

RENCONTRES
FRANCE-Inde
ENCOUNTER
India-FRANCE

Fatehpur > Delhi > Paris



mars/march • novembre/november 2006



Expositions :

Haveli Nadine Le Prince Cultural Centre,
Fatehpur

du **4** au **12** mars 2006

Ambassade de France en Inde,
2/50E, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

du **17** au **22** mars 2006

Mairie du 6^e arrondissement,
78, rue Bonaparte 75006 Paris

du **8** au **30** novembre 2006

Portes ouvertes
du “6^e, ateliers d’artistes”

les **17, 18, 19** et **20** novembre 2006

ÉDITO

Two years ago, on the occasion of an opening ceremony for an exhibition, I first discovered the Cultural Centre of Nadine Le Prince in Fatehpur. I was immediately struck by the charm and the splendour of this Haveli with its painted facades, restored to perfection. This palace has become yet another jewel in the open-air treasure trove that forms the region of Shekhawati, in the Rajasthan.

Therefore it is with great pleasure that I applaud the initiative of Laurence Toussaint and Nadine Le Prince in organising, in this unique location, an extraordinary encounter between French and Indian artists. It is also with pride that I welcome them to exhibit, within the great hall of the French Embassy in New Delhi, a selection of works which will form the basis of this cultural exchange. Art has been, and remains, an important sector in the dialogue between France and India. From the years following India's Independence many Indian artists have come to France to meet their fellow counterparts: S.H. Raza, Ram Kumar, Anjolie Ela Menon, Viswanadhan, Shakti Burman, to quote but a few. At the same time numerous French creators

have travelled widely in India to replenish their inspiration with the light of an immense cultural wealth which André Malraux once described as, "The Orient of our soul".

Today the tradition of French-Indian interchange continues and in this regard the French Embassy takes an active part notably through the "Artists in Residence" scheme, which enables some fifteen Indian creators to spend time in France and which correspondingly encourages French talent to come to India. The French-Indian Encounter presented in this catalogue forms a part of this cultural program. From the restored palace in Fatehpur the art works will travel to the prestigious halls of the Town Hall of the 6th arrondissement in Paris. I sincerely hope that this exchange between India and France will give rise to other projects and other artworks, and I hope it will offer the public in both countries an opportunity to better acquaint itself with the vitality of our respective cultures.

Dominique Girard

French Ambassador to India



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ÉDITO

Lorsque j'ai découvert il y a deux ans le Centre culturel de Nadine Le Prince à Fatehpur, à l'occasion du vernissage d'une précédente exposition, je fus immédiatement sous le charme de la magnificence de cette haveli aux façades peintes, restaurée à la perfection, qui classe à l'évidence le bâtiment parmi les joyaux de ce musée à ciel ouvert qu'est la région du Shekhavati, dans le Rajasthan. C'est naturellement avec un grand bonheur que je salue donc l'initiative de Laurence Toussaint et de Nadine Le Prince d'organiser dans ce lieu unique une rencontre exceptionnelle entre artistes français et artistes indiens, et avec fierté que j'accueille dans le grand hall de l'Ambassade de France à New Delhi, pour une première étape indienne, la sélection d'œuvres qui constitue la base de cet échange. L'art a été et demeure la voie privilégiée du dialogue franco-indien. Dès les années qui suivirent l'indépendance de l'Inde, de nombreux artistes indiens sont venus en France à la rencontre de leurs frères de création : S.H. Raza, Ram Kumar, Anjolie Ela Menon, Viswanadhan, Shakti Burman, pour ne

citer qu'eux ; tandis que de nombreux créateurs français n'ont cessé de voyager en Inde pour ressourcer leur inspiration à la lumière d'une formidable richesse culturelle dont André Malraux disait qu'elle était « l'Orient de notre âme ». Aujourd'hui, la tradition du dialogue culturel franco-indien se perpétue, et l'Ambassade de France y prend une part active, notamment à travers le programme « Artistes-en-Résidence » qui permet chaque année à quelque quinze créateurs indiens de séjourner en France, et à autant de talents français de venir en Inde. La rencontre franco-indienne présentée dans ce catalogue est elle aussi placée sous le signe de la réciprocité. Du palais ressuscité de Fatehpur, les œuvres voyageront jusqu'aux prestigieux espaces de la Mairie du 6^e arrondissement de Paris. Je forme le vœu que naissent de cet échange en Inde et en France d'autres projets et d'autres œuvres, et, pour les publics des deux pays, une meilleure connaissance de la vitalité de nos cultures respectives.

