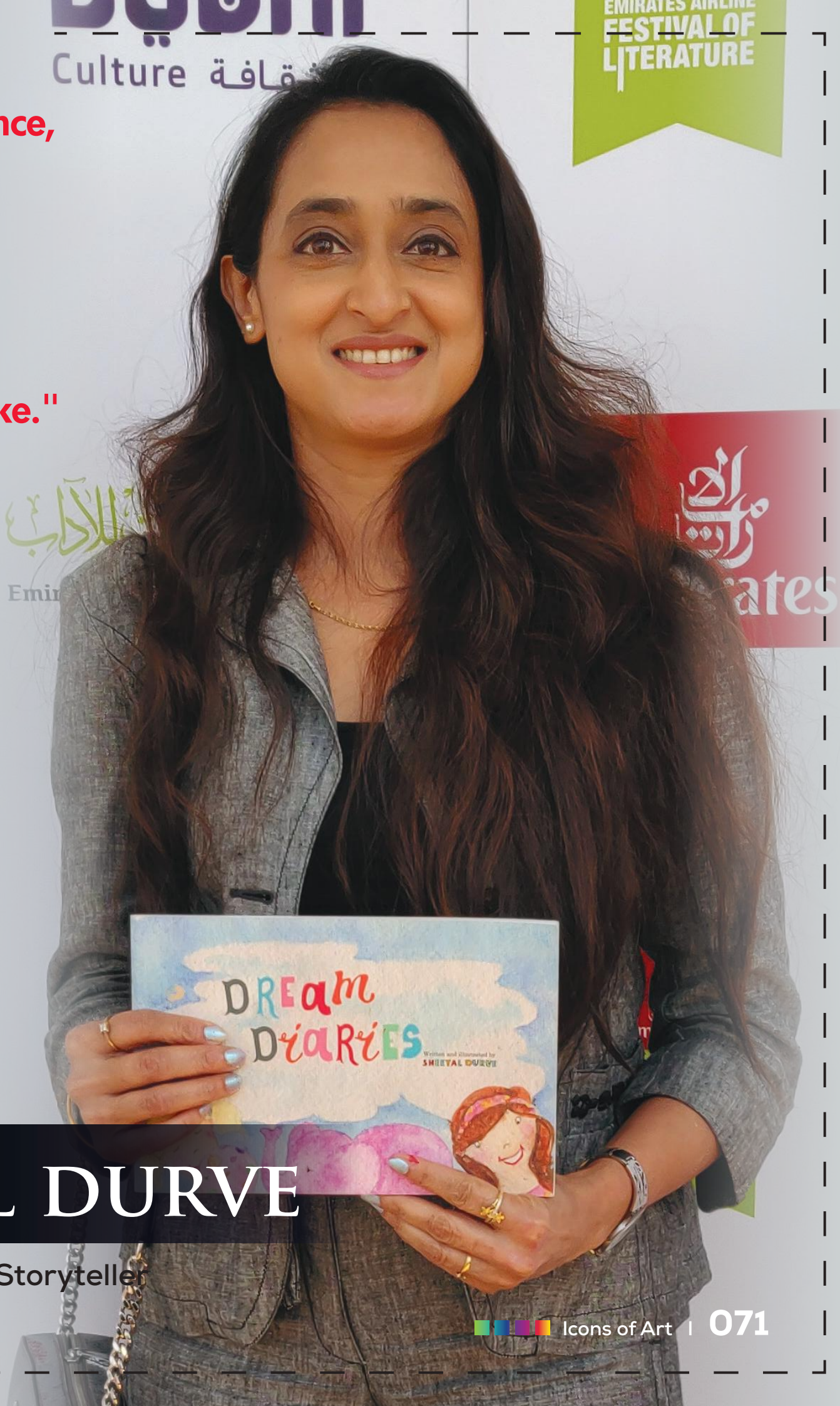


# SHEETAL DURVE

Artist • Illustrator • Storyteller



Icons of Art | 071





**SHEETAL DURVE**

## *About the Artist*

Sheetal's art is inspired by nature and the current state of the world. She captures and expresses her influences through soul-stirring emotions on canvas, using a wide range of mediums including watercolour, oil, acrylic and mixed media. She is particularly drawn to the stunning array of colours and rhythms in nature and much of her work reflects this awe-inspiring beauty. However, she is also deeply affected by the political, humanitarian and social issues of the world and this is often reflected in her art.

Sheetal's dedication to making a positive impact on the world extends beyond her art. She has been involved in art therapies for Alzheimer's and grief support groups and has donated her work to various causes and charities. She also shares her passion for art with the underprivileged and special needs children through workshops and classes.

Sheetal is also the author of two children's books, "Dream Diaries" and "Dream On," which have received recognition at the Emirates Literature Festival in Dubai and all over the world.

Her artworks have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the globe, including in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, The United States, India, Italy, Japan and South Korea. She has received numerous awards and accolades for her work, including being named one of the 50 inspiring women in the UAE, and receiving the Visionary Women Award in Dubai in 2021.

