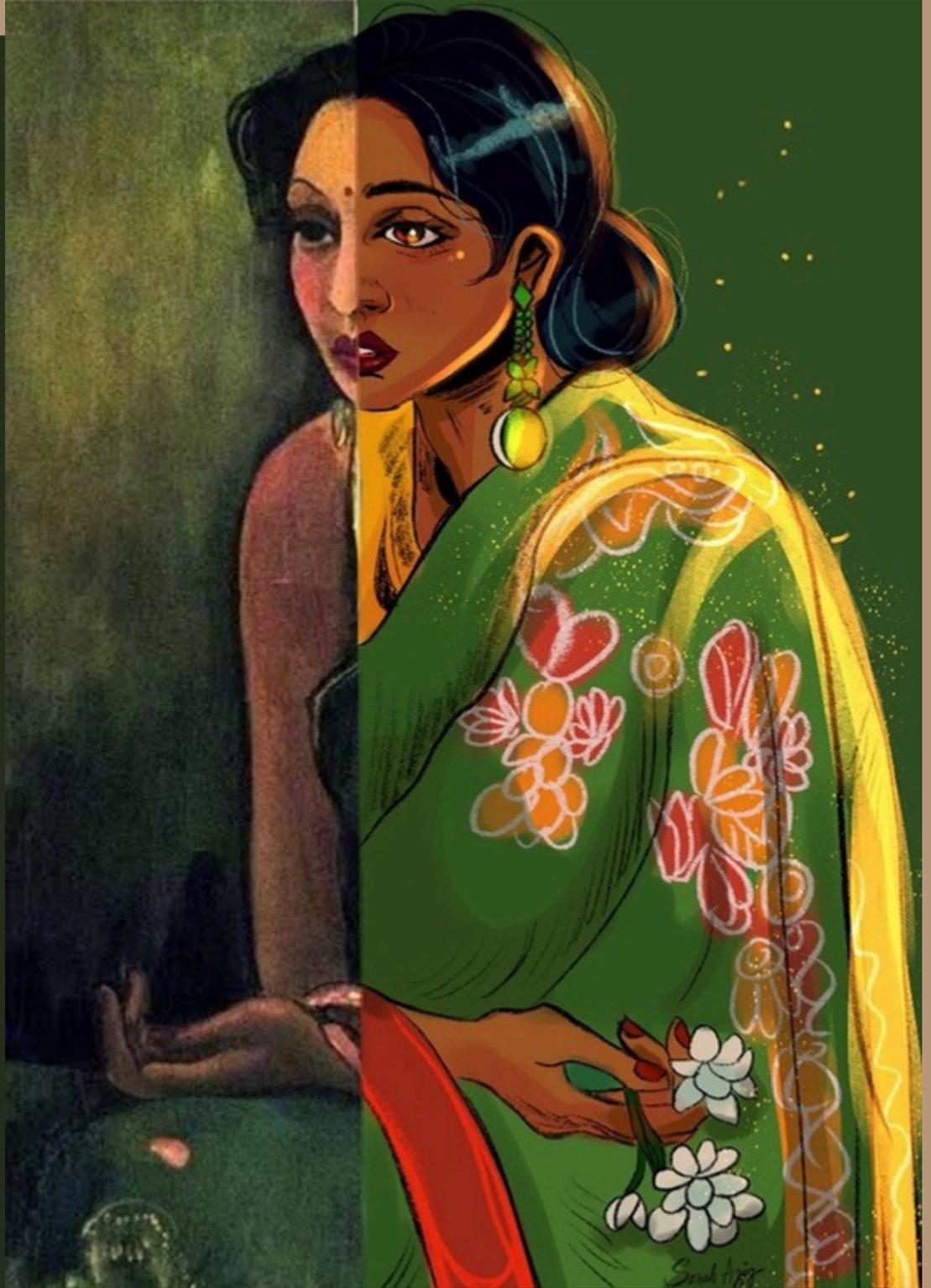




**LORETO COLLEGE,  
KOLKATA  
IN-HOUSE JOURNAL**

**ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY  
FIRST EDITION  
2023-2024**

# KALEIDOSCOPE



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ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

FIRST EDITION

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THEME:

Around the world with a  
paintbrush - Exploring cultures  
through the lens of time

LORETO COLLEGE, KOLKATA

IN HOUSE PUBLICATION

# Note from Principal's Desk

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the inaugural edition of Kaleidoscope, an annual art journal presented by the Arts and Crafts Society of Loreto College, Kolkata. This journal is a testament to the creativity, passion, and dedication of our students, who have come together to share their artistic journey with the broader college community.

