



## Central University of Himachal Pradesh

हिमाचल प्रदेश केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय  
सप्त सिन्धु परिसर देहरा ,ज़िला काँगड़ा ,हिमाचल प्रदेश -177101 (H.P)

### UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY -HIMADRI

#### DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS

*Himadri* is an art Gallery of the Central University of Himachal Pradesh was set up in the premises of the Sapt Sindhu Parishar –II, Dehra Gopipur. It is place where visual arts students are showcasing their artworks including painting, sculptures, installations, etc..It has been closely connected with the progress of the visual arts students by regularly holds lecture programmes, demonstrations, conducts workshops & discussions on various forms of art and issues, laying stress on education for both the academically inclined and those who are unaware from the art.

Visual arts department of Central University of Himachal Pradesh organized its 1st Annual art exhibition at Sapt sindhu parishad, Dehra Gopipur, Himachal Pradesh scheduled on 13 April 2022. This annual art exhibition organized by the department is a great step to showcase the works of the students and promote the culture of contemporary art in the campus. The exhibition displayed the works of bachelors of visual arts up till the works of the Ph.D. scholars in the department.

There were a wide range of works displayed in the exhibition which shows the diversity of materials students at the university work and experiment in. The exhibition was astonishingly beautiful, and people responded accordingly. Answering to a call comparable to “If you build it they will come,” the crowds descended on this spectacular display. Artists, students, as well as others, appear to care passionately about how the works turned out to be, what it can address, and its ability to communicate the highest values of life in a non representational visual language. Paintings were of various types and genre, from bold strokes in some and thin fine and patient strokes in others, this was a kind of fusion which is a rare sight to catch.

The works exhibited are the prime example of experimentation and execution of skills as we can see the work displayed in Fig.1 by masters final year Shekher Panchanl his works are about creating a sense of beauty and aesthetics by creating a collage, his art practice focuses on the found objects such as paper bags, torn cloth fabrics, paper, cotton, paint, metal etc. the way he arranges the material gives a soothing calmness to the viewers visual.

“It takes a very long time to become young” a very famous quote by Picasso, which reminds us of the painting in the fig.4, made by the master final year student Ishu, deformed, yet balanced paint like a child, his working style is very personal to his journey, his strokes are bold and full of energy but one can easily see the ease in his painting, the longer someone looks at it the more his paintings will unfold them, the more you feel the more you can see, these are not just mere brush strokes but life is breathing in his work of art, this particular painting reminds me of the day of judgement where Archangel Raphael is blowing his trumpet and calling all the creatures to Jerusalem, while all sort of creatures are being unleashed from the hell the dark background compliments the focus on the subjects.

The painting reminds me of the text from Dante Alighieri, a 13th century Italian poet; these lines were taken from one of his most celebrated work, Divine comedy- Inferno.“The infernal storm, eternal in

its rage, sweeps and drives the spirits with its blast; it whirls them, lashing them with punishment. When they are swept back past their place of judgement then come the shrieks, laments, and anguished cries; there they blaspheme God's almighty power.” Ishu works are multi-disciplinary and he tries to explore various mediums to work with.

“Migration is an expression of the human aspiration for dignity, safety and a better future. It is part of the social fabric, part of our very make-up as a human family” - Ban Ki-Moon  
Same way each student and professor of the Visual arts department has migrated to Dehra from all parts of the Nation. This emotion of leaving our home town in search of education is shown in the works of Master previous year student Pragati Goswami in fig. 7. In this work she tries to show with the help of the map a connection with the place she was from the Agra to Himachal Pradesh, the shoes and string depicts the journey of the young girl away from her home, the tangled string of thread shows the difficulties she is facing in a new town. The loose end of the string represents that the journey is not complete yet and there is a long way to go to reach destination to achieve what we want.

