

## Raja Ravi Varma Leads Saffronart's Winter Live Auction in December

**Mumbai, 1 December 2021:** Saffronart returns with its **Winter Live Auction** that will be held at **Saffronart's Mumbai gallery** on **15 December 2021**.

The auction features a carefully curated collection of **70 works** that spans around **2,000 years of India's artistic heritage**, beginning with antiquities from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD to more contemporary works of Indian art. Some of the artists whose works are featured in the auction include Raja Ravi Varma, F N Souza, Jagdish Swaminathan, M F Husain, Bhupen Khakhar, Ram Kumar, and others.

The Winter Live Auction is led by **Raja Ravi Varma's *Music Hath Charms (Kadambari)*, circa 1900s** ([Lot 13](#), estimate: **INR 12 – 15 crores; USD 1.64 – 2.05 million**) – a magnificent painting that is a perfect embodiment of his style and work. Known for his particular talent when it came to painting women, the beauty of the work lies in Ravi Varma's attention to detail as noted in the gleam of her jewels, the sheen of her attire and the soothing composition of the frame.

Among the highlights is **F N Souza's *Untitled, 1954*** ([Lot 64](#), estimate: **INR 2.92 – 4.38 crores; USD 400,000 – 600,000**). Painted during a critical turning point in his artistic journey, this striking vertical composition stands apart from Souza's standard landscapes and exudes a sense of peace, calm and order.

Other highlights from the auction include a mixed media and collage on board by **Bhupen Khakhar** titled ***Introduction of Hindu Temple II*** ([Lot 44](#), estimate: **INR 3.5 – 4.5 crores; USD 479,455 – 616,440**); **M F Husain's *Untitled (Lost Continent), 2005*** ([Lot 66](#), estimate: **INR 2.19 – 2.92 crores; USD 300,000 – 400,000**); an early tribal work by **Jagdish Swaminathan** from the **1960s** ([Lot 34](#), estimate: **INR 2 – 3 crores; USD 273,975 – 410,960**); an untitled tempera and gouache on canvas by **Nicholas Roerich** ([Lot 23](#), estimate: **INR 1.2 – 1.5 crores; USD 164,385 – 205,480**); **Prabhakar Barwe's *Untitled, 1968*** ([Lot 33](#), estimate: **INR 75 – 95 lakhs; USD 102,740 – 130,140**) that explores the nuances of form and space; and an abstract oil on canvas by **Ram Kumar** from **1962** ([Lot 41](#), estimate: **INR 70 – 90 lakhs; USD 95,895 – 123,290**).

The **antiquity section** includes sculptures in sandstone, schist, and bronze from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD onwards, works on paper as well as paintings. Some of the highlights from this section include **Ganga**, an 8<sup>th</sup> century sandstone sculpture ([Lot 2](#), estimate: **INR 10 – 15 lakhs; USD 13,700 – 20,550**); **Seated Ganesha**, a 12<sup>th</sup> century grey schist sculpture ([Lot 4](#), estimate: **INR 12 – 15 lakhs; USD 16,440 – 20,550**); and an untitled **Early Bengal School** oil on canvas from the **late 19<sup>th</sup> century** ([Lot 11](#), estimate: **INR 15 – 20 lakhs; USD 20,550 – 27,400**).

**Saffronart CEO and Co-Founder Dinesh Vazirani** said, *"We are looking forward to closing 2021 with our Winter Live Auction that showcases stunning works of Indian art across a period of 2,000 years. The highlight of the auction is a significant painting by Raja Ravi Varma titled Music Hath Charms (Kadambari), circa 1900s, and is a clear indication as to why he is regarded as one of the early pioneers of modern Indian art. The auction also includes antiquities as well as several other works by modern and contemporary artists, thus offering first-time and experienced art collectors and connoisseurs a marvellous opportunity to acquire the best of Indian art."*

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.

**AUCTION DATE**

Winter Live Auction: Indian Art | 15 December 2021 | Mumbai | 7.30 pm

**VIEWINGS (BY APPOINTMENT)**

**LONDON**

11 am – 5 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 – 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](mailto: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](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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