

DATE : SUNDAY 6 JULY 15.00 hrs

Challenges in Printmaking. Moderated by Sauganga Darshandhari. A review of the work of printmakers: Sauganga Darshandhari, Sushma Maharhan, Surendra Maharjan and Kabiraj Lama

DATE : SUNDAY 13 JULY 15.00 hrs

Challenges in Performance Art. Moderated by Prithvi Shrestha. A review of the performances by Sunil Sigdel, Jupiter Pradhan , Prithvi Shrestha, Sauganga Darshandhari, and Rithika Shrestha

DATE : SUNDAY 20 JULY 15.00 hrs

Challenges in presenting socio-political perspectives in art and the role of the artist as an informed citizen. Moderated by Hitman Gurung, the session will review the socio-political works in the Amalgam show.

DATE: SUNDAY 27th JULY 15.00 hrs

Challenges in presenting Street Art, spreading socio-political message through art in the local community and uplifting the community itself. Moderated by Nischal Oli will review the works by

the new wave of street artists: Kailash Shrestha, Aditya Aryal, Shraddha Shrestha, Sneha Shrestha and visiting artists....

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Aditya Aryal is a Kathmandu based street artist. He received his BFA from Kathmandu University Center for Art and Design. Through his work he explores the unconsciousness which is his source of inspiration. His visions are based more on personal experience and thought process that has been evoked by the urban surrounding of Kathmandu. His works involves a lot of line works which metamorphose into different forms of human expressions that are composed with varying forms of patterns. Currently he is acting as a creative head in Artlab collective and getting involved in different art project to pursue his career as a full time artist which he loves. He has participated in multiple exhibitions around the city.

Arjun Bhandari received his B.F.A from the Central Department of Fine Art, Tribhuvan University . He volunteered in Second Kathmandu International Art Festival in 2012 and was actively involved in art project Synthetic Flow and The Truth of a Sacred River for Climate +Change exhibition organized by ICIMOD in 2013. Arjun is the Co-Founder of A-Drops young artist group 2011.

Arjun Khaling moved from Kirat Rai village to Kathmandu in 1991 to pursue his love for art. He received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Art in Tribhuvan University. He has participated in group and solo exhibitions and in national and international workshops. He has received five prizes and six awards from established institutions in the art scene further affirming his artistry and talent. Arjun finds inspiration in his heritage, social and political roots. His works are a direct reflection of his cultural background: costumes, rituals, myths and aesthetics. Arjun paints what he considers a “Fusion of Times”; a contemporary reflection of his personal, socio-cultural and political surroundings. Influenced by his progression into urban life, *Fusion of Times* highlights the merger of ancient traditional times with the new and contemporary. He also defines them as eastern and western times, which become interesting when fused together on a canvas and mark the battle between heart and mind.

Hit Man Gurung is a Kathmandu based visual artist. He received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Art, Tribhuvan University. He was the recipient of The Australian Himalayan Foundation Art Award . In 2012, he was selected to participate in the 2nd Kathmandu International Art Festival. In the same year he was also selected as one of the twenty-five winners for Imagining our Future Together-a vision of a better common future in South Asia, a project organized by the Vice Presidency for South Asia and the Art Program of the World Bank. In 2013 he was granted an art residency by The Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles for an International Artists Residency Program at the 18th Street Arts Center, Santa Monica, USA. He participated in the International Art Festival (Image Festival) in Copenhagen, Denmark in 2013. In 2014 he participated in 2nd Dhaka Art Summit represented by Siddhartha Art Gallery. He worked as a lecturer at Fine Art Campus, Bhotahiti, Kathmandu. Currently he is a visiting lecturer at Wigen and Leigh College, Kathmandu. He is co-founder of Artree Nepal, a contemporary art space.

Jasmine Rajbhandari Pant is a Kathmandu based visual artist. She received her MFA from Banaras Hindu University, India. She is a part time teacher at the M.F.A., Central Department of Fine Arts, Tribhuvan University. She has received several awards: Young Talented Award in Water Colour from the Ranglal Bangdel Memorial Exhibition and a Letter of Appreciation, from the Ministry of Education. She also received Third Prize at the 35th National Art & Craft Exhibition. She has one solo exhibition to her credit and has participated in multiple art camps, workshops and group shows locally and internationally. She was organizing committee member for the Kids' Guernica-2000, *An Intl' children Mural exhibition-Kath.* and has co-ordinated many art programmes through *Zero Century Fine Arts Foundation.* She is Art teacher, Kendriya Vidhyalaya, Budhanilakantha School, Altamira School of Visual Arts.

