

Artist Statement

I always found myself amazed and inspired by flora, foliage, ferns, petals, grass, pollen and other aspects of landscapes. The idea being mostly around Cluster and space – to evoke a sense of fluidity and boundlessness of world around us. From straight forward nature photography to planting my own garden; writing a dissertation (during MFA at university) on ‘personification of nature in ancient oriental and other mythologies’ to reading Steven Hawkins’ idea of us being equidistant from stars and atoms; Absorbing Wordsworth and Blake’s nature poetry to practicing communion with nature as a spiritual discipline; Nature has clearly been the strongest influence accumulated over the years and constituted the core of my work.

I am also interested in exploring the profound form-n-space relationship. It brought me to explore the ideas of Zen minimalism where one sees transcendence in simpler forms of life, nature and environment and Biomimicry - An approach to innovation that emulates nature’s patterns and strategies. The purpose is to realize synergy and interrelation between space and things to outgrow the notion of isolated consciousness. I am also interested in emotions of wonder, awe, empathy and euphoria.

DHARA MEHROTRA

M.F.A in Painting from College of Art, New Delhi (Delhi University) in the year 2005.

Academic awards year 1998, 1999, 2000 & 2001, along with the ‘Swapan Biswas’ award for academic excellence. The Junior Fellowship Award from Ministry of culture; The Government of India, in Visual Art (Painting) 2007

Selected Group Shows & Solo Exhibition

- 2016 'Swarm', wall installation, le Meridian, Bangalore | India |, supported by gallery Art Houz Blr. March
Forms Of Devotion Madrid | Spain | September.
- 2015 Forms Of Devotion, MOSA (Museum Of Sacred Arts)
LKA, New Delhi | India | (March – April) and The China Art Museum, Shanghai (November – December)
- 2014 Art Spotting IV, Gallery Art Positive, New Delhi | India | July & August
- 2013 Sarai Reader 09 'The Exhibition', initiative by 'Raqs Media Collective' at Devi Art Foundation (Gurgaon) | India | January till April.
- 2012 'Silent Symphony' Gallery Stainless' New Delhi | India | November.
KMB, Collateral exhibition by Tangerine Art Space, at Hallegua Hall, Jew Town | Fort Kochi., Kochi
- 2011 'Interwoven...A mystic journey', solo exhibition at Prakrit Arts, Chennai | India | August
Canvases for Change', Gallery Stainless, New Delhi | November
- 2010 'Monsoon 5' Gallery latitude 28, by Red Earth' | September
- 2009 'Some Substance is Divine' The Hyatt Regency, New Delhi | India | November (supported by AFA and the Hyatt group)
- 2008 'Resonating Metaphors', Epicentre, Gurgaon | India | October.
- 2007 'Resonating Metaphors', Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi | October
Arty Facts', an illustrative lecture & exhibition (supported by HSBC and Art Konsult) Chandigarh | India |
The Gulf Art Fair Dubai | April
Gallery Art Alternatives and Gallery Art Konsult | August & September
- 2006 The 49th, National Exhibition of Art, Bhopal | November
Art Internationalism (Visual Arts gallery, I.H.C), The Grand, New Delhi | October
Young Artists show at the ABS Art Gallery Baroda | April
The Apparao Galleries New Delhi & Chennai | India
- 2005 'Eternal Recurrence' Shangri – La New Delhi | November
The Apparao Galleries New Delhi & Chennai | India |
- 2004 The Apparao Galleries New Delhi & Chennai
AIFACS National Exhibition, New Delhi
Dhoomimal Annual Art show.
- 2003 'Resonance' in collaboration with ABN Amro bank New Delhi
Dhoomimal Annual Art show.
- 2002 'Beyond Memory' OPCA, The I.H.C New Delhi | India |
Exhibition of Graphics Savannah, Georgia; at Studio Art Gallery, University of California | U.S |
Gallery Freedom, V.H.A.I, New Delhi

Participations & Mentions

2013 Project Sarai Reader 09, Devi Art Foundation, Gurgaon, (New Delhi NCR) India
Camp 'Expressions', by Palette People, Le Meridian Kochi, India;

2012 Artist seminar & camp at Ahalia Heritage, Ahalia University campus, Palakkad, Kerala, 2011 &12

2009 A.I.F.A.C.S National artists' camp New Delhi (February)

HOD Visual Art Department (IBDP & IGCSE / CIE) for senior wing at Scottish High World School Gurgaon (India) from July 2009 till April 2015.

Drawing workshops and Art camps hosted by the A.F.D (French Consulate division, N Delhi), The Visual Arts gallery (I.H.C) and The Orchid resort, Rohanda (Himachal Pradesh) Scroll and Banner art with the Australian printmaker, Helen Geier (Senior lecturer at the Canberra Institute of Arts, Australia), in New Delhi. Worked at the Ghari community studios, the Print making department New Delhi 2002 – 3.

Mentions (selected)

<http://www.artjobs.com/arts/interview/natural-elements-reflect-new-understanding-universe-interview-dhara-mehrotra>

<http://theworksinteriors.com/art/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/metroplus/Enter-the-dragonfly/article14486679.ece>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/2011/aug/18/a-colourful-web-of-beautiful-imagination-282478.html>