With her unique blend of creativity and social consciousness, Sheetal's art is not only aesthetically pleasing, but also meaningful and impactful. Her dedication to her craft and her community make her a true inspiration to many.

**S**heetal Durve is an artist and author hailing from Pune and currently based in the vibrant city of Dubai, United Arab Emirates. From a young age, Sheetal was immersed in arts, attending exhibitions, performances and concerts with her culturally-inclined parents. This early exposure sparked a passion that would shape the course of her life.

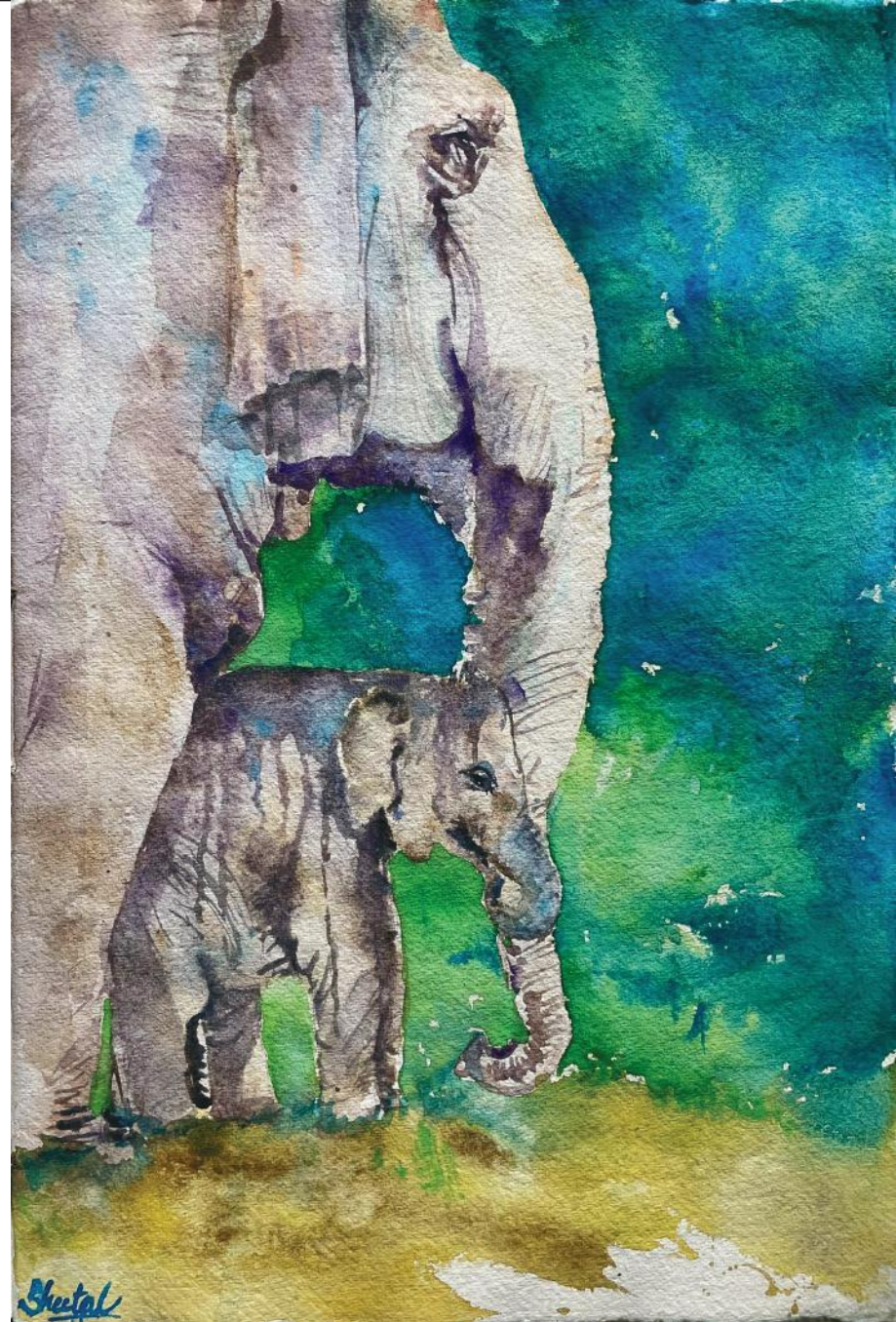
Sheetal received formal education in art, classical dance and music, and later pursued a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. While she initially worked in advertising, It wasn't long before she realised that her true calling was painting. She made the brave decision to become a full-time artist and has never looked back.

