



KATHMANDU ART BIENNALE EDITION, 2024



**kathmandu
art biennale™**

SPIRITUAL EDITION

JAN 18 - APR 18, 2024

Kathmandu Art Biennale represents the unity, celebration, and pride of a diverse and vibrant Nepali arts community.

KAB - Spiritual Edition 2024 is a celebration of living Nepali artists and the display of world-class masterpieces by Nepali artists.

The KAB - Spiritual Edition 2024 displays over 100 artworks from 80 artists. Local as well as international visitors can see, experience, learn, and discover the exciting art in Nepal, while also engaging in enriching discussions, talks, public art walks, and tours.



spirituality

/ˌspɪrɪtʃʊˈæliːti/

belief...believe

in the existence of something greater than oneself;
a realization that we are just
a tiny part of the cosmos.



PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

HONORARY EXHIBITS

TEJ BAHADUR CHITRAKAR

LAXMAN SHRESTHA

ABHIJEET PRAJAPATI

AKSHYAT TAMRAKAR

ANIL SHAKYA

ASHA DANGOL

BAL KRISHNA BANAMALA

BIKASH KALIKOTE

BINOD PRADHAN

BISHAL MAHARJAN

BISHOWMBER BASNYAT

DEVENDRA SINKHWAL

ERINA TAMRAKAR

GOPAL KALAPREMI

HARI PRASHAD SHARMA

ISHAN PARIYAR

JASMINE RAJBHANDARI

JEEVAN MOKTAN

JEEVAN RAJOPADHYAY

JUGAL RAJBHANDARI

KAPIL MANI DIXIT

KIRAN MANANDHAR

KISHORE RAJBHANDARI

KRISHNA BHAKTA

KRISHNA GOPAL SHRESTHA

KRISHNA LAMA

KUNTI SHREE THAPA MAGAR

LOK CHITRAKAR

MADAN CHITRAKAR

MAHIMA SINGH

MAN SHYAM MAHARJAN

MANISH DHOJU

MEENA KAYASTHA

MUKESH SHRESTHA

MUKTI SINGH THAPA

NABIN NALBO

NARAYAN BOHAJU

NARENDRA MALLA

NILESH SHAKYA

PRAMILA BAJRACHARYA

PRASHANT SHRESTHA

PRITHVI RAJ BOGATI

PURNA HYOJU

RABI SHRESTHA

RAJ PRAKASH MAN TULADHAR

RAJAN KUMAR PANT

RAJAN SANGACHHEN

RAJANI SINKHWAL

RAJU PITHAKOTE

RAM PRAKASH SHRESTHA

RANJU YADAV

RASHANA BAJRACHARYA

RITESH SHAHI

ROSHAN BHANDARI

ROSHAN DANGOL

SABITA DANGOL

SAGAR MANANDHAR

SAMJHANA RAJBHANDARI

SAMUNDRA MAN SINGH SHRESTHA

SEEMA SHARMA SHAH

SHARADA MAN SHRESTHA

SHREEJAN RAJBHANDARI

SUNDAR SINKHWAL

SUDARSHAN SINKHWAL

SUJAN DANGOL

SUMAN SHAKYA

SUMITRA BARAL

SURAJ BIR BAJRACHARYA

SUJIT MAHARJAN

SUNDAR LAMA

SUNNY SHAKYA

SUSHILA SINGH

UDAYA CHARAN SHRESTHA

UDDAB RAJ RIMAL

UJAY BAJRACHARYA

UMA SHANKAR SHAH

UMESH SHRESTHA

UTSAB STHAPIT

UTTAM DANGOL

YAMUNA SHRESTHA

kathmandu
art biennaleTM



HONORARY EXHIBITS

TEJ BAHADUR CHITRAKAR

Tej Bahadur Chitrakar was born in 1898 in Patan, a predominantly Buddhist town in the Kathmandu valley. His family was part of the Chitrakars, a small community of Newar ethnics who were entrusted by the state to perform art-related tasks for temples, shrines, or festivals. The Chitrakar clans were expected to learn art to perform these obligations. Tej Bahadur grew up in the house of the ruling "Thakali" of Bhimsenthan, where religious art activities were always buzzing. His curiosity led him to understand the ethos of religious art and observe individuality in the rigid tradition. The clan of Bhimsenthan was known for its fine workmanship, and the rudimentary art of photography was introduced. This unique situation led to Tej Bahadur's imagination, leading him to paint more like photos or as seen by the naked eye. This began a new era in the making, introducing 'Natural Realism' in Nepal. By 1918, Tej Bahadur decided to dedicate himself more to learning art, despite his obsession with drawing.



