Celebrating Women with Colours on Canvas by Manohar Khushalani

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CULTURE CONCERNS
Manohar Khushalani

The UN has designated this year as the Year of Women. To kick start the celebrations on the international Women's Day, prominent women artists from across the country came together to host a unique festival, curated by Sudhita Sengupta of 'The Chemistry of Colour'. The festival was in form of an Art Exhibition at IGNCA's Mud House and was unveiled by Manmohan Chibbar, The State Minister of Culture & Parliamentary Affairs. It had three sections 'Women by Women' showcased a few sparkling examples of Indian women who have elevated their personal space to let their talent bloom unselfishly to their art. 'Colors of Courage' displayed many examples of women whose creativity is not revered by the challenges of physical survival. Many of these artworks also women have a new aesthetic-charged dimension to the world of their perception. But the piece de resistance of the show was the exhibition titled 'Amrita Sengil Revisited'. Top artists of India were asked to respond to Amrita Sengil's "Three Sisters" with a painting of their own. Each artist's response was either in empathy with the painting or with the artist. Most of them chose to reinterpret the work in a contemporary context. Which was interesting because Amrita, who is an iconic women artist of the mid nineteenth was herself far ahead of her time. Amongst the people who played a starker role in mounting the exhibition were Madhvi Mehta of Mehta Foundation, Dr. Madhvi Pal Singh of Manovar Art foundation, Rajni Sabra IAS, S.P. Singhal and Neha Bansal of Sawan Art foundation.

Centre-stage of the exhibition was an installation called 'Garden Grove' by Sangeet Gandhi, 'celebrating the creativity of women and linking the seeds sat with the cosmos.' Dr. Madhvi's response to three artists was to show their revealing works that gave it universality. It was the only painting accompanied by a poem. 'Bonds' comprises response named, Bijon Bijon, stand up," and perhaps the renowned, Sawan Bhowmik's "Sun Kun" was a dazzlingly beautiful light-eyed modern young girl in sun-kissed contrast drama.

Her brothers, displayed a remarkable control on the craft and a realism that was almost photographic.

Vibha Bawa's 'Ears' was a rude reminder reminding us a lot about empathising with the sensitivity of deaths. The lines were clear and economic. The face simple and direct. A large number of artist's painted and also stress from the crowd and used her to make their statement. Gogi Saraj's "a crowd to see a centaurus and turn one of the piece's towards adding to the memory recently arrange them. She looked at the third artist's face in a

A response to Amrita Sengil by Sawan Bhowmik

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