The theme of this edition, "Around the World with a Paint and Brush: Exploring Culture through the Lens of Time," invites us to embark on a visual and cultural journey that transcends boundaries and explores the richness of human heritage. Art has always been a powerful medium to express the spirit of different civilizations, and I am proud to see our students embracing this exploration with such enthusiasm and vision.

This initiative not only celebrates the artistic talents within our college but also fosters a deeper understanding of the diverse cultures that shape our world. I hope this journal serves as a source of inspiration and joy for all who read it and encourages further creative endeavors in the future.

My heartfelt congratulations to the Arts and Crafts Society for their hard work and vision in bringing this project to life. May Kaleidoscope continue to be a platform for creativity and cultural expression in the years to come.

**Sr A Nirmala**  
Acting Teacher-in-charge

# Note from Editors' Desk

It is with great pleasure that we announce the first edition of Arts & Crafts Society's annual journal 'Kaleidoscope'.

The theme for this edition is "Around the world with a paintbrush- Exploring cultures through the lens of time". Art, when seen through the lens of time, forms a mosaic of human nature; it is a blend of culture, emotion, and creativity. It is a snapshot of the day, an image of the society's beliefs, struggles, and victories. It finds us thousands of years ago in ancient caves, passes us by with the blink of our eyes in the Renaissance, and walks with us hand in hand in the modern world, where we direct it through the space of our digital libraries empowered by machines powered by best eon graphics. Just as it reflects on the themes of its time, art immortalises the spirit and sentiments of every era, offering a vignette for the future generation.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude towards our Sister-in-Charge Sr A. Nirmala for her assistance and direction which made this publication possible. We are extremely indebted to our staff advisors Dr. Sukanya Dasgupta, Dr. Krishnokoli Hazra and Mrs. Archita Roy Biswas for their support and guidance, without which this whole initiative could not have been realised in practice.

Let us now delve deeper into the theme with a brilliant collection of paintings, articles and photographs by the students of our college.

President: Annesha Majumder  
Vice-President: Urjaswi Ghosh  
Treasurer: Sreshtha Chatterjee

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# জাগো শক্তি, জাগো স্পর্ধা

*~Tirthaa Mayra*

*Economics Department, 3rd year*

# The Asthete Sensibility

*Art is a mirror of the mind, a state which can be put into the physical world with precision. The precision might be totally chaotic at view or analogous to academic art reflecting the mastery of skill and severe practice. Art is sometimes probably more expressive than words. The secret lies in the process, it's utterly a mess if it's not a layer of thoughts into the work. It's a disarray if the colours don't synchronise as they should. One creates a flow of strokes while one paints; we create our minds. It involves something more than the regular manners, an intuition that was always there not taught, just having the need to be practised so as to be the master of that imagination.*

*Existence is as steadfast as moments which vanish within the blink of an eye. We are here and in the next we are not, the very moments are captured through art. Solitude becomes a wonderful companion when it comes to creativity, the mind is undisturbed, absolute silence, totally in one's own grip. The final work is peace, it's loud and specific and most importantly it's in the quantum of one's own desire. Creativity in any form is intelligence. Art specifically, as therapeutic it can get with the process, it can be overpowering too, a burst of creativity and the mind then becomes a congested space for it to hold, hours and days, a chain of thoughts, a helpless mind and then comes the art block, all of a sudden without any warning and has no immediate remedy. A blank page becomes overwhelming then because one does not have the access to any 'form' to bring down the feeling or idea on the expressionless paper. The world seems too sombre to even think about it. Negative emotions are sometimes astounding for creativity but the whole idea of creativity is to bring that out. Art block creates a suffocation in the mind where it's like a bud which is about to release the most vibrant flower the day after but then the bud separates and the brilliance dies with it. However, there are processes that help in such states, one of them is clearance of the mind and removing the layers of blockages, thinking simple, creating simple and bringing down that higher complexity into something light and tranquil. As Van Gogh says - "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together ". Artists extract from nature, both the colours as well as the inspiration. Art is a devotion that can take several forms depending on the artist. Artists like Alexandre Cabanel, Van Gogh and Amrita Sher Gill could never have achieved such recognition if their first intention had been fame rather than love and devotion.*

