

champa tree

www.champatree.com
CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART GALLERY

LIFE IN A BELL JAR

RECENT WORKS BY MANISHA AGRAWAL



24 TH AUGUST - 1 ST OCTOBER 2021

11 AM - 6 PM (CLOSED ON MONDAYS)
W 114 GREATER KAILASH 2, NEW DELHI -48

LIFE IN A BELL JAR

Solo show by Manisha Agarwal

A glass jar is often used to protect and display delicate objects or to cover scientific apparatus and even to contain gases or to create a vacuum. Essentially it possesses the allegory of being cut off from the rest of the world, a duality of being preserved yet of feeling entrapped. The author-poet Sylvia Plath used the Bell Jar, after which her book is named, as a very effective metaphor of confinement and entrapment, of death, of alienation, of losing one's self and, later, regaining that self...However, it may also be used as a metaphor for protection.

For artist Manisha Agarwal the glass jar is all this and more. It contains the fragile and the precious flora and fauna that we as a species have threatened in the age of the Anthropocene. Manisha takes inspiration for her art from her immediate surroundings, hitherto bestowing upon them this poetic and ironic twist. In her childhood, the glass jar was always used to protect her favourite sweets and candies. As an adult it was the dal (lentils) and the masala (spices) that were housed in these jars. Over time it became a container to store the flowers she picked to study and slowly it morphed into the metaphor for protecting the wild-life along with the vegetation that we as a species have impacted negatively, almost to the point of extinction. A phenomenon that disturbs her deeply.

Much of Manisha's initiative to paint the stunning variety of flowers and the thriving wildlife that is characteristic of Indore, comes from the presence of the Ralamandal wildlife sanctuary, the Panna Tiger Reserve and Sirpur Talab (lake) that plays host to many migrant birds that come to drink at the waterfront, especially from November to February. Inspired by the local's desire to preserve and recycle and separate waste to gain a firmer footing over all that is under threat. Besides, Manisha moved towards art from a rather young age. Her mother was a seamstress who did embroidery, and her neighbour used to work at the fine art college. Hence, she was exposed to arts and aesthetics at an early age.

Stylistically, Manisha enjoys painting in a hyperrealist style. Her earlier work used to be rendered in acrylic and oil, however she took a break and recently discovered the joy and immediacy of watercolours. Although her works are characterized by a very high level of skill, the emotion that Manisha brings to the work is also equally important. This is in keeping with the hyperrealist style that is prevalent globally. Hyperrealists took the Photorealist technique even further by developing ways of including narrative, charm and emotion into painting, not leaving it bereft of "personality" as some of the Photorealism works do. Much of Manisha's works are redolent with emotive narrative.

Georgina Maddox



Untitled 1
Watercolour on post card
4 x 6 inches each (set of 32)
2020
2,10,000 full panel / 7,000 each



Animal endangered - 58

Water colour on paper

22 x 30 inches

2018

₹ 50,000



Animal endangered - 42

Water colour on paper

22 x 30 inches

2017

₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty - 17
Water colour on paper
9 x 12 inches each (set of 90)
2020
₹ 12,000 (each)



Vanishing Beauty stamp - 10
 Watercolour on paper
 22 x 30 inches each
 2019
 ₹ 50,000 (each)



Vanishing Beauty stamp - 1

Watercolour on paper

22 x 30 inches

2019

₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty- 6 (set of 56)
Watercolour on paper
6 x 8.5 inches (each)
2020
₹ 6,500 (each)



Vanishing Beauty - 17
Manisha Aggarwal
Watercolour on paper
9 x 12 inches each (set of 90)
2020
₹ 12,000 (each)
CTMA13

Untitled - 82
Water colours on paper
22 x 30 inches
2020
₹ 50,000



Chair - 3
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches
2020
₹ 50,000



Chair - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches
2020
₹ 50,000



Chair - 1
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches
2020
₹ 50,000



Chair - 2
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches
2020
₹ 50,000



Indian Kitchen
Water colour on paper
8 X 5.5 inches (each)
2017
₹ 4,000



Animal Endangered - 62

Water colour on paper

9 x 12 inches

2018

₹ 10,000



Animal Endangered - 60

Acrylic on canvas

36 x 36 inches

2018

₹ 65,000



Kumbh 1
Watercolour, rice paper pasted on canvas
36 x 36 inches
2018
₹ 65,000



Vanishing Beauty - 14 (set of 5)
Earth colour on processed cow dung
9 x 9 inches each (16 inches with frame)
2019
₹ 75,000 (for set), 15,000 (for each)



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each (6 units)
2018
₹ 50,000 (each)



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each
2018
₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each
2018
₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each
2018
₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each
2018
₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each
2018
₹ 50,000



Vanishing Beauty - 4
Water colour on paper
22 x 30 inches each
2018
₹ 50,000



Untitled - 113
Water colours on paper
32 x 46 inches
2020
₹ 95,000



Animal endangered - 65
Water colour on paper
6 x 8.5 inches each
2018
₹ 5,000 (each)



Vanishing Beauty - 16 (set of 9)
Earth colour on processed cow dung
9 x 9 inches each (16 inches with frame)
2020
₹ 1,35,000 (for set), 15,000 (for each)



Untitled - 134
Water colour on paper
47 x 70 inches
2021
₹ 2,50,00



Untitled - 144
Watercolour on paper
47 x 70 inches each
2021
₹ 2,50,000 (each)



Untitled - 144
Watercolour on paper
47 x 70 inches each
2021
₹ 2,50,000



Untitled - 144
Watercolour on paper
47 x 70 inches each
2021
₹ 2,50,000



Untitled - 144
Watercolour on paper
47 x 70 inches each
2021
₹ 2,50,000



Untitled - 112
Water colours on paper
32 x 46 inches
2020
₹ 95,000

MANISHA AGRAWAL



Manisha Agrawal (b.1989, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh) completed her BFA & MFA in Painting from Government Fine Arts College, Indore. Her list of accolades includes a gold medal and the Jury award by the Manav Sanket Academy, Ujjain, and the Honorable Mention Award at the 83rd All India Academy Exhibition of arts, Amritsar. She has been a part of various residency programmes and art camps such as AIFACS- Junior Artists Camp in 2018. Manisha has taken part in numerous group exhibitions including Female Artist Exhibition at State Lalit Kala Academy, Goa Art Fest at Museum of Goa amongst others. She has also attended the 1st South Asian International Art Camp, Nepal in 2018.