## Exhibitions and Participations:

- Art Hub Abu Dhabi 2018
- Double Tree Hilton, Dubai 2019
- Cambass Art gallery N.Y. U.S.A. 2020
- Jiwi International Watercolour Autumn Show 2021, Japan
- By the Sea Dubai, U.A.E. 2021
- Fabriano Aquarello 2022, Italy
- One thousand and one nights, New York
- Blissfulness - Picasso Art Gallery, Dubai
- DIFC Art Nights, Dubai
- Walk of Life, Dubai, . July 2022
- Mukta Atma, an exhibition in Panama, Oct 2022
- Small is Beautiful,- The Museum Of Americas, Oct 2022
- Jiwi International Watercolour Winter Show, Nov 2022, Japan
- 51st U.A.E. National Day Abu Dhabi, Dec 2022
- Rise, a painting on Racism, a permanent display in the Museum of South Korea, Oct 2022
- Norway virtual exhibition, creating a world record for 143 countries participating.
- 7 Stages of Grief Exhibition (Done by Alzheimer's patients and grief support group mentored by Durve) 2021
- Several exhibitions in Dubai and Abu Dhabi in the U.A.E and Delhi and Pune in India. August and December 2019
- Painting auctioned to save Koalas in the Australian fires, Jan 2020
- Painting auctioned for Ukraine refugees in U.K. on secret online fundraiser. June 2022

## Awards and Recognitions:

- Nominated as one of the 50 inspiring women in the U.A.E.
- The Visionary Women Award, Dubai, U.A.E. 2021





# Sheetal's Paintings & Events



**Art Website:** [sheetaldurve.com](http://sheetaldurve.com)

**Instagram:** @artofsheetal

**Facebook:** Dream Diaries by Sheetal

Art is a  
distinguished  
piece of work  
created  
with conflict  
of ideas

-- Sushma Lohit



# SUSHMA LOHIT

Artist





SUSHMA LOHIT

**S**ushma is a self taught artist, who enjoys acrylic painting.

Sushma revisited and rediscovered her talent in painting during the lockdown in 2020!

Sushma was born in India, currently living in Dubai. Sushma moved to Dubai after living in the United Kingdom for 17 long years.

She particularly enjoys textured painting, Pichwai painting, painting Lord Ganesha and exploring new avenues every time she holds the paint brush to lay colours to her thoughts. Abstract painting give her fun time with colours, brushes and palette knives. Not to forget the brush strokes which she equally loves.

Her paintings are aesthetically appealing with beautiful colours and contrasts as she herself loves the same. Creating a visually appealing art pieces is her focus. Sushma works hard to create paintings that connect her to her culture, and thus keep the culture alive as much as possible.

## *About the Artist*

Sushma focuses on creating pieces that attract people, with her thoughts, colours and contrasts.

Sushma has exhibited her artwork at exhibitions organised by Arte UAE in Dubai and has successfully sold her paintings at exhibitions and online. The appreciation and admiration she gets from the visitors at the exhibition, from family and friends boosts her energy and her creativity. The outcome is evidenced on the canvas, in the form of paintings.

She feels blessed to be on this journey which she enjoys and helps her relax.

Sushma is always keen to learn something new, which improves her artwork. This attitude has helped her to explore, experiment and thus achieve success in difficult painting projects.

She is excited and looking forward to new challenging opportunities.



# Sushma's Paintings

# Sushma's Exhibition



Instagram: @sushma\_lohit\_arts

“Art is a way  
to express  
your  
dreams  
to the World”



# SUDESHNA MUKHERJEE

Artist



Icons of Art | 079



SUDESHNA MUKHERJEE



## About the Artist

An Artist born and raised in India. She's a biotech grad, trained painter, creative artist, digital illustrator and instructor, certified in fine arts & Animation. Turning her biggest passion into her profession she specialises in creating Oil and Acrylic paintings and surreal digital illustrations. From commissioned art works, mosaics, designing logos to illustrating kids storybooks, she has left no stone unturned in showing her creativity.

She is fortunate to be born to a mother who's a painter and drew her first inspiration from her. She started painting at a very young age and her deep love and inclination towards painting gave her a boost to participate in many contests and won many prizes. She successfully held workshops and worked in many reputed institutes to spread her knowledge and been able to share her creativity with many students of varied age groups. Her intense love for art took her beyond the boundaries of her own country giving her a chance to explore art at a global level. She is now in UAE participating in various art exhibitions.

Her inspiration comes from her adventures, imaginations and reference photos. Deeply inspired from nature, her paintings always showcase that love in the form of vibrant colours, animal portraits, floral paintings, still life, mystic landscapes, sunsets, a beach outing, etc. Her adventure trips always finds a way to be depicted in her artworks. She always tries to bring in the beauty from her experiences onto canvas.

Her works are in oil and acrylic medium & influenced by traditional techniques. She works with brushes, knives and fingers to create different layers and textures imparting visual depth in her paintings. She is fond of impressive and bold brush strokes, loves experimenting with light and shadows, and uses fine details in her art works. Her paintings reflect the joy and aliveness she senses around.

She uses both earthy and vivid colours and always finds a beautiful colour scheme to depict in her work.

While being an artist is a difficult tug-of-war between her inner dreamer and critic, she has grown to love this process a lot. It hasn't just taught her much about the world, but also about herself.