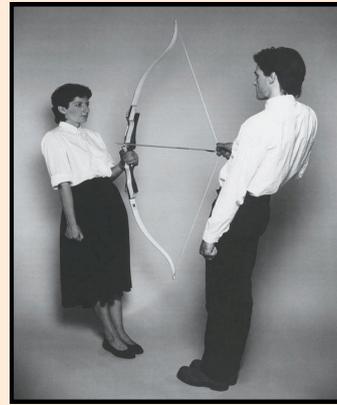
*There are several manifestations of art that have found expression through various forms and mediums. Artists have experimented with the liberal medium which has given birth to several art forms. For example - Performance art, also known as artistic expression, has become very fascinating in contemporary times. It is presented live to the audience and includes the elements of time, space and body and an understanding is developed between the artist and the spectators. Again installation art is a mixed-media contrivance and the spectators have to proceed through the full gallery space in order to grasp the theme of the artwork .*

*An environment is created for an intense experience and for the simplification of the dominant theme.*

### PERFORMANCE ART

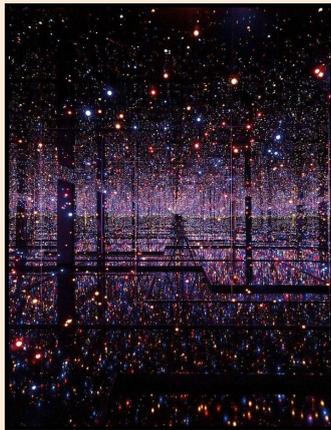


*'Palace of Tears'  
by Nelly Agassi*



*'Rest Energy'  
by Marina Abramović*

### INSTALLATION ART



*'Infinity Mirrored Room'  
by Yayoi Kusama*



*'Pulse and Bloom'  
by Shilo Shiv Suleman*

*Art is like a celebration, a celebration of feelings, of the whole creation, of the unknown. It is a solitary path, but that's what exactly holds the essence of uniqueness and euphoria in it. Every face is a cover and every eye-blind to something. The creators conversely are exposed to reality; it becomes heavy at times to catch so many emotions but that's what an artist does, it is the reflection of the mind and not the face; melting down to the thread at the core. As a creator, one is perfectly powerful to present imperfections with perfection.*

*~Priyadarshini Roy  
English Department, 2nd year*



# *The Fire Breather*

*~Dipwanita Chatterjee  
Economics Department, 3rd year*



## *Masks*

*~Annesha Majumder  
Economics Department, 3rd year*

# Pattachitra: A Legacy

*Pattachitra is not just paintings on a scroll, rather it is an expression so versatile that encapsulates the stories of gods and goddesses passed down from generation to generation to snapshots of 19th-century Kolkata.*

*This art form is believed to date back to the pre-pala period, practised by the Patua Community, with its knowledge and discipline passed down from generation to generation.*



*Goddess Durga and her family  
in Medinipur Pattachitra*



*Pattachitra of Naya village*

*This art form has some set rules that are required to be followed. A pattachitra scroll can only be called so if it has a flower border and uses natural colours. Even the brushes are made using animal hair and bamboo. This brings out a particular feel in the painting with its single tone associated with Bengal artistry. The art form depicts any scene: be it from Mahabharata, or a Jamini Roy Kalighat Pattachitra from a close juxtaposition. One cannot depict a distant scene or a landscape and call it Pattachitra.*

*To begin with a painting, the artist prepares the canvas by coating a mixture of gum made of tamarind seeds and chalk. After rubbing the mixture with two different stones, the cloth is left to dry, giving us our Patta. The natural paint is prepared from extracts from vegetables, minerals, and various other organic sources.*

*When the artist sets out to paint, the Patta would be a reminiscent of ancient scroll painting forms where the story was revealed as it was unscrolled. Here, a scene is shown in sequence in a narrative style. The painting will have a very strong and clean line work with vibrant colours. One will find some intricate details with delicate shading. This scroll art form is an important chunk of the cultural fabric of West Bengal. It is a symbol of preserving our culture by passing it down to successive generations. It is often used in festivals, ceremonies, and religious rituals as offerings or decorative items.*

