

ΕΙΣΑΑΣ



Credits

Event concept, curation & design of sarees and accessories
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Technical Design Development
Raghunath Haldar

Production
Keshav Majumdar

Catalogue design
Kamal Purna Jammual

Photographs
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The Ekaya Store



The Ehsaas of Creation

Enthralling, seductive and captivating, India's textile heritage is legendary as it is enigmatic. Countless influences of empires and cultures notwithstanding, it has retained its unmistakable flavour, essential richness and charisma. Alongside has endured the Indian fixation with the eternal drape of the saree. At the forefront of this dance of creation is Ekaya with its spectacular array of forms and styles that have been honed to perfection.

We at Ekaya have been paying homage to the Indian craftsmen who are the original designers of sarees as they were created in their glorious splendour, delicately preserved and handed down over generations. We have been seamlessly amalgamating art, craft and design together in a spectacular interplay of colour and form. Our endeavour is to present these ancient living traditions of Indian craft in their pristine configurations.

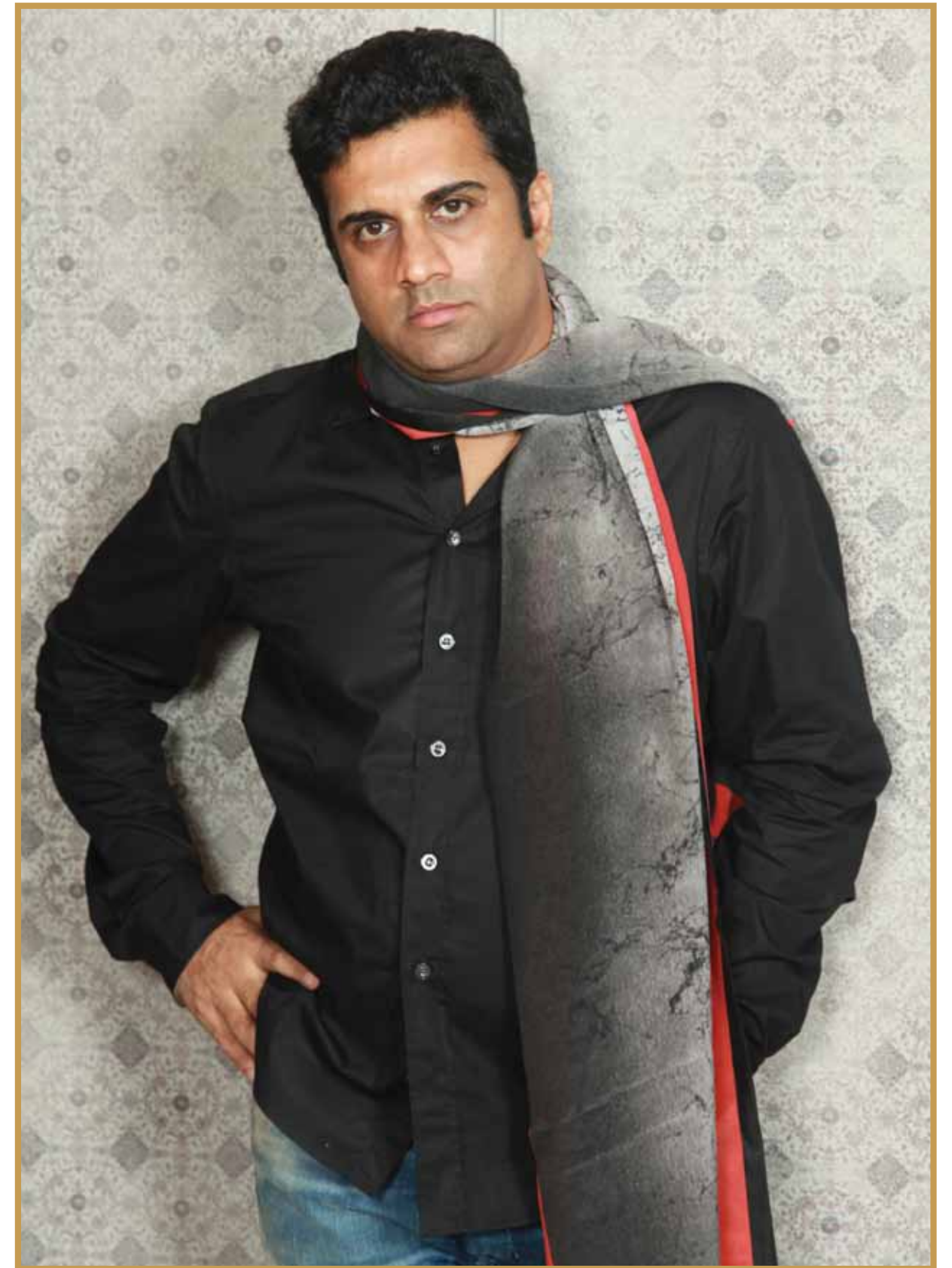
The Ehsaas series of sarees and accessories are unique in the sense that the paintings of five remarkably creative artists: Niren Sengupta, Alka Raghuvanshi, Shridhar Iyer, Sanjay Bhattacharya and Manisha Gawade have been specially juxtaposed in consonance, digitally recreated on hand woven silk and highlighted. The series and the spectacular event has been conceptualized by the amazingly multi-faceted senior art writer, curator, artist

and now designer Dr Alka Raghuvanshi. Her love for Indian art and heritage, is most admirable and worthy of emulation as is her deep understanding of Indian aesthetics and colour. We are extremely delighted and honoured that so many artists and artistes have converged like a glittering array of many moons to be part of Ehsaas.

We look at the saree as the epitome of femininity and sincerely hope that it will adorn our coming generations as well. For we believe that it is our responsibility to preserve and pass on our heritage, culture, textiles and most importantly our art to the next generation. Ehsaas is our attempt to contemporise the saree and enthuse and inspire the coming generation to flaunt this timeless unstitched six yards.

With the Indian woman as our inspirational mainstay, Ekaya blends ancient art with an eclectic vision to emphasise craftsmanship and lend it the necessary impetus. It is our deepest desire that the sari continues to be an integral part of the Indian woman's wardrobe. This conviction has led us on a fascinating journey where the saree's uncluttered grace yet sensuous ripples has moved us and held its own in the world of contemporary fashion.

Deepak Shah
Director Ekaya



Deepak Shah, Director Ekaya
Stole created from the painting From The Mists of Time by Manisha Gawade

The Rustle of Ehsaas...

When Kabir, the nirgun bhakti poet wove cloth, he likened the human body as the ultimate “chola” and the warp and weft the inseparable part of life’s journey. When Draupadi was being disrobed in the Kuru sabha, she prays to Lord Krishna to come and envelop her and save her honour. The philosophical dimension of the clothes as the ostensible outer covering has had several layers of meanings in the Indian spiritual context.

Ehsaas, is envisaged as a unique a multi-media confluence of art, design, music and dance, where the four forms converge. For the first time in recent history, Ehsaas will bring together nearly 31 top dancers, musicians, painters and theatre who walk the ramp at this inimitable event.

About 50 paintings of some of the most respected contemporary artists Alka Raghuvanshi, Shridhar Iyer, Niren Sengupta, Sanjay Bhattacharya and Manisha Gawade is the link that brings them together. The works of wearable art have been specially recreated by transposing them on to hand woven fabric to create contemporary couture. The core of the Ehsaas series are stunning and dramatic limited edition sarees and rare and spectacular accessories including stoles, ties and handbags.

In this flowing together of art and fashion, the voyage of exploring contemporary aesthetic reality, wherein creative impulses going beyond the conventional art forms are welcomed and supported. In this case, combining art with fashion is indicative and representative of modern aesthetics that as much define the maturity of a people as art.

Presented by Ekaya and curated and designed by Dr Alka Raghuvanshi, the greats of the arts who are icons in their own right, walk the ramp to specially created compositions to bring alive the various layers of context and meanings. All the arts have a shared heritage and in Ehsaas they converge seamlessly. It is perhaps the first-ever serious attempt to use contemporary art to create works of wearable art for connoisseurs.



