EMAMIART

SOLILOQUY Indrapramit Roy

Solo exhibition

February 24 - April 15, 2023

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SOLILOQUY

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And there was so much sky, more than at sea, more than anywhere else in the world. The plain was there under one's feet but what one looked about was that brilliant blue world of stinging air and morning cloud. The landscape one longed for when one was far away, the thing all about one, the world one actually lived in was the sky, the sky.

Willa Cather, Death Comes for the Archbishop

The set of watercolours and prints by Indrapramit Roy in this show is steeped in a shared irony of life, experienced and realized by almost all of us in recent times perhaps more intensely and deeply than ever before. This intensity, built into his painterly method coupled with the immersive nature of his works, is ineluctably contagious and at times overwhelming as viewing these works gradually becomes irresistibly engaging both visually and conceptually. Before it is realized, the viewers find themselves poised on the threshold of a seemingly tantalizing space waiting to unfold itself to the whispers of the unspoken tales. Seemingly, the tales are illegibly inscribed on the ethereal spaces embodied by the broadly painted, intermittently textured and tonally enhanced pictorial fields signifying sky, water, earth, and desolate streets. The enigmatic visual presence of the silent chronicles in these works is unmistakable. The impending silence, despite the suggestive movements of air and water, clouds and birds, amidst the stillness, is a distinctive quality evident in these works. This silence, however, is not given, it is born out of the twilight saga, witnessed in the solitary moments, so dear to the artist. The artist quietly stands at the horizon, like a child, who reaches for the truths beyond the door.

'The time we lived through would one day become history' – a nearly clichéd statement like this reappeared as a significant one when we were made aware of the transient nature of life, once again. Indrapramit in many of these works, which at first glance suggests an attempt at imaging the apparitions of this lived time, transmutes the sense of transience into a tangible sensory experience. He makes the ephemeral a 'paintable' subject and in turn what is 'paintable' assumes a transitory reality. This has been his forte for a long time, a consistent hallmark of his works – scripting a silent dialogue between the palpable and the imperceptible. Anchored in his waking life, his drawn and painted images source their sustenance from the worldly visual experiences around and his remarkable interventions turn them from a generally unsuspecting and unassuming sight to a profoundly stimulating and compelling image.

The world of images has always served as a cornucopia of inspirations for Indrapramit Roy. A committed imagist, he relishes every aspect of image making, from the first layer of paint, through the buildup to the crescendo albeit often in muteness. Indeed, a certain sense of silence pervades all his works here. Silence is an essential prerequisite of soliloquy. However, in these works, it appears as a consequence, as an inevitable destiny propelled by the plethora of unsettling stories. A story seems to be born of each soliloquy the artist engages with. While the brush strokes blow across the grains of the paper and thin layers of paint caress them, stories remain unspoken until they disappear in the liminal moment, often caught unaware, leaving the artist, the painted world and the viewers in solitude – the inseparable companion of soliloquy.

> Soumik Nandy Majumdar Art Historian

Indrapramit Roy



Indrapramit Roy ((b.1964) is an artist, teacher and occasional writer who studied at Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan and the Faculty of Fine Arts of M.S. University of Baroda, followed by an MA in Painting at the Royal College of Art, London.

Indrapramit has shown widely in India and abroad. He has been the subject of 19 solo exhibitions and has participated in numerous group exhibitions. He has shown his works in critical international venues, such as Berlin, London, New York, San Francisco, Palo Alto, Cairo, Macao, Sydney and Bangkok. In 2014, he executed a large 26 X 12 feet work for the New Terminal-2 of Mumbai International airport.

He is a recipient of many awards and fellowships, including the Inlaks Scholarship, the Erasmus Exchange Scholarship to spend a term at HdK Berlin and Cite des Arts, Paris, the Fulbright fellowship to USA and Artist-in-Residence at The Siena Art Institute, Italy.

One of the founding members and a trustee of the Foundation for Indian Art & Education (FIAE), Indrapramit Roy, has been teaching at MS University for over two decades. He lives and works in Baroda.



Quarantine Diary : Unacknowledged Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (middle left)



Quarantine Diary : Somewhere Watercolour on paper 15 X 11 in. (38 X 28 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)





Quarantine Diary : Threat Watercolour on paper 10 X 14 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : Heartbreak Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : Conspiracy Watercolour on paper 10 X 14 in. (25 X 35 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : Keep Still Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower middle)



Quarantine Diary : As If Watercolour on paper 10 X 14 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : Stay Calm And Panic Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower middle)



Quarantine Diary : Schadenfreude Watercolour on paper 11 X 15 in. (28 X 38 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left and middle right)





Quarantine Diary : Suspicion Watercolour on paper 11 X 15 in. (28 X 38 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : You Might Think You Know Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : Some Days I Wake Up with the Feeling Unseen Forces Are Aligning Watercolour on paper 10 X 14 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : Some Days Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : Imaginary Homeland Watercolour on paper 11 X 15 in. (28 X 38 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : Water-1 Watercolour on paper 15 X 11 in. (38 X 28 cm.) 2021, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)





Quarantine Diary : Ordinary Lies Watercolour on paper 15 X 11 in. (38 X 28 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)