*The styles and motifs used are unique to different districts or communities within Bengal, reflecting local traditions, beliefs, and aesthetics. These regional diversities add depth to our understanding of Pattachitra giving it the credit of a dynamic and diverse art form. Primarily this art form takes a front seat in pockets like Bankura, Midnapore, Purulia, Hooghly, Howrah, and 24 Parganas.*

*Recently, various programs have been introduced by the Government, NGOs, and cultural institutions that aim to train new generations of artists, document traditional techniques and create platforms for showcasing Pattachitra artwork. Collaborations with contemporary artists, exhibitions, and workshops have helped raise awareness about Pattachitra and its significance in the global art scene. This has been done to preserve and promote Pattachitra as part of India's cultural heritage. Not only this, but these initiatives help in the sustenance of our local economy as well. Many small rural artists are dependent on the sale of their paintings to earn and support their families. This is a tool to empower artisans while protecting our culture.*

*These efforts have not been in vain as Pattachitra continues to resonate with contemporary audiences, both within India and internationally. Its timeless themes, intricate craftsmanship, and vibrant colours have earned it admiration from art connoisseurs and collectors worldwide. Moreover, contemporary artists are reinterpreting Pattachitra techniques and motifs to address modern themes and issues, bridging the gap between tradition and innovation.*

*~Navyaa Agarwal*

*Economics Department, 3rd year*



## *Flame in the Forest*

Inspired by the Realism movement, Oil, 48" x 38", canvas

*~Sreshtha Chatterjee*

*Psychology Department, 2nd year*

# *The Creator*

*Down the lanes of an olden tribe,  
There lies a land where magic thrives!*

*The people here live to mold  
The gift of earth in ways untold.*

*Nifty hands and brilliant minds,*

*An ancient legacy combines,*

*Give shape to a glorious figurine;*

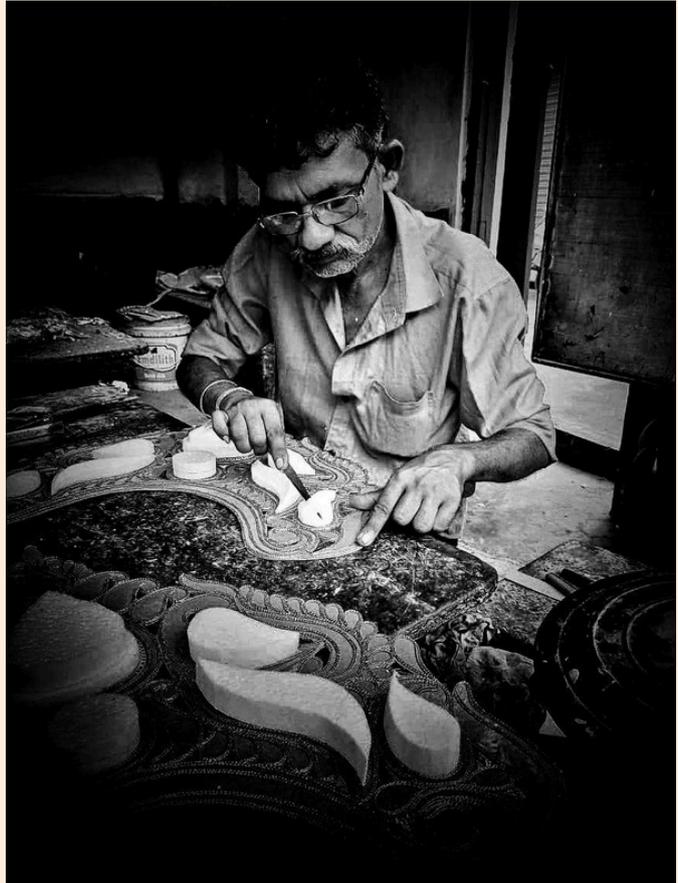
*Worshippers of a fleeting shrine.*

*Praises be on your devoted souls*

*That cast wonders through fingers gold!*

*Reside Creators, like your art,*

*Within a hundred million hearts.*



*~Reeti Ghosh*

*Economics Department, 3rd year*



## *Autumn*

The painting is a depiction of an autumnal landscape. It is done with oil colours on a stretched canvas. The vivid shades of the season have been used, a bright colour palette in contrast to dark pale shades to bring in the aesthetics of the painting.

