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San Francisco art museum showcases Menon

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Contemporary artist Anjolie Ela Menon has created history of sorts by becoming the first Indian to be featured at San Francisco's renowned Asian Art Museum. The event is seen as reflective of the rising importance of contemporary <u>Indian art</u> worldwide.

The exhibition of Menon's works, which opened this week, features as its centrepiece a large oil on Masonite Triptych entitled Yatra. Also on show are paintings from Menon's body of work on the theme of Kavadiya pilgrims who walk from villages across India to the banks of the Ganga and take back the holy water in pots.

Menon, 66, suggested that while Indian artists endeavour to bridge the gap between tradition and modernity, they have ceased to limit their sources to just those from India. She also showed how her own sources of inspiration and stimulation range from European religious iconic <u>art</u> to the men, women and children of Delhi's Nizamuddin area where her studio is located.

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