

# ART PROBE

ISSUE #29

- Shristi Sainani

**Exhibition :** *In Touch (Edition 6)*

**Artist :** *Sahej Rahal, Ritesh Meshram, Tallur LN, Julien Segard, Rathin Barman, AJI V.N., Amit Ambalal, Hesam Rahmanian, Tara Kelton, Rm. Palaniappan, Baaraan Ijlal, Gigi Scaria*

**Venue :** *Online*

**Dates :** *Varying / Gallery*



*Ambiguous Living Spaces XII, 2020 (detail, 2021) Rathin Barman*

*Source : artintouch*

Virtual exhibiting platform '*In Touch*', created in partnership with 11 galleries in its sixth edition, presents artists working in diverse range of media including — sculpture, textile, drawing, digital fabrications and mix media works using found objects.<sup>1</sup> Their work is conceptualised from facets of mythology, poetry, antiquity, architectonics and theories of utilitarianism. There is an apparent grapple between contemporaneity and vintage, with *Tara Kelton's* looped video '*Homeward*' on one hand, paper works of *Pichvai* presented by *Tradition & Beyond* on the other. Then there is also the playful marriage of the two seen in *Tallur LN's* sculptures.

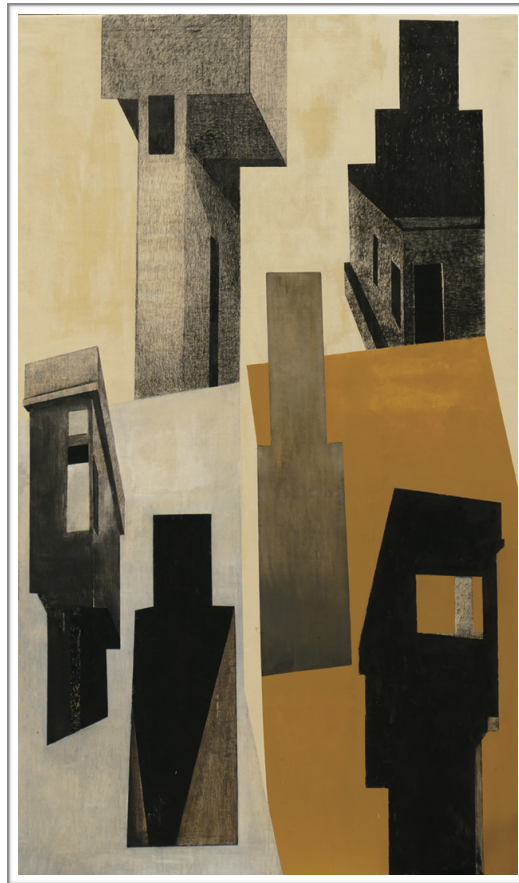
<sup>1</sup> Participating galleries include : *Chatterjee & Lal (Mumbai), Chemould Prescott Road (Mumbai), Experimenter (Kolkata), Galerie Mirchandani + Steinrucke, (Mumbai), Gallery Espace (Delhi), Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde (Dubai), GALLERYYSKE (Bangalore/Delhi), Nature Morte (Delhi), Shrine Empire (Delhi), Tradition and Beyond (Delhi), Vadehra Art Gallery (Delhi).*

For the purpose of this issue of ArtProbe, *Pichwai* works exhibited by *Tradition and Beyond (Delhi)* have not been considered since it manoeuvres a traditional technique of art making. *Pichwai* is a style of painting sacred, lyrical narratives on cloth. It originated over 400 years ago, in Rajasthan (India). They customarily, serve as backdrop to the idol of Hindu deity, Srinathji. Although, pieces put forth by *Tradition and Beyond* are aesthetically and culturally relevant today, they hold a charm of their own and therefore, are incomparable with the other works in scrutiny.

*Favourites from the show 'In Touch (Edition 6)' are:*

## 1) **Ferozpur, 2018**

Artist : Julien Segard



*Source : artintouch*

Visual artist *Julien Segard* (b. 1980, France), represented by *Experimenter (Kolkata)*, explores the built and natural scape, routinely observed as part of dynamic urban fabrics. He humbly mimics their textures and volumes, deconstructing their mass to produce interesting compositions. *Ferozpur (2018)* by *Segard* is a charcoal and acrylic on silk, measuring 210 x 123 cm. In this piece, he successfully incorporates negative space using contrasting pigmentation of ochres and charcoal, emphasising the geometricity of architectural formations. Therefore, giving the work a fantastic rhythmic character.

## 2) Absent Minded Geometry, 2014

Artist : Hesam Rahmanian



Source : artintouch

This work as a part of the *Absent Minded Geometry* (2014) series by artist *Hesam Rahmanian* is a collage of acrylic paint, magazine page and ink on paper. He distorts the identity of the subject, by smearing his face with hardened paint. What is appealing about this work is the sheer effortless and reckless quality of the smudge, which transforms into a stand-alone work of abstraction. The piece emits a sense of poignancy; although, the portrayal is vibrant, it is as if the innocence behind the stain is put into question. Perhaps, a commentary on fallacy of commercial image-making.

*Hesam Rahmanian* (b.1980, U.S.A) is represented by *Gallery Isabelle van den Eynde* (UAE). His work usually embodies found fragments of objects as develops spontaneous configurations either on canvas, or as an assemblage. Currently working in Dubai, one can usually find him amongst his Iranian artist peers, *Ramin Haerizadeh* and *Rokni Haerizadeh*, working as a part of a collective.



### 3) Locust Eaten Moon, Diary Entries of 2020, 2020

Artist : Baaraan Ijlal



Source : artintouch

*Faiz Ahmed's poetic draft beautifully inaugurates the work produced by artist Baaraan Ijlal, for her show Locust Eaten Moon:*

*Bahār aa.ī to khul ga.e haiñ na.e sire se hisāb saare*

*Spring has come once again asking the same questions, reopening account after account  
(as translated by Agha Shahid Ali)*

This 36.83 x 29.21 cm, acrylic on paper is a part of *Ijlal's* take on the devastation and violence, the epoch of coronavirus brought to the country. As a part of the documentation one can find, in her notebook — drawings, paintings and notes which turned to her personal refuge. She states, “*This book of now, this shelter, will be a reminder to me of the time a pandemic stopped the world.*”

This particular formation is special for its simplicity. Although the form of the canvas is unique to the production, its subject minimally occupies space. It features an arm holding a part of scissors (a utilitarian object) purposed for grooming which was the least of one's priorities, as well as performs as a symbol of violence, pain and separation (a common sight for the unprecedented times)

*Baaraan Ijlal* is a self-taught artist, represented by Delhi-based *Shrine Empire*.

#### 4) Floccinaucinihilipilification (prototype) 107, 2021

Artist : Tallur LN



Source : artintouch

*L.N Tallur* declares his pieces to be struck with floccinaucinihilipilification : *the action or habit of estimating something as worthless*. Not just his work but assigned titles too, are known to be playful, full of amusement! In fact this series caught the attention of the renowned politician, infamous for his superior vocabulary, Shashi Tharoor.

One of the most magnificent pieces in the manifestation recognised as In Touch Edition 6, Prototype 107, industrially amalgamates a visually-traditional figurine with the scientific representation of a thoracic cage (rib-cage) giving the bronze a hybridised identity of its own. *L.N Tallur's* oeuvre explores complementary opposites - handmade vs machine-made. For In Touch Edition 6, he is represented by Mumbai-based gallery *Chemould Prescott Road*.

## REFERENCES

**artintouch:**

In Touch: An Online Exhibition Platform. 2021.

*Artintouch.In.* <https://www.artintouch.in>.