Rajan Pant is a Kathmandu based visual artist. He received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Arts, Tribhuvan University. He is Founder of the Altamira School of Visual Arts, Zero Century Fine Arts Foundation and Nepal Environmental Artists' Group. He is Vice President of the Artist Society of Nepal, Executive Member of the Young Artists' Group and Founder Chairman and Board Member of Fineartnepal.com. He has one solo show to his credit and has participated in several group exhibitions, art exchanges and workshops locally and internationally.

Kailash K Shrestha is visual artist based in Kathmandu. He graduated from Kathmandu

University. He is also the initiator of Artudio “Centre for Visual Art”. He was the recipient of prestigious Australian Himalayan Foundation Art Award scholarship in 2009. He has participated in national and international workshops, residencies and exhibitions. He has also held two solo exhibitions. Kailash has initiated several street art projects all over Nepal using the medium of art to serve as a bridge to the community.

Lavkant Chudhary received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Art, Tribhuvan University. He worked as a volunteer in 2nd KIAF in organized by Siddhartha Art Foundation. He was actively involved in the art project “The Truth of Sacred River” and “Synthetic Flow” for the Climate+ Change educational exhibition organized by ICMOD in 2013. He has participated in Contemporary Carpet Design workshop and Competition organized by Everest Loom and Artree Nepal in 2013. He participated in KCAC's Kalajatra, mask making workshop in 2013. He worked with BFA 3rd Year Students to organized the Lalit kala Mahotsav in 2014. He is the co-founder of “A Drops” young artists group in 2011 and also works as an art instructor.

Mukesh Shrestha is a Bhaktapur based visual artist . He received a Gold Medal for his MFA in Painting, from the Banaras Hindu University, Vanarasi, India, 2008 and the National Fine Art Award in Contemporary Painting, 2012. He has held 5 solo exhibition and participated 4 national exhibitions in NAFA and in multiple group exhibitions and workshops. He has also participated in KCAC project Portrait to Self Portrait. Shrestha has also exhibited in the previous Amalagam exhibitions. His works are deeply inspired by the culture and tradition of his country.

Mekh Limbu is Kathmandu based visual artist. He received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Arts , Tribhuwan University. He is Lecturer at Fine art College, Tribhuwan University. He was awarded the Kathmandu Contemporary Art Center’s residency program and created a body of work “*Sequential Dissonance*” which was exhibited at the Siddhartha Art Gallery, 2013. He was selected to participate in the Second Kathmandu International Art Festival 2012. He also participated in KCAC's Kalajatra festival. His awards include “Prashant Talent Scholarship Award” from Prashant Smriti Smaj in 2009 and “Sitashree Talent Award” from Pant Memorial Trust in 2007. His works have been exhibited in the show “Artists from the Roof of the World, Contemporary Work from Nepal at the Rosl Gallery, in London and in the exhibition Namaste Nepal - Contemporary Artist Voices, in Philadelphia. He is involved in many art activities of LASANAA, an alternative art space and Artree Nepal

Mukesh Shrestha is a Bhaktapur based visual artist . He received a Gold Medal for his MFA in Painting, from the Banaras Hindu University, Vanarasi, India, 2008 and the National Fine Art Award in Contemporary Painting,2012. He has held 5 solo exhibition and participated 4 national exhibitions in NAFA and in multiple group exhibitions and workshops. He has also participated in KCAC project Portrait to Self Portrait. Shrestha has also exhibited in the previous Amalgam exhibitions. His works are deeply inspired by the culture and tradition of his country.

Muna Badel is a Bhaktapur based visual artist. She is currently a MFA student at the Central Department of Fine Art in Tribhuvan University. She has participated in Collaborative Art Residency Program organized by Bindu a Space for Artists, Nepal and Britto Art Trust, Bangladesh, A Federal Life Workshop organized UNDP, Portrait to Self-Portrait Art exhibition by Antonia Norder at KCAC, Patan Museum. She took part in Lasanaa's Artist Residency program : Nepal Redefining Kathmandu Valley and has shown in National Art Exhibition, Nepal Academy of Fine Art, Kathmandu and in Varsha Women Art Exhibition at the Nepal Academy of Fine Art,

Narayan Prasad Bohaju is a Bhaktapur based visual artist. He received his MFA from Banaras Hindu University. He has had a solo exhibition in Kathmandu and participated in group exhibits and workshops in Nepal and India. He work was selected for the Second Kathmandu International art Festival.

