

Themes from Urban Issues

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Artist Rathin Kanji's works are based on global issues such as human trafficking , global warming and other contemporary topics, which are presented in mixed media works. He says, "I like to paint on the merits and demerits of the urban society." Rathin aims to transcend regional boundaries and bring global concerns closer to the viewer. His themes vary from pollution, terrorism and war crimes to inherent urban stresses of space and needs. A 4-minute video installation overlaps text with a background score of doors banging, footfalls and other everyday noises . He juxtaposes numbers and text on brightly coloured backgrounds in reds, blues and yellows , along with the images he creates as in a collage. 'Global News', 'Search for missing girl' , ' M a n m a d e world' , and 'Stop war crimes' are some of his recent works.

One of his works was a part of the recent Sotheby's auction and sold for approximately Rs 2 lakhs. According to Kanji, extensive travel and studying at the University of Michigan has attuned him to international trends and his art is a unique amalgam of Indian and Western sensibilities.

Rathin has been working on topical issues in the last few years, before which he was doing mainly abstracts. There are 20 works that are priced from Rs 45,000 for the 12"x 12" to almost Rs 16 lakhs for the largest one. The artist lives and works in Kolkata.

The exhibition is on till November 7 at Gallery Sumukha,
24/10 BTS Depot Road, Wilson Garden, Bangalore 027.