*~Priyadarshini Roy*

*English Department, 2nd year*



# *Through Her Eyes*

*~Kazi Fatema Parveen*

*Political Science Department, 1st year*



*~Ayat Farid*

*Economics Department, 1st year*



## *Study 'Lady Diana'*

The painting is a study of Lady Diana Spencer, the Princess of Wales. The technique of oil painting has been used to create a smooth effect. The colour palette consists of a dark tone in the background in contrast to the white and pastel shades of the subject.

*~Priyadarshini Roy*

*English Department, 2nd year*

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## *The Divine Feminine*

~ She is the conqueror of evil and nurturer of souls

*~Mahek Kumar,*

*Economics Department, 3rd year*



*~Tirthaa Mayra  
Economics Department, 3rd year*

# Exploring the Art of Japan: Japanese Schools of Art During the Edo Period (1615-1868)



*Ars Longa, Vita Brevis*

*--- Art is long, Life is short.*

*The Edo Period was perhaps the most prolific period in Japanese art history characterized by its diversity of styles. There were more artists and patrons driving this flourish of art production.*

*Prior to the Edo period, many painters and sculptors remained anonymous. The position of the artist during the Edo period became elevated. This period marks the emergence of the artist as an individual genius creator in Japan.*

*Some artistic schools continued from previous eras, such as the Kano and Tosa, while other schools of Rinpa and Nanga sprouted anew. The Edo period is also marked by the proliferation of styles and models of patronage.*

**Let us look into some of the major schools of art in Edo Japan.**

## **Kano School**

*It was established by Kano Masanobu (1434-1530) and primarily served the samurai class. Their bold designs of powerful animals, symbolic plants and trees, blended aspects of native Japanese with Chinese styles. They were the perfect decoration for screens and sliding doors in the large official audience halls in samurai residences and were perhaps Japan's most influential school of painting.*

*Most artists who underwent traditional training began their studies with a Kano master. They are associated with kanga or "Chinese painting" style, although Kano Eitoku and Kano Tanyu were both innovators who skillfully blended the expressive brush works of kanga with the brilliant colours and gold prevalent in native Japanese painting style.*



*Kano Tanyu (1602-1674), an important member of the great Kano school of painters.*

*Mount Fuji and The Shore at the Pine Forest of Miho*

*Pair of six- fold screens, ink, colours, and gold on paper.*



### **Tosa School**

*It originated in Kyoto during the Muromachi period (1392- 1573), traditionally painted for the imperial family and nobility. They took classical Japanese literature, such as Tale of Genji and the Tale of Ise as their subjects.*

*Painting was most commonly associated with the narrative handscroll, developed a refined painting style called **Yamato-e** (pictures of **Yamato**—an old-fashioned name for Japan).*

*It is considered a purely Japanese painting style, in which paint is applied in opaque layers with strong outlines and faces which are indicated by abbreviated strokes are not individualized.*



*Artist unknown, Equestrian Archery Drill*

*The above picture denotes a samurai archery drill using moving target- dogs. Archery drills and demonstrations like this were part of samurai education to develop and maintain sharp military skills. They presented an exciting spectacle for local townspeople to enjoy.*

### **Flowers and Birds of the Twelve Months**

These panels represent the eleventh and twelfth months from a pair of six-fold screens depicting flowers, birds, and poems of the twelve months by Yamamoto Soken. Paintings that combine imagery and poetic texts are common in East Asian art, but this work contains a poetic structure unique to Japan, the *waka*, or 36-syllable poem. Here the Japanese poet subtly expresses emotions through metaphors of nature.



### **Nanga (Southern painting) or Bunjinga (Scholar or Literati painting)**

It is a form of Chinese painting as their model. The Chinese Ming dynasty artist/ theorist Dong Qichang (1555-1636) established two categories of painting: northern painting, (orthodox) and academic (painters were formally trained and sold their work for a living). Japanese literati artists, although forbidden to travel to China, studied and emulated the southern style of painting and Chinese art theories through imported books. Nanga painters often painted for each other and prided themselves as being intellectuals, poets, tea masters, as well as painters. They are most associated with smaller formats, such as hanging scrolls and fans, but also produced screen paintings.