In the final installment of this series, "Ancestor at Work" captures Tej Bahadur Chitrakar engaged in the ritual color coating of a wood-carved image meant for a temple or shrine strut. Typically, such images in struts are meticulously painted to depict the carved deities according to iconographical details. A yet-to-be-painted tympanum is seen resting on his left wall, and two struts are positioned on the right.

The artist incorporates familiar elements in each painting, such as earthen-colored pots, straw mats, and raw wool mats, sourced directly from his own household. Another consistent feature is the depiction of a dimly lit environment, where Chitrakar strategically places certain elements in shaded areas, creating a captivating dramatic effect. The source of light is always focused solely on the main subject.

Executed in the later stages of his artistic journey, these paintings stand as some of Tej Bahadur Chitrakar's most representative works. They showcase his matured taste for subject matter, an ability to fictionalize compositions, and, above all, consummate technical skill in rendering them in pictorial form. The execution of an authentic ambiance within the subject matter attests to the exceptional quality of these works.

Title of Artwork: Ancestor at Work

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: 21.5 x 32 in

Year: 1969

Collection of Rajan Sakya

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST AKSHYAT TAMRAKAR



The artwork delves into the profound spiritual connection of South Asian communities within the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region to their ancestral land. It intricately explores the symbiotic relationship between these individuals and their environment, emphasizing the intricate tapestry of spirituality woven into their lives. This connection is not only a fundamental aspect of their cultural identity but also a source of spiritual nourishment.

The artwork serves as a poignant visual commentary on the adverse effects of climate change on the spiritual essence of the indigenous community. The changing landscape becomes a metaphorical canvas, illustrating the delicate interplay between spirituality and the environment, as the very essence of their connection is tested and transformed by external forces.

Title of Artwork: Drifting Life

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 3 x 4 ft

Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST BAL KRISHNA BANAMALA

Navadurga festival features nine Ashtamatrikas and Bhairav's presence. It features 13 Mukunds representing deities Brahma, Vishnu, and Maheshvara. Brahma symbolizes the world's origin, Vishnu - its protection, and Maheshvara - destruction. The triad symbolizes the past, present, and future of the world, depicted in a cyclical form resembling the Chakravyuha - the Spiral of Existence.

Title of Artwork: Creator, Preserver, Destroyer

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 4 x3 ft (each) round canvas

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST ISHAN PARIYAR

The artist depicts the Kathmandu Valley as a divine place with historical significance, including Bodhisattva Manjushree's settlement and unique art, architecture, and literature. The painting highlights Nepal's golden hour in photography, capturing the pictorial form of the golden era, including architecture, celebrations, and people's activities, connecting to spirituality and the divine place.