Dominique Girard

Ambassadeur de France en Inde



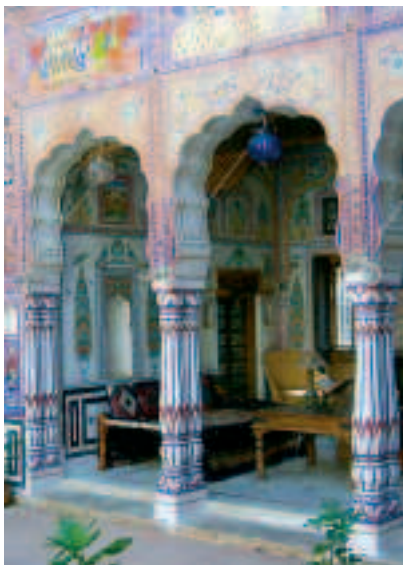
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Nadine Le Prince

HAVELI CULTURAL CENTRE

At Fatehpur in the heart of Shekhawati



The Shekhawati was built by princes, the Rajput who had the strength, and the Marwaris, the merchants, who had the necessary finances. The Shekhawati is a region that has been criss-crossed by caravans of spices, precious stones and shimmering silks, a prosperous commercial crossroads. Villages slowly developed and the rich merchants settled there and built magnificent houses, the Havelis, rich in their decoration and style. Along side these palaces were built schools, hospitals, wells and stables...

Today, now that the rich owners have abandoned these palaces, the Havelis are slowly being engulfed by the encroaching sand. The voyager in this region now encounters ruins, where

village life continues in a delapidated “fairy land”, a far cry from its former glory, before finally arriving at Fatehpur to encounter Nadine Le Prince and her palace of a thousand and one nights. Thanks to her devoted restoration, frescos, windows, sculptures, ornamental beams, doorways and two magnificent patios are all minutely returned to their original allure...

A huge architectural and artistic heritage is in grave danger of disappearing, the Havelis have been pillaged, the principal monuments (wells, reservoirs, and chaatris...) have been destroyed or damaged.

This disappearing treasure could well be an economic resource for the local population and thus measures to protect and restore this cultural heritage is of prime importance. With the help of the Rajasthan Government a “Heritage Walk” is being established to create a meandering protected thoroughfare through the town of Fatehpur.

With our project, we wish to focus attention on the area of Shekhawati and in supporting this magnificent work of restoration thus contribute to its renaissance.

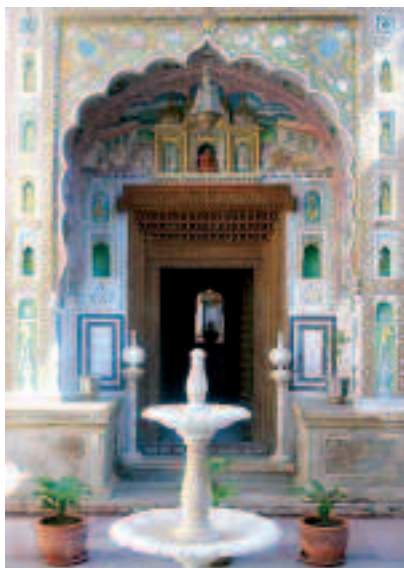


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Nadine Le Prince

HAVELI CULTURAL CENTRE

à Fatehpur au cœur du Shekhawati



Le Shekhawati a été construit par des princes, les Rajpoutes qui avaient la force, et des marchands, les Marwaris, qui eux avaient l'argent ; région traversée par les caravanes chargées d'épices, de pierres et de soie, grand carrefour commercial prospère et sûr.