Left to Right Niren Sengupta, Sanjay Bhattacharya, Alka Raghuvanshi, Shridhar Iyer, Manisha Gawade

The sensuous Ehsaas of art

It all started one winter evening when I looked at my absolutely beautiful, enviable and considerable collection of extraordinary sarees and grimaced for there was not one that I wanted to wear. But then most women will tell you that this is perfectly normal! My penchant for stunning and unusual sarees is well known. I am willing to walk (metaphorically now) any amount to find THE saree.

My pursuit for the eternal perfect saree has taken me all across the country from Chanderi, Maheshwar, Lucknow, Banaras, Srinagar, Imphal, Kanchipuram, Arni, Masulipatnam, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Mysore, Barmer, Jodhpur, Benaras, Calicut, Nowgong, Uppada, Poochampalli, Murshidabad, Dhokekhali, Cuttack to Behrampur and Narayanpet among several other places that I am unable to even recall! I can say in all honesty and certain amount of pride that I have an enviable anthology of sarees – some never worn but acquired only to “complete” the list of woven, embroidered, painted and printed sarees from each region of the country.

This lure and deep romance for the ultimate unstitched cloth – the saree – has been academically riveting as it has been

aesthetically gratifying and emotionally rejuvenating. For acquiring a saree is an act of catharsis for me – I have acquired sarees when I was happy and elated, miserable and down in the dumps, for occasions or for no reason at all. In emotional terms, in the folds of each saree are engulfed memories that have held me like dream catchers. And every time I have worn any saree, it has brought back the thrill and elation that I felt when I first acquired it. The types and styles of my sarees and my definition of perfect differed from phase to phase but the quest for perfection of aesthetics was a constant.

The other area of deep interest and aesthetic gratification is art. For nearly three decades I have been writing, curating and creating art. I have seen and experienced vast number of works over the years and there have been times when I wished I could wrap myself in not only my paintings but those of some fellow painters as well! It is my conviction that art can and should permeate every aspect of life.

Deepak Shah and his elder brother Bharat Shah loved the idea of creating works of wearable art and this year-long journey began. Obviously such a project couldn't have happened to such amazing results without all of us working in tune with each other. Impelled by my own song, which found an incredible echo in Deepak's, who took keen interest in each detail of the project, gave valuable inputs, unstinted support and most importantly, belief in the project kept our spirits on a sustained high. It has been a wonderfully satisfying



Jatra series by Shridhar Iyer

and deeply exciting journey to say the least.

We narrowed down on the artists whose works we felt would make exceptional sarees. We rejected the idea of specially creating paintings for the project as then the works might end up looking like sarees in pre-conception itself. This was a trap that we wanted to avoid at all costs. The option was to select from the existing repertoire. The selection was tough – for we were inundated by the problem of plenty! We decided to go with Prof Niren Sengupta, Shridhar Iyer, Sanjay Bhattacharya, Manisha Gawade and yours truly – after all, I also wanted to have my paintings as part of the series!

All the artists dug through their works, excavated earlier catalogues and long forgotten images to help me find the perfect paintings that would lend themselves to what I had in mind. We talked frequently, tried to locate images as many of the works were not available. Whenever possible we reshot the works, and even tried to recreate

some of the works. The selection had to be on the basis of it working as a saree – an unusual one at that. Then came the unanimous observation from all the artists to create something the men could also wear – we settled for unisex stoles. I added ties as an additional dimension. I daresay there are many more artists I would like



Ties created from works by Shridhar Iyer

to see as part of wearable art and I hope to include their stupendous works in subsequent collections.

The senior-most artist of this group is Prof Niren Sengupta, who has been teacher and mentor to countless practicing contemporary artists of today. I call him the voice of sanity! For I often depend on him for his completely practical and down-to-earth advice. His work is replete with an abundance of joyous colours that find their balance in a dance of perfection. The artist's generosity of spirit and complete control over his forms wherein they heed to his calling is mirrored in his work.

Niren Sengupta shares his spiritual experience of "seeing" icons through the prism of his eye-view. Lord Krishna, Lord Rama and Lord Buddha dance on his canvases in ecstasy and bliss. He has allowed himself the freedom to let the 'isms' fall away to lead the way to a new ism – where he is at once the protagonist and the onlooker. But is it not one of the purposes of any art? – that miniscule moment when the creation, its creator and its audience become part of the larger whole of the creative impulse.



Handbag created from the Jatra series by Shridhar Iyer



Jatra series by Shridhar Iyer



Jatra series by Shridhar Iyer

Sanjay Bhattacharya is another artist whose work I enjoy for its infinitesimal attention to detail. The near photo-realism that is the hallmark of his style as he continues his quest for beauty and the inherent strength of a life force explored within the context of semi-urban reality. The Ghats of Banaras that have inspired many an artist and Sanjay too has not remained untouched by the distinctive imagery that he interprets in a stunningly stylized manner.

He explores the Lord Krishna icon that holds him enthralled in his current phase. The recurring motif of the lotus replete with the allegorical reference to Lord Krishna and the Goddess in all her forms – be it the Vishnukamal offered to Lord Badri Narayan (another name for Krishna) or lotus as the perch of Goddess Laxmi and Saraswati. He revisits the paradox of the rural context sans its veil and the curiosity of demurely covered reality.

Shridhar Iyer, by far one of the most creative artists in the abstract genre, whose work is truly global in imagery and very distinct in style, plays with pure thought on a spiritual plane as his hallmark. His ability to grasp the profound at an abstract level has stood him in good stead and his works indicate his remarkable dexterity with both strong and fragile colours. He revels in the interplay of form and colour as his works have an urbane and sophisticated feel to them and their understated elegance sets them apart.

These works are from the Jatra series where the artist soars to new heights with his abstractions. The sheer power of his raw



Conundrum of Ties or Prisms of Interaction? by Manisha Gawade

energy is mesmeric in its usage of colours juxtaposed with metallics that speak of Shridhar's inherent sense of purity in his works. He uses pure colours like blue, yellow and red in this series as well. In his work is an amalgam of both the masculine and the feminine energies in perfect tandem. In the present context, worn by a woman his works are utterly feminine and sported by a male, they are as macho as it can get.

Manisha's work selected from three of her series Mindscapes of Mindspaces, Threads of Life and The Constant Presence have the feel of glittering sands and the threads of life that bind the soul to the divine and the very basic weft and warp of human existence. They transport us onto a different plane deep into the spaces that we create in our minds.

Manisha spent more than a decade in Dubai and absorbed the favours of the exotic yet cosmopolitan West Asian cultures. Her work is a veritable cauldron of the Indian, western and Arabic kaleidoscope. Her abstracts are a fusion of perceiving reality and weaving it with dreams at the level of pure, unadulterated thought. The stark minimalism of her canvases, offset by an interesting interplay of colour conducts a dialogue where the soft tones are in



Ties created from works by Manisha Gawade



Windmills of the Mind by Manisha Gawade

complete harmony with the brittle metallic of gold, silver and copper.

As for my work, I have been bitten by the abstract bug and my paintings over the years have been an exploration into the larger canvas of life. The intensity of direct observation and an impassioned, unfettered feeling that invokes light where I celebrate my sentiment for the vivid consciousness of light in terms of my abstractions. The textures I use are delicate and very feminine, and the colours vibrant. The content and thought are philosophical – the iridescent soul attaches and detaches itself and lives with an ever changing world view as it were, while the light of the kundalini rises to envelop all within its ambit. In deep indigos, antique golds and dazzling reds, the light shimmers out as though from the samudramanthan or the great churning.

Then the process was figured out. Digital transference was considered the most favourable as the delicate colours and layers and nuances of the paintings wouldn't be affected. The photograph sizing was the next thing on the agenda. Too small and wouldn't work, increase the size too much and it would result in the grains going awry, the size had to be just perfect. Then came the interplay of designs on the computer. On the computer screen, both colours and designs looked stupendous! In fact we got so carried away that we decided to print a few sarees straight away. But only one worked completely. Another one worked partially. And the last two were complete write offs. I was a trifle disappointed and crest



Windmills of the Mind by Manisha Gawade



Joy of Abundance by Niren Sengupta



Krishna Lifting Govardhan by Niren Sengupta

fallen and nearly wanted to throw in the towel.

