

LATITUDE 28 presents**Saintly Abstractions of A Haunted Past****Artists:** Sudipta Das | Gopa Trivedi | Radhika Agarwala | Waswo X. Waswo | Khadim Ali | Waseem Ahmed**ART DUBAI**
ART DUBAI**Booth : F-5****ART DUBAI Madinat Jumeirah**

VIP Preview: 9-10 March 2022

General Admission: 11-13 March 2022

LATITUDE 28 brings together the works of Gopa Trivedi, Khadim Ali, Radhika Agarwala, Sudipta Das, Waseem Ahmed and Waswo X. Waswo – artists from South Asia, who employ a contemporaneous spin on the miniature tradition in their work. Some of these neo-miniaturists rework the evocativeness and stylization of miniature schools of painting to generate new socio-political discourses. Alluding to mythological/ historical narratives in the modern context, these artists locate their identities at the crux of historicity and contemporaneousness.

Artists from the Indian Subcontinent are increasingly delving into the possibilities of re-infusing traditional forms of art with new media, thus creating their own idioms which are at once post-colonialist and post-modernist. The dream-like canons of metaphysical knowledge in the form of sculptures, reliefs and paintings will be displayed at Art Dubai 2022. The artworks represented by LATITUDE 28 at Art Dubai 2022 are on one hand the depiction of physical landscape patterns of streets, industries, trees and water pipes, and on the other, social identities of class, gender, and race produced through the dynamic push and pull of personal histories, matter and place. Memory and identity are important artefacts of this profound cultural exchange.

“Knowing material and methods is one of the major aspects of the new contemporary art tradition. Materials and methods create an impression on the viewer about the journey of the artist. That is what makes art fairs an immersive experience. The common thread unifying the artists’ distinct politics, form and technique is the innovation of their personal style over the traditional Indian Mughal miniature paintings and mixed media, that take precedence in depicting sensual and poetic life experiences. The physical and mental patience of the artist is quite evident in these artworks,” says Bhavna Kakar, owner of LATITUDE 28.

LATITUDE 28 is a New-Delhi based art gallery that has hosted promising shows and exhibitions of eminent artists in India for the past ten years. The artworks in Art Dubai this year are a result

of contemplation on the ontology of fragile human existence, and this is reflective of the art exercise.

The modern progressive viewer deciphers the meaning of art through their personal experience of the city, body and art forms. Each artwork of LATITUDE 28 is a storytelling device that represents a maze of organic and ephemeral objects, records to communicate the South-Asian history and experience of these unprecedented times. Khadim Ali's (b. 1978, Quetta, Pakistan) artworks focus on migrants' relationship to their home country and the country they live in. The 'Passport' series emerged from his own experience as a migrant in Australia and refugee from Afghanistan. Waseem Ahmed (b.1976, Hyderabad, Pakistan) is an educationist and one of the pioneers of contemporary miniature painting in Pakistan. His recent artwork is a series about his understanding of the semiotics of faith practices. Gopa Trivedi (b. 1987, Lucknow, India) attempts to address social and individual anxieties by creating subversive idioms using seemingly insignificant spaces or objects. Waswo X. Waswo (b. 1953, United States of America), a photographer and writer fuses miniature art practice with digital black and white photography and portrays his travels in India with humour and self-deprecation. Radhika Agarwala's (b.1985, Kolkata) 'Will We Ever Walk In The Fields of Gold Again' series is based on the concept of man-nature conflict, exploring fragility and permanence – using material from both nature and civilization. Sudipta Das (b. 1985, Assam) deliberates over the idea of belonging and memories in Hanji paper forms elucidating the emotional distress of migration and displacement.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

LATITUDE 28 is synonymous with cutting edge art of the Indian subcontinent, seeking fresh perspectives to stimulate commercial interest in new forms of art-making. The space provides a lateral space where younger artists are able to contextualize their work alongside the masters of Indian art. Keeping with its wider role as an institution dedicated towards making art accessible and inclusive, LATITUDE 28 has paved the way for active collaborations between artists from Iran, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India through its outreach events and shows that seek an intersection of artists, art institutions, collectors and many different publics. LATITUDE 28's vision is shaped by its Founder/Director, Bhavna Kakar, who is also founder and editor of TakeOnArt- leading magazine about fine art. Kakar has over a decade's experience as a curator, editor, and art consultant.

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