

Shilpi Sharma

Portfolio of selected works



Brief Description

Shilpi Sharma pushes the boundaries of ceramic art through a deep exploration of fragility and endurance. Drawing inspiration from often-overlooked organisms like mosses, fungi, and microorganisms, her work merges traditional ceramic techniques with a personal narrative of survival and self-discovery.

Fascinated by the patterns and structures of microscopic life, she reflects on the delicate yet resilient nature of these organisms, which thrive in harsh environments. This duality mirrors her own journey from a rural upbringing to the creative landscape of Santiniketan, where her art becomes a metaphor for the tenacity of these "invisible beings" and her own struggle to navigate societal expectations and personal challenges as a woman artist.

Shilpi stylizes microorganisms onto ceramic rock-like boulders, symbolizing the symbiotic relationship between fragility and resilience – to her these represent inhospitable environments, mirroring the microorganisms' survival. This concept is also deeply personal, reflecting the supportive networks and individuals who have inspired her. Through a careful balance of texture and color, she captures the delicate intricacy of these organisms while imbuing them with a lustrous vibrancy that demands visibility. Bright, glossy colors dominate her work, amplifying the presence of these otherwise unseen life forms. Vibrant glazes symbolize giving voice to the overlooked, while the textures and details evoke universal themes of survival and growth.

Her work transcends representation, offering a philosophical inquiry into vulnerability and resilience. While acknowledging the gendered lens through which vulnerability is often viewed, she presents fragility as a universal experience, integral to both self-realization and survival. For her, these microorganisms embody the human spirit—fighting to thrive in adversity.

Looking ahead, she plans to incorporate mixed media into her practice to deepen both the textural and conceptual aspects of her work, continuing her exploration of the connections between art, nature, and human experience.

Terra's Sprout
Natural pulp clay
Overall dimension variable
Set of 3 works
2024,
Santiniketan



Terra's Sprout
Detail view



Unfolding Crater

Natural pulp clay, stoneware, and glossy brown
metallic glaze

Suite of 6 works

2023,

Santiniketan



Unfolding Crater
Details



Reckoning Splashes

Natural pulp clay, stoneware body, metallic
black glaze

Suite of 12 works

2023,
Santiniketan



Reckoning Splashes
Details



Dark Creeping

Natural pulp clay, stoneware and matte green
glaze

Overall size variable

Suite of 4 works

2023,

Santiniketan



Dark Creeping
Detail



Curling Blues (Series Curling Blues)

Natural pulp clay

Overall dimension variable

2024,

Santiniketan



Curling Blues (Series Curling Blues)
Detail



Brittle Softness

Natural pulp clay, stoneware body, blue and
glittery metallic effect glaze

Suite of 5 works

2023,

Santiniketan



Darkening Mould

Natural pulp clay

4.25 x 7.87 x 9.05 in. (10.8 x 20 x 23 cm.) approx.

2024,

Santiniketan



Final Carcass

Natural pulp clay

3.54 x 9.84 x 11.22 in. (9 x 25 x 28.5 cm.) approx.

2024,

Santiniketan



Nocturnal Bloom

Natural pulp clay

3.07 x 12.59 x 12.59 in. (7.8 x 32 x 32 cm.) approx.

2024,

Santiniketan



Secluded Beauty

Natural pulp clay, stoneware body,
metal effect glaze

20 in. (51 cm.) dia.

6 in. (16 cm.) depth.

