



EXHIBITION VENUE, HILL FORT PALACE, HYDERABAD



DISPOSABLE CULTURES

The second edition of the art festival 'Ramaniyam' by Shrishti Art Gallery in Hyderabad plays host to an interesting exhibition that looks at our culture of easy consumerism and complex abandon

When Remani Nambiar set up Shrishti Art Gallery in Hyderabad in 2002, she intended to establish a 'creative space' for art to be experienced freely. 13 years later, Shrishti is not only considered synonymous with art in Hyderabad, but has matured into an essential platform encouraging creative expression and aesthetic sensibilities. Remani's perseverance has had a far reaching impact, successfully taking the thriving art scene in the city into the larger and dynamic world of international contemporary art.

So it feels just right that the gallery is all set to present the second edition of 'Ramaniyam', an art festival initiated as a tribute to Remani and her passion. Part of this festival is the exciting

new show 'Inbox' – a landmark event that pushes the envelope of creativity and highlights Hyderabad and its rich culture. Curated by George Martin, the exhibition centred around the concept of 'Disposable Cultures', features 27 artists who through their works invoke the indelible hold of consumerism on the recesses of the human psyche. Even after we discard them for scrap and recycling, our wastes remain loaded with narrative, suggestion, and spectral traces of identity. 'All packaged designs attract the consumer through information transmission and marketing principals... Packages and labels communicate how to use, transport, recycle, or dispose of the package or product,' explains Martin.

Stressing on the urgent and imperative need to address the issues surrounding a reckless culture that abandons and consumes products at an alarming rate, the works on display engage in the interactions between individuals who are expected to maximise their self-satisfaction through the social and political institutions of consumerism. 'If we look deeply beyond the periphery of the bling-bling facades of our consumer culture, lying low is the diabolical feeding mechanism that coherently masticates our environment as a whole,' Martin elaborates.

Building on this concept of overlooked and abandoned objects that are still charged with the transient presence of absentia, Martin has decided to place the exhibition at the Hill Fort Palace in Hyderabad – an abandoned heritage building, emblematic of the concept of disposable culture and its multiple connotations. 'From its glory days of grandeur in the last century, all that remains of the palace is a shade of its former past as it has been forgotten and closed for over a decade... The Hill Fort Palace was a perfect choice', says Lakshmi Nambiar, Director of Shrishti Art Gallery.



THE JOURNEY, RAJESH RAM, FIBERGLASS AND PAINT, 9" X 10" X 24", 2015



Assuming a new life from the wreckage of human need and greed, 'Inbox', with its sculptural assemblages, seems set to invoke the

dynamic momentum of creation and destruction in contemporary consumer culture, and the ambivalence of our own appetites.

INBOX

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 22, 2015
THE HILL FORT PALACE, CHANDRA NAGAR,
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