Title of Artwork: The Glorious Reminiscences

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 48 x 72 in

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection

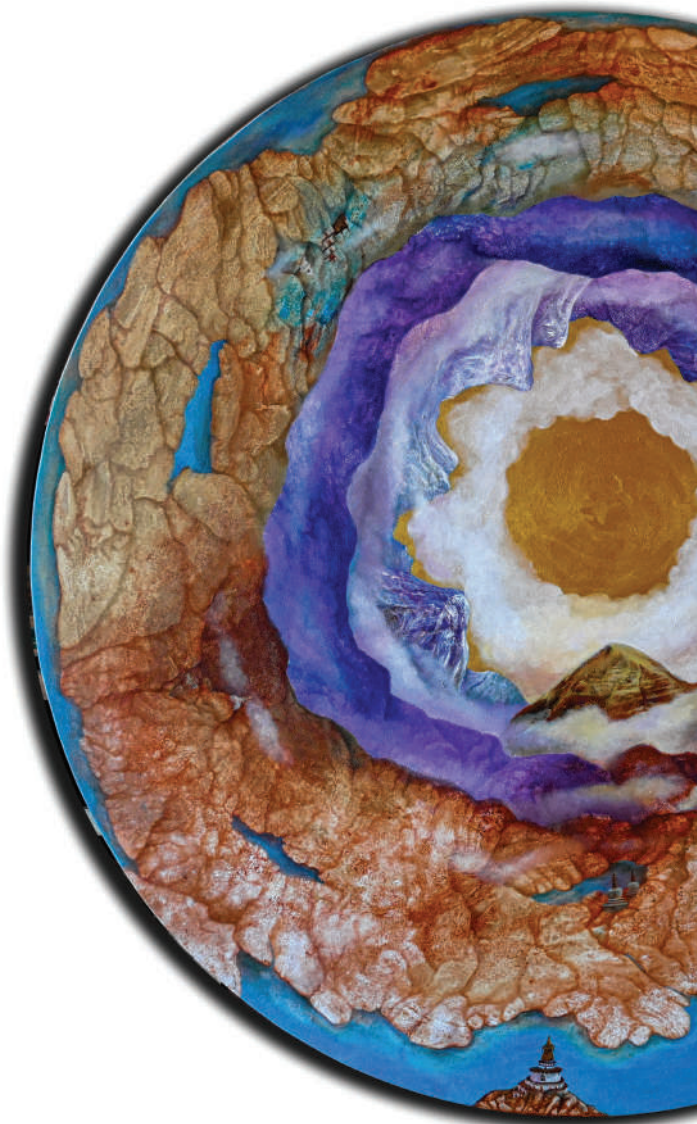
CONTEMPORARY ARTIST BINOD PRADHAN

The artist has created a stunning depiction of Nepal, a country surrounded by countless mountains that draw in tourists eager to experience their allure. He strongly believes in the necessity of preserving and maintaining this natural wonder.

In his painting, he crafted it in a round shape, which presented a significant challenge for him. As he worked on it, he experienced a mesmerizing array of emotions, and he hopes that viewers will feel the same. In this piece, he has zoomed in on the purity of mountain water as it flows from various sources, ultimately forming rivers and lakes. His representation aims to convey a sense of peace and spirituality to those who observe and contemplate it. More than that, his intention is to inspire people to understand the importance of nature and its vital role in our lives through the theme of his paintings. He hopes that people will experience a profound connection with the natural world and a sense of spirituality within it.

Title of Artwork: Sacred Realms of Himalaya
Medium: Acrylic in Canvas
Dimensions: 5.5 x 5.5 ft
Year: 2023

Artist's Collection



TRADITIONAL ARTIST JEEVAN MOKTAN

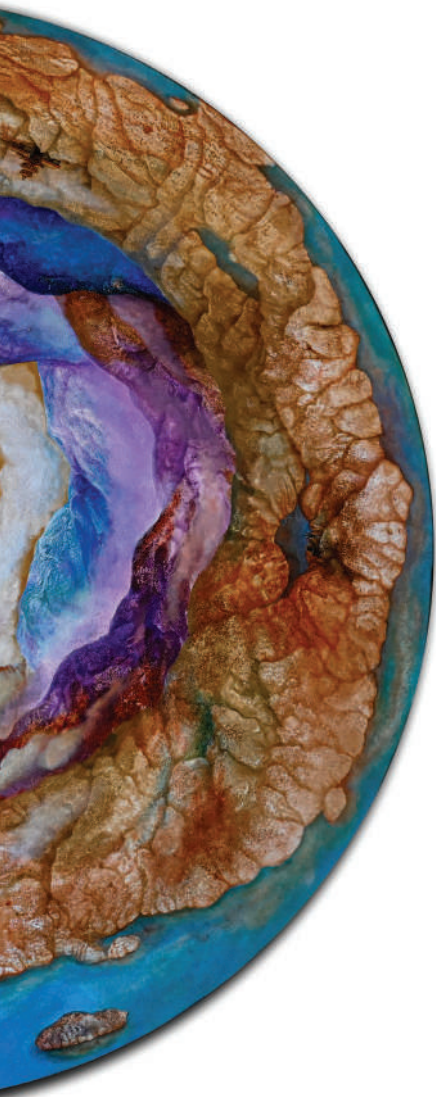
Kathmandu Art Biennale's Spiritual Edition, the artist meticulously captures the essence of Green Tara, a revered figure embodying compassion and swift intervention. The depiction showcases Green Tara in a contemplative posture, adorned with celestial ornaments and a regal crown, emphasizing her divine attributes.

The symbolism of the emerald hue conveys her connection to nature, representing renewal and abundant life. The intricacy of the lotus beneath her underscores the theme of purity emerging from life's complexities. Through refined brushstrokes, the artist skillfully renders the flowing garments, infusing the portrayal with a sense of grace.

Title of Artwork: Green Tara
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Dimensions: 4 x 5 ft
Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya





CONTEMPORARY ARTIST BISHWOMBER BASNET

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Title of Artwork: The Gandharva

Medium: Bronze, Copper, Gi wire

Dimensions: 4 x 3 x 3 ft

Year: 2023

Picture taken during creation

Artist's Collection

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST KIRAN MANANDHAR



The artist engages in a profound artistic exploration, aiming to fathom both his own identity and the world. They employ the classical elements – air, water, earth, fire, and sky – each imbued with distinctive characteristics, using diverse strokes and materials. Color is harnessed to convey these elements visually and emotionally. In his pursuit of the elusive 'Nirajan Nirakar,' beyond comprehension, he experiments with materials, perceiving their existence within nature and fostering creative processes. This journey encapsulates an intimate quest for self-discovery and a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of life within the ecosystem, where the artist strives to convey his experiences on the canvas.

