

**Saffronart's Evening Sale Achieves
Total Sale Value of INR 85.89 crores (USD 10.8 million)
and Creates Three World Records**

- **World records created for N S Bendre, B Prabha, and Jyoti Bhatt**
- **Price records for Prabhakar Barwe's *Near the Bridge*, 1991 and M V Dhurandhar's *Untitled*, 1934**
- **F N Souza's *Broken Head*, 1957 sold for INR 12 crores (USD 1.5 million)**
- **N S Bendre's *Untitled*, 1983 sold for INR 7.5 crores (USD 943,396), making it the highest price achieved by the artist in auction globally**

Mumbai, 22 September 2022: Saffronart's highly anticipated Evening Sale – returning to New Delhi after three years – closed on Saturday night with **97% lots sold**, achieving a **total sale value of INR 85.89 crores (USD 10.8 million)** amidst enthusiastic bidding in the room as well as globally from bidders on the phone, online and via the Saffronart mobile app.

The leading lots in the sale performed exceedingly well, with a world record being created for **N S Bendre's *Untitled*, 1983** ([Lot 13](#)). The work sold for **INR 7.5 crores (USD 943,396)**, making it the **highest price achieved by the artist in auction globally**. The other cover lot in the auction, **F N Souza's *Broken Head*, 1957** ([Lot 46](#)) also performed well, achieving a high sale price of **INR 12 crores (USD 1.5 million)**.

The Evening Sale also saw the following artists' works achieving their **highest prices in auction globally** – **B Prabha's** beautiful 9-foot-wide oil on canvas from 1986 ([Lot 26](#)), which sold for **INR 1.14 crores (USD 143,396)**, and **Jyoti Bhatt's *Untitled*** ([Lot 58](#)), a unique collection of 102 photographs, which sold for **INR 26.4 lakhs (USD 33,208)**.

The other lots that hammered down **record prices** included **Prabhakar Barwe's *Near the Bridge*, 1991** ([Lot 43](#)), which sold for **INR 3.36 crores (USD 422,642)**, making it **the second-most expensive work sold by the artist in auction**, and **M V Dhurandhar's *Untitled*, 1934** ([Lot 32](#)), which sold for **INR 4.8 crores (USD 603,774)**; making it the **third-most expensive work sold by the artist in auction**.

Other highlights from the auction include **Jehangir Sabavala's *Of Cloud and Air II*, 1977** ([Lot 22](#)), which sold for over double its lower estimate at **INR 7.2 crores (USD 905,660)**; **Akbar Padamsee's *Metascape*, 1975** ([Lot 42](#)), which sold for well over double its lower estimate at **INR 6.84 crores (USD 860,377)**; **M F Husain's** large diptych titled ***Airavat*** ([Lot 37](#)), which sold for **INR 4.5 crores (USD 566,038)**; **S H Raza's *Bindu*, 1989** ([Lot 24](#)), which sold for **INR 3.48 crores (USD 437,736)**; **Bikash Bhattacharjee's *Measure the Land*** ([Lot 38](#)), which sold for nearly three times its higher estimate at **INR 90 lakhs (USD 113,208)**; and **Piraji Sagara's *Mute Evening*, 1962** ([Lot 40](#)), which sold for double its higher estimate at **INR 24 lakhs (USD 30,189)**.

The **sculptures section** also performed exceedingly well with **all the lots surpassing its pre-auction estimates**. Some of the highlights include a set of three untitled works by **Amarnath Sehgal** ([Lot 59](#)) selling for over five times its higher estimate at **INR 38.4 lakhs (USD 48,302)**, as well as two versions of **Fredda**

Brilliant's Seated Gandhi (Lot 65 and 66), which sold for over double its higher estimate at **INR 13.2 lakhs (USD 16,604)** and for over five times its higher estimate at **INR 22.8 lakhs (USD 28,679)** respectively.

Commenting on the auction results, **Saffronart CEO and Co-Founder Dinesh Vazirani** said, *"Saffronart's first live auction in New Delhi post the pandemic was a milestone in many ways. We are fortunate to have had an extremely successful sale with most lots selling for well above their pre-sale estimates. In addition, the auction saw three world records being created for N S Bendre, B Prabha, and Jyoti Bhatt. Each of these works are a testament to the incredible skill of these artists and we consider it a privilege to have played a role in helping them achieve these records."*

An analysis of the [Evening Sale](#) can be viewed on 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.

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