Prabin Shrestha is a Kathmandu based visual artist. He received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Art, Tribhuvan University in 2013. In the same year he was selected for the Britto Student's Residency Program by Bindu- A Space for Artists. He was also invited by Britto Art Trust to Bangladesh after which he participated in an art camp organized by Crack International Art Camp, Kushtia, Bangladesh. In 2012 he exhibited in the Amalgam show and in the New Expression on the Block exhibition, organized by the Siddhartha Art Gallery. In 2011 he participated in an art project, Artist in the City, Urbanization and Urban Culture organized by Social Science Baha. His works are based on socio-political issues and addresses the current situation of Nepal through the use of distinct characters and icons which are imbued with a sense of humorous and satire.

Prithvi Shrestha is a visual artist based in Kathmandu. He has received several awards for his outstanding performance in art. He was awarded the South Asian Regional Award 2012 organized by World Bank, USA. He has participated in several group shows and exhibitions locally and internationally, including the 13th and 15th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh. He has taken part in national artist residency organized by Sutra Art Center, Nepal and in an international artist residency at Britto Art Trust, Bangladesh and at Porapara Space for Artists'

Bangladesh and at the 17th Nippon International Performance Art Festival in 2014 Japan. Some of his major solo exhibitions are 'Dristi 1' (1994), 'Dristy 2' (1998), 'Visible Lines' (2007) and his recent major solo exhibition, 'Astitwa (Existence)' 2011 at the Siddhartha Art Gallery in Kathmandu. He is a Founder member of Bindu, a space for artists. In addition, he is an artist for Kantipur Publication's weekly national newspaper, Saptahik and the monthly magazine, Nari.

Ram Maharjan is a Kathmandu based visual artist. He received his MFA from Central Department of Fine Art, Tribhuvan University. He has participated in different art workshops and art activities. His works express the inner state of the human mind and addresses the direct and indirect social and cultural impact on the human psyche

Sagar Manandhar is a visual artist based in Kathmandu. He received his BFA and MFA in Fine Arts from Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India, winning a gold medal each time, and is now a lecturer at the Centre for Arts and Design at the School of Arts of Kathmandu University. At the age of 17, his design was selected for the Metropolitan flag. Manandhar has nine solo exhibit to his credit and has participated in multiple group shows in Nepal and abroad. He was one of the artists selected to participate in the Second Kathmandu International Art Festival.

Sanjeev Maharjan is a freelance visual artist based in Kathmandu . He graduated from Kathmandu University Center for Art and Design in 2009. His inspiration comes from his surroundings. Through his work, he wants people to notice things they would normally pass by. He had a solo exhibition "Portraits from the Shadow" in 2009 at Siddhartha Art Gallery. Since then he has participated in group exhibitions, art projects and workshops. He worked as artist-in-residence at Kathmandu Contemporary Art Center in 2010, and travelled to Marpha through the Marpha Art Foundation, in 2013 and "Floating Peers", International AIR and Workshop organized by Porapara Space for Artists, Chittagong, Bangladesh 2013. He was also selected for IN-BETWEEN project, students exchange program between KUART and Gerrit Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam. His work was selected for Kathmandu International Art Festival, Separating Myth from Reality, Status of Women, 2009 and Earth-Body-Mind, 2012, Nepal.

Sauganga Darshandhari is a visual artist and printmaker based in Kathmandu. She received her MFA in printmaking from University of Development Alternative, Dhaka, Bangladesh where she was felicitated for the best media award by the University in 2008. She has shown her artworks in Nepal, Bangladesh, India, South Korea, and Srilanka and has participated in artist residencies in Srilanka, Bangladesh, South Korea and Japan. Her solo show "A Printmaker's Feelings" was held at Kathmandu Contemporary Art Center in 2010. She has taken part in the

Second Kathmandu International art Festival, and participated in 13th and 15th

Asian Art Biennale in Bangladesh, in the 19th

Nippon International Performance Art Festival in Tokyo, Nagano, Osaka, in Japan 2013. In 2013, she was awarded by Basanta Women's Exhibition National Academy of Fine Art and also received Regional Award by the Nepal Academy of Fine Art in 2014. Darshandhari teaches printmaking at Tribhuvan University Lalitkala and Sirjana College of Fine Art. She is a founder member of Bindu, a space for artists.