**Her goal as an artist is to spread the joy and aliveness she experiences from nature.**

# Sudeshna's Paintings



Wildflowers



Sunset Speaks Thousand Colors



Lazy Day At The Beach



The Orange Paradise



Bejewelled



The 4 Antique Jugs



The Mystic Garden



The Majestic Horse



# Sudeshna's Events & Exhibitions

Facebook Profile: @beingkhushi | Instagram: @beingkhushi

“The journey  
is as  
important  
as the  
destination”



# SHEREEN ABRAHAM

Artist



## About the Artist

**S**“The journey is as important as the destination”-  
**Shereen Abraham** lives by this mantra and so is passionate about everything she does or chooses to do. Shereen is an Artist, a Wellbeing Coach, a Happiness & Mindfulness Coach, an Emotional Intelligence Trainer, a Cognitive Behavioural Therapist, a Pranic Healer, a Theta Healer, a Poet and a Writer.

Born and raised in India, Shereen moved to the UAE in the late 90s. A post-graduate in Marketing Management, she was part of the corporate world for several years in varied industries, both in India and the UAE. Ten years ago she went on a personal development journey, up-levelled her skills and got trained in various well-being modalities. Since then she has been helping people realize their true potential by empowering them to become the best version of themselves.

Shereen is invested in making a difference in the lives of many people and watching them blossom.

She sums up her work poetically –

“I believe ‘Experience is one of life’s best teachers’  
And continuous learning grooms us to be great leaders.  
I enjoy being the one who facilitates another to harness the power within,  
To blossom, transform and grow in every field they believe in”.

As a Writer, Shereen has experience in writing on varied topics like lifestyle, motoring, beauty, tourism, luxury products, health and wellbeing. She has had the pleasure of interviewing interesting personalities including celebrities. Her articles have been published in several publications in the GCC. A few years ago she discovered the poet in her and several of her poems have been published in magazines and anthologies.



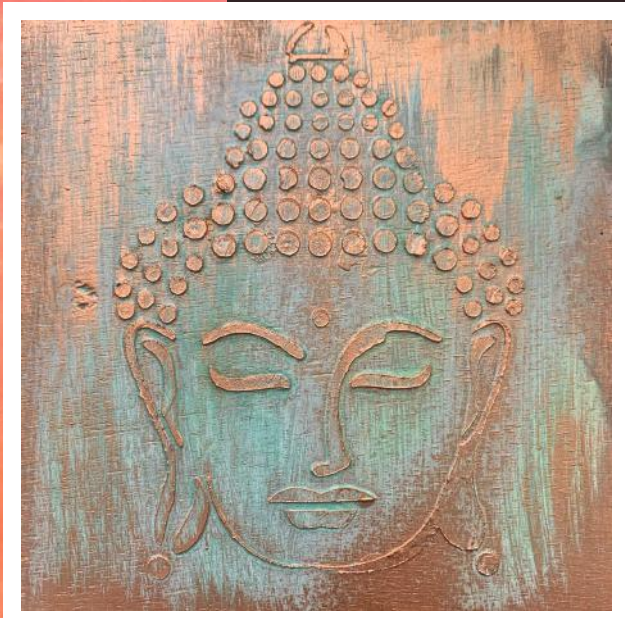
Shereen has always believed that “Colours are therapeutic” so her journey into the field of Art was natural.

As an artist she finds inspiration in the life that surrounds her...simple things like music, the colours of nature, people and their fleeting emotions. She enjoys experimenting with various techniques and media.

She paints intuitively so every artwork is unique, has an emotion attached to it and a story to tell. Shereen paints from the heart and finds immense joy in creating art – she always wishes that the viewer of the art gets as much joy as she did while creating it.

She has exhibited her artworks at several group and solo exhibitions. Many of her paintings have found pride of place in homes around the world. Shereen is a Devotee of all things creative.

# Shereen's Paintings



## The Peacock

- by Shereen Abraham

You strut, you prance and then you dance  
It is the way you play romance  
Seems you enjoy taking a chance  
Leading the peahens in a trance.

You spread out your plumes so gorgeous  
So flamboyant, I go breathless  
I stand there and watch in wonder  
You really are quite the charmer.

Your eyes are so sharp and so bright  
Your feathers are a pure delight  
To me your beauty's resplendent  
And you are truly transcendent.

A bird like you is so unique  
It takes my breath, I cannot speak!

© Shereen Abraham

**Instagram:** @shereenabrahamart

"My passion  
for art and colours  
continues as I see  
it as a  
part of my life."

Sruthy



SRUTHY AKHIL

Artist



Icons of Art | 087



**SRUTHY AKHIL**

## About the Artist

**Ar. Sruthy Akhil**, an artist and an architect from Kerala, India has been practising art for more than 20 years. She has been working as a Landscape Architect in Dubai for the past few years. Most of her art concepts are evolved from nature and life. The vibrant colours and the brush strokes creates her identity and help to bring the life to canvas.

**"My passion for art and colours continues as I see it as a part of my life." Sruthy**

**"Art is a journey for me to experience the nature and life which is around us.. " Sruthy**

### ART JOURNEY

Her romance with colours started when she was around 3 to 4 years, from small scribbling on papers to sheets of canvas. Since childhood, her keen interest towards the field of colours has been encouraged by her parents and teachers. A look at her works over the years would reflect the growing maturity of an artist.