4.40 Kg. without stand

2022

Santiniketan



Detail of *Secluded Beauty*





SHILPI SHARMA

I Am Creation

Natural pulp clay, stoneware and metal glaze

17.2 in. (44 cm.) dia. X 5.5 in. (14 cm.) depth

3.380 Kg.

2023, Santiniketan

Unsigned

AB1212



SHILPI SHARMA

The Nurturing World

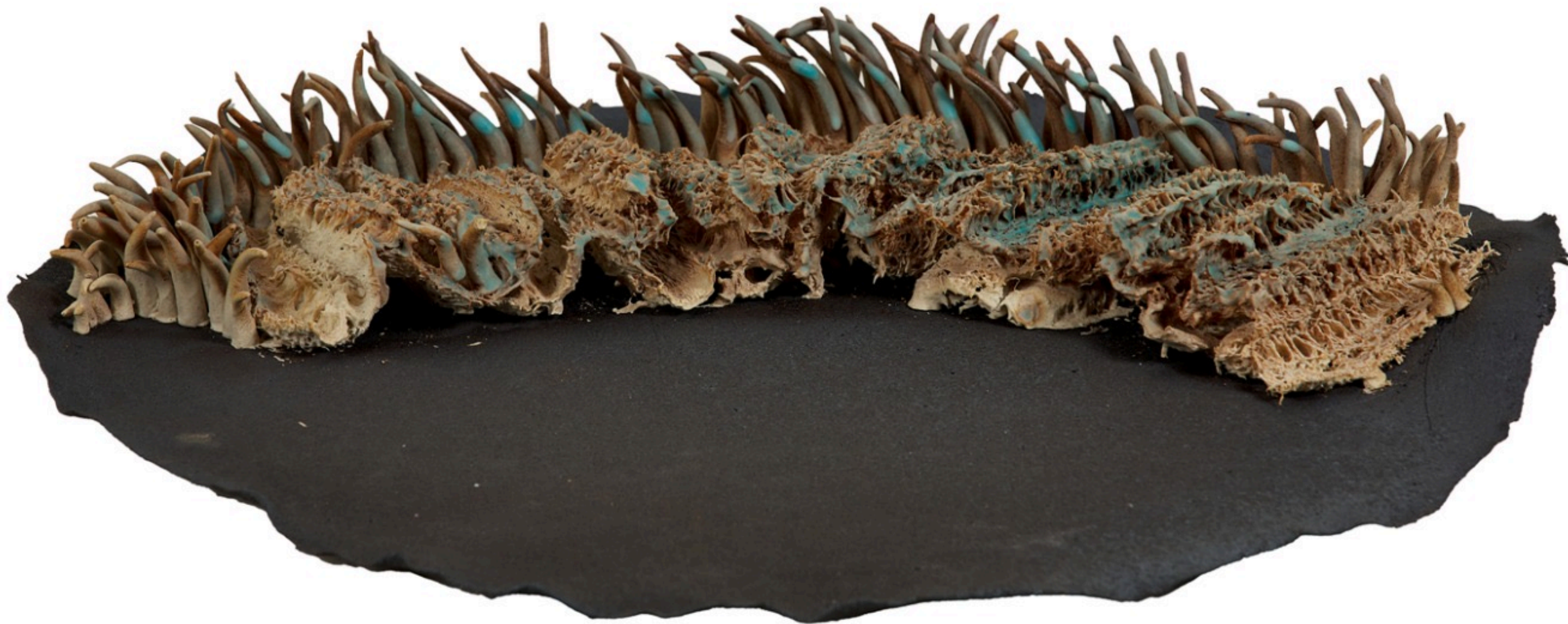
Natural pulp clay, stoneware and metal glaze
19 in. (48 cm.) dia. X 2.7 in. (7 cm.) depth

3.410 Kg.

2023, Santiniketan

Unsigned

AB1213



Alternate view of *Secluded Beauty*

Lustrous Grasp

Stoneware metallic matt glaze and natural
fibre pulp

A – 3 x 21.5 x 4 in.(7 x 55 x 10.5 cm.) without
stand

B- 3.5 x 22.5 x 4 in.(8.5 x 64.5 x 10.5 cm.)
without stand

C- 4.5 x 25 x 3.5 in.(12 x 64 x 9.5 cm.) without
stand Suite of 3 works

2020,

Santiniketan



Lustrous Grasp from another view



Detail of *Lustrous Grasp*



Lustrous Folds

Natural pulp clay, stoneware body,
metal effect glaze

28 x 35 x 5 in. (72 x 90 x 13 cm.) overall

Suite of 4 works

7.8 Kg. overall

2022

Santiniketan



Detail of *Lustrous Folds*



Modern Mutation

Stoneware

10 x 16 in. (25 x 41 cm.) overall

Variable depths

Suite of 4 works

2022

Santiniketan



Surface of Life

Stoneware

9.5 x 47.5 in.(24 x 121 cm.) overall

Variable depths

Suite of 5 works

2022

Santiniketan



Detail of *Surface of Life*



BRIEF BIO

Shilpi Sharma, born in 1997 in Murarai, West Bengal, is a contemporary artist working in ceramics. Currently pursuing a PhD at Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati University, where she also completed her Masters in Fine Arts (MFA) in 2021. She holds a Bachelor's in Design (B.Des.) with a specialization in ceramic and glass from Shilpa-Sadana, Visva Bharati University, which she completed in 2020. Shilpi has exhibited her work at several notable events, including Art Mumbai in November 2024, "All That is Hidden – Mapping Departure in Landscape, Terrains and Geographies" in Kolkata (2024), and the India Art Fair in New Delhi (2023). She also participated in the Italian Consulate's exhibition for the 700th Death Anniversary of Dante Alighieri (2022), and her pieces were featured in the "Bhū" – Emami Art Ceramics Exhibition (2021). In addition to her exhibitions, Shilpi has contributed as a Teaching and Training Assistant for the workshop "Ceramic: Challenges & Opportunities for Local Pottery Artisans and Role of Social Work" at Visva-Bharati, Social Work Department (2024). Shilpi's work was displayed at the 1st International Ceramics Exhibition of Silpakorn Students and International University Students in Thailand (2021). She has been awarded multiple scholarships, including the Ministry of Culture, Government of India Scholarship (2023–2025), as well as merit scholarships from both Kala Bhavana and Silpa Sadana. Shilpi has participated in various workshops focused on outdoor sculpture, Japanese calligraphy, and glass design.