Title of Artwork: Pancha Tatva
Medium: Jute Copper Printed Cloths on Canvas
Dimensions: 5 x 7 ft
Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST

KISHOR RAJBHANDARI



The artist engages in a profound artistic exploration, aiming to fathom both his own identity and the world. They employ the classical elements – air, water, earth, fire, and sky – each imbued with distinctive characteristics, using diverse strokes and materials. Color is harnessed to convey these elements visually and emotionally. In his pursuit of the elusive 'Nirajan Nirakar,' beyond comprehension, he experiments with materials, perceiving their existence within nature and fostering creative processes. This journey encapsulates an intimate quest for self-discovery and a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of life within the ecosystem, where the artist strives to convey his experiences on the canvas.

Title of Artwork: Indrayani

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 16 x 20 in

Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST

MADAN CHITRAKAR

Chitrakar's current works are inspired by cultural motifs from his childhood, which have always fascinated them. He have recently explored these motifs in his canvasses, focusing on their mystic beauty. The chosen motifs include stone guardian lions and other mythical creatures found in the Kathmandu Valley. These forms are distinct from the natural world and are not found in our real world. The artist aims to show these motifs in various forms and settings, allowing viewers to enjoy their imagination and the fantasy of their imaginative world.

Title of Artwork: The Divine Creatures

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 58 x 38.5 in

Year: 2019

Collection of Rajan Sakya

HYPERREALISM ARTIST MANISH DHOJU



Nepalese art, particularly the Newari architecture's "San Jhya" window, is a unique and beautiful blend of Hindu and Buddhist symbols. The royal window at Patan's palace, crafted from wood and gold-plated brass, features three distinct bays: two wooden outer bays and a central bay adorned with intricate gold-plated metalwork. The central bay features Shristikanta Lokesvara, surrounded by Hindu deities and celestial entities. The Torana above features Uma Maheswor, surrounded by revered deities. The window's design evokes limitless grandeur and embodies Nepalese culture and spirituality, offering inspiration to artists and admirers.

Title of Artwork: Royal Gold Window
Medium: Graphite and Charcoal Mixed
Dimensions: 6 x 4 ft
Year: 2023

Collection of Timothy Baxter



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST MAHIMA SINGH

Singh explores a concept in Buddhism, a philosophy that encourages minimalism and detachment from materialism, through her installation art. The artwork questions consumerism and its impact on society, using materials that promote sustainability and eco-friendliness. The aim is to encourage viewers to consider the environmental and spiritual costs of their choices.

The artist uses shadow art to express their concept of repurposing and discarded clothing, highlighting the impermanence of material possessions. The installations draw attention to the shadow in the form of Buddha during his first sermon, inviting viewers to examine their consumption patterns and embrace simplicity. Her work challenges the status quo, questions the ethics of fast fashion, and invites us to rediscover the beauty of simplicity and inner peace that comes from embracing a life with less material clutter.

Title of Artwork: Transcendence Through Simplicity

Medium: Installation

Dimensions: 5 x 5 ft

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST MEENA KAYASTHA

The mural art work “Gham Pani Gham Pani Syal ko Bihey” is a representation of Nepali folklore, focusing on the story of a jackal tricking animals into helping him get married. The piece aims to present the merry atmosphere of the wedding rather than delving into the oral tradition. The monsoon rain reminds the artist of their childhood, with friends and friends singing and dancing together during the sun-shower. The piece represents and celebrates Nepali folklore and culture, appealing to a wide range of audiences. The palette of color creates the effect of a sun-shower, and the artist showcases their creativity in character design using Papier Mache and discarded items. The mural aims to carry the artist’s childhood monsoon memories throughout their life, showcasing their creativity and capturing the essence of the story.

Title of Artwork: Gham Pani Gham Pani Syal Ko Bihey

Medium: Papier Mache on Plywood and Discarded Elements

Dimensions: 4 x 8 ft

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection



TRADITIONAL ARTIST MUKTI SINGH THAPA

Samaya Tara Yogini, a dark green deity in Vajrayana Buddhist tradition, is described as having a face with three eyes and eight hands. She holds an arrow, a Damaru, a knife, and a mudra of generosity. Her left hands hold a lotus blossom, a bow, a trident, and a skullcup. She wears a tiara made of five skulls, gold earrings, bracelets, anklets, and a necklace of fifty heads. She sits on a sun disc and lotus seat, with her foot on a flower blossom. Her serene posture is surrounded by the flames of pristine awareness, creating a powerful representation. She is a semi-wrathful form of the compassionate goddess Tara showcasing the destructive process involved in achieving enlightenment.