Les villages se sont développés et ces riches commerçants ont construits de magnifiques maisons recouvertes de fresques, les havelis, mais aussi des écoles, des hopitaux, des puits, des étables...

Aujourd'hui, les havelis abandonnés s'assoupissent dans les sables, leurs riches propriétaires absents et les dégradations vont bon train. Le voyageur

traverse des villages de palais en ruine où la vie continue dans un décor de conte de fées à l'abandon puis il arrive à Fatehpur, chez Nadine Le Prince dans un palais des mille et une nuits ; splendide travail de restauration qui met en valeur les fresques, ces décors qui racontent la vie du maître des lieux et de ses dieux protecteurs, les bois sculptés des poutres, des portes et des fenêtres, les deux patios...

Le patrimoine artistique et architectural du Shekhawati est exceptionnel mais il est en grand danger : les havelis se dégradent et sont pillés, les monuments municipaux (puits, réservoirs, chaatris ...) sont dévastés.

Ce trésor qui est en train de disparaître pourrait être une source de richesse pour la population locale et une politique de mise en valeur et de protection du patrimoine est à mettre en place.

Une opération « Heritage Walk » est en cours de réalisation avec le soutien du Gouvernement du Rajasthan afin de créer dans la ville de Fatehpur un parcours protégé.

Avec notre projet, nous voulons contribuer à la reconnaissance du Shekhawati et soutenir ce magnifique travail de restauration du patrimoine.



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“

Creative confidence is the hallmark of the great artist. The connection between the mind, eye and hand guided by emotion and imagination, results in the ultimate creation of a work of art

”

ANJOLIE ELA MENON

Anjolie Ela Menon was born in 1940 in West Bengal. After a brief spell at the JJ School of Art in Mumbai, she earned a degree in English Literature from Delhi University. She held her first solo show at the age of 18, and went on to study in Paris at the “Ecole des Beaux Arts” from 1961 to 1962. On her extended return journey through Europe and Asia, she spent time studying Romanesque and Byzantine Art. Menon has had over 35 solo shows throughout her illustrious artistic career.

Principal Exhibitions:

Winston Gallery, Washington, USA.

Black Heath Gallery, London, UK.

Gallery Radicke, Bonn.

Doma Khudozhnikov, Russia.

Maya Gallery, Hong Kong.

Admit One Gallery, New York, USA.

Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta, India.

Retrospective Exhibition, at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai, at the Apparao Galleries, Chennai, at Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, and at Chitrakala Parishad, Bangalore.

She is a well-known muralist and has represented India at the Algiers Biennale, the Sao Paulo Biennale, three Triennales in New Delhi and has been invited to participate in major exhibitions by the British Council, the US State Dept. and the French Ministry of Culture. Retrospectives of her work were held in 1988 and 2002. Menon was awarded the Padma Shree in 2000, by the Indian Government, as recognition of her contribution to Indian Art. Her works have been acquired by several museums in India and abroad.



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Anjolie Ela Menon : *Untitled* • oil on canvas • 30" x 20"

NIREN SEN GUPTA

Born in Bengal in 1940.

Graduated in Science from Calcutta University and of Arts & crafts, Calcutta 1965.

Former Principal, College of Art, New Delhi.

Teaching experience of over 30 years in graduate & post-graduate levels in various art institutions.

Solo exhibitions:

Since 1967, has regularly done exhibitions in New Delhi and Pondicherry.

Aurodhan Gallery, Pondicherry, 2000

Art Forum, New Delhi, 2001

Damyanti Gallery, New Delhi, 2002

Dhoomimal Mega Art Gallery, New Delhi, 2003

Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, 2005

Many group exhibitions in New Delhi, Seoul, Calcutta, Chennai...

Collection:

Lalit Kala Akademi, National Gallery of Modern art, College of Art and Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi.

Taj Hotel Group and Goenka in Mumbai....

Awards:

AIFACS Award, Maha Kaushal Award, Bhopal and NBT Award, New Delhi.