From a very young age onwards, her father, an artist himself, had guided her ever since she started holding brush and paint in her hands. From then on, she has not hesitated to put whatever she has in her mind into her paintings. It was not just about putting colours on canvas; it was trying to convey the colours with feelings and expression without losing their essence and bringing life to the canvas.

She has participated in many state and national competitions and has been awarded many recognitions.

Her paintings are stripped of all niceties as they depict the horrors of smoking and drugs, global warming, world peace, poverty, and freedom for women, and convey the world's issues to the viewers through the colours. All the themes of her paintings admittedly have a strong sense of perspective which is used to give balance to her paintings.

Sruthy's forte is her ability to pick colours, giving regale and buoyancy to her paintings. She has conducted more than ten exhibitions in India, and numerous awards and prizes have come her way. She was awarded the CBSE state level "KALATHILAKAM" (all-rounder) in 2005.

After schooling, she did her bachelor's in Architecture in Kerala, followed by her Master's in Landscape Architecture from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi and started practising as a landscape architect in India. She also worked as an assistant professor in architecture college in Kerala. She specialises in abstract paintings, Kerala mural paintings, and realistic paintings more related to the Indian context. Her working medium is acrylic, watercolour and digital paintings. Through her words, we can easily see her dedication and inspiration towards the world of colours, and her journey has been supported & encouraged by her husband, family, and friends.

"I love being in nature, experiencing the dynamic character of the changing environment. It helps me to understand more about nature's character and elements and try to reflect it into the canvas of colours.", says Sruthy.

### Honours:

- Kalaratna award -Pune Nagarcic Center
- Best child artist award – Center for Educational Development and Research, Pune
- Lions Club International achievement award- world peace (2002-2003)
- Amrita Balakendram -Balaprathibha award 2005-2006
- Cover page for Triveni notebook 2003 - Kerala state co-operative consumer federation Ltd



### Canvas of ideas

**S**RUTHY SEEMED to be full of ideas. The water colour paintings of the 10-year old girl studying in Class V at Mahatma Gandhi Public School, Chottanikkara, have a lot of depth — be it landscapes or just an idea in the artist's mind — right, solid, dream of colours and so on.

Prizes have come her way naturally. The latest being the first prize in the State-level competition conducted by the Lions Club on World Peace. She had earlier bagged the second prize at the Chavara Cultural Centre for an anti-tobacco campaign related painting and another first in the anti-subsidised campaign by the State's Youth Welfare department, second prize at Vishnukala Sangamam 2001 among others.

A collection of some of her paintings over the last few years are exhibited at a group exhibition called Niracharithu at the Palace Girls High School, Thrippunithura, along with those of G. Nisha and her father P. Ganapatharan. Daughter of Aha and Saseendran, both teachers at a Government school, Sruthy



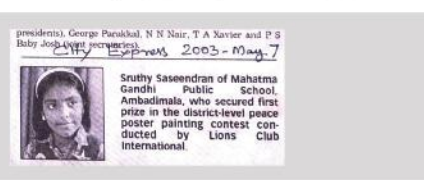
Her romance with colours had started very young at about 3-4 years or so. A look at her works over the years would actually reflect the growing maturity of the artist. It is no wonder that numerous awards and prizes have come her way. She has received quite a few State-level honours too.

The latest is the prize of one sovereign that she received from the Lions Club International for a District-level Peace Poster painting competition 2002-2003.

The Director General of Police, Kerala, K.J. Joseph, gave away the prize at the club's annual celebration in Kottayam.



Sruthy's world.



Sruthy Saseendran of Mahatma Gandhi Public School, Ambadimala, who secured first prize in the district-level peace poster painting contest conducted by Lions Club International.

### Chip off the old block

**Y**OU'D THINK a ten year old was far too young to be chasing you in the hot sun to witness or give you a chance.

Precocious yet shy, Sruthy Saseendran, a 10th standard student of Mahatma Gandhi Public School, Ambadimala, Chottanikkara, pleads her case in two very personal narratives. Her pictures are a veritable potpourri of all manner of subjects she depicts the homes of smoking, dark colours, emphysema, and try to reflect it into the canvas of colours.

started taking formal training in art since the last one year. She hasn't been tough for the young painter. Her father, an artist himself has been pushing her ever since she could hold a brush in her hand.

The art works were on exhibit at the Palace Girls High School, Thrippunithura. Also on display are the works of a father and daughter team.

