



Beyond A Revolt & Basked in The Instinctual | Modernist Works of The '43 Group | Main Essay by Azara Jaleel

The Modernist Works of the '43 Group were a revolt against the status quo, reflecting the evolving civilization and country of the late colonial to postindependence times of Sri Lanka. Their works sought to reconstruct and renew forms and styles to define and express new impulses in content, ambience, line and color in contrast to the sanctimonious, Western styles of academism promoted by the dominant Ceylon Society of Arts led by the academic doyen Gate Mudaliyar A.C.G.S Amarasekara (1883 - 1983). The latter ensured the growth and sustenance of the naturalist tradition of the 19th century through the Royal Academy and British Art schools until the arrival of C.F Winzer (1886 – 1940), the AngloPolish painter who was appointed Chief Inspector of Art in schools in 1921.

Click here for the full essay

<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/the-43-group-edition-beyond-a-revolt-basked-in-the-instinctual>



Cader & Thenuwara Draw Upon Sri Lanka's Beauty & Bereavement | At Frieze London

The works of Sri Lankan artists have been showcased overseas since the 1950's, of the better known and those documented. The '43 Group held their first international exhibition at the Imperial Institute, London in 1952 followed by another at the Petit Palais, Paris in 1953 and thereafter at the Heffer Gallery, Cambridge in 1954 trailed by many more Modern & Contemporary artists in a various festivals, museums and galleries over the years. The works of Muhanned Cader and Chandraguptha Thenuwara, two of Sri Lanka's foremost contemporary artists are being showcased at the ongoing Frieze London, taking place at The Regent's Park, that draws a diverse audience of influence from all over the world – which poses the question, what it means to have two Sri Lankan artists showcasing at an international art festival of repute, and its influence upon the character of our nation as we face our worst economic crisis?

Read the full article

<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/cader-thenuwara-draw-upon-sri-lankas-beauty-bereavement-at-frieze-london-oct-12-16-2022>

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In Conversation with Gillian Nair



We sat down with author of *Imperfect Words* and poet Gillian Nair to talk about poetry. From snippets of her poem and stories of how she was inspired, Gillian divulged about her journey and how her debut came to be. Watch our riveting conversation to know more.

Click here for the full video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtshThP-2wM>

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ARTRA's Emerging Artist



Stark Symbolism & Bloodthirst Narrative | Pakkiyarajah Pushpakanthan

Pakkiyarajah Pushpakanthan's most recent solo exhibition 'Disappearance' which was held at Saskia Fernando Gallery earlier in June consolidated a critically expansive body of work that proved the integrity of the artist profoundly. We found his use of stark and vivid symbolism in his artistic practice powerfully seeking a process of reconciliation whilst standing against the violence and discrimination all too often found screaming through the veins and armies of opportunistic ideological fundamentalism. Currently serving as a lecturer at the Eastern University of Batticaloa, in the recent past Pushpakanthan has participated in multiple art festivals in Sri Lanka and overseas, including the Serendipity Arts Festival in Goa, India (2016), Conceiving Space - Colombo Art Biennale (2016), solo exhibition 'Inequality' at Paradise Road Galleries (2016) etc.

Click here for the full article

<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/stark-symbolism-&bloodthirst-narrative-2>

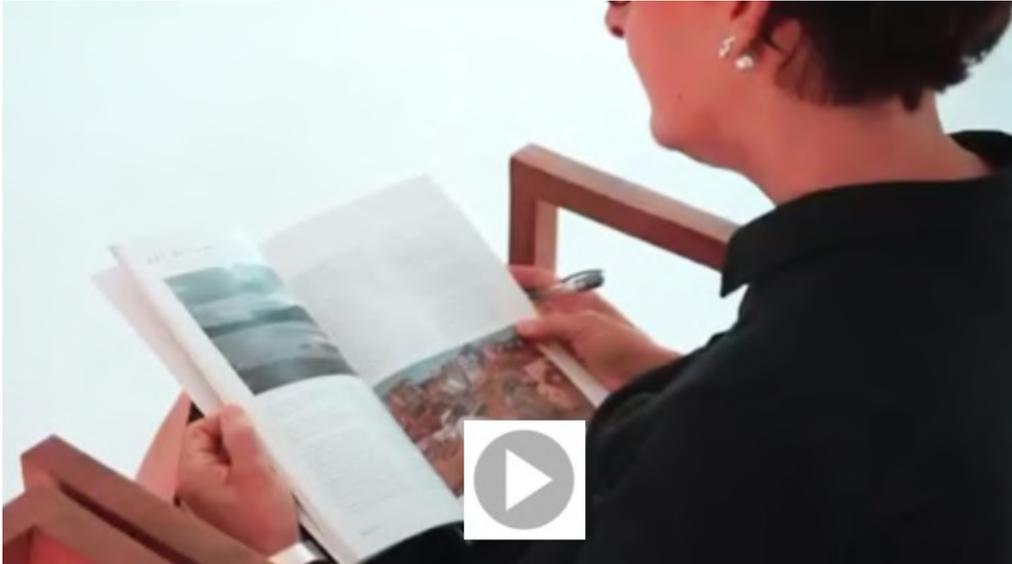
ARTRA's International Eye



Bodrumania | Ardan Özmenođlu | Anna Laudel Bodrum

Ardan Özmenoglu is a versatile Turkish contemporary artist who works in a wide range of mediums including large-scale glass sculptures, works on Post-It notes and neon lighting. She is inspired by Bodrum's nature including its blue sea, pink bougainvillea flowers, white houses, breathtaking sunsets, and nights illuminated by the moonlight. The artist thinks that these natural beauties of Bodrum cannot be fully understood without living there, and refers to the local features of the peninsula ranging from its untouched bays to the unique flavors served at its well-known restaurants.

Click here for the full article
<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/bodrumania>



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