



Press Release

Emami Art Hosts ‘Gestures’ - Showcasing Veteran Artist Partha Pratim Deb’s Finest Artworks Featuring His Drawings And Linocuts -

Kolkata, December, 2020: Emami Art, one of India’s leading contemporary art galleries based in Kolkata is presently hosting a solo-exhibition ‘**Gestures**’ by veteran artist **Partha Pratim Deb**, which intends to showcase some exemplary Drawings and Linocuts that he has created. The exhibition boasts a firm stroke of Rabelaisian satire that opposes to all that is official, serious, finished and polished. A total of 19 Drawings and 17 Linocuts by the artist are on display.

Swinging like a pendulum between the two opposite poles of abstraction and representation, familiar and unfamiliar, affective and notational, denotative and metaphorical, each drawing by Partha Pratim Deb presents, despite their uniformity of format and style, its own world of unique existence and particular atmosphere. In his drawings and also linocuts, what we are drawn to is the dynamic quality of the images, the rhythm and emotional import of the gestures. What the artist wanted to practice can be called “the pure cultivation of the means” of drawing. Instead of setting out to depict something visible, he uses the shapes and lines for their own sake, giving sole emphasis to their graphic quality. His drawing begins without pre-planning, allowing the abstract composition to emerge through a process of improvisation, introspection and submission – an innovative approach makes him something of a rarity among the contemporary Indian artists. The first stage of the process is free and playful, while the second stage, where he includes the objects and figures as fun elements into the picture, is carefully calculated.

“It gives me great pleasure to present **Gestures**, a solo-exhibition of the recent works of **Partha Pratim Deb**. In all the artworks he has promptly adapted the new notions of art, moving away from the academic training to explore experimental, avant-garde aesthetics in his paintings and assemblages. The nuanced yet playful and unconventional approaches to art for which he is widely known are also evident in the works at the exhibition. I would like to give my utmost thanks to him for trusting us to exhibit his work”, said **Ms Richa Agarwal, CEO, Emami Art**.

The exhibition has started on **18th December, 2020** and shall be displayed till **30th January, 2021**. The exhibition can also be viewed on Emami Art’s website www.emamiart.com

About The Artist:

Born in 1943 in Sylhet District, Bangladesh, Partha Pratim Deb studied fine arts in Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan and MS University, Baroda. A popular teacher who taught painting at Rabindra Bharati University over three decades, he is one of the rare contemporary Indian artists, known for his experimental and non-conformist approach to art, clearly exemplified in his recent drawings and colourful assemblage of discarded household objects. Working with a wide range of mediums and materials, both conventional and unconventional, he explores the relationship between materials, objects and contemporary discourses on art, incorporating both the serious and frivolous elements into his art.

He has showed his works in many solo-exhibitions at Aicon Gallery, New York (2006); Aakriti Art Gallery, Kolkata (2006); Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Kolkata (1997); and Academy of Fine Arts (1974, 1976, 1978). His works has also been featured in many group exhibitions including the *Glimpses of Contemporary Bengal Art* at Birla Academy of Art and Culture (Kolkata, 2006); *Folk in Modern* at Aakriti Art Gallery (Kolkata, 2006); *Lines* at Birla Academy of Art & Culture (Kolkata, 2005); *New Wave in Bengal Art* at Akar Prakar (Kolkata, 2005); Contemporary Art Exhibition at Chitrakoot Art Gallery (Kolkata, 2002); Art of Bengal at CIMA (Kolkata, 2000); among others.

A member of Painter’s Orchestra, an Artists’ group in Kolkata, Partha Pratim Deb lives and works in Kolkata.

About Emami Art:

A destination for Modern & cutting - edge Contemporary Art, Emami Art is a one-of-a-kind art space built in keeping with international standards. Positioned as a key destination for artists, visitors and art collectors, the gallery aligns with the Emami Group’s mission to support artists & artisans and contribute to society’s wellbeing. A regular programme of curated exhibitions, includes the works of new talents and eminent masters of regional, national and international repute that aligns with the promoters’ ideology that while the popular contributes to the academic, the academic uplifts the popular. Spearheaded by Richa Agarwal, Emami Art’s new 10,000 sq. ft. art space is located in the Kolkata



Centre for Creativity (KCC), a state-of-the-art multi-disciplinary interactive art centre, off Eastern Metropolitan Bypass, Kolkata, India. www.emamiart.com