



Art and culture

# Artistic expressions and Covid tales come to life at this show in Delhi

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The beauty of nature is that no two things are alike, and this also applies to artists and their work. Focusing on this idea of individuality is the ongoing exhibition Naam-o-Nishan, which showcases 50 artists from all over India. This event is a true feast for art enthusiasts as it brings together various indigenous traditions and

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This artwork of Reema Agarwal – who lost her father during the pandemic – is a tribute to her father’s dedication to Krishna.

Delhi-based Reema Agarwal, a self-taught artist who has been painting as a hobby but has made it a career during the pandemic, has eight paintings on display in the gallery. “Nature has been a crucial component of all my work...The only painting close to my heart is the painting of Krishna. I made it an ode to my father who died during the epidemic, because he was a fan of Krishna,” she says.

Collins Osimek, a Nigerian artist based in Delhi, displays two pieces of his work in the gallery. “My mixed media work highlights the need for gender equality. The second work, Confrontation, talks about the challenges we face in life and how one can overcome them.” The artwork contains various elements that highlight social and political challenges in the light profile, but at the top of the canvas is a question mark indicating the need to work on a solution.



Artwork by Sindhu V. based in Bengaluru.

Museum curator Irum Khan, who started working on this exhibition before the outbreak of the pandemic, says she had to make the difficult decision to choose from some 5,000 entries. Each artist has a unique identity that finds its way into their artwork. This is the identity that we are trying to highlight through this exhibition. And since I've been working on this project before the Covid-19 pandemic started, there are some artists who have thought creatively about these challenging times in their work. One of these artists, Kaustav Mukherjee, was hospitalized due to Covid and filmed the entire scene on canvas," Khan shared, adding, "We hope that artists can find more avenues through this platform and want to help they are going through tough times."

### catch him directly

What: Yes and Nishan

Venue: All India Society of Fine Arts and Crafts

Until: May 12

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