Ganapatharan earned making reproductions of West Yama's paintings, once he retired from the Cochin Port Trust, as a sub superintendent. His wife is Indigo. The never failed to. Her a born painter, Nisha Ganapatharan made her purchase for ancient themes with a few portraits (including Gandhi, Babur and Tagore) shown in.



in Ennakulam to mark the anti liquor day. Elsewhere, a large canvas showing a balance to a composition of peace. Even so, the themes are sometimes male that have admirably lost their flavour. In her credit Sruthy has a strong sense of perspective. She sees it to her benefit as she paints her canvas, striving to bring balance to a composition that has all ingredients of turning unwell. Not very big in size, 'My Kerala' is a painting showcasing five different festivals that symbolise God's Own Country. Taking place in the background is Thrippunithura, the shikhar festival that is held in Thiruvur. A bunch of girls get ready to make a porikallam in the foreground as they assemble there this



space with a karakali dancer; elsewhere a boat race is underway. Besides, Sruthy's love is her ability to pick colours. Her paintings regale. She uses bright, saturated colours to bring buoyancy to her canvases. Even as she has



Cover page design for Triveni notebooks 2003

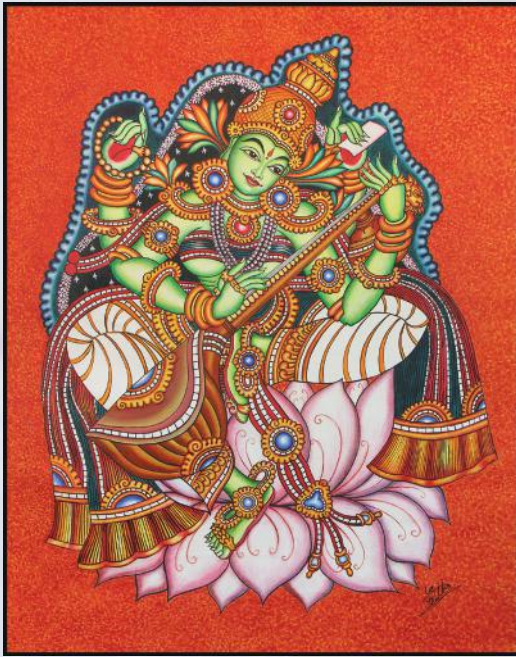
Cover page design for Amrita Magazine 2007



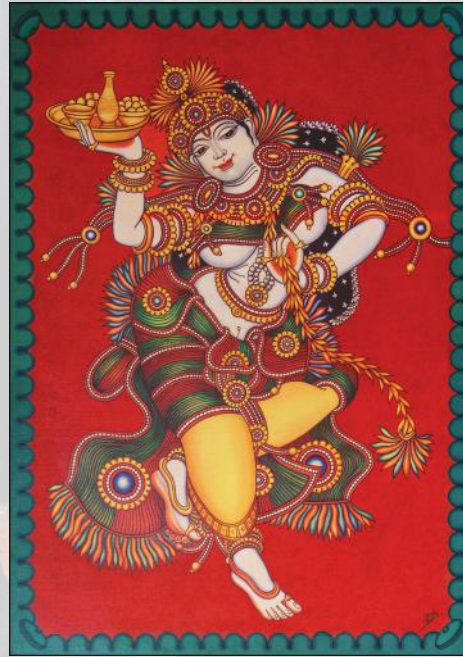
Cover page design for Radio Club

Cover page design for Amrita Magazine 2005

# Sruthy's Paintings



Kerala mural painting –  
“Goddess Saraswati”



Kerala mural painting



“The journey” –  
the journey of a women through 2 canvas frames



“The rhythm of colours” –  
when nature showers  
us the colours



“ The angel ”



“ When light falls ”

**Instagram:** colors\_of\_elysian

**Linkedin :** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sruthy-s-a137a9145>

“Channel your inner artist,  
let your innovative spirit flow  
from the depths of your heart  
to the tip of your brush  
and unleash  
your creativity.”



# VARSHA SAJU NAIR

Artist





VARSHA SAJU NAIR  
ARTIST

## About the Artist

I picked up a pencil with the intention to draw at a very young age, little did I know about how that one stroke of graphite would change the course of my life in the most brilliant way possible.

I was enrolled in a drawing class at the age of 5, but after 6 months, my teacher was not confident that I had what it took to be an artist and advised me to focus on other activities. It was then I pursued a whole range of extra-curricular in sports, music and dance. Although I enjoy all these activities, none of them resonated with me on a deeper level. Years later, in 2016, I started unintentionally sketching again. At first, it was just mindless doodles on exam papers or on notebooks, it wasn't until my parents noticed this and got me art materials that I began creating artworks. The minute I coated the bristles of my brush with vibrant paints, my heart knew that this is what I was meant to do. It was as if the canvas was calling out to me and the prospect of transforming that blank white sheet into a coruscating kaleidoscope of colors brought a feeling of excitement that cannot be articulated using words.

Through experimentation, I started developing an identity of my own in the form of analytical cubism and abstraction. Now, at the age of 18, I create artworks in series, artworks that tell a story about the wonders of nature, the essence of spirituality in all living beings, the stories of empowerment and the complex creativity of the human mind.

