



What you will see in this edition of ARTRA Magazine's 'Works of Laki Senanayake' Endowment 64 is a series of eclectic pieces from personal collections of his family, friends and colleagues he worked very closely with, of which most have not been published before. The oldest Laki drawing in this collection is from the Barbara Sansoni Collection titled 'Blue Film' featured on page 41, which is a rather whimsical depiction of human bodies nestled in amatory allure. The curated collection of this edition of ARTRA Magazine invokes an intimacy, enriched by his own visceral discursive poetry. From the working drawings of his currency notes to informal drawings on pages of his sketch pad that illustrate the artist's musings and study prior to working on the Lighthouse Hotel's iconic staircase, the collection featured across these pages reflect his vigour and vivacity luminously, by those near and dear to him. Every work featured, ranging from collections of those of Barbara Sansoni, C. Anjalendran, Dominic and Nazreen Sansoni, Mintaka Senanayake, Channa Daswatte, Murad Ismail and Michael Meyler echo his love and passion for trees, birds, animals and most certainly, the human body and spirit in all sincerity. In my opinion, this body of work engages with his deep-rooted understanding of sensuality and eroticism in presenting a visual narrative of symbiosis; a holistic representation on the relationship between man, animal and the environment. Furthermore, they explore the profound instinct the artist possessed in evoking the nuanced breadth of his natural subjects, and that of the environment through an impulse, erratic in form and mood.

Click here to read the full editorial
<https://artra.lk/visual-art/laki-senanayake-edition-editorial>

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ARTRA Magazine Work of Laki Senanayake Edition e64

ARTRA Magazine's latest edition, Works of Laki Senanayake, Endowment 64 (2023) is now out at our purchase points Barefoot, Paradise Road, Gallery Café, Rithihi, PR, Selyn, Good Market, Design Collective and the ARTRA office at the 10th floor, Parkland, Park Street, Colombo 02 (Mon - Fri | 9am - 5pm with prior appointments).

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Flowers of Distortion & Decay | In Conversation with Anusha Gajaweera

The ideology of identifying a nation through symbols allows such emblems to be personified by the character of a nation. Anusha Gajaweera's works of art then attempt to exist ambiguously yet robustly, unidentifiable yet candid. He does not share the landscape of a nation's identity yet creates an alternate political space that probes and questions the objectives of pre-existing identities. The works of visual artist Anusha

Gajaweera in this edition of ARTRA Magazine, '(In)Complete Flowers', is a series of black and white distorted flowers that attempt to transpire the political context of today's society. We find Anusha's works of art presenting a refreshing perspective of political aspects in his subversion of flowers; those intending to present the dark and melancholic rigidity of the sociopolitical environment and its effect on one's soul. His canvas of distorted and outlandish flowers are symbolic in expressing the idea of human destruction while boldly conveying its association with political contexts.

Click here for the full article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/flowers-of-distortion-and-decay>

Click here to purchase the digital copy of the Subverted Flowers edition

<https://artra.lk/subscribe/magazine/2021/e61>

ARTRA Magazine Archives



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Tao Tossed Thoughts | by Rohan De Soysa

The book launch of 'Tao Tossed Thoughts' by Rohan de Soysa took place at the Sapumal Foundation on the 25th of November, amidst a group of art & literary lovers. In expanding upon the author's perceptions of Buddhism, Taoism and the Natural World, his thoughts and photographs were the primary stimulus for artist Prasad Abu Bakr's visual works of mixed media, that are currently exhibited at the space. Dynamic in character, and earnest in approach - the writing and visual works collectively reflect the author's understanding of multiple disciplines, influenced by each other to impart a sincere & spiritual way of life inspired by a life well lived.

Rohan de Soysa is currently active in the fields of art and the environment, and he has also been involved in photography, teaching at St Martin's School of Art in London, agriculture, industry, and trade. He became a trustee of the Sapumal Foundation in 1981, and he has been chairman since 2011.

Read more about Slow Cooked Thoughts

<https://artra.lk/written-art/art-and-nature-through-slow-cooked-thoughts-2>

Read more about art & culture in Sri Lankan Modern Art

<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/art-and-culture-in-sri-lankan-modern-art>

In Conversation with Italian Artist Lucy Jochamowitz | ARTRA Magazine in
Partnership with Italian Embassy



From traces of the colour red that is reflective of the artist, and the intertwining of the rich Italian cultural landscape that she employs in her work, Italian artist Lucy Jochamowitz explores the depth through which she creates. Together with the Embassy of Italy, in pursuit of exploring the intertwining of the artist's mind and cultural landscapes, Daily ARTRA converses with Lucy in an enlightening and riveting discussion, her inspiration, her heritage and journey and her works of art.

