

Of Spirited Legacy | Vajira Chitrasena

Vajira Chitrasena, Cover Personality of ARTRA's Iconic Women 2020, is of historical significance to the landscape of performance art in Sri Lanka. A living legend of foremost skilled splendour, she is one of the first professional female artists of Traditional Kandyan Dance whose dance style is revered even today as the epitome of female grace within a technique that is predominantly masculine in strength and energy. She copiously contributed to the advancement of the dance training and played a critical pedagogical role in the development of a syllabus to train traditional dancers for the stage. From debuting as a performer with The Chitrasena Dance Company in the production presented at the Sri Lankan Independence Day Celebrations in 1948 to receiving the prestigious Padma Shri Award conferred by the Government of India in 2020, Vajira Chitrasena's monumental role in the sphere of performance art has influenced generations of dancers across nations. In conversation with the artist at the Dance School of Chitrasena-Vajira in Colombo five,

Click here for the full article https://artra.lk/performance-art/of-spirited-legacy

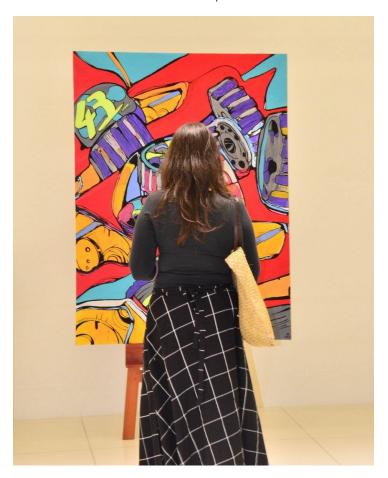


To Dream A Vivid Dream I Port City Colombo 'Dream' Sculpture Design Competition

While homes are a significant space of existence for people as individuals, cities are important to societies; a city is a place where whole groups of people subsist, and in its symbiotism, a city is a space where culture influences and is reflected and history is made – but how does a crowd of buildings symbolize what a city stands for? Public art has been a monument of navigation, similar to the North Star in its purpose to guide, a wayfinder that steers populaces to understand the culture of the city's society and their perspectives, built by the people themselves. Art becomes the bridge between people and their environment, drawing connections and understanding where they come from, where they're to go. With the burgeoning urbanscape that is Port City, Port City Colombo's Design Competition in partnership with ARTRA treads purposefully onward in its aim to connect the society with their roots through art, while influencing their lives and living to uplift and inspire through artistic stimulation.

Read the full article https://artra.lk/visual-art/to-dream-a-vivid-dream

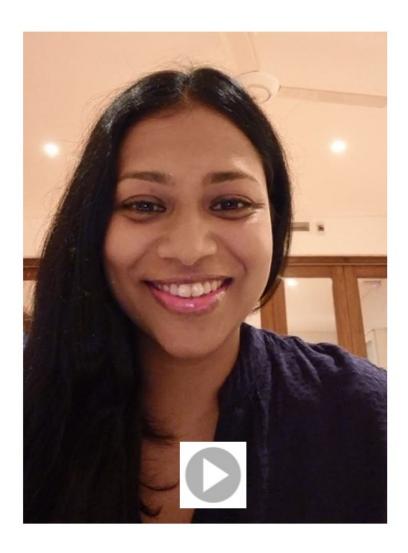
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In ARTRA's journey of steering Corporate Cultural Responsibility (CCR), we provide consultation to help corporates conceptualize and execute a corporate art promotion & acquisition strategy evolving from a public relations standpoint to deeper integration within all levels of the organization. This art service helps our clients invest in the art scene while enhancing the work environment and communicating company culture and values, through the reflection of philanthropic side of the business, that invests in the growth of the local art scene. If your company wishes to steer this strategy, call us on +94772305054/+94114545355

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In Conversation with Natasha Senanayake



Daily ARTRA's live session with musician, academic and performance artist Natasha Senanayake sharing her knowledge on how to deepen one's music appreciation from references to The Beatle's iconic single Eleanor Rigby to many more.

Click here for the full video https://www.facebook.com/dailyartra/videos/393853135689134

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ARTRA's Emerging Artist



Activating Artistic Advocacy | Kanesh Thabendran

Visual artist Kanesh Thabendran is hailed for his agentive stance through stylized technique of photo cutting in exposing the angst of post-war Sri Lanka. We find his work facilitating the role of a bold and politically awakened advocate who not only critiques but informs of the ravages of war and its aftermath, shedding light in a creative manner whilst functioning as an artistic propaganda. Kanesh's roots lay in the Northern part of the country, where the atrocities of a thirty year civil war were prominent. Earning a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (Art and Design) from the University of Jaffna in 2015, Kanesh embarked on his artistry with a vision of delineating a personal narrative that speaks volumes, reverberating on a larger scale in the hearts of thousands affected by the war in the North.

Click here for the full article https://artra.lk/visual-art/activating-artistic-advocacy

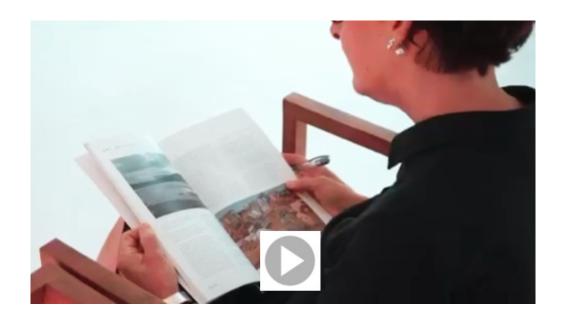
ARTRA's International Eye



A Presentation of Haitian Culture | Anna Sebestian

The documentation of history in art and literature is a methodology practiced for years, from representations of cave images to hieroglyphics – the conception of its application proved significant in its capacity to both tell a story and record the lives and lifestyles of society and its varying cultures. Anna Sebastian's work of art depicts the story of Haitian culture, that which narrates a past tale and displayed their relationship with the dead. How does one glimpse into the past to witness such a story and remember its happenings? What does it mean in a larger context of its contribution to society? In our conversation with Janine, she explained the themes behind her work that capture the essence of the exhibition 'Fantasy of Having a Trailer Wagon All to Myself', a tribute to Indian writer, journalist, critic and curator, Manoj Nair as well as discerning her depiction and interpretation of a historically significant moment in time.

Click here for the full article https://artra.lk/visual-art/a-presentation-of-haitian-culture



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