

The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art
Presents

THE SHIFTING HORIZON
From the KNMA Collection

Artists: Ganesh Haloi | GR Iranna | Pooja Iranna | Ram Kumar
Sheila Makhijani | SH Raza | V Viswanadhan | Yamini Nayar

at The Alley, Quorum Club, Gurgaon
18 April 2018 | Open for Quorum Members

At the occasion of the inaugural year of Quorum, the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) is pleased to present this special exhibition of artworks by renowned Indian artists from the museum's permanent collection.

Curatorially, the selection has focused on the unique tendency of the chosen art works to drift away from a defined narrative or image and instead play with marks and traces, impressions, imprints and geometries. The exposition celebrates the creative, free-spirited, meditative and emancipatory nature of art, exploring meandering lines, richness of textures and colour, distillation of thoughts, and open-endedness that encourages dialogue. It showcases artworks that use the visual language of abstraction in different mediums like oil on canvas, collage, drawing and sculptural form, and unconventional materials such as stapler pins and ash. There are subtle evocations of symbolism expressing personal angst as well as spiritual mediations by artists.

The exhibition begins with the paintings of modernist masters **S.H. Raza** (1922 - 2016) and **Ram Kumar** (1924 - 2018) who had their art education in Paris, and were deeply inspired by the modernist abstraction in the Western art. However, both artists created their own aesthetics in relation to the Indian landscapes and textures. While Raza's 'Blue' painting creates a mysterious depth using transparent layers of different shades of blue, Ram Kumar's intimate landscapes are evocative of Nature with a sharp awareness.

The watercolours and tempera works by **Viswanadhan** (b.1940) and **Ganesh Haloi** (b. 1936) explore expressive geometries, ritualistic diagrams, impressions and prismatic planes, creating emotional fields or symbolic terrains, emphasizing a shifting horizon. The experimental works of contemporary women artists like **Sheila Makhijani** (b.1962), **Yamini Nayar** (b. 1975) and **Pooja Iranna** (b.1969) created poetic spaces and structures with broken lines, imaginary interiors made with collages of photographic prints, and miniature built structures made of stapler-pins. Facing this orchestration is the huge diptych canvas 'Ethereal Tree' by **GR Iranna** (b.1970) that fills one with a sense of wonder and humility. The massive ancient old tree he painted using ash, becomes a silent witness, an observer, and an abstract presence that one cannot escape.