

[FOR PRESS]

The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art presents

NEW CONFIGURATIONS

Vignettes from the collection in recent years



Arpita Singh

A Ramachandran | Aisha Khalid | Akbar Padamsee | Arpana Caur | Arpita Singh | Avinash Chandra | Ayesha Sultana | Biren De | FN Souza | GR Iranna | Gulammohammed Sheikh | Hema Upadhyay | Himmat Shah | Imran Qureshi | J Sultan Ali | Jagannath Panda | Jamini Roy | Jayashree Chakravarty | Jehangir Sabavala | KK Hebbar | K.Laxma Goud | Krishen

Khanna | Laxman Pai | Mohan Samant | Meera Mukherjee |
Mrinalini Mukherjee | Nalini Malani | Nilima Sheikh | Prabhakar
Barwe | Priya Ravish Mehra | Pushpamala N | Ram Kumar |
Reddeppa Naidu | Rekha Rodwittiya | Somnath Hore |
Surendran Nair | Tyeb Mehta | V Ramesh | Zarina

Preview: April 26, 2018, Thursday, 6.30 - 10.00 pm

KNMA NOIDA, Plot 3A, Sector 126, Noida

Exhibition Dates: April 27 – July 31, 2018

The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) is pleased to present a special exhibition that displays for the first time recent acquisitions from the museum's permanent collection.

It is dedicated to the memory of eminent artist Ram Kumar who passed away recently at the age of 96.

The idea of displaying a selected cluster of works from the permanent collection is also an opportunity for us to review and rethink the new configurations that emerge as we build upon the existing one, often helping us locate a unique, and at times a changing focus, while reflecting on the creative breadth of artists and the historical context of the art we collect. The need to nurture this in depth and breadth, is also to enhance the possibility of a multi-dimensional perspective over a linear and limiting one, and be able to present the complex diversity of Indian contemporary artistic practice.

'New Configurations' highlights as well as elaborates upon several areas of interest and engagement - the aspect of the

performative and the theatrical, mythologies reimagined, the dominant subject of violence, death and destruction, the contemporary use of indigenous forms of craft and rustic, sensuous materiality, language and form of abstraction across generations, along with consolidating the forte of seminal modernist works from the post-Independence decades of India in the KNMA Collection.

Kiran Nadar, leading art collector in India and Chairperson of KNMA says, “Collecting art for the museum has been an exciting undertaking, especially sourcing and finding works that fill the gaps in the collection as well as help consolidate and expand the collection through areas of contemporary engagement. It is indeed encouraging to see viewer’s responses and deep interest in viewing the works.”

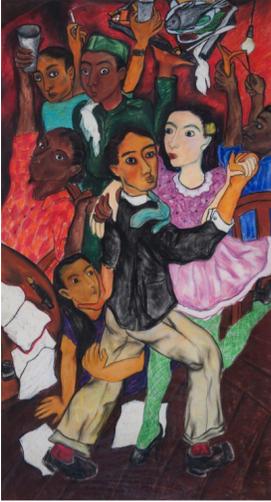


Krishen Khanna *Pieta*

Building a museum collection is an ongoing process that creates occasions for both planned and chance encounters between artists, histories and art objects. The KNMA collection is focused on 20th century modern and contemporary art from India and the subcontinent with more than 4000 artworks and 400 artists. Each new acquisition enters a complex meshwork of other artworks, time-periods and art historical relationships within the collection, opening new areas of inquiry and focus.

The exhibition 'New Configurations' displays a cross section of diverse practices of modern and contemporary artists from South Asia. Hinting at the process of sourcing and discovering relevant artworks that fill the gaps within the collection, the exhibition plays with chronology, hierarchies, stories, instances, and allows newer approaches to engage with the collection and art history.

This exposition puts on display many important artworks such as Krishen Khanna's *Pieta* (1988), *Che Dead* (1970), Mrinalini Mukherjee's *Van Raja* (1991-94), KK Hebbar's *The Tile Factory*, Nalini Malani's *Ecstasy of Radha*, Arpita Singh, Akbar Padamsee's and Ram Kumar's early works. Among contemporary artists are Hema Upadhyay's last work *Home*, Pushpamala's *Avega*, Imran Qureshi's *You who are my love and my life's enemy too* etc. It encourages participation and dialogue with the collection.



Rekha Rodwittiya

According to Roobina Karode, Director & Chief-curator, “KNMA’s exhibition program has been dynamic, oscillating between dedicated retrospectives of eminent artists, temporary exhibitions on varied thematic subjects and exhibitions dedicated to the museum’s permanent collection. This is a periodic undertaking and drawing out works from the recent acquisitions helps us assess the blue print that is emerging of the growing museum collection.

Roobina Karode
Director& Chief Curator
Kiran Nadar Museum of Art