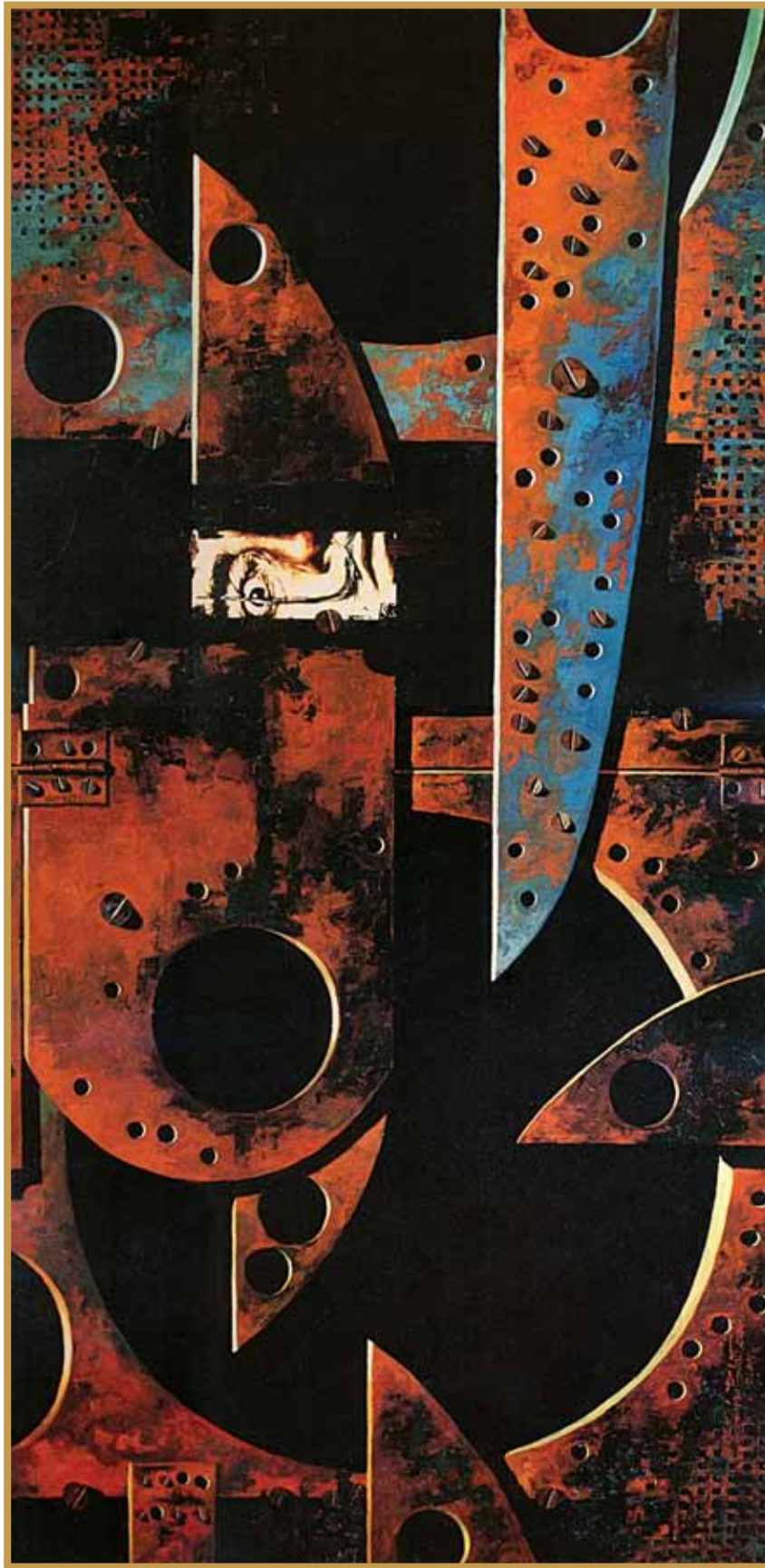
But a believer in never say die, computer wizard for design, Raghunath Haldar's enthusiasm was infectious. We decided to resize, in some cases, redesign the placements of the motifs and instead of printing the entire saree, did small strike offs on real time materials. The results were amazing. We figured that the fabric selection was of paramount importance. We settled for the tussar fabric after many hits and errors on several types of silks.

The selection was on the basis of colours of the paintings, the texture of the painting, the size of the work, the eventual feel and look of the saree. We tried to find fabric that was closest to the texture of the paintings.

We went into the finer nuances of the placement of the motifs in terms of inches and centimeters, to ensure that when draped, they would appear in specific areas. I tried to be helpful by doing double check on the colours as they were on the painting and on the computer screen and size of the original works for them to be in proportion. Motifs were made smaller lest the grains split and instead of mirror images, designs were suitably extended in case the works were too small. In a couple of sarees, as many as six small works from a series formed part of one saree.



Ties created from works by Niren Sengupta



Ode to Dali by Sanjay Bhattacharya



Maestro Moments by Sanjay Bhattacharya

While sarees form the core of the collection, the unisex stoles and ties based on the same paintings are designed as independent entities.

We have expanded the collection of ties and stoles with other paintings of the same artists for we didn't want to exclude the males and be accused of being partial to the women!

Then came the most difficult job: Of waiting for the final results. All of us couldn't help jumping and yelping with joy on seeing the final results! An array of options had to be tried so that the series would look like a proper collection. We rejected the idea of further embellishing these art sarees as they would be like



Ties created from works by Sanjay Bhattacharya



Krishna's Song by Sanjay Bhattacharya

gilding the lily! We settled for understated facings to subtly frame the works.

We agreed that we not only saw women who had been wearing sarees all their lives but also younger women who could opt to wear these sarees even to a night club. Earlier generations of women wore sarees wherever they went, be it to the Rashtrapati Bhavan or the club. This is what we have tried to do in these sarees. The traditionalists and the younger generation too could wear them and look elegant, chic and just right at any place or occasion – again from a wedding to a club. The best part is that as these are limited editions, one is unlikely to see anyone wearing the same saree as you.

It is my contention that all the arts – both visual and performing have a shared



The Lotus Pond by Sanjay Bhattacharya



Whispers of Light by Alka Raghuvanshi



heritage. Which sculptor can say that dance doesn't move him and which musician can remain untouched by colours on a canvas? And when the sarees and other accessories were ready, I imagined some my friends from the performing and visual art scene wearing these them as they had very distinct personalities and it was as if our canvases had found a figurative dimension.

So I asked the top Indian classical dancers who are dear friends to wear the works of wearable art including the dazzlingly beautiful and brilliant Sonal Mansingh, the sparkling firebrand Uma Sharma, the gentle and committed danseuse Madhvi Mudgal, the very poised dancer with a sunshine disposition, Shovana Narayan, breathtakingly beautiful and deeply knowledgeable Sharon Lowen, the dynamic and disarming Prathibha Prahlad, the very gifted and beguiling Swapnasundari, the charming Bharati Shivaji, the warm and effusive Ranjana Gauhar, the vivacious Vijaylakshmi, the effervescent Kaushalya Reddy, the graceful dancer, competent lawyer and actress Rashmi Vaidialingam, the affable and amiable Sharmishtha Mukherji and the young and charming gen



Silence of Solitude
by Alka Raghuvanshi



Necklaces by Alka Raghuvanshi



My Magical City by Alka Raghuvanshi

next dancer Arushi Mudgal. These women have kept the flag of the saree flying high and have continued to sport sarees in virtually every situation.

The musicians who happily agreed to be a part of this unique confluence include the mellifluous and handsome vocalist Pandit Madhup Mudgal, the stylish and warm santoor player Pandit Bhajan Sopori, my lucky mascot the witty Dhrupad exponent Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar, the gentle metro sexual sitar exponent Pandit Shubhendra Rao, the graceful cellist Saskia Rao de Haas, the singer with an amazing repertoire of ghazals and old Bollywood songs and a silky voice Radhika Chopra, the pretty vocalist with the golden voice Meeta Pandit and the very talented santoor player Abhay Sopori. I am delighted that the elegant multi-faceted theatre and television artiste Suneet Tandon, my dearest friend and cartoonist with a wicked sense of humour Sudhir Tailang, the photographer who has been is virtual encyclopedia of photographic documentation of the arts for five decades Avinash Pasricha and the dashing handsome hotelier Oliver Martin too will be part of the show.

