

AN INDIAN ALBUM

**Exhibition of oil Paintings by Sarbani Sen at La Galleria Pall Mall,
London from Nov 30 - Dec 6, '11**

Indian artist Sarbani Sen is back for her 5th solo exhibition in London

Sarbani's work is about nature and man's relationship with his environment. A compulsive traveller, a brilliant scholar, an ardent nature lover, that she has the stance of a romantic there is no doubt. She blends classic romanticism with mathematical precision to create a perfect balance of beauty and tranquility.

Landscape for her is a subjective reality, an atonement, where the beholder and beholden become one. Nothing is allowed to intrude in this space, not even the artist's own presence.



The desert paintings are a somewhat different story. The unyielding near empty land, the relentless sun, the harsh wind, the figures as if seen through upward moving hot air, sometimes bordering on surrealism – here the story is of

struggle and compromise of life and living with and against nature. A recurrent theme of water pots run through the canvasses. To the artist each woman carrying a pot of water to her desert home is Laxmi, Goddess of Grace bringing home the elixir of everlasting life.



About the Artist

Sarbani has always had a great urge to explore the unknown, to go beyond the horizon, beyond the next mountain range, to see outside a closed gate and inside the covers of an unread volume

Along with her curriculum in the university, she had read extensively on art and gained an in-depth knowledge of classical and contemporary art in India, Europe and Japan. So, when she gave up a career in mathematics and started sketching and painting whole heartedly she was armed with an intensive knowledge of the theoretical side of painting and her mind was completely in tune with the sights and sounds around her.



From 1974 she started painting seriously, her subject remaining nature and man's relationship with nature. In early eighties, in Bombay, she came under the guidance of late Prof. N. S. Bendre of J.J.School of Arts, Mumbai, one of the great painters in India. From him she learnt the value of following her own instincts over being academic. She said of these years to Economic Times, "... I have spent more time with canvases that I imagined I would be painting than doing the actual painting. My mind has sped, leaving the brush to plod behind. Vision and imagery crowded my eyes but they eluded the hand...". While her vision is definitely that of a romantic, nothing diluted the rigours of intellectual scrutiny.



Her work varies from realistic to stylised semi abstraction.

Sarbani started to show her paintings in exhibitions from 1981. She has had twenty five solo exhibitions of her paintings in galleries in Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta and London, including three in "The Gallery At Cork Street" London.

Sarbani's paintings were selected for two consecutive years as the first painting for the TATA Art calendar (2000 and 2001)

What the critics say:



Artists & Illustrators, London – put Sarbani’s painting on their cover and did a feature on her on their centre spread in their August ’95 issue. Their art critic Karen Taylor, who interviewed Sarbani, says ‘...Her compositions are completely uncontrived, imported as they stand direct from nature. She doesn’t analyse her choice of subjects; she simply responds to a scene’s natural beauty and the spontaneous urge to capture it on the canvas... a measure of her success is ‘mustard in bloom’ about which she is typically modest. The painting is simple to the point of abstraction, yet the scene is instantly recognisable. The colours of this painting are indeed stunning, as they are in nearly all Sarbani Sen’s work’. ... One

conscious tenet she has taken from Hinduism is a firm belief in reincarnation. Expecting to return to other lives, Sarbani strides steadily towards her artistic ambition, ‘to reach a stage where I feel I have arrived’

R.T.Shahani in ‘The Afternoon’ Mumbai, wrote ‘...Sarbani Sen’s oils on canvas are brilliant for their contents as well as her love for nature revealed through them... An art we can sit back and enjoy, an art of purity and balance, which is reminiscent of the master artists of nature like Constable and Turner of England.



