

## Entertainment

### Artist Shuvaprasanna Gets His First U.S. Show

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Shuvaprasanna Bhattacharya's art has been described as "universal without being too 'Westernized,' " yet he's become one of India's best-known artists by expressing his love for the multilayered worlds of one place - Kolkata, painted in shades ranging from vibrant primary colors to strict black and white.

New York's Gallery ArtsIndia has chosen the work of Shuvaprasanna, as he is called, to inaugurate its newest exhibition space, with a show titled Icons and Illusions from Feb. 9 to March 2, 2002.

A press release from the gallery describes his new work as a "creative breakthrough."

Whereas in the past, the artist explored as his theme the people, animals and environment of Kolkata, with Icons and Illusions Shuvaprasanna turns to sacred images - the forms of Krishna, Radha and Ganesha among them - and flowers.

The gods as painted by Shuvaprasanna are "modern representations and sophisticated idealizations of the same images in the popular media," said the press release.

"In the color palette, too, the new series breaks significant ground for the artist. The vibrant blues, yellows and oranges represent a joyful liberation; gone are the browns and grays of the urban experience."

Shuvaprasanna has received awards from around the world, including prizes from the Lalit Kala Akademi and the Birla Academy, and his work is in the permanent collection of the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi; the WHO, Geneva; the Kratel SA, Stuttgart; and the Glenbarra Art Museum in Japan.

Gallery ArtsIndia will host a reception in the artist's honor to open the show, Feb. 9 from 6 to 9 p.m., with chief guest Shashi Tripathi, consul general of India in New York.

ArtsIndia is the premiere gallery in the United States for contemporary Indian art, and works closely with the top museums and galleries in India to bring the work of the best Indian artists to America.

For more information, call (877) ARTS-IND, or visit the gallery online at [www.artsindia.com](http://www.artsindia.com).