Aoki Shukuya

Gakuyoto (Yueyang Tower)

This Painting depicts a famous place in China, the Yueyang Tower, known in Japan as the Gakuyoro. It was very common for Japanese artists to depict landscapes they had never seen, even those in Japan. They used literary descriptions, and took inspiration from other artists' renditions of the place. The beauty of this tower was famous in China, and its fame spread to Japan

### **Rinpa School**

*This school originated with the artist Tawaraya Sotatsu active (1600-1640) but is named for his successor, Ogata Korin (1658-1716). Like Tosa artists they took as their favourite subjects classical literature and poetry, as well as birds and flowers of the four seasons. They are known for brilliantly coloured paintings and lavish use of gold. These artists worked on every format imaginable--- screens, scrolls, and fans, lacquer objects and ceramics.*



*~Kamalika Halder*

*English Department, 2nd year*

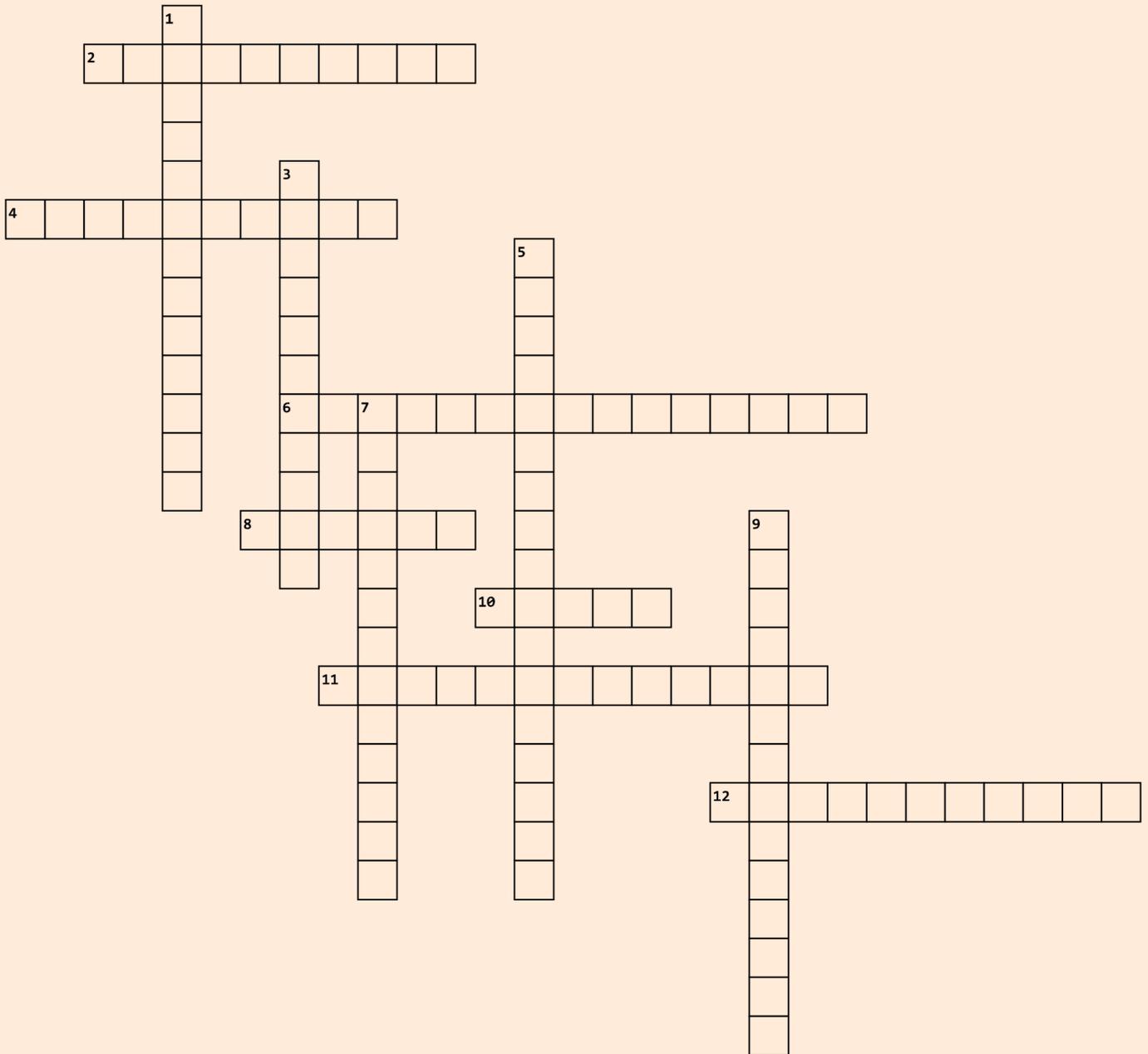


## *Lovers of the Infinite*

*~Urjaswi Ghosh*

*Geography Department, 3rd year*

# Around the World in Artsy Days



## *Across:*

2. A famous oil painting by Raja Ravi Varma showing a mythological Indian woman in a rural landscape where she is accompanied by two friends with whom she picks flowers; the painting depicts the central figure pretending to remove a thorn from her foot while looking for a lover

## *Down:*

1. Indian artist known for his richly hued oil paintings that use European techniques to depict the Indian feminine form, often taken from mythology.

3. The first book jacket designed by Satyajit Ray for a children's book written by Abanindranath Tagore.

*Across:*

4. A Mexican painter known for her self portraits that feature flowers, thorns, animals and vibrant colours.

6. A vibrant watercolour painting by Gaganendranath Tagore painting where he depicts the immersion of a Durga idol illuminated by a golden glow against a murky evening background

8. A revolutionary approach to art that originated in Paris in 1907-08; it featured Picasso and Braque as pioneers and is known for showcasing different views of subjects (usually objects or figures) together in the same picture, resulting in paintings that appear fragmented and abstracted