One should know the roots of the place where we belong. Thangka art evolved in the 7th century in Nepal and from there they went to places where Tibetan Buddhism was practiced including Mongolia, Ladakh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and parts of Himalayan India. Historically, thangkas were used as teaching aids. A lama or teacher would travel giving talks on Buddha's life and teachings. He would carry with him painted scrolls to convey spiritually significant events, aspects of different deities, or Buddhist concepts. Thangka paintings are important tools to depict Buddha and his teachings as well as that of other deities and bodhisattvas. The most prominent subject is the Bhavacakra (Wheel of Life) which is how the Art of Enlightenment is visually represented. We can see in fig. 8 where students of the Visual arts department have made thangka art which depicts the life and teachings of buddha.

From traditional paintings to contemporary works were put on display at the gallery, this gave different kinds of flavours to the viewer to enjoy. An art exhibition is essentially the best way to establish the fundamentals for branding, self-understanding, networking, future development, public awareness, breaking ground, and so on.

*Himadri* Art Gallery has offered a platform for aspiring artists, who have always availed the opportunities provided by the gallery to interact with the artist and academicians at various levels. The gallery has continued to be a centre of activity for the budding artists, art experts, art-lovers and the public.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7

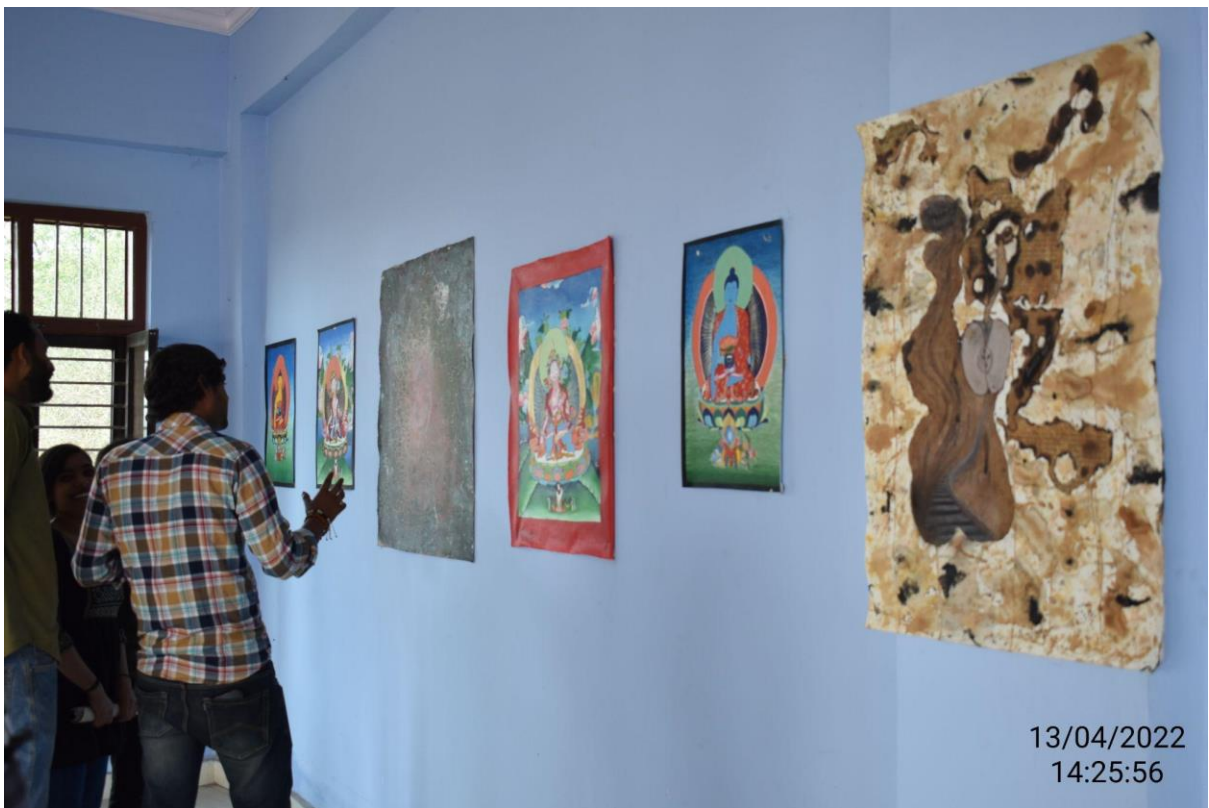


Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig.10