Title of Artwork: Samaya Yogini Tara
Medium: Mineral and Gold on Cotton Canvas
Dimensions: 76 x 101 cm
Year: 2017

Collection of Rajan Sakya



TRADITIONAL ARTIST HARI PRASHAD SHARMA

The painting depicts the spirituality of the Kumari tradition in Kathmandu Valley, where Jaya Prakash Malla, the last Malla king of Kantipur, was a devotee of Goddess Taleju Bhawani. Legend has it that she would appear in human form to play dice with Jaya Prakash Malla, but stopped due to the lewd thoughts of the king. In a dream, she told the king she would enter into Goddess Kumari, a prepubescent girl with thirty-two auspicious qualities. The painting creates an intimate environment in the king's bedchamber, revealing her beauty through soft features and adornments. The painting also features weapons hanging on the bedroom wall, reflecting precautions taken against conspiracies and strife.

Title of Artwork: Jaya Prakash Malla and Taleju Bhawani
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: 37 x 27 in
Year: 2007

Artist's Collection



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST RAJAN KUMAR PANT

Kathmandu, a city chosen by the gods to reside, comes alive during the vibrant festival of Indraajatra. The entire enchanting city resonates with myriad happenings, as gods and goddesses grace the occasion with their divine dances. In my painting, I transform the foreground into a sacred platform where a multitude of icons joyously perform their celestial dances.

During this festive celebration, deities from neighboring towns like Bhaktapur and Patan gather to witness and partake in the divine performances. In my imagination, I envision Kathmandu as a city of gods, devoid of human presence, where the spiritual energy flows unbridled. *"Manis haraidiye yo sahar Dev Devi le bharinchan jasto lagcha"* - a city adorned with divine jewels, it seems, as gods and goddesses fill its streets with their celestial presence.

Title of Artwork: Parijat ko Rukh
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Dimensions: 6 x 4 ft
Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya



TRADITIONAL ARTIST UDAYA CHARAN SHRESTHA

The Gayatri Mantra is a Vedic chant dedicated to the Hindu deity Gayatri, symbolizing enlightenment and understanding life's fundamental realities. The artwork depicts Gayatri with five countenances representing five elements, including pearl, coral, gold, sapphire, and diamond. However, Udaya Charan Shrestha's painting of Gayatri differs from Sanskrit verses due to disordered countenance arrangement. The artwork features Gayatri wielding ten arms and various attributes, including the crescent moon.

Title of Artwork: Gayatri
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: 68 x 48.5 cm
Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya



TRADITIONAL ARTIST RAJ PRAKASH MAN TULADHAR

Chakrasamvara, a deity in Vajrayana Buddhism, is a meditational deity representing enlightened qualities. The name translates to "Wheel of Bliss" in Sanskrit, symbolizing the union of wisdom and compassion. Chakrasamvara is often depicted in a passionate embrace with his consort, Vajravarahi, symbolizing the union of male and female energies. The practice of Chakrasamvara is central to the Newar Vajrayana and Tibetan Buddhist traditions, Devotees engage in rituals, visualizations, and mantra recitations to deepen their connection with Chakrasamvara.

Title of Artwork: Chakrasamvara
Medium: Gouache on Cotton Canvas
Dimensions: 35 x 26 in
Year: 2023

*Picture taken during creation
Artist's Collection*



NEO TRADITIONAL ARTIST SAMUNDRA MAN SINGH SHRESTHA

Tantric practices are deeply connected to the journey towards enlightenment. The Sri Saundarya Lahari, also known as Yantra Sarvasva, is a section of the Sri Yantra where Lord Shiva instructs Goddess Parvati about the sacred tenets and dimensions. Understanding Shiva is crucial to enlightenment. To comprehend Shiva, one must recognize and embody Shakti, a characteristic denoted as Prakasha and Vimarsha. Shakti is seen as an energy of creation, cosmic force, or inherent energy within us. The Sri Yantra is composed of nine interlocking triangles, with the central triangle representing Shiva and the Bindu representing the latent embodiment of the goddess. Through meditative techniques, enlightenment can be achieved.

Title of Artwork: Yantra Sarvasva
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: 3.5 x 4.5 ft
Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya

