



This Punjabi food festival features traditional dishes such as the Pudina Tangdi, Murgh Multani Kabab, Kitchi ki Tehri, etc. For dinner, at Kabab Studio, Goldfinch Hotel, till September 30

# AN ANNUAL OUTING

An art show is marking its anniversary under the presence of late artist Yusuf Arakkal

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In 2015, artist Yusuf Arakkal chortled with glee when he commented that his name was at the bottom of the list of participating artists at Galerie Sara Arakkal's annual show. Even though the names were listed alphabetically, he liked to make that comment every time the annual show came up. That joke never failed to amuse him. This year, the gallery is putting up the 14th edition of the annual show. Arakkal's name continues to remain at the bottom of the list but this time, like last year, one can only remember his laugh.

Sara Arakkal, the founder of the gallery, has been following the late artist's advice with a fervour that matches her enthusiasm in putting up the annual event. "The fact that I was his wife and a gallerist was never considered when Yusuf gave me his suggestions on doing the show," she laughs. As a result, she never questions the selected artists about the works they give her. "He had told me not to insist on a particular work and leave it to the artist's choice," she reminisces. "He would tell me to just put the work on the wall and let it speak for itself." Another directive of Arakkal's that Sara follows is to prepare a catalogue documenting the show. "Yusuf knew that a catalogue would be helpful to the upcoming artists for future promotion."

This year there are forty eight artists – a mix of senior artists and promising talents. Every year, the gallery consciously selects a few artists who are new to gallery. This time the number is six artists who will be showing their works for the first time. Asima Choudhury, Robert Lopez, Sanjay Ketana Choudhury, Sapna Dube, Sheetal



1. Gopinath S
2. Achutan Kudallur
3. Jasu Rawal
4. Lokesh BH
5. Patil M N
6. Surya Prakash

CS and Shradha Rathi have received raving reviews from P Sudhakaran, an art critic and long time friend of Arakkal. According to Sudhakaran, the six artists "present a bright picture of the emerging art scene in India". High praise for the abstract urbanscape of Rathi, the figurative Buddha marblesque figures by Sanjay, landscapes by Asima, and the watercolours by Sheetal and Lopez.

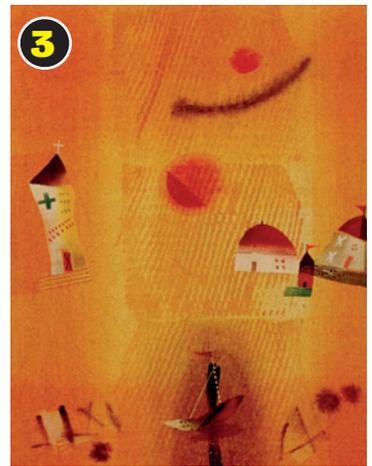
Some of the other artists featured are regulars like CF John, Jasu Rawal, Gurudas Shenoy, TM Aziz, Aishwaryan K, Achuthan Kudalur, Arul Doss, Praveen Kumar, Lokesh BH, Ravikumar Kashi, Murali Cheeroth, Suhas and Suman Roy. The latter two are a famous father-son duo of which the son passed away couple of years ago at the age of forty three. Suman's painting of Jesus, part of his popular Jesus

series, has a masterly presence in spite of its size. Most of the artists represent the South Indian art scene. Importantly, this year there are eleven women artists which, according to Sudhakaran, implies that the show has an element of gender sensitivity. "While gender inequality is a reality even in the art world, this show has been the assertion of the feminine strength in Indian art," he notes. "It has sensitivity towards the society, which naturally takes us back to the memories of Yusuf Arakkal who stood against any kind of discrimination in art. He loved the poetic beauty of life." Some of the women artists featured are: Shirley Mathew, Bharati Sagar, Rekha Rao, Anuradha Nalapat, Sandhya K Sirsi and Rani Rekha.

Arakkal's painting on display is from his still life series that was done a couple of years ago. The painting has never been shown to the public until now. Done in shades of brilliant ochre, it features a broken pot with an arrangement of dried fronds resting on a ledge. This 4' X 5' oil on canvas was painted for Sara after she had requested for one exclusively. It hangs in their bedroom and is coming out to the gallery just for the show.

In the midst of setting up the show, Sara dismisses a few comments about the display (of previous shows) being too crowded. "My gallery can pull off a display of sixty works," she says, "provided the works are not oversized." But sometimes artists give her large format works which she never refuses out of respect for Arakkal's advice. With his presence looming strongly in the gallery, Arakkal's place is hard to fill. Try finding an artist whose name begins with a 'Z'!

10am-6pm, at Galerie Sara Arakkal, Whitefield, on till October 31. Call: 4116622



**MUST ATTEND**

WHERE: Tamaala Art Gallery, JP Nagar

## Earthy hues

Head to Earthen Lights, an exhibition showcasing six artists and six mixed media works of art. Besides these featured artists and their creations, the show includes a huge range of jute bags and terracotta jewellery crafted by various artisans.



WHEN: 11am-8pm, September 17  
 CALL: 8884816333

**MUST SEE**

WHERE: Rangoli, The Metro Art Centre, MG Road

## Farms in focus

The City and the Farms – agriculture in peri-urban Bengaluru, a photo exhibition by Azim Premji University focuses on the impact on agricultural and grazing lands, change in crops, livestock, pollinators, birds and small mammals, change in status of water sources for agriculture, snatching or supporting farm livelihoods.



WHEN: 10.30pm to 1.30pm, September 17  
 CALL: 22969265

**SIGN UP**

WHERE: Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar

## A date with dhruvada

At the Brahma Naad Live Music, Live Peace concert, you will get to hear Dhruvada (or Dhruvapada), an ancient form of Indian music, which finds mention in the Hindu text *Natyashastra*. Dhruvada as we know it today is performed by a solo singer or a small number of singers in unison to the beat of the *pakhavaj* or *mridangam*. The recital will be followed by two workshops.



WHEN: 10 am, September 17 CALL: 9886294444