It is matter of great pride and honour that the two maestros who are the veritable



Ties created from works by Alka Raghuvanshi



My Magical City Series by Alka Raghuvanshi

epitomes of dance Pandit Birju Maharaj and Vidushi Yamini Krishnamurthy too have agreed to light up the sky of aesthetic experience as part of the show.

I think all of them have added a whole new dimension to the art sarees, stoles and ties by their persona like meteors that light up the skies of the artistic and aesthetic experience. It reminds me of a Kashmiri word: Zoonmal meaning a necklace of many moons. Together they make a virtual galaxy of moons. All of them have dedicated their lives to follow their calling and believe you me; the price of art is life. I mean it in all its entirety for I have seen the heart break and the pain that artistes and artists go through to keep their art intact so that it can blossom. All of them are pioneers in their own right and have fought all odds – social, physical, economic and personal to be able to continue. When the art and artiste/artist are the same, the journey is that much more arduous. I have shared part of the journey with many of them and

am witness to their struggle. It heightened my respect for them as people and creative artistes/artists who have exemplified Indian arts in the last at least five decades. It is a salute to them and their art both.

Since all these women are larger than life, even in daily life, they sport very noticeable jewellery – the aesthetics of which have been honed over the years with the personality itself. I decided to create special jewellery for this show. I worked with many options and finally narrowed down to painting mini canvases to look appropriate with the sarees. The strings were another journey in itself. I struggled to find semi precious stones that went with what I had in mind. The idea was to create pieces that were as unique as the women sporting them.

Almost as difficult as the curation of the paintings was selecting the music for the presentation and putting the spoken words be it in music or details of the paintings and the artists and artistes. I requested the sensitive poet and superb writer Sunita Buddhiraja to be the sutradhar of this amazing Ehsaas. She is a wonderful “kansen” with her fine ear for music, shared my angst about music at every step for it had to be in consonance with the walk, the poetry and the music.

Photographer Umesh Verma had an interesting time shooting these beauties! For one all of them are very lively and fun, and our conversations wouldn’t get over, peppered as they were with lots of laughter and giggles! We shot at several locations including The Claridges, a few

of the artistes’ homes and the elegant home of my dear friend actress and now film maker Mona Rao when we ran out of suitable backdrops! Umesh worked hard at capturing the “right” moment that was the essence of the persona of these larger than life people.

For me as the artist, it has been one of the most satisfying and special experiences. It has taken a whole year to come to fruition but every step of the way it taught me something new and I am grateful to God for having given me this opportunity. My sister and my niece, Harika, who is the light of my life, had to endure a constant flurry of activity in our home with design and production teams, photographer’s team, communication teams, catalogue designer and printers, stage and light teams et al zipping in and out.

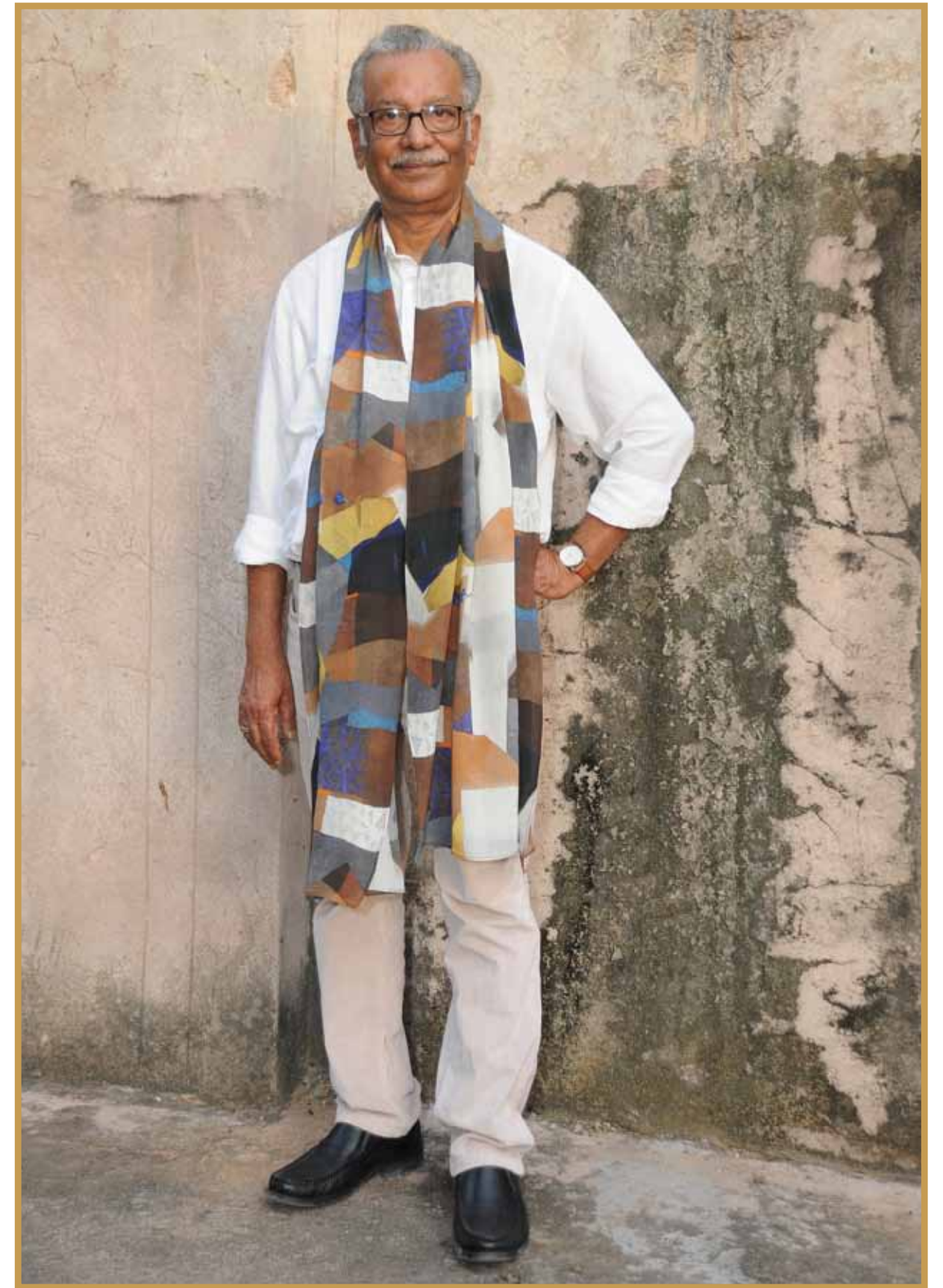
To see your own creation is heady. But to see a dream come true is an experience that is incomparable. The emotional and intellectual high that I experienced during this process will linger in my memories for a long, long time...