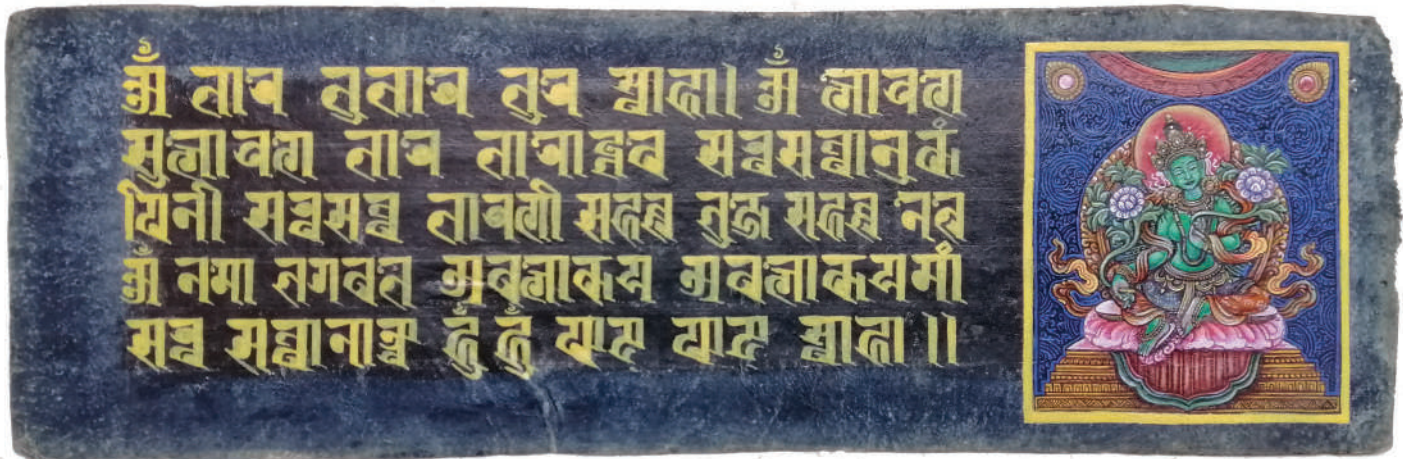
TRADITIONAL ARTIST UTSAB SHAPIT

Gunla, a significant eventful month in Newar Buddhism, involves scripture recitation, fasting, and visits to cultural sites with devotional music. It addresses issues caused by excessive rain and involves Bahidyah Bwayegu, a ceremony involving Dipankara Buddha and paubha paintings in sacred courtyards. This painting, created from 2018 to 2023, captures the essence of this ceremony and the memory of the Dipankara Buddha. The painting showcases hanging Bodhisattvas, chaitya, and paubhas, surrounded by other Buddhist deities and offerings. The painting encapsulates the richness of Newar Buddhist culture and preserves traditions for generations.

Title of Artwork: Bahidyah Boyegu
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Dimensions: 60 x 57 cm
Year: 2023

Artist's Collection





TRADITIONAL ARTIST

UJAY BAJRACHARYA

Manjusri, the Bodhisattva of Wisdom, is depicted on a lotus throne, holding the sacred scripture "Prajna paramita" and a flaming sword. According to the Svayambhu Purana, he and his consorts, Varada and Mokshada, migrated from Wutai San mountain to the lake Kalidaha, now Kathmandu Valley. They drained the lake to create a place for human beings to practice meritorious acts for perfect enlightenment. Wisdom, compassion, and skillful means to benefit all sentient beings are considered qualities of the fully enlightened mind. To attain Buddhahood, one must be perfect on the six perfections, with wisdom being the major perfection. Manjusri Bodhisattva is also worshipped as an image of speech by Newa Buddhists in Kathmandu Valley. His mantra, "Om Namo Vagisvaraya," is believed to enhance memory, writing, and explaining capacity.

Title of Artwork: Green Tara Manuscript

Medium: Acrylic & Gold on Nilpatra

Dimensions: 7.4 x 24 cm

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST

ROSHAN DANGOL

The Haku Patashi, a traditional uniform for the Newari female community, is a symbol of unity and identity. The artist's portrait painting explores the enigmatic nature of this traditional attire, concealing the subject's face and allowing the viewer to imagine themselves as a sister or daughter. The subtle red powder falling from the subject's hand signifies the fading tradition, while the dark background leaves a void. The artist selectively reveals only a fraction of the subject, enhancing the enigmatic quality and highlighting the diminishing presence of traditional attire and its impact on cultural heritage.

Title of Artwork: Meiju

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: 2 x 3 ft

Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST SUSHILA SINGH

'Mana Pathi' is an art installation that explores the heart of cultural heritage, featuring sculpted earthen pots representing essential aspects of measurement. The collection is a tribute to Nepali traditional units of measurement,



Mano and Pathi, which represent the equivalent of 10 muthi and eight Mana respectively. The installation also features two other traditional utensils, Golpa and Taukhola, symbolizing the fusion of spiritual reverence and practical utility in ancient Nepali culture. The art installation serves a critical purpose of preservation, reminding viewers to measure themselves against the values, respect, and love they hold for their roots. 'Mana Pathi' is more than an exhibition; it's a call to honor our cultural lineage and celebrate the beauty of our heritage.