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Niren Sen Gupta

“ ...my world of art came to be dominated by geometric shapes, the permutation and combination of these shapes changed till the newly formed patterns came alive and began to express new things with each passing day. ”

SUBRATO KUNDU

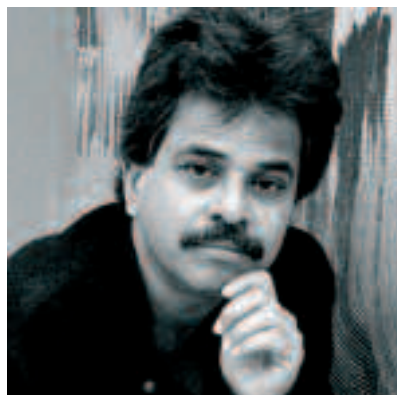
Subrata Kundu was born in Calcutta and obtained his BFA from the Government College of Art & Craft, Calcutta, in 1986. He went on to obtain an MFA from New Delhi in 1989. He has held more than fifteen one-man shows of his works so far, as well as participated in a number group shows over the last fourteen years.

There is an animated quiet in his work. A soothing silence almost. Subrata plays with textures with all the artistry of a master ...painstaking layering ridges and swirls over the surface in an interplay of light and colour that is almost musical. Only it needs the silence to hear the sound.

Principal Exhibitions:

- 1989: Lalit Kala Academy, Habitat Gallery, New Delhi.
- 1990: Shridharani Gallery, New Delhi. (solo)
- 1990: L.T.G. Gallery, New Delhi.
- 1991: Jehangir Art Gallery, Bombay, Bangalore.
- 1992: Chitrakoot Gallery, New Delhi. (solo)
- 1993: Ganesha Gallery, New Delhi.
- 1994: Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Calcutta. (solo)

This artist is also a multimedia graphic programmer and a professional website designer. Subrata Kundu has also worked in a prominent advertising agency in Kolkata. This artist has participated in many artist camps organized all over the country, and has also received awards and recognition from bodies such as the Indian Society of Oriental Art, the West Bengal State Academy and the All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society.



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SUMITABHA PAL

Born in 1967
Bachelor of Fine Arts in sculpture,
University of Calcutta (1990)
Master of Fine Arts in sculpture, M.S. University, Baroda
(1992)

Solo shows:

Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda (1991)
Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai (1995)

Exhibitions:

National exhibition organized by Lalit Kala
Academy, New Delhi , 1990,1995,2001
Annual exhibitions of Bombay Art Society,
1992, 93, 94
Annual exhibition of AIFACS, 1995,96

Group shows:

Participation to many group shows in New Delhi,
Baroda, Mumbai.
In 2001, group show organized by UNIPACE in Delhi
Group show organized by gallery "Heart & soul"
in Lado Sarai, New Delhi

Work experience:

Art teacher of St. Mary's school, Safdarjung Enclave,
New Delhi 1995 - 2000
Since december 2000, Lecturer in the Sculpture
Department, College of Art, Government of NCT of Delhi.



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Sumitabha Pal

ANKIT POTEL

Born: 1957, Surat (Gujarat)

Studied: Post Diploma in Creative Sculpture from M.S. University of Baroda in 1983

At present: Lecturer in Rajasthan School of Art, Jaipur
(Affiliated to Rajasthan University, Jaipur)

Awards:

National Lalit Kala Akademi Award, 1995, New Delhi

Gujarat State Lalit Kala Akademi Award, 1987

Rajasthan State Lalit Kala Akademi Award, 1989

Rajasthan State Lalit Kala Akademi Award, 1991

All India Exhibition Award, Jaipur, 1993

Rajasthan State Lalit Kala Akademi Award, 1995

Jaipur Hawa Mahal Junior Chamber Award, 1996

Participated:

Many State, All India National Biennale

Exhibitions & 10th Triennale India, 2001

One Man Shows:

S.P. Planetarium, Baroda, 1982

Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai,

1982, 1984, 1987, 1989, 1993, 1998

Shridharani Art Gallery, New Delhi, 1983

Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi, 1991

Ravindra Manch, Jaipur, 1984, 1987, 1990

Rajasthan School of Art Gallery, Jaipur, 1985, 1986

Taj Art Gallery, Mumbai, 1986, 1991, 1994

Contemporary Art Gallery, Ahmedabad, 1986, 1993, 1996

Welcomegroup Vadodara, 1987

Designscape Art Gallery, Mumbai, 1995, 1996, 2003

Jai Mahal Palace, Jaipur, 1988

Cache Art gallery, Mumbai, 1995, 1996, 2003

Rajputana Palace Sheraton, Jaipur, 1999

Avedna Ashram, Durlabhji Hospital, Jaipur, 2001



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Ankit Patel

“

I seek solutions... I seek the truth.

”

VIJENDER SHARMA

Born in 1962 in Delhi, Vijender Sharma studied at the College of Art, Delhi, attaining a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Painting (Gold Medalist). He has exhibited in numerous shows throughout India.

Solo Exhibitions :

1989: Shridharani Art Gallery, New Delhi.

1990 - 1997: LTC Art Gallery, New Delhi.

1999 - 2000: Art Indus, New Delhi.

2002 - 2003: Shridharani Art Gallery
by Art Indus, New Delhi.

2002 - 2003: Harmony Show by Reliance,
Nehru Centre, Mumbai.

Principal Group Exhibitions :

1987: National Exhibition, New Delhi.

1989: and 1995, National Exhibition, New Delhi.

1998: Freedom Gallery, New Delhi.

1999: Harmony Show, Mumbai.

1999: Nehru Centre, London, UK.

2000: Art Today, New Delhi.

2000: Harmony Show, Mumbai.

2000: Birla Academy, Calcutta.

2001: Vivant Gallery, New Delhi.

2001: Gallery Ganesha, New Delhi.

2001: "Krishna" Show, Gallery Om, New Delhi.

2002: "Silent Auction", French Embassy, Delhi.

Vijender Sharma has received several awards for his work and participated in numerous Art Camps. Through the commonplace themes of Vijender Sharma's work there is an eternal striving for the truth, an unending yearning for the ultimate.



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Vijender Sharma

VINOD SHARMA

Vinod Sharma was born in 1954 and comes from a talented family of artists. After gaining a First Class Degree in Fine Arts at the Delhi College of Art in 1976, he went on to obtain a First Class Masters Degree at the University of Baroda. From 1976 to the present day he has participated in numerous exhibitions, including more than 20 solo shows.

National Art Exhibitions:

1976-78: National Exhibition of Art, Delhi.

1976-79: Lucknow National Exhibition of Art, Ahmedabad.

1998: Solo Show, Art Indus, Delhi.

1998: 5th. Pyong Taek international Art Festival, Korea.

1999: Solo Show, Sanskriti Art Gallery, Calcutta.

1999: Solo Show, Jehangir Art Gallery, Bombay.

2001: Solo show at Nazar Art Gallery, Baroda.

2003: Group show of Egypt Art Camp, Visual Art Gallery.

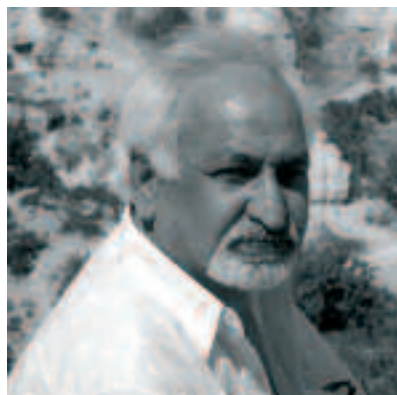
International Shows:

1997: Exhibition of Contemporary Artists from Korea & India, Delhi.

1998: 5th Pyong Taek International Art Festival, Korea.

1999: Group Show, Till Tomorrow Art International, Korea & India.

He has won several awards for drawing, painting and graphic art, and in 1999 he was awarded a Senior Art Fellowship in Painting by the Government of India. His works can be found in the National Gallery of Modern Art in Delhi, the Lalit Kala Akademi and the College of Art, Delhi, as well as private collections in India and abroad.