Sheelasha Rajbhandari is a Kathmandu based visual artist. She received her MFA from the Central Department of Fine Art Tribhuvan University. She is co-founder of Artree Nepal - Center for Contemporary Arts. She has been active in multiple projects such as Artist in the City and participated in several exhibitions locally and internationally including the 14th Asian Art Biennale in Bangladesh and Images Festival, Occupy Utopia 2013 organized by (CKU) The Center for culture and Development, Denmark. Her awards include First Prize for Sculpture in the 2011 National Art Competition organized by the National Art Academy, Thakur Prasad Mainali Award from Kathmandu University Center for Art & Design in 2012. She has worked as an arts educator and art director in numerous Nepali and international movies in collaboration with Hit Man Gurung. She was one of the artists that were selected to exhibit at the Second Kathmandu International Art Festival.

Shraddha Shrestha is a designer, illustrator as well as an exploring artist from Kathmandu. Her works revolve around cartoons, comics and fantasy. She enjoys classical animations, political art from the world war especially photo montage and is inspired from them. She is also experimenting with street art and loves to play around with paper cut outs, collages and her imaginary characters. Currently she is involved with her art studio Artlab. She tags herself as 'Deadline'. People asks why Deadline? Because she hates that word! Viable?

Sudeep Balla is a Bhaktapur based visual artist. He received his BFA from Kathmandu University Center for Art and Design in 2014. He has participated in the Amalgam exhibition and in the New Artists on the Block exhibition organized by the Siddhartha Art Gallery. He has also participated in three group exhibitions in Bhaktapur:

Steps

II in

2011

.

'Steps

I
,
and
'Re-fuzed'
an
art event
in
2010
. His installation was also in the
'Under
O
ne
S
un
F

estival' in Basantapur, Kathmandu.

Balla states that "Addiction gave me wings to fly in my own sky. Hallucination is my defining process"

Sunil Sigdel is a Pokhara based visual artist. He received his BFA from Fine Art College, Katmandu, Nepal. He has six solo shows to his credit and has participated in art residencies, workshops and art camps in Bangladesh, India, Srilanka, Taiwan, Pakistan. locally and internationally. His work was selected for the Second Kathmandu International Art Festival, for the Colombo Biennale, Sovereign Art Prize. In 2014 his work was represented at the Dhaka Art Summit by the Siddhartha Art gallery. He received the ROSL Annual scholarship Award 2011, London, UK through KCAC and the Creative Young Artist Award in 2007.

Surendra Maharjan is a Kathmandu based visual artist. He received his MFA from the Central Department of Fine Art, Tribhuvan University in 2014. In recognition of his outstanding work as a printmaker he was awarded the prestigious Australian Himalayan Foundation Art Award scholarship this year.

Sushma Shakya received a BFA from Kathmandu University Centre for Art and Design. She also holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Tribhuvan University. Recently she is pursuing her Master's Degree in Printmaking from Tribhuvan University. Aside from her artistic practice Sushma works as a lecturer at Kathmandu University, School of Arts, Centre for Art and Design and Trinity International College. She has received awards including the Australian Himalayan Foundation Art Award in 2009, 'Special Award on Contemporary Sculpture-2013' National Exhibition of Fine Arts and 'Special Award on Woodcut-2013' from Folk Arts Department, NAFA. In 2010, she had her second solo exhibition "Chaitya" at the

Siddhartha Art Gallery. Her works have been exhibited in China, Japan, Canada, the United States, as well as in Nepal.

Subas Tamang received his B.F.A from Fine Art Campus. He is recipient of Contemporary Carpet Design- Scholarship 2014. He collaborated with BFA third year students to organized the Lalitlaka Mahotsav -2014 and worked as the display co-coordinator. Subas volunteered in Second Kathmandu International Art Festival in 2012.He participated in the Print making workshop and exhibition 2012, organized by Nepal Academy of Fine Art & Bindu. He took part in wood print workshop organized by Space -A , and exhibited at Sarvanam Art Gallery. He participated in KCAC's Kalajatra mask making workshop. He was involved in the art project Synthetic Flow and The Truth of a Sacred River for Climate +Change exhibition organized by ICIMOD, 2013. Subas is co- founder of A-Drops young artist group.