Dr Alka Raghuvanshi

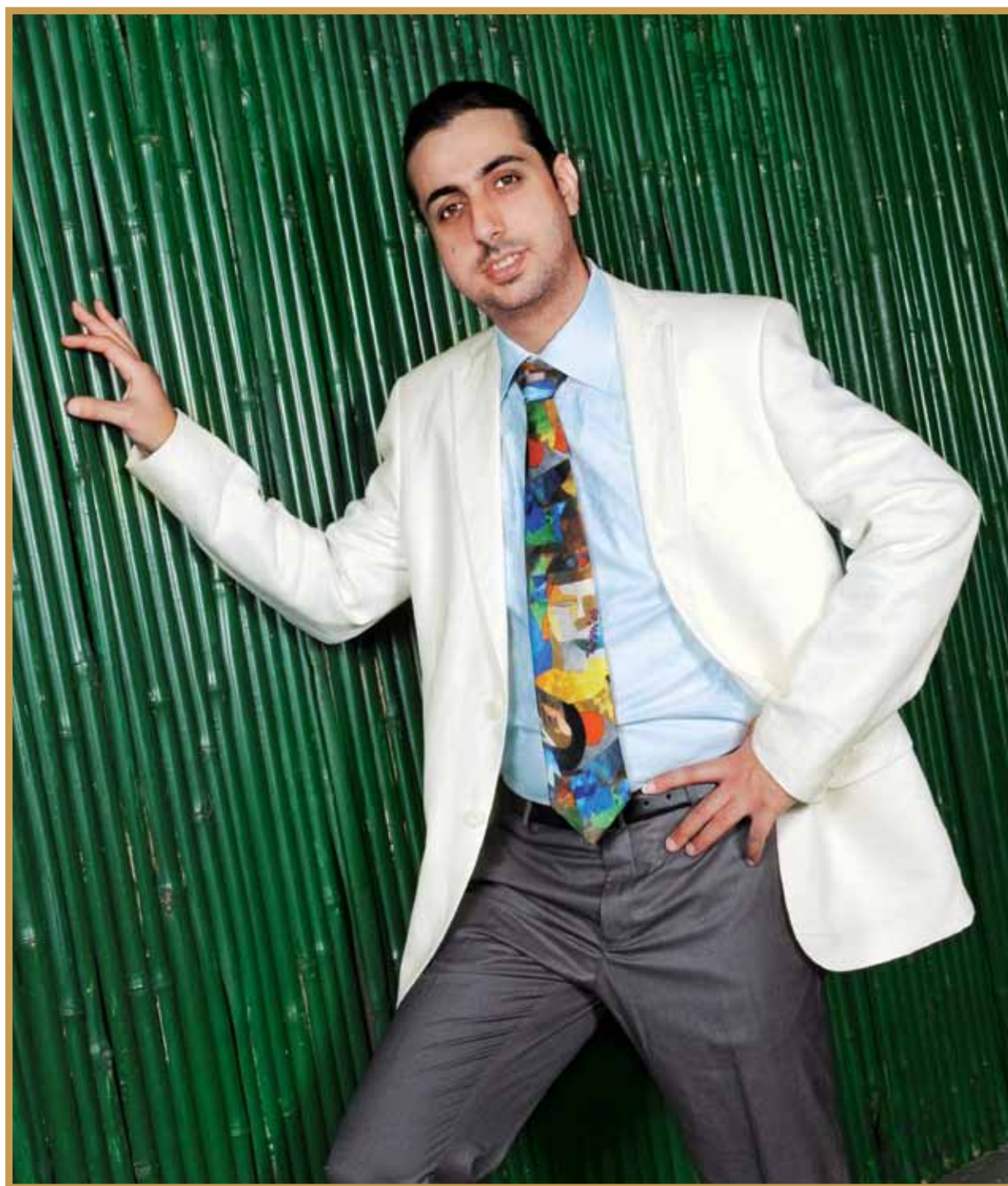
Niren Sengupta

Niren Sengupta was born in January 1940 in Bengal. He was the former Principal of College of Art, New Delhi. He has taught for over 30 years at graduate & post-graduate levels in various art institutions. He is a graduate in science from the Calcutta University and also a graduate in Arts from Govt. College of Art & Crafts, Calcutta.

For him, art is an expression of inner language. His communion with happenings around him evolves and reflects in his works. He finds lasting beauty in the serenity of the total surrender of the monks of the Ramakrishna Mission. A mission that signifies sacrifices and service to mankind. His works are aesthetic expressions of his inner reflections infused with serenity, sacrifice, service and beauty. He has several solo and prestigious group exhibitions to his credit.



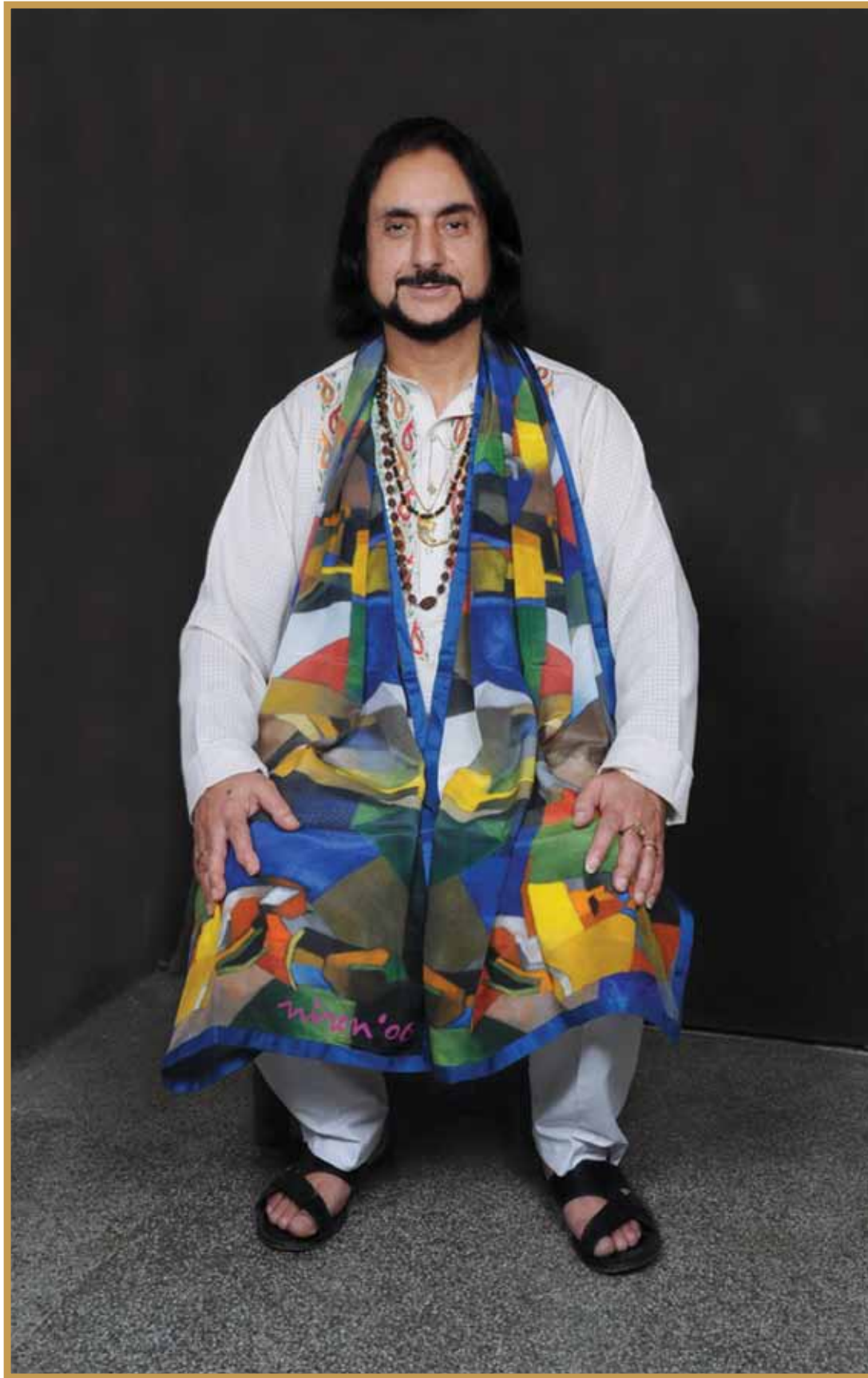
Artist Niren Sengupta, stole created from one painting Aparajita



Santoor player Pandit Abhay Rustum Sopori
Tie created from one painting Joy of Abundance



Kathak danseuse Shovna Narayan
Saree created from two paintings Buddha's Blessings and Joy of Abundance



Santoor maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori
Stole created from one painting Krishna Lifting the Govardhan



Kuchipudi dancer, lawyer and actor Rashmi Vaidialingam
Saree created from one painting Krishna Lifting the Govardhana

Sanjay Bhattacharya

Born in 1958, Sanjay Bhattacharya is known for being a master of the British orthodox technique of water colour and realistic rendering in his mammoth size oil canvases. His works include watercolors, line drawings and an exhilarating series of landscapes done in oils. He is renowned for his works on Banaras and his understanding of landscape and ambiance is highly accomplished.