Title of Artwork: Mana Pathi, measure of memories

Medium: Ceramics & Gold, Installation

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST NILESH SHAKYA

The artwork, titled 'Shunyata', explores the philosophy of Buddha, focusing on the existence of elements. According to Buddhism, elements are conceptual constructions, impermanent collections of causes and effects. The artwork aims to explain the four kinds of elements: earth, water, air, and fire. The aim is to learn and express the philosophy of 'Shunyata' in a simple way, highlighting the importance of understanding the Buddha's teachings. The artist has created a sculptural composition using stone and metal, featuring a combination of the 'Shunyata' symbol and Dhyana Mudra hands. The artwork will be etched with four elements, earth, water, air, and fire, to introduce Buddha's philosophy of truth in a simple way. The artwork aims to re-introduce Buddha's teachings to the public.

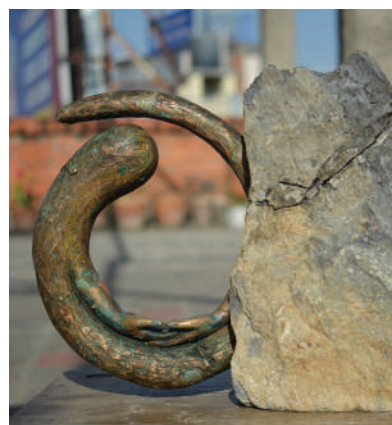
Title of Artwork: Shunyata (emptiness)

Medium: Stone and Brass

Dimensions: Approx. 1 ft without pedestal

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection





CONTEMPORARY ARTIST RASHANA BAJRACHARYA

"The Birth of Fear" is an adaptation of Sandro Botticelli's iconic painting, The Birth of Venus, which depicts fear and distress among women due to rape culture. The painting highlights the fear and distress women often experience, particularly when traveling alone during nighttime. The painting highlights the reasons behind women's fear and challenges those who claim women's cowardice. The painting, an adaptation of Sandro Botticelli's "The Birth of Venus," features Zephyrus, a wind god, as a character who raped and married Chloris, symbolizing women facing harassment. The style is a blend of classical and Gothic.

Title of Artwork: The Birth of Fear

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: 5 x 3 ft

Year: 2023

Collection of Rajan Sakya



CONTEMPORARY ARTIST KRISHNA LAMA

There are many different types of desire: the material desire for material goods, the bodily desire for comfort or pleasure, the emotional desire for love and connection, and the intellectual desire for information and insight. Depending on their beliefs, passions, and life experiences, individuals may have varied desires. The artist is attempting to make a mental connection between the various avatars of Vishnu who descend to reinstate cosmic order and desire. The inspiration derived from positive desire is noteworthy. However, issues with desire can also arise and therefore desire for betterment should be pursued but detachment to the objects of desire is important.

Title of Artwork: Desire And Avatars

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 4 x 4 ft

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection



The painting depicts Lakshmi and Vishnu cleaning each other's feet, promoting positive spiritual thinking. The artist is incorporating Lord Vishnu and Lakshmi into a contemporary scene for the Kathmandu Art Biennale. The main theme is Lakshmi pressing Vishnu's feet, a mudra often seen sitting on a snake's body. The painting is a different posture, sitting on a sofa in a room, resulting in a more friendly and affectionate atmosphere. The painting emphasizes the importance of positive thoughts and attitudes in spiritual thinking.

Title of Artwork: Embrace the Power of Positivity

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 60 x 36 in

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST SABITA DANGOL

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST UDDAB RAJ RIMAL 'URRIMAL'

The artwork celebrates self-discovery and harmony, showcasing the joy of embracing unity and individuality. The use of human gestures, nude forms, and elegant dressing styles symbolize individuality. The cityscape and nature invite viewers to contemplate the world, while gradient fill enhances depth and rhythm. A cool-colored background creates a calm atmosphere, inviting viewers to explore the interconnectedness of self and surroundings.