10. A marble sculpture by Michelangelo representing a Biblical figure in a contrapposto pose symbolising the liberty and freedom of the Republican ideals, showing Florence's readiness to defend itself

11. A landmark mural by Leonardo da Vinci, featuring an important event in Christian history where Jesus dines with twelve of his followers

12. An experimental genre-cum-movement in art where the artist is aesthetically innovative, whilst initially being ideologically unacceptable to the artistic establishment of the time; pioneers include Kazimir Malevich and Olga Rozanova among others

*Down:*

5. An Indian art school and a social movement by the same name that features paintings with a romantic and dreamy quality achieved using a watercolour wash technique; the movement was pioneered by artists like Abanindranath Tagore, Nandalal Bose and Asit Haldar

7. Indo-Hungarian artist known for her vivid sarees, eclectic androgynous style and for painting the Indian feminine form using a blend of European post-modernist techniques and Indian lifestyles as inspiration; one of her famous paintings titled 'The Story Teller' fetched a record breaking INR 61.80 crore

9. A Dutch painter known for painting sunflowers and night skies using full-bodied shades of mainly yellow and blue painted in bold and visibly textured strokes

*~Anandi Chanda*

*English Department, 1st year*



# *Traditional Dance: A Cultural Heritage of India*

*~Prapti Bhattacharya  
Economics Department, 1st year*



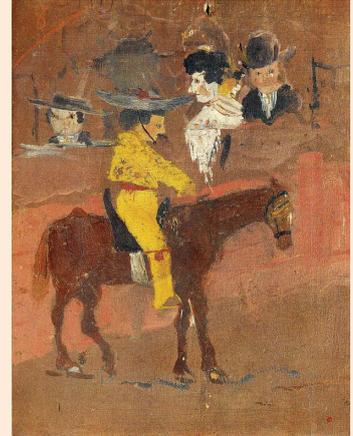
## *Lino print on paper*

*~Sangya Pal*

*English Department, 1st year*

# Muse Moments: Did you know?

1) Vincent van Gogh (Netherlands): Van Gogh painted *Starry Night* while in a mental asylum, drawing inspiration from the view outside his room at night. Despite being one of the most famous artists today, he only sold one painting during his lifetime.



2) Pablo Picasso (Spain): Picasso could draw before he could walk, and his first word was “pencil”! He completed his first painting, **Le Picador**, at the age of 9 (as seen on the right).



3) Claude Monet (France): The founder of Impressionism, Monet suffered from cataracts in his later years, which is why his later paintings appear more blurred and abstract (as seen on the left).

