



Emami Art Presents The Politics of Paper Curated by Ushmita Sahu

Kolkata 19th February 2022 : Emami Art hosts “**The Politics of Paper**” curated by Ushmita Sahu an exhibition that talks about engagements and explorations of *Paper* as a support, a material, a concept, a process, and/or other intellectual engagements from an individual, formal, historical, socio-cultural, political perspectives to name a few. The exhibition which started from 12th February will continue till 29th March 2022, from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm on the ground floor at Emami Art (except on Mondays).

The exhibition establishes a visual context of the expanding boundaries of language and approach through several works by some renowned artists such as **Adip Dutta, Anju Dodiya, Atul Dodiya, Chandra Bhattacharjee, Jagannath Panda, Jayashree Chakravarty, Mithu Sen, N S Harsha, Prasanta Sahu and TV Santhosh**. The crux of the show highlights *Paper*'s intrinsic relationship with our history, culture and politics for several millennia. It also highlights the ideas of accretion and transformation, thus turning the focus on material as social practice, where aptitudes, traditions, social spaces etc. feed a range of strategies and ideological assumptions. For each artist within the show, *Paper* embodies ideas of accretion and transformation that predicates a uniqueness of language and approach. By trying to connect diverse approaches the exhibition becomes a site of collaborations with multiple entry and exit ways.

“The exhibition, *the politics of paper*, is a prominent highlight on our gallery calendar this year. It brings together the most influential contemporary artists working in India today, revealing the diversity of their practices. It is interesting to see how remarkably the artists have used the paper, exploring its endless possibilities as a medium, material and concept. It is an excellent opportunity for the city's art lovers to see, face-to-face, the brilliant works, which, I am sure, will provoke them to rethink the paper as a powerful medium of art” says **Richa Agarwal, CEO Emami Art**.

“The Politics of Paper studies paper as a medium that bears a message in itself. Several eminent artists have tried to prove this through their artworks and installations which gives rise to a new approach of studying the importance of paper. Through this exhibition, we aim to transform the meaning of paper from an object to a medium and establish its connection with history, culture and politics on a larger scale. I have always had a close affinity to paper – In my own (former!) practice as an artist, the paper was my medium of choice. Paper is intimate, it allows for the immediacy of mark-making and it also encourages the acceptance of ‘mistakes’. It is fragile and delicate but can last for eons. It is also woven into the very fabric of human history and has proven itself to be an extremely versatile artistic vehicle. says **Ushmita Sahu, Head Curator, Emami Art**.

In addition to this there will be collateral events which will include presentations by the artists and engagement with students of art colleges from the state. A seven-day workshop will be designed around the exploration of paper which will also include some of the senior artists and selected young upcoming artists from the region.

About Emami Art:

Emami Art, one of the most significant art institutions in the eastern part of India, is a key space for cultural production in the region. The organisation is focused on a future-forward, complex, multi-dimensional approach and steadfast in the advocacy of emerging, mid-career and established artists as well as an engagement with contemporary and historical material. The gallery aims to create dynamic, wide-ranging registers of exhibition-making and viewing. Deeply committed to promoting a regional, national and international agenda through innovative and alternative programming, emphasis on community and socially relevant engagements, institutional partnerships and more via a multi-year vision for the future, Emami Art is resolute to be a catalyst of change, research, innovation and inclusivity. Emami Art, Kolkata Centre for Creativity 777 Anandapur off EM Bypass. www.emamiart.com