

TOWARDS MODERNISM: ART OF INDIA FROM 1950 TO 1990

Speaker: Sneha Ragavan, AAA Researcher

I. Background: Late 19th century-1950s

Keywords:

Colonialism

Pre-colonial period

Ajanta cave painting

Miniature painting tradition

Colonial period

East India Company and the Company School

Academic art

Mythology, religion, nationalism as themes

The Bengal School

Revivalism

Santiniketan Art School

Pan Asianism

Kalighat bazaar paintings

Indian Independence and the Partition

Post-independence

Progressive Artists Associations

Internationalism

Abstraction

Artists/Artworks:

Raja Ravi Varma

Sakuntala, 1901

Goddess Saraswathi, 1896

Portrait of a Lady, around 1900

M.V. Dhurandhar (Mahadev Viswanath Dhurandhar)

Abanindranath Tagore

Rabindranath Tagore

Muhamad Abdur Rahman Chughtai (Abdur Rahman Chughtai)

Lonely Ranjha, 1930-1950

Nandalal Bose

Sati, 1908

Benodebehari Mukherjee

Ramkinkar Baij

Jamini Roy

Angel and Madonna, 1910

Bengali Lady, 1920-1930

Amrita Sher-Gil

Self-portrait, 1930

Self-portrait, 1935

The Brides Toilet, 1937

The Brahmacharis, 1937

M.F. Husain

Portrait of F.N. Souza

Horses

Last Supper in Red Desert

Mother Teresa

F.N. Souza

The Crucifixion

The Death of the Pope, 1962

S.H. Raza

II. The Baroda School: 1950-1950

Keywords:

Alternative pedagogies

Living traditions

Folk art

Fine arts fair

Experimentation with new art forms/media/techniques

Hemp

Terracotta

Mural

Sand-casting

Roopankar Museum in Bhopal

Artists/Artworks:

Jyoti Bhatt, photographs of living traditions of India in 1960s-1990s

K.G. Subramanyan

Gulam Sheikh (Gulammohammed Sheikh)

Bhupen Khakhar

Mrinalini Mukherjee

III. The Modern Artists as Travellers

Keywords:

Documentations of Indian living traditions

Documentation of art events

Learning new techniques and ideas from abroad

The first etching press in Baroda

Building a visual art archive in Baroda

Influences/traces of foreign aesthetics, traditions and motifs

Artists/Artworks:

Amerita Sher-Gil

Progressive Artists Association

Jyoti Bhatt

Vivan Sundaram

Neurda Portrait, 1972

Question Salt of the Highways (part of "The Heights of Macchu Picchu" series),
1972

Untitled (part of the "Mexico" series), 1978

Elephanta, 1965

Gulam Sheikh (Gulammohammed Sheikh)

Returning Home after Long Absence, 1969-1973

Beyond the Ridge, 1975-1976

Red Wall, 1978

Kaavad: Travelling Shrine (Home), 2002-2004

IV. 1980 onwards

Keywords:

Baroda Narrative/Figurative

Place for People, 1981

Indian Radical Painters' and Sculptors' Association

Economic liberalisation

Open economy and open markets

Art gallery

New art forms/practices

Photography

Installation

New media art

Video art

Artists/Artworks:

Gulam Sheikh (Gulammohammed Sheikh)

Vivan Sundaram

Sudhir Patwardhan

Nalini Malani

Bhupen Khakhar

Jogen Chowdhury

K.P. Krishnakumar

Vasco de Gama, 1985

Alex Mathew

Man Sleeping, 1984-1984

N.N. Rimzon