

## Saffronart to Host Two Major Auctions this October

- Rare portrait by Amrita Sher-Gil, believed to be the only one of her mother, leads the October Live Auction in Mumbai
  - Tyeb Mehta's iconic *Untitled (Blue Bird)* leads the October Online Auction
- The October Online Auction on 13-14 October features modern and contemporary South Asian art and collectibles

**Mumbai, 29 September 2021:** Works by some of the most celebrated modern and contemporary South Asian artists will feature in two consecutive auctions by Saffronart this October. The **October Live Auction** will take place at **Saffronart's Mumbai gallery** on **13 October 2021** and features **40 exceptional works by modern masters** such as Amrita Sher-Gil, Jamini Roy, S H Raza, Akbar Padamsee, M F Husain, and more. This is followed by the **October Online Auction** on **13-14 October 2021** on the Saffronart website, with a **curated catalogue of 80 works** of modern and contemporary South Asian art, folk and tribal art, as well as collectibles.

**Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart CEO and Co-Founder** said, *"Saffronart's October Auctions are scheduled during an exciting time in the international art calendar, given the current focus on modern Indian art. The Live and Online Auctions have been carefully curated to include rare and iconic works by modern and contemporary masters in order to give collectors and connoisseurs across the world a unique opportunity to acquire the best of South Asian art. The live sale is led by a rare early work by Amrita Sher-Gil titled Portrait of Mother, circa 1930s, that highlights her artistic skill and acts as a strong indicator of what was to come, while the online sale is led by Tyeb Mehta's Untitled (Blue Bird), 2007, an iconic painting from his 'Falling Figure' series that encompasses his evolution as an artist. Both these works, along with the others that are up for sale next month, mark critical moments in the visual journeys of the artists, making them exceptional pieces worthy of any seasoned and new collector."*

### OCTOBER LIVE AUCTION | MODERN INDIAN ART | 13 OCTOBER 2021

The October Live Auction is led by **Amrita Sher-Gil's *Portrait of Mother, circa 1930s*** ([Lot 21](#), estimate: **INR 10 – 15 crores; USD 1.38 – 2.08 million**), a rare early work from the artist. This work stands out in Sher-Gil's oeuvre due to the uniqueness of its subject. Believed to be the only portrait of Marie Antoinette Gottesmann (Sher-Gil's mother) painted by Sher-Gil, it is indicative of the artist's tremendous talent and maturity when it came to portraiture and the treatment of the female subject in the frame.

Other highlights from the auction include:

- **Jamini Roy, *Untitled*** ([Lot 4](#), estimate: INR 3 – 4 crores; USD 416,670 – 555,560)
- **S H Raza, *Triangles, 1998*** ([Lot 29](#), estimate: INR 3 – 4 crores; USD 416,670 – 555,560)
- **E L Weeks, *A Wedding Procession – Ahmedabad, India, circa 1885-86*** ([Lot 33](#), estimate: INR 2.88 – 4.32 crores; USD 400,000 – 600,000)
- **M F Husain, *Untitled*** ([Lot 10](#), estimate: INR 2 – 3 crores; USD 277,780 – 416,670)
- **Ganesh Pyne, *Woman Sowing, circa 1970s*** ([Lot 28](#), estimate: INR 1.5 – 2 crores; USD 208,335 – 277,780)

The Live Auction will take place at the Saffronart gallery in Mumbai and is preceded by viewings in London, Mumbai, and New Delhi. We are committed to following all safety protocols in these uncertain times. All lots can be viewed [online](#) on saffronart.com.

**OCTOBER ONLINE AUCTION | MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIAN ART AND COLLECTIBLES | 13-14 OCTOBER 2021**

The October Online Auction is led by **Tyeb Mehta's *Untitled (Blue Bird), 2007*** ([Lot 66](#), estimate: **INR 8 – 10 crores; USD 1.11 – 1.38 million**). This work is a vibrant acrylic on canvas depicting a blue bird in free fall and has its roots in Mehta's *Falling Figure* series, which he first began painting in the mid-1960s. Painted towards the end of his life, this work is indicative of Mehta's evolution as an artist and his use of monochromatic fields of colour and strong vertical lines in aid of his pictorial vocabulary.

Other highlights from the auction include:

- **Thomas Hickey, *Portrait of Harakumar and his younger brother Prasanna Coomar Tagore, late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century*** ([Lot 59](#), estimate: INR 2 – 3 crores; USD 277,780 – 416,670)
- **F N Souza, *Untitled (Priest at Altar), 1966*** ([Lot 77](#), estimate: INR 70 – 90 lakhs; USD 97,225 – 125,000)
- **Rashid Rana, *Red Carpet – 2, 2007*** ([Lot 111](#), estimate: INR 43.2 – 57.6 lakhs; USD 60,000 – 80,000)
- **Thukral and Tagra, *Somnium Genero Aeris 04, 2006*** ([Lot 103](#), estimate: INR 25.2 – 32.4 lakhs; USD 35,000 – 45,000)
- **Zarina Hashmi, *Silent Night, 2017*** ([Lot 87](#), estimate: INR 15 – 20 lakhs; USD 20,835 – 27,780)

The Online Auction will take place on saffronart.com and is preceded by viewings in London, Mumbai, and New Delhi. All lots can be viewed [online](#) on saffronart.com.

**AUCTION DATES**

October Live Auction | 13 October 2021, Mumbai, 7.30 pm  
October Online Auction | 13 - 14 October 2021 on saffronart.com

**VIEWINGS**

**LONDON**

11 am – 5.30 pm  
Monday to Friday  
(Weekends by appointment)

**VENUE**

73 New Bond Street  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
London, W1S 1RS

To make an appointment, please contact +44 20 7409 7974 or email us at [london@saffronart.com](mailto:london@saffronart.com)

**MUMBAI**

11 am – 7 pm  
Monday to Friday  
Saturday (by appointment only)

**VENUE**

Saffronart, Industry Manor, Ground Floor  
Appasaheb Marathe Marg  
Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025

To make an appointment, please contact +91 22 6855 4100 or email us at [auction@saffronart.com](mailto:auction@saffronart.com)

**NEW DELHI**

11 am – 7 pm  
Monday to Friday  
Saturday (by appointment only)

**VENUE**

Saffronart, The Oberoi  
Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg  
New Delhi 110003

To make an appointment, please contact +91 11 2436 9415/16 or email us at [delhi@saffronart.com](mailto:delhi@saffronart.com)

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**ABOUT SAFFRONART**

Founded in 2000 by Minal and Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart is a leading international auction house, and India's most reputed, with over three hundred auctions to its credit. Its flagship gallery is in Mumbai, with offices in New Delhi, London, and New York. At the forefront of selling Indian art, Saffronart has held online and live auctions, exhibitions, and Dialogues in Art, working with collectors, gallerists, and artists to develop a strong market for art and aesthetics. Its focus is to bring transparency to the auction process and provide easy access and information to collectors around the world. Saffronart's services go beyond auctions to include private sales, appraisals, and valuations for clients. Saffronart has set several global benchmarks for online auctions and was the subject of a case study at Harvard Business School in 2005.

**Website:** [www.saffronart.com](http://www.saffronart.com) | **Facebook:** @saffronart | **Instagram:** @saffronartindia

**Press Contact**

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