Kiran Sheikh in The Asian Age, Mumbai wrote **Sarbani’s works are a refuge from urban squalor** ...the jagged mountain with its pine covered slopes are the painters statements about her strong feelings about the denudation of the himalayas



Dnyaneshwar Nadkarni, the well-known art critic, wrote in the Pioneer. Mumbai ‘... Sarbani Sen is one of our most distinguished nature painters. ...She comes riding on the glory of very successful exhibitions held at ‘The Gallery in Cork Street, London. ..Sarbani’s success is well deserved. For, she has consistently shown in her canvases, environment in the context of nature

Some Collectors

Sarbani's paintings are in the collection of many art lovers in India, UK, USA, Canada, Australia Switzerland, South Africa, Singapore, Philippines, UAE, and many other countries worldwide.

Shri Pranab Mukerji, Finance Minister of India
Mr. John Eddy, Consul General of USA in Mumbai
Chairman Export Import Bank of India
Chairman , Oriental Bank Of Commerce
Chairman Thermax Ltd.
Dr. K. Anji Reddy , Chairman Dr. Reddy's Laboratories
Dr. J. J. Bhaba , Director Tata Sons
National Centre for Performing Arts , Mumbai
Taj Group of Hotels,
Mr. Ashok Kumar, Chairman, Hermes Group, Mumbai
Managing Director, Tata Electric Companies Limited
Managing Director Tata Press
Managing Director Tata Power Limited
Managing Director Gujarat Ambuja Private Limited
Managing Director Mphasis
Managing Director Tractors India
Chairman Cable Corporation of India Private Limited
Director, Industrial Development Bank of India
Managing Director Shell Group of Companies India
Mr. Anil Kumble, Test Captain for India
Country Head, Ferrostaal Ltd. India
Ms Al Naquib, Sharjah
Mrs. Diana Wilson
Mr. Frank Dorian , Singapore
Ahmed Buhari, Founder President C & O Group, Dubai
Mrs. Megan Sen, Singapore
Mr. Hemant Singh, Canada
Mrs. Suchismita Sen, USA
Mrs. Farida Grewal, Mumbai
Mr.P.A. Leggat, MBE, Chairman Lawrie Plantations , London
Mr. Tony Bates VP, EMI records International London
Mr. Mike Mulrooney, Managing Director Nautilus Shipping, London
Mr. M.J. Fraser MD Turbine Blading Group, UK
Mr. Tom Novak, Managing Director Prator Limited, Prague
Mr. Tom Dreessen President Energy Performance Services, Philadelphia
Mr. Igor Sitnin, Bank of America
Mr. Gregg Ullman, Chadbourne Park Inc. USA
Mr. Jack Treier , B& W USA, Chicago, USA
Mr. Mustaq Pirani, Piramco Inc. North Vancouver, BC, Canada
Mrs. Mina Noah London
Mr. Donald Macadam, Ontario, Canada
Mr. P.C.M. Holmes, Victoria, Canada
Mr. R. Gheewalla, London
Ms Rina Rabou, Netherlands
Mr. Douglas O'brien, London
Mr. John Tyson, London
Ms. Janine F Barnes, Victoria, Australia
Mr. Sewak Dansinghani, London
Mr. Shivan Sundaram, USA
Ms. Nancy Morris, New York

List of solo exhibitions

La Galleria Pall Mall, London	Nov/Dec, 11
Museum Gallery, Mumbai	Jan, 10
The Gallery in Cork Street, London	Mar, 07
Nehru Centre, Mumbai	Feb, 07
Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai	Mar, 05
Nehru Centre, Mumbai	Mar, 04
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Jan, 04
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Dec, 01
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Dec, 00
Edith Grove Gallery, London	Mar, 99
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Feb '99
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Jan, 97
The Gallery in Cork Street, London	Jun, 96
The Gallery in Cork Street, London	Apr, 95
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Jan, 95
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Jan, 93
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Sept, 91
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Dec, 89
Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai	Feb, 88
Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai	Nov, 86
Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai	May, 84
Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi	Jan, 83

*"Eyes you have seen all.....
Come back now,
Come back to white
Chrysanthemum!"
Issa*

Exhibition :

Nov 30 to Dec 6, 2011
10.30am to 7.00pm

La Galleria Pall Mall,
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