

Sri Lankan Artists Feature in Saffronart's Upcoming South Asian Art Auction

- Sri Lankan artists George Keyt, Pala Pothupitiye and Senaka Senanayake feature in the sale
- Works by Akbar Padamsee, Krishen Khanna, S H Raza, F N Souza, G R Iranna, Atul Dodiya are among highlights
- A section is dedicated to the works of M F Husain
- Nearly 50 lots being offered at no reserve
- Viewings in New Delhi, New York and Mumbai
- Online auction on 30 November – 1 December 2016 on saffronart.com

Mumbai, 16 November 2016: Saffronart's upcoming online auction extends beyond India to include art from the subcontinent. [The Ties That Bind: South Asian Modern and Contemporary Art](#) focuses on artists who redefined the art scene in their countries. Featuring in the sale are exceptional works of modern and contemporary art by S H Raza, M F Husain, F N Souza, Sudarshan Shetty, George Keyt, Pala Pothupitiye and Senaka Senanayake, among other leading artists.

The sale is led by a Metascape by Akbar Padamsee, estimated at INR 3.5 – 4.5 crores (USD 530,305 – 681,820). Constantly experimenting with colour, form and structure throughout his career, in 1994, Padamsee concentrated on creating a series of Mirror Images and Metascapes. Consisting of richly textured areas of mixed colour juxtaposed against smaller, flat colour planes, the painting's luminosity makes it mesmerising.

In focus is artist M F Husain. In a remarkable career during which he created movie posters and murals, painted on canvas and on cars, sketched in his notebook and on people's front doors when they were not at home, created toys and wrote poems, Husain was an indefatigable fount of creativity. Lots 56 – 84 represent some of the range and depth of his artistic vision.

Among the highlights are works by Sri Lankan artists George Keyt, Pala Pothupitiye and Senaka Senanayake. George Keyt was one of Sri Lanka's most celebrated artists of the 20th century. His work drew from aspects of Buddhist literature and temple architecture, as well as Puranic narratives and Indian erotic iconography. Two lots by the celebrated artist feature in the sale. Colombo-based contemporary artist Pala Pothupitiye is part of the '90s Trend,' an art revolution in Sri Lanka that emerged in response to the civil war that affected the nation for more than two decades. *Chavakachcheri Map*, estimated at INR 2 – 3 lakhs (USD 3,035 – 4,550), draws attention to the political dynamics of neo-colonial Sri Lanka in transition, and the uncertainty it imposes on the common man. Senaka Senanayake's art is dominated by the flora and fauna of Sri Lanka's forests. His 1980 canvas, estimated at INR 8 – 10 lakhs (USD 12,125 - 15,155), draws attention to the rapidly depleting forests of Sri Lanka.

Hugo Weihe, CEO of Saffronart says, "The sale reflects the inspiration and exchange of ideas across South Asia, from the early years of Independence to the present. A fresh mix and approach to selecting the most creative

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art across South Asian nations presents many exciting discoveries and highlights their common ground. There is truly something here for everyone, and many works are available at no reserve.”

The selection will appeal to seasoned as well as new collectors, with nearly 50 lots being offered at no reserve. The auction is on saffronart.com on 30 November – 1 December 2016, and is preceded by viewings in New Delhi, New York and Mumbai. All lots can be viewed online.

Auction:

30 November – 1 December 2016

saffronart.com

Auction begins 9 am IST on 30 November

New Delhi Viewings

14 – 17 November 2016

11 am – 7 pm

Saffronart

The Claridges

12 Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam Road

New Delhi 110011

New York Viewings

18 November – 1 December 2016

11 am – 7 pm, Monday – Saturday

Sunday by appointment

Saffronart

The Fuller Building

595 Madison Avenue, Suite 900

New York, NY 10022

Mumbai Viewings

24 November – 1 December 2016

11 am – 7 pm, Monday to Saturday

Sunday by appointment

Saffronart

Industry Manor, Ground Floor

Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi

Mumbai 400025

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About Saffronart

A global company with deep Indian roots, Saffronart was founded in 2000 on the strength of a private passion. Remaining committed to this passion and personal values, today Saffronart is a strong and successful international auction house that both embraces and drives change.

A platform for fine art and collectibles with sixteen years of experience in auctions, Saffronart is committed to serving the growing community of Indian collectors, while also creating a cultural bridge to India for both the global Indian diaspora and the international community at large. Saffronart has set several global benchmarks for online auctions and is the subject of a case study at Harvard Business School.

In its 16 year journey, Saffronart has established itself as one of the leading auction houses in the world and has held several highly successful online and live auctions and preview events in cities like Mumbai, New Delhi, New York, London, Singapore and Hong Kong. In July 2015, Saffronart appointed Hugo Weihe, former International Director of Asian Art at Christie's, as its new Chief Executive Officer. Weihe oversees Saffronart's presence in Mumbai, New Delhi, New York and London in building a market for Indian art and antiquities globally.

Responding to the needs of today's collectors, Saffronart offers a range of services including art advisory, private sales, appraisals and valuations, and specialised art storage. Through these personalised services, our dedicated team of professionals provides collectors with a comprehensive set of options to evolve and care for their collections over time. In April 2010, Saffronart leveraged its online presence and global reach to introduce a new service – Prime Properties in India. In 2013 Saffronart launched StoryLTD, an online auction and e-commerce platform to serve a broader base of art and collectibles buyers. Since 2014, StoryLTD has been holding a number of no-reserve online auctions which been enthusiastically received. StoryLTD recently launched its new programme of weekly auctions catering to the growing affordable art market.

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