

Saffronart's Summer Auction Features Rare Works by Amrita Sher-Gil and V S Gaitonde

Mumbai, 28 June 2021: Saffronart's annual Summer Auction returns this year with two consecutive sales that feature masterpieces by some of the most distinguished names in modern and contemporary South Asian art.

The **Summer Live Auction** will be held at **Saffronart's Mumbai gallery** on **13 July 2021** and features **30 important works by modern masters** such as Amrita Sher-Gil, F N Souza, S H Raza, N S Bendre, Hemendranath Majumdar, Ram Kumar, Manjit Bawa, and more. The sale will be followed by the **Summer Online Auction** on **13-14 July 2021**, which offers an exceptional selection of **70 works by modern and contemporary South Asian artists** such as V S Gaitonde, Jehangir Sabavala, Zarina Hashmi, Rana Begum, Atul Dodiya, Jagannath Panda, Nalini Malani, and many more.

Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart CEO and Co-Founder said, *"We are excited to present this extraordinary collection of modern and contemporary art in our Summer Live and Online Auctions, which include works with exceptional provenance that represent some of the best of Indian art. The pièce de résistance of our live sale is a remarkable 1938 painting by Amrita Sher-Gil titled In the Ladies' Enclosure — a rare work of the artist's to emerge in the art market. Painted in the last few years of her life, this seminal work is a culmination of her years of artistic training and cultural experiences and marks the zenith of her evolution as an artist. The online sale is led by an enigmatic 1961 abstract work by V S Gaitonde that represents an important milestone in his distinctive career and shows his deep engagement with Zen philosophy. Both auctions also include important works by several other modern and contemporary artists, offering collectors and connoisseurs across the world a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire the best of South Asian art."*

SUMMER LIVE AUCTION | 13 JULY 2021

The Summer Live Auction is led by **Amrita Sher-Gil's *In the Ladies' Enclosure, 1938*** ([Lot 13](#), estimate: **INR 30 – 40 crores; USD 4.2 – 5.6 million**), a seminal painting in the artist's oeuvre. This quiet but powerful composition, depicting a group of women in a field, is considered one of Sher-Gil's best works to emerge in the art market. Painted during the last few years of her life while she was living in the family estate in Saraya, Gorakhpur, it is the outcome of years of arriving into her own as an artist – from a childhood spent in developing her talent, her formative years in Paris, and her return to India where she discovered her roots and her identity as an artist.

Among the highlights is **F N Souza's *Untitled (Night Landscape with Flowering Trees), 1956*** ([Lot 15](#), estimate: **INR 4 – 6 crores; USD 563,385 – 845,075**). Painted during a highly prolific period in the artist's career, this work demonstrates his immense proficiency over form and space.

Other highlights include an acrylic by **S H Raza** from his ***Bindu series***, titled ***Sansarii (Univers, 4 Grand Bindu), 1994*** ([Lot 21](#), estimate: **USD 400,000 – 600,000; INR 2.84 – 4.26 crores**); an oil on canvas by **Manjit Bawa** ([Lot 25](#), estimate: **USD 100,000 – 150,000; INR 71 lakhs – 1.06 crores**), painted in his typical

minimalist style; and a figurative work by **Hemendranath Majumdar** ([Lot 9](#), estimate: **INR 65 – 75 lakhs; USD 91,550 – 105,635**), an artist known for his realistic studies of the female form.

The Live Auction will take place at the Saffronart gallery in Mumbai and is preceded by viewings (by prior appointment) 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.

SUMMER ONLINE AUCTION | 13-14 JULY 2021

The Summer Online Auction features an oil on canvas by eminent Indian Modernist **V S Gaitonde** ([Lot 46](#), estimate: **USD 2.1 – 2.8 million; INR 15 – 20 crores**). Painted in **1961** in a vertical format – an orientation that Gaitonde worked with exclusively from 1968 onwards – this vibrant and ephemeral red masterpiece is a stunning example of Gaitonde’s abstract paintings, resulting from his deep engagement with Zen Buddhism and nature.

Other highlights from the modern works in the Online Auction include a sublime landscape by **Jehangir Sabavala** ([Lot 35](#), estimate: **USD 352,115 – 492,960; INR 2.5 – 3.5 crores**); an abstract landscape by **Ram Kumar** that was painted between **1983-87** ([Lot 36](#), estimate: **USD 60,000 – 80,000; INR 42.6 – 56.8 lakhs**); **M F Husain’s Mahishasura Mohini** ([Lot 48](#), estimate: **USD 21,130 – 28,170; INR 15 – 20 lakhs**); a bronze sculpture by **Himmat Shah** ([Lot 55](#), estimate: **USD 35,215 – 49,300; INR 25 – 35 lakhs**); and more.

The contemporary works on auction include a unique work by **Zarina Hashmi** from **2015** ([Lot 89](#), estimate: **USD 14,085 – 21,130; INR 10 – 15 lakhs**); a six-part work by **Atul Dodiya** titled *Fallen Leaves – A Stroll #2, 2006* ([Lot 88](#), estimate: **USD 25,000 – 35,000; INR 17.75 – 24.85 lakhs**); a wall-mounted work by **Rana Begum** titled *No. 387 – Fold 71, 2013* ([Lot 100](#), estimate: **USD 25,355 – 33,805; INR 18 – 24 lakhs**); two sets of two acrylics on paper from **1991** by **Nalini Malani** (Lots [86](#) and [87](#), estimate: **USD 10,000 – 15,000; INR 7.1 – 10.65 lakhs each**); and more.

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

AUCTION DATES

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

VIEWINGS BY APPOINTMENT

LONDON

11 am – 5 pm
Monday to Friday
(Weekends by appointment)

VENUE

73 New Bond Street
1st Floor
London, W1S 1RS

To make an appointment, please contact +44 20 7409 7974 or email us at london@saffronart.com

MUMBAI

11 am – 3 pm
Monday to Friday
(By prior 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

NEW DELHI

11 am – 3 pm
Monday to Friday
(By prior 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

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 | **Facebook:** @saffronart | **Instagram:** @saffronartindia

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