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INR 50,000 + taxes and logistics



Quarantine Diary : Provisional Utopia Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : It Is Not Necessarily So Watercolour on paper 10 X 14 in. (26 X 35 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower left and right)



Quarantine Diary : Silence Watercolour on paper 12.5 X 10 in. (30 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : Water - 3 Watercolour on paper 11 X 15 in. (28 X 38 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : There Is Always Something on Watercolour on paper 10 X 14 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : Green Cloud Watercolour on paper 11 X 15 in. (28 X 38 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Quarantine Diary : Drop by Drop Watercolour on paper 15 X 11 in. (38 X 28 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Diary : Crumbs and Windfall Watercolour on paper 11 X 15 in. (28 X 38 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left and right)



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Quarantine Drawings : Water - 1 Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 8 X 11 in. (20 X 29 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Drawings : Harbour Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 11.5 X 8 in. (29.5 X 20 cm.) 2019, Baroda Signed in English (lower right)



Quarantine Drawings : Red Dawn Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 8 X 11 in. (20 X 29.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left and right)


Quarantine Drawings : Bed Watercolour. pen and ink on paper 10.5 X 7.5 in. (27 X 19 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower left)



Quarantine Drawings : Noli Me Tangere Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 11 X 8 in. (27.5 X 20 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower right)



Quarantine Drawings : Untitled Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 7.5 x 10 in. (19 x 26 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (middle right)



Quarantine Drawings : Normalcy Watercolour and water soluble pencil on paper 11 x 7.5 in. (29.5 X 19 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower middle)



Quarantine Drawings : Water - 2 Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 7.5 X 11 in. (19 X 29.5 cm.) 2019, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Quarantine Drawings : Water - 3 Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 7.5 X 11 in. (19 X 29.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (middle right)



Quarantine Drawings : Water - 4 Watercolour, pen and ink on paper 7.5 X 11 in. (19 X 29.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (middle right)



Ordinary Lies Watercolour on paper 42 X 29.5 in. (106 X 75 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Soliloquy : Untitled Watercolour on paper 42 X 29.5 in. (106 X 75 cm.) 2022, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)

Detail of *Soliloquy : Untitled*



Soliloquy Watercolour on paper 42 X 29.5 in. (106 X 75 cm.) 2022, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Soliloquy with Orion -2 Watercolour on paper 42 X 29.5 in. (106 X 75 cm.) 2022, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Soliloquy: 4 am. Watercolour on wasli paper 32.5 x 63 in. (83 x 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)





Roots Watercolour on Indian handmade paper 65 x 45 in. (156 x 114 cm.) overall A - 32.5 x 45 in. (82.5 x 114 cm.) B - 33 x 45 in. (83 x 114.5 cm.) Diptych 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower middle and right)



Nowhere to Run : Soliloquy with Orion Watercolour on paper 39.5 X 59.2 in. (100.5 X 150 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (upper left)

Detail of Nowhere to Run : Soliloguy with Orion

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Cacti : Soliloquy- 1 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse) Edition - 9/15



Cacti : Soliloquy -2 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26.5 cm.) Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)



Cacti : Soliloquy - 3 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (lower middle)



Cacti : Soliloquy - 4 Watercolour on paper 15 X 10.5 in. (38 X 27 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 5 Watercolour on paper 14 X 10 in. (35 X 25 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 6 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)

Detail of Cacti : Soliloquy- 6



Cacti : Soliloquy- 7 Watercolour on paper 15 X 10.5 in. (38 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 8 Watercolour on paper 15 X 10.5 in. (38 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower middle)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 9 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 10 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 11 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in English (on the reverse)



Cacti : Soliloquy- 12 Watercolour on paper 14.5 X 10.5 in. (37 X 26.5 cm.) 2020, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower left)



Innocence Etching 15.7 x 19 in. (40 x 48 cm.) work size 19.7 x 23 in. (50 x 59 cm.) sheet size 2021, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right) Edition - 6/10



Detail of Innocence

He was innocent of history, his innoce



Untitled Etching 15.7 x 19 in. (40 x 48 cm.) work size 19.7 x 23 in. (50 x 59 cm.) sheet size 2021, Baroda Signed in Bengali and English (lower right) Edition - 9/15

Gallery View





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EMAMIART

KOLKATA, INDIA

Emami Art is a contemporary art gallery based in the green purpose built Kolkata Centre for Creativity building in Kolkata, India. Promoting emerging, mid-career and established artists and engaging with contemporary and historical material, the gallery produces exhibitions of modern, contemporary and cutting-edge art as well as commissioning artists to create site-specific pieces.

The gallery programme includes a regular lineup of talks, seminars, panel discussions and conversations with artists, curators and key partners. The gallery delivers its commitment to providing a longterm supportive environment for emerging talent through free access to mentorship programs, workshops, residency opportunities and innovative educational activities that facilitate artistic development. It also stages events across the cultural spectrum, such as concerts, performances, symposiums, publications, collaborative projects, film screenings, and learning-orientated incubator programmes.

EMAMIART

Kolkata Centre for Creativity

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