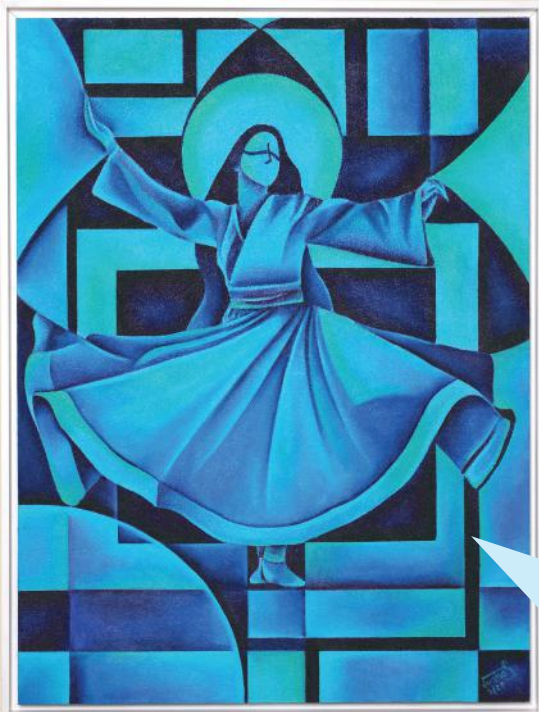
I have always tried to create what my mind envisions and I have given the utmost of

importance to the quality of the artwork. It is fascinating how the human mind is entranced by colors and beauty, much like how a person in garden marvels at the sight of a flower in full bloom, an art enthusiast marvels at the sight of an artwork that resonates with their heart. I was fortunate to have several people come up to me to tell me what they see in my works, their reflections in my colored mirror and how they wanted to look into that mirror for days on end.

Art truly is limitless and everything you imagine can be brought to life with just a touch of color and a little soul.



VARSHA SAJU NAIR



**Series:** The Beauty of Existence (5)

**Title:** 'Enlightenment'

**Medium:** Acrylic on Canvas

**Artwork Size:** 85cm x 105cm

**Artwork Code:** VSN0084

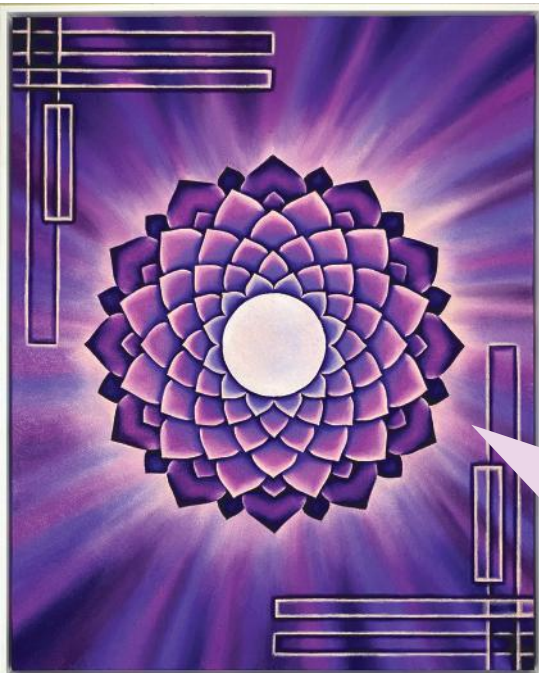
**Series:** Immerse in colors (6)

**Title:** 'Invigorating'

**Medium:** Acrylic on Canvas

**Artwork Size:** 85cm x 65cm

**Artwork Code:** VSN0063



**Series:** Elements of Life (1)

**Title:** 'Water'

**Medium:** Acrylic on Canvas

**Artwork Size:** 85cm x 105cm

**Artwork Code:** VSN0075

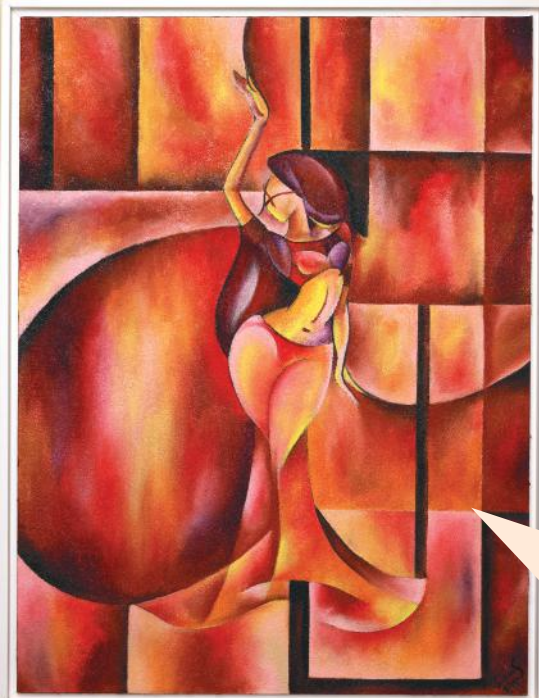
**Series:** The Subconscious Path (7)