His consummate study of the human form is unparalleled and he has painted portraits of former Presidents Shankar Dayal Sharma and K.R. Narayanan. His portrait of Rajiv Gandhi is a part of Sonia Gandhi's collection. He had his solo exhibition titled 'Rajiv Gandhi: Landscape of a Man' at the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi. He is the only painter in India who has exhibited solo in N.G.M.A at such a young age.



Artist Sanjay Bhattacharya
Stole created from one painting Krishna's Song



Odissi dancer Madhavi Mudgal
Saree created from one painting Krishna's Song



Mohiniattam dancer Vijayalakshmi
Saree created from one painting On the Ghats of Banaras



Dhrupad exponent Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar
Stole created from one painting The Lotus pond



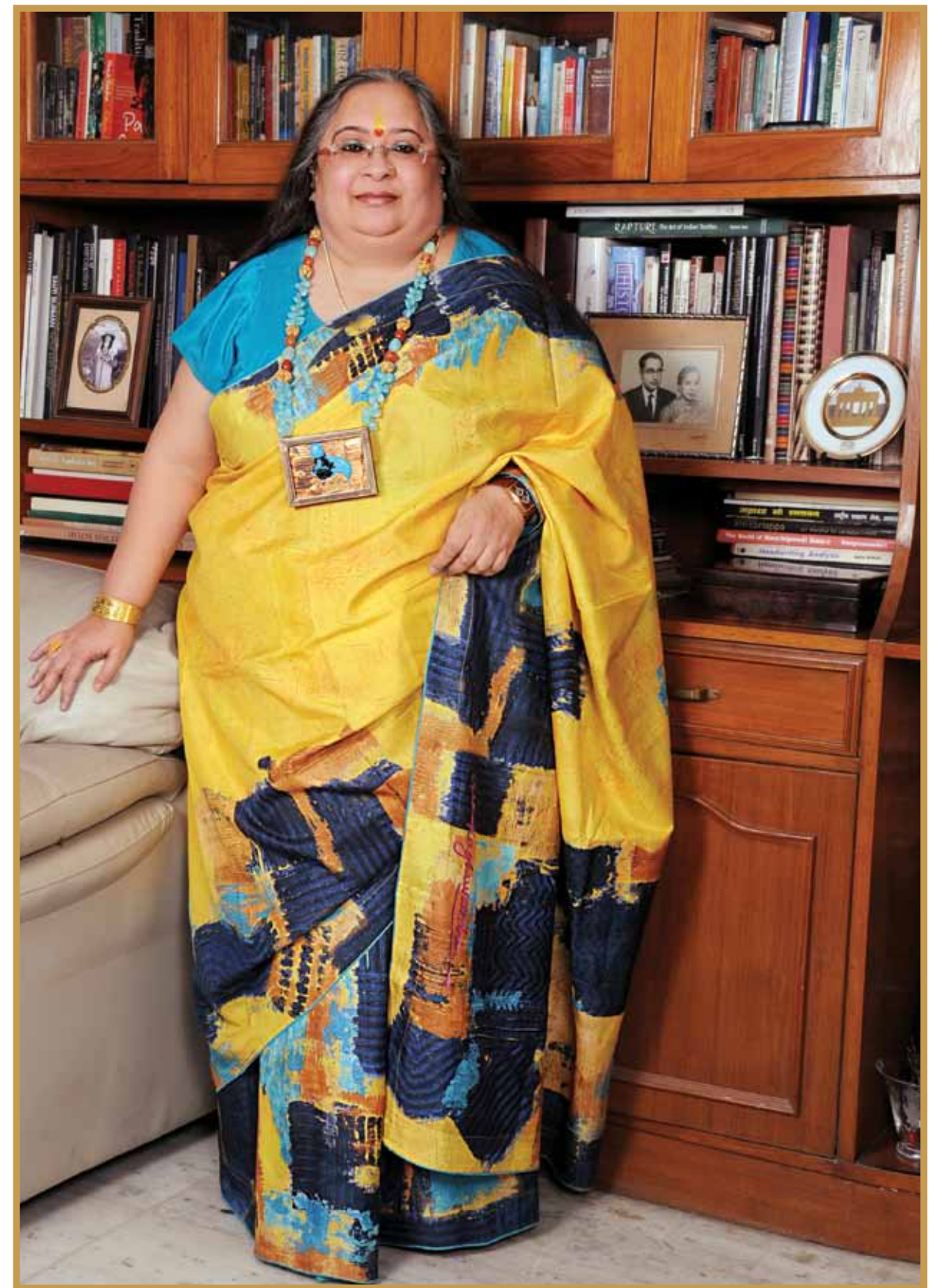
Kuchipudi dancer Kaushalya Reddy
Saree created from one painting The Lotus pond

Alka Raghuvanshi

Dr Alka Raghuvanshi, wears many hats for she is among the few authorities on the arts who traverses the folk and classical arts, performing and plastic arts, crafts and aesthetics with ease and is known for her crusading spirit for the arts. She is an unusual combination of scholarship and hands on person who has constantly strived to put the arts centre stage with her multi-disciplinary approach traversing the various media.

She is India's first trained art curator, having trained at the Goldsmiths College, London and the Museum of Modern Art in Oxford. A keen painter herself, she is able to perceive and experience the various arts from the vantage position of a doer as well as an onlooker.

In her writing career on the arts spanning nearly 32 years, she has documented an entire generation of artistes and artists who have shaped the artistic heritage of the country captured in two books Dr Raghuvanshi—*A Moment in Time with Legends of Indian Arts* and *Pathfinders—artistes of one world*. She has authored and edited over 20 books on the performing and visual arts including the seven-part series *Classical Dances of India*. She has also launched two art portals on visual arts.



Artist, curator and art writer Alka Raghuvanshi
Saree created from six paintings from the Silence of Solitude series



Odissi dancer Arushi Mudgal
Saree created from three paintings from the My Magical City series



Cartoonist Sudhir Tailang
Stole created from one painting Birds of Passion



Theatre and television personality Suneet Tandon
Tie created from one painting Birds of Passion



Odissi dancer Ranjana Gauhar
Saree created from one painting When Shall We Meet?



Sitar exponent Shubhendra Rao
Stole created from one painting from the My Magical City series



Kathak exponent Sharmishtha Mukherjee
Saree created from one painting from the series My Magical City



Poet & Writer Sunita Buddhiraja
Saree created from one painting from the Whispers of Light