View the full video

<https://www.facebook.com/dailyartra/videos/395275725536949>

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ARTRA's Emerging Artist



Imprinting a Visual Manifesto | Buddhika Nakandala

Buddhika Nakandala is an artist from Matugama who has been working diligently in the field of contemporary art over the last decade. His journey in the field began after taking leave from the University of Visual and Performing Arts (UPVA) in Colombo, walking away from the potential of obtaining a degree to pursue his own talented investigations in printmaking. With the creative invention of his own printing machine, the artist paved the way for a unique and expressive way to realise a personal understanding of a visionary articulation. Buddhika's first solo exhibition 'Imprint in Print' held at the Theertha Collective's Red Dot Gallery, captured our attention for its striking collection of monotype prints of aesthetic excellence layered by social critique.

Click here for the full article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/imprinting-a-visual-manifesto-2>

ARTRA's International Eye

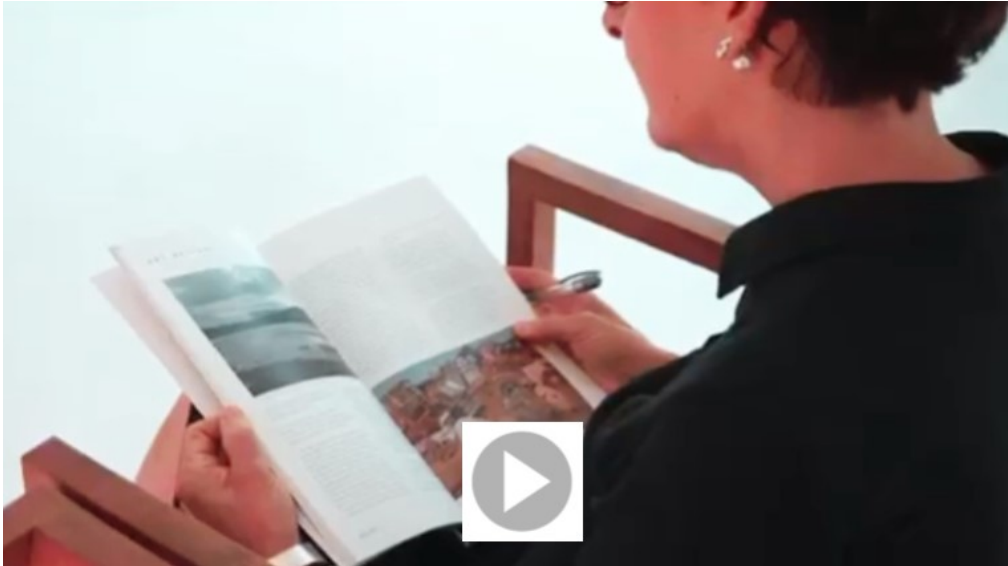


Juxtapositions of Contrasting Traits in Design | Shanti Bell

Fashion design and its core design principles are often utilized as social tools for advocacy and activism; the facilitation of sustainable and ecological methodologies through observations of the study of circularity and implementing initiatives to empower those practices; defying gender boundaries through redefining and redesigning the conventional human body and its forms. Fashion designer Shanti Bell exposes the contrast between strength and masculinity in delicate yet robust silhouettes, fluidity and rigidity intertwining as she confronts the roles placed upon the youth of men in society and the weight afflicted upon their shoulders. We explore the origin of this concept and the design motifs behind its creation with Shanti Bell. Her latest designs for Netflix's original TV Series 'Bridgerton' becomes an alternate shift as she designs for the female silhouette while embodying the relationship between the characters and depicting their personality traits.

Click here for the full article

<https://artra.lk/applied-art/juxtapositions-of-contrasting-traits-in-design>



ARTRA Magazine is an amalgamation of concepts galore, from nature and art to technology's influence on art mediums and presentation; be it for a collector or the corporate world, each edition is multifaceted in its perspective, exploring diverse mediums and ideologies. Curate your own collection, or gift a customized collection for a friend. Contact us on +94 77 570 1891 for a consultation, or drop in to our office at Level 10, Parkland Building, Colombo 02 with prior appointments.

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