

Feast for the eyes, music for the soul

Pritish Nandy unveils Sanjay Bhattacharyya's latest art collection at Emami Chisel Art

Kolkata, 23rd March, 2013: Emami Chisel Art was in the mood for a carnival this weekend, with back-toback cultural extravaganza corresponding with the inauguration of **Existence**, an exhibition by Sanjay Bhattacharyya, one of the most respected and highest-selling artists in the international art fraternity. On the first day, Sanjay's exhibition of 56 artworks was unveiled by eminent producer, poet and journalist **Pritish Nandy**. The inauguration brought discerning art enthusiasts from Kolkata who were craving for 10 long years to understand Sanjay's mesmeric dalliances with the canvas.

Delhi-based Sanjay, a disciple of his renowned guru, painter Bikash Bhattacharya is one of the most evocative artists from the present generation who has harmonized several influences to create his personalized artistic idiom. Adept in multifarious mediums—oil, ink and watercolour, Sanjay's artworks display a rare realism in vivid colours suffused with an ethereal glow. The firm, unbroken lines in his drawing have taken every attempt to represent his love for realism, romanticism and environment. Needless to say, his artworks have travelled far and wide in UK, USA, Dubai, Hong Kong and have been top grossers.

The following day was reserved for a scintillating jugalbandi. It saw the coming together of some of the best known faces from the artistic world and eminent sitarist Pt. Partho Bose. As Pt. Bose's nimble fingers glided through the strings of sitar, the pulsating *thekas* of *tabla* engaged the audience. Amid this enchanting music-scape, artists Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Subrata Ganguly, Bratin Khan, Ashoke Mallik and Prasenjit Sengupta wielded their paint-brushes and gave expression to the prevailing mood. The camaraderie between the artists and the musicians was evident as music came alive in paintings of a highly imaginative order.

"It was indeed a feast for the eyes and music for the soul! I hope the audience had two unforgettable evenings at **Emami Chisel Art**. Our aim has always been to make art accessible even to common masses by freeing it from its niche status. While music and art represent performing and visual arts respectively, the fusion of these two forms can create wonders" said Mrs. Richa Agarwal of **Emami Chisel Art**.

Priced between INR 50 thousand to 10 lakhs, the artworks will be put on display from **22nd March 2013** to **6th April 2013** from **11 am** till **7pm**.



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About Emami Chisel Art: Emami Chisel Art (ECA) is a part of the reputed Emami Group. It idealised as a full-fledged art organization from 2008 onwards, encompassing within its infrastructure two large gallery spaces, a library, archive, an art-shop (named Kanopy) and a publication section engaged in producing some of the most versatile literary and visual productions. It organizes Art & Craft Fairs where craftsmen share space with contemporary artists under one roof. These fairs give a unique opportunity to the mass as well as art connoisseurs to collect artworks at reasonable prices. The ECA auctions which include authenticated artworks, genuine masterpieces and rare collections from the artists themselves or from reputed art galleries and private collectors have been put through a stringent selection process before being put under the hammer. Besides the auctions, it has also organized significant curated shows reflecting the contributions made by eminent masters and upcoming talents.

About Sanjay Bhattacharyya: Born in Kolkata in 1958, Sanjay went to the Government College of Arts & Crafts, Kolkota and graduated in 1982 in fine arts. In the year 1994, Sanjay had his solo exhibition titled 'Rajiv Gandhi: Landscape of a Man' at the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi. Perhaps, he is the only painter in India who has exhibited solo in N.G.M.A at such a young age. He is known for British orthodox technique of water colour and realistic rendering in his mammoth size oil canvasses. He has painted portraits of Presidents Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma and Mr. K. R. Narayanan for Rashtrapati Bhawan. His portrait of Shri Rajiv Gandhi is a part of Sonia Gandhi's collection. He hash had his solo exhibition of paintings in New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, New York and London. His paintings have influence of his *guru* Mr. Bikash Bhattacharya.

For further information, please contact:

Mahasweta Sen@9836292392 Puloma Basu@ 9903999068 Satyaki Dasgupta@9836089817 Shrilanjana Mukherjee@ 9163170601