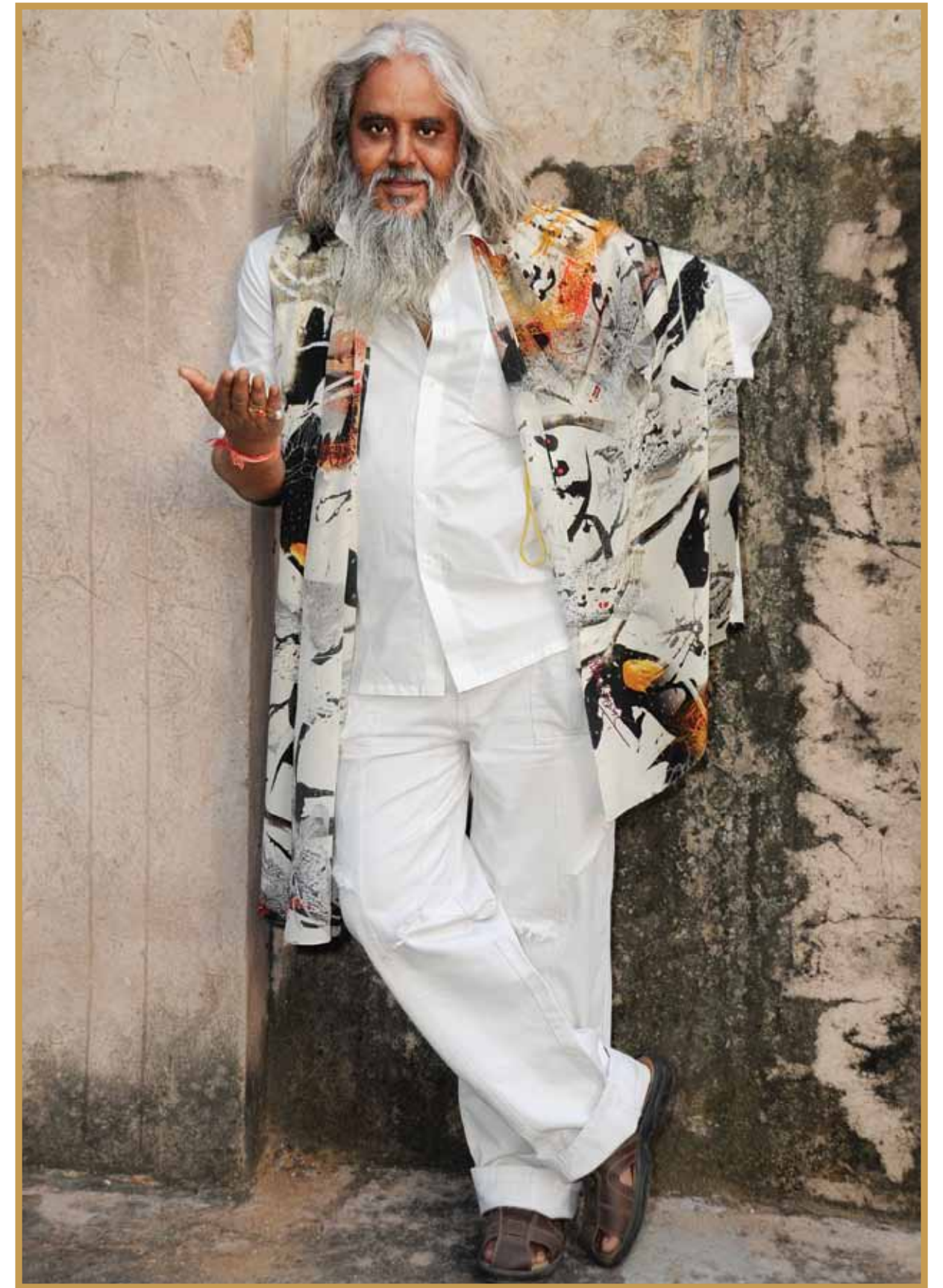


Kathak maestro Pandit Birju Maharaj
Stole created from two paintings from Silence of Solitude series

Shridhar Iyer

Born in 1961, Shridhar Iyer, one of the most inspired artist in the abstract genre, whose work is beyond doubt global in manifestation, content and form. His very distinctive style explores pure contemplation on a spiritual level as his trait. His ability to grasp the philosophical at an abstract level is extraordinary and his works specify his astonishing legerdemain as he juxtaposes strong and fragile colours in complete harmony. He revels in the interplay of form and colour as his works have an urbane and sophisticated feel to them and their subtle elegance sets them apart.

He has been exhibiting since 1985, having held several solo shows and has been participating in important groups globally. His works are part of some important collections across the world.



Artist Shridhar Iyer
Stole created from one painting from the Jatra series



Kathak dancer Uma Sharma
Saree created from two paintings from the Jatra series



Mohiniattam dancer Bharti Shivaji
Saree created from five paintings from the Jatra series



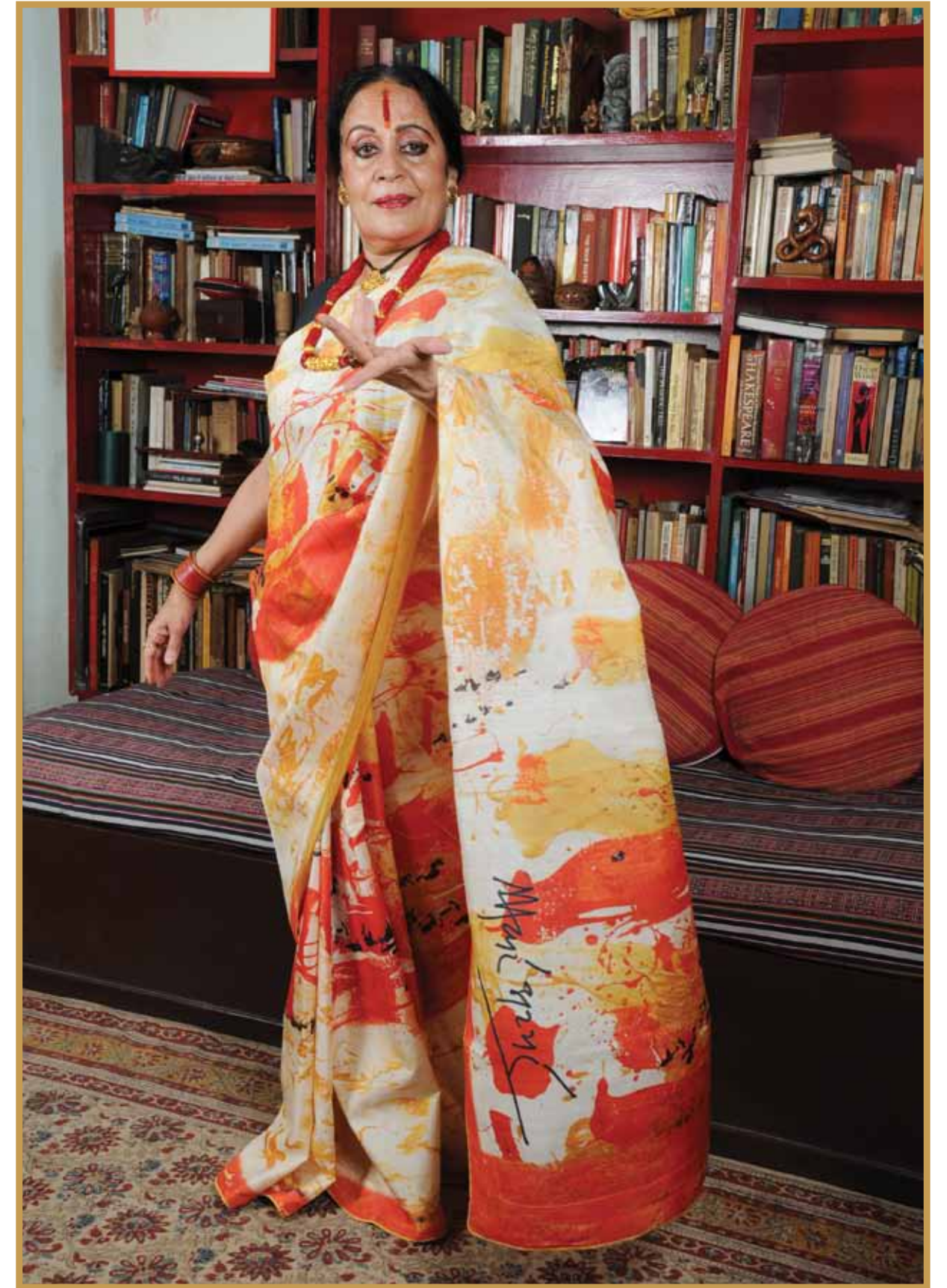
Kuchipudi and Vilasiniattam dancer Swapnasundari
Saree created from three paintings from the Jatra series



Hotelier Oliver Martin
Tie created from one painting from the Jatra series



Hindustani classical vocalist Meeta Pandit
Saree created from two paintings from the Jatra series



Odissi danseuse Sonal Mansingh
Saree created from one painting from the Jatra series

Manisha Gawade

Manisha Gawade is a trans-national who has been trained in various forms of painting including glass and textiles in several parts of the world as a matter of choice. And yet she refuses to be bound by mere grammar of surfaces and styles to reach out and explore a form that is hers alone. She transcends the regional to bring to her work the horizon of a truly global citizen and yet there is a rootedness in her work that has the whiff of the Indian ethos not self-consciously, but simply and naturally. Her work pulsates with energy that is the life blood of her chosen medium. An extensive traveller, the multiple experiences from her journeys come through in her work as it resounds with hues that are awash with the dazzle of the desert and the pinnacle of the mountains.