4) Amrita Sher-Gil, often referred to as India’s Frida Kahlo, was a pioneering modernist artist who was deeply influenced by both Indian miniatures and Western art styles. Her paintings depict the lives of women and villagers in India, portraying them with deep empathy.

5) Francisco Goya (Spain): Goya was the court painter to the Spanish Crown but also created dark and disturbing personal works, including his **Black Paintings**, which he painted directly onto the walls of his home during his later years.

6) Tyeb Mehta's painting **Mahishasura** (shown below on the right) sold for \$1.58 million at an auction in 2005, making it one of the most expensive works by an Indian artist at that time, showing the rising global recognition of Indian contemporary art.



*La romería de San Isidro (The Pilgrimage to Saint Isidro) by Francisco Goya*





7) Jamini Roy started as a portrait artist in the Western academic style but later embraced Indian folk traditions, especially **Kalighat painting**, creating a new language for modern Indian art rooted in local culture (as seen on the left).

These paintings originated in the 19th century around the Kalighat temple in Kolkata, transitioning from traditional religious subjects to contemporary themes, even offering social commentary on issues like the British rule and social evils of the time.

8) Salvador Dalí (Spain): Dalí had a pet ocelot named Babou, which he would take to restaurants and social events. His eccentric behavior was as famous as his surrealist art.

9) Rembrandt (Netherlands): Rembrandt painted over 80 self-portraits, making him one of the most self-depicted artists in history. His portraits cover the span of his life, showing his aging process.

10) Warli Art (Maharashtra): Warli paintings (as seen on the right) are created by the Warli tribe using only white pigment made from rice paste on mud walls. The geometric shapes used in this art form symbolize different elements of nature, with circles representing the sun and moon, and triangles depicting mountains and trees.



11) Tanjore Paintings (Tamil Nadu): Known for their vibrant colors and rich gold leaf work, Tanjore paintings are characterized by their use of 22-karat gold foil and semi-precious stones to give a royal touch. They often depict Hindu gods and goddesses in rich, ornamental settings.

12) Lino art (linocut printing) is that it was initially used as a flooring material before artists like Picasso and Matisse popularized it as an art medium. Lino (linoleum) is softer and easier to carve than traditional woodblocks, making it more accessible.

# *Answer Key*

- 1. Frida Kahlo*
- 2. Vincent Van Gogh*
- 3. Raja Ravi Varma*
- 4. Amrita Sher-gil*
- 5. Khirer Putul (first book jacket designed by Satyajit Ray)*
- 6. Bengal Renaissance*
- 7. Avant-garde*
- 8. Cubism*
- 9. Last Supper (Vinci)*
- 10. David (Michelangelo)*
- 11. Shakuntala (Raja Ravi Varma)*
- 12. Pratima Visarjan (painting by Gaganendrenath Tagore)*

# About the Arts and Crafts Society

The Arts and Crafts Society of Loreto College, Kolkata is an integral part of the vibrant cultural life at the institution. It aims at promoting and nurturing creativity, artistic talent, and craftsmanship among students. The society provides a platform for students to explore various art forms, including painting, drawing, origami, and other crafts. The Society organises events and competitions to encourage student participation and creativity.

An alpana making competition ‘Rupang Dehi’ was arranged in the month of October ‘23. A bottle painting competition ‘Brush & Bottle’ was organised with the aim to use the painted bottles to decorate the common room.

For Samagam, an inter-college sit-and-draw competition, named Single Hue Stories was arranged. Furthermore, the society was responsible for decorating all the event venues and common areas of the college for the fest.

Another of its endeavor is ‘Kaleidoscope’, the annual art journal of the Loreto College. This journal is more than just a collection of artworks— it is a testament to the diverse talents and creative exploration fostered by the society.

**President:** Annesha Majumder

**Vice-President:** Urjaswi Ghosh

**Treasurer:** Sreshtha Chatterjee

# Acknowledgement

## *Editors*

*Annesha Majumder  
Economics Department, 3rd year*

*Urjaswi Ghosh  
Geography Department, 3rd year*

*Sreshtha Chatterjee  
Psychology Department, 2nd year*

## *Cover Art by*

*Sarah Aziz  
English Department, 3rd year*



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