Title of Artwork: The Inner Joy

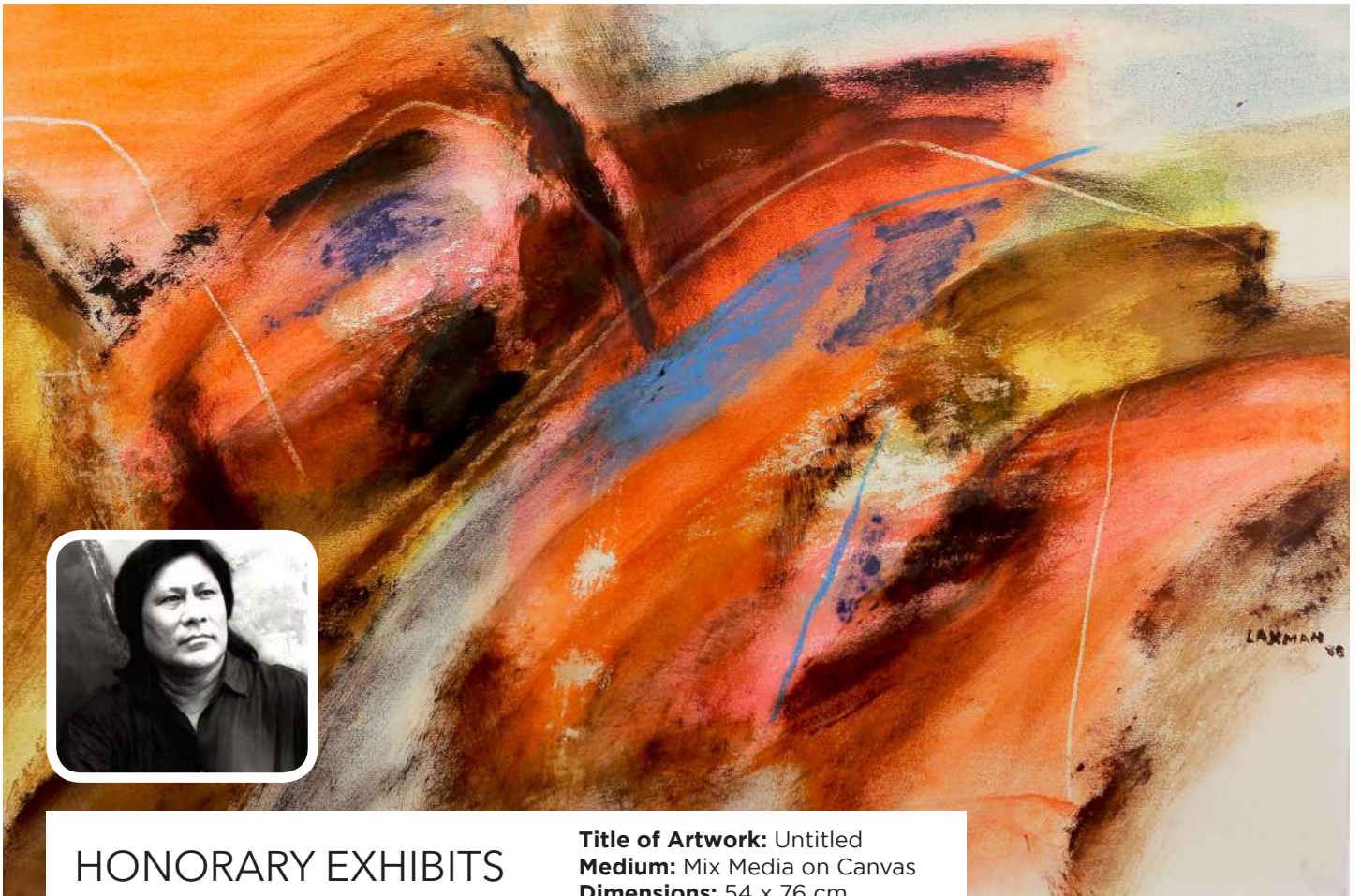
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Dimensions: 48 x 36 in

Year: 2023

Artist's Collection





HONORARY EXHIBITS LAXMAN SHRESTHA

Title of Artwork: Untitled
Medium: Mix Media on Canvas
Dimensions: 54 x 76 cm
Year: 1988
Collection of Rajan Sakya

CURATORIAL STATEMENT

At this time, human creativity is more important than ever. We are living in a world of singularity, as Artificial Intelligence (AI) competes with every aspect of the human way of life. AI is fast evolving, and the only way we can compete with it is by inspiring human creativity and creators.

With the theme of "Spirituality", Kathmandu Art Biennale 2024 is curated. This edition will exhibit never-before-seen Paubhas, Thangkas, Contemporary, Abstract, Statues & Installations by living master artists.

The two greatest attributes of Nepal are the Himalaya and its culture, which can easily be understood as the body and soul of this great nation and its people. Our art is the greatest representation of our culture, therefore the establishment of this museum at this time has become more critical than ever. This exhibition represents that aspect of individuality, communality and nationality through art.

As the world is turning into a global village, our culture and traditions are being lost. This exhibition intends to reconnect and reintegrate lost traditions, and also try to bring distanced generations closer together. Through this exhibitions, we hope to create a bridge and kindle a better understanding within communities through spirituality.

This "Festival" is a celebration of Nepali art, the pride of every Nepali, and acts as a guide to foreigners in understanding us, explaining: "Why we are the way we are." MoNA hopes to revive traditional art, give freedom to neo-traditional art, and explore inventiveness in contemporary art through realization.

Rajan Sakya
Founding Director
Museum of Nepali Art (MoNA)