Artist Manisha Gawade
Saree created from two paintings from the series The Constant Presence



Bharatnatyam dancer and Director of the Delhi International Arts Festival Prathibha Prahlad
Saree created from two paintings Are mind games the rule?



Cellist Saskia Rao de Haas
Saree created from two paintings from Threads of Life series



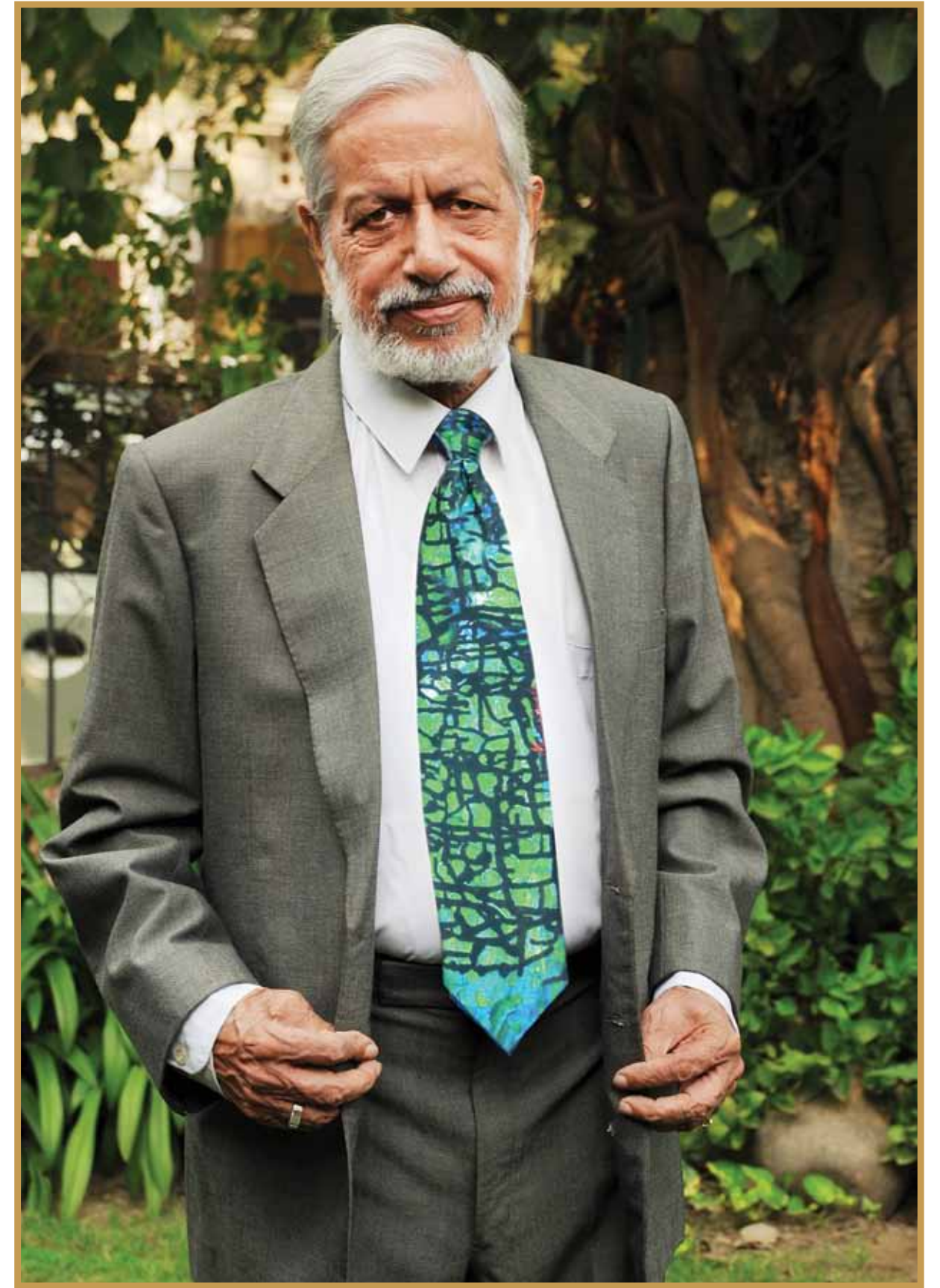
Hindustani classical vocalist Pandit Madhup Mudgal
Stole created from two paintings from the series Mindscapes of Mindspaces



Odissi danseuse Sharon Lowen
Saree created from two paintings of the series Mindscapes of Mindspaces

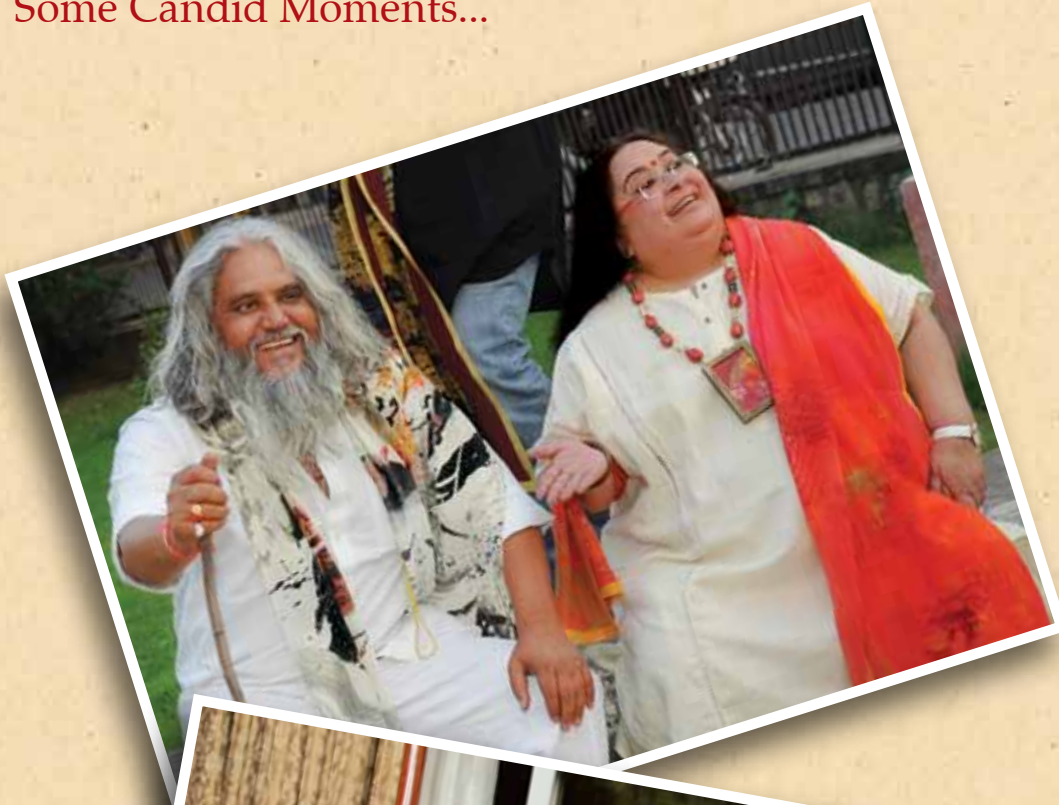


Vocalist Radhika Chopra
Saree created from one painting of the series Mindscapes of Mindspaces



Photographer Avinash Pasricha
Tie created from one painting Are Mind Games the rule?

Some Candid Moments...





The Team...



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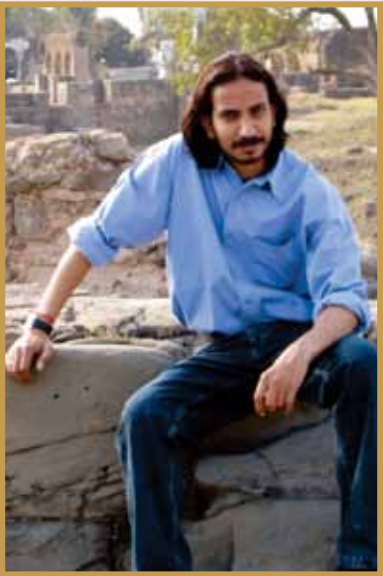
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