**Title:** 'Divinity'

**Medium:** Acrylic on Canvas

**Artwork Size:** 105cm x 85cm

**Artwork Code:** VSN0091



**Title:** - 'FOREVER'

**Medium:** Palette knife on canvas

**Artwork Size:** 85cm x 65cm

**Artwork Code:** VSN0029

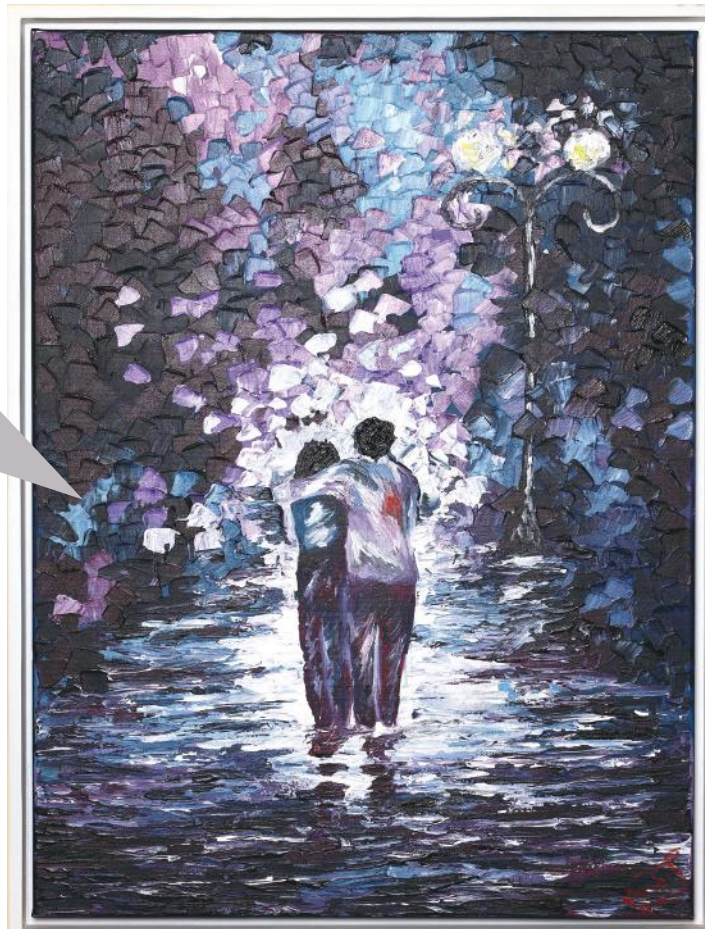
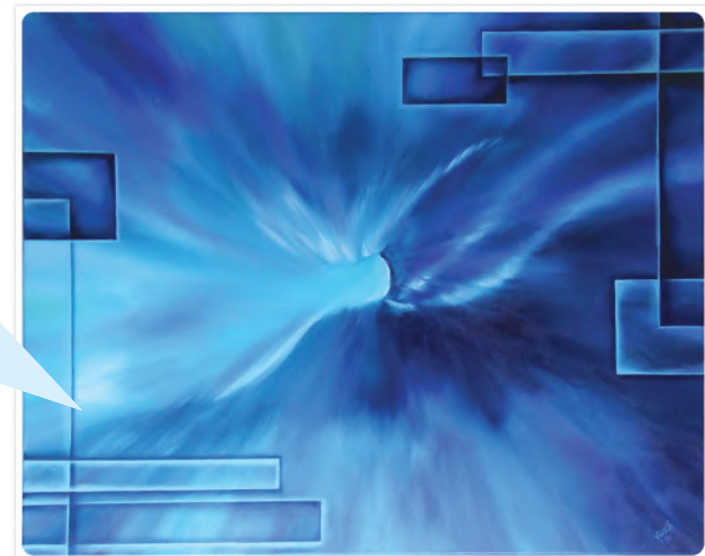
**Series:** Immerse in colors (1)

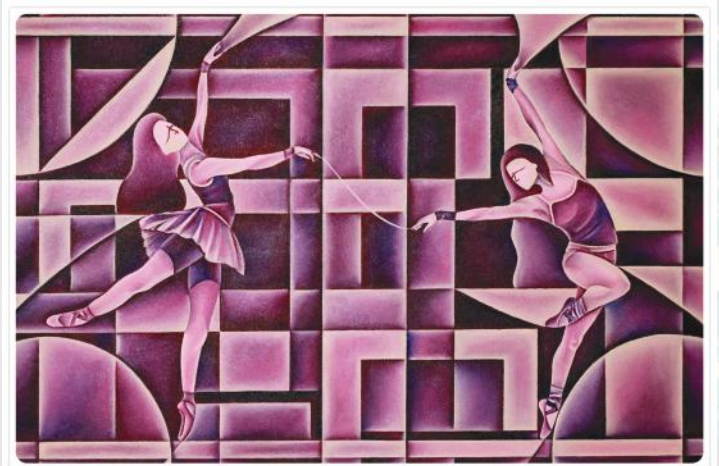
**Title:** 'Elegance'

**Medium:** Acrylic on Canvas

**Artwork Size:** 85cm x 65cm

**Artwork Code:** VSN0039





TITLE: 'HARMONY'  
THIS ARTWORK IS PART OF THE PERMANENT COLLECTION IN  
HAEGEUMGANG THEME MUSEUM, SOUTH KOREA



VARSHA SAJU NAIR  
ARTIST



Varsha's Paintings & Events



Insta Logo



Web site QR Code

Website:

<https://theartistryofvarsha.com>

Revolutionise | Reawaken | Reform



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