She currently resides and works in Santiniketan, West Bengal.



CV and Personal details

Address

Date of Birth: 4.11.1997

Current Address: Indirapally, Santiniketan, Bolpur
731235, West Bengal.

Contact No: 7063442240, 9064647435

Email: shilpisharma959@gmail.com

Scholarships:

- The award of Scholarship of Ministry of Culture, Government of India, 2023 to 2025.
- Merit Scholarship, Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati University, 2020 & 2021.
- Merit Scholarship, Silpa Sadana, Visva Bharati University, 2018 & 2019

Workshops:

- Bhumi Kriya, outdoor sculpture workshop organized by Hidden Artist Possibility, Santiniketan, 2020.
- Japanese Calligraphy workshop organized by Silpa Sadana, 2019.
- Glass Design workshop organized by MSME-Technology Development Centre, Firozabad, 2018.
- Glassblowing workshop organized by MSME-Technology Development Centre, Firozabad, 2018.
- Ceramics Jewellery Design workshop organized by Silpa Sadana, 2017.

Educational Qualifications:

- Currently pursuing PhD, Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati University, Since 2020.
- Masters in Fine Arts (MFA), Kala Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, 2021: **7.95 CGPA**
- Bachelor in Design (B. Des.), Specialization in ceramic and glass (CG), Silpa – Sadana, Visva Bharati University 2016-2020: **6.35 CGPA**
- Kabi Nazrul College (H.S) Higher Secondary, 2015-2016.

Selected Exhibitions:

- Mumbai, **Art Mumbai**, 14th to 17th November 2024
- Teaching and Training Assistant in Workshop on Ceramic: **Challenges & Opportunities for the local Pottery artisans and role of social work. Visva-Bharati, Social Work** Department, April 2024
- Kolkata, **All that is Hidden- Mapping departure in landscape, terrains and geographies, 2024.**
- Delhi, **Indian Art Fair**, 9th to 12th February, 2023
- Kolkata, Emami Art, **Bhu- Tatva Elements of Earth, 2023.**
- Nominated for an exhibition with the **Italian Consulate for the 700th Death Anniversary of Dante Alighieri, 2022.**
- Got selected for and Exhibited at “**भू**” / “**ভূ**” / “**Bhū**” – **Emami Art, Ceramics Exhibition in collaboration with Falguni Bhatt, Emami Art Centre of Creativity** 13th November – 12th December, 2021.
- Works got selected and displayed at: **The 1st International Ceramics Exhibition of Silpakorn Students and International University Students, Thailand, 16th – 31st August, 2021.**
- Teaching Assistant in Pottery Workshop, **Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC)**, Kolkata, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, Santiniketan, Bopdur, 23rd June – 7th July, 2021.

EMAMI ART

Kolkata, India

Emami Art is a prominent contemporary art gallery and cultural production space located on the ground floor of the Kolkata Centre for Creativity's Green Building. Established in 2017, it adopts a forward-looking, multi-dimensional approach that reflects South Asia's history, socio-cultural, and geo-political narratives. Emami Art operates within an inclusive framework, where profitability supports sustainable resource regeneration and public service.

The gallery features a dynamic programme of curated exhibitions, ranging from large-scale presentations to more intimate displays. It actively participates in both national and international events and art fairs. Emami Art represents a wide spectrum of contemporary artists, including emerging, mid-career, and established talents, with a special emphasis on the East and North Eastern regions of India. Several of its artists' works are featured in prominent national and international collections, including public foundations and museums.

A key initiative is the annual Emami Art Experimental Film Festival, which provides a platform for alternative and experimental filmmaking, video art, and moving image practices. This festival brings together internationally acclaimed artists and filmmakers, alongside recent critical productions from India.

Through both short- and long-term projects, Emami Art supports the local and regional arts community by offering regular mentorship programmes, workshops, residency opportunities, and innovative educational activities. These initiatives foster artistic development, build collaborative networks, and provide a supportive environment for emerging talent. The gallery also organises regular talks, seminars, panel discussions, and conversations with artists, curators, and key partners, creating a space for critical engagement.

Committed to promoting a regional, national, and international agenda, Emami Art emphasises community engagement, socially relevant initiatives, and institutional partnerships. With a multi-year vision for the future, it continues to be a catalyst for change, research, innovation, and inclusivity.