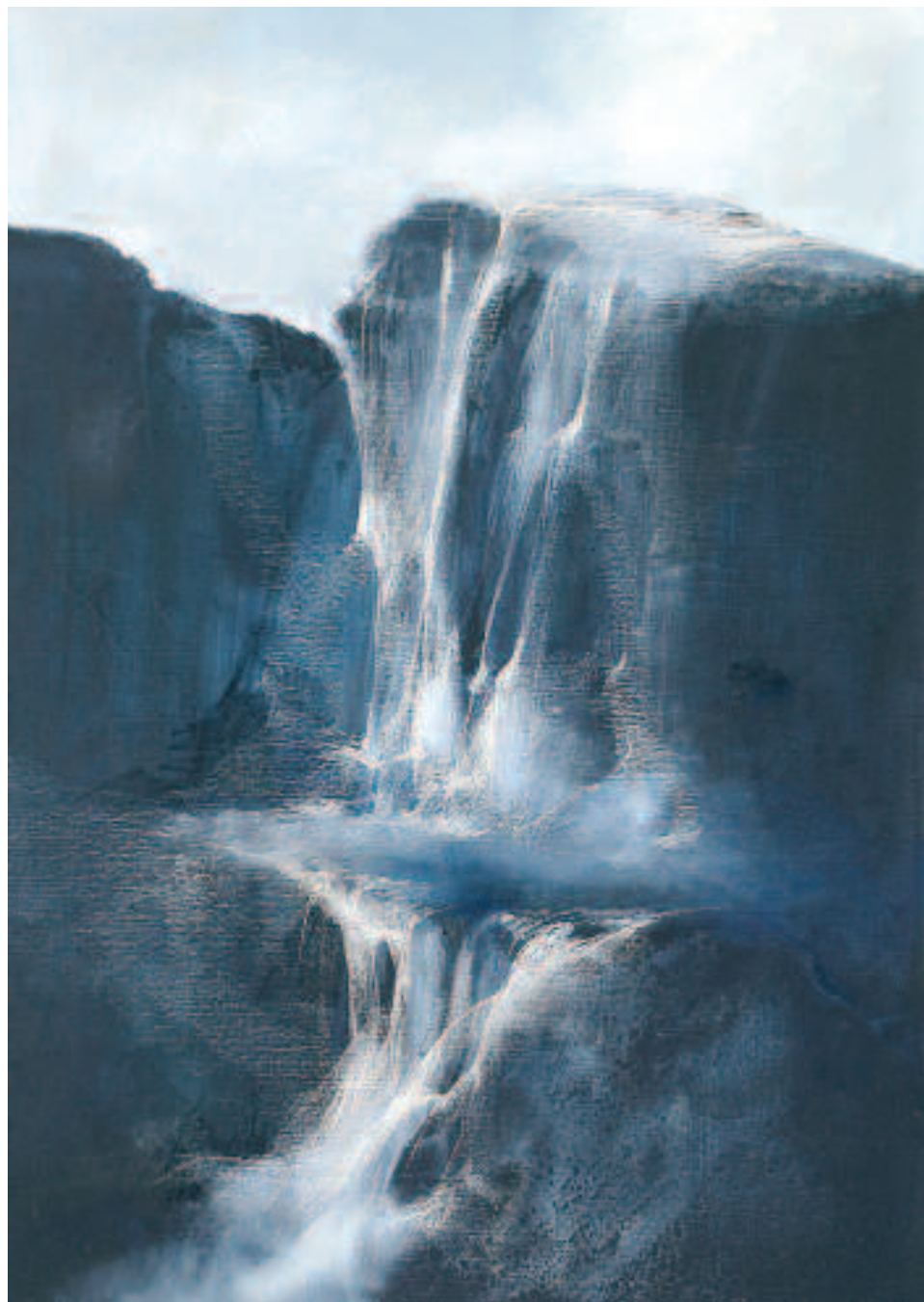
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Vinod Sharma

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President of the Parliamentary Assembly to NATO

Mr. Jean-Pierre Lecoq,

Councillor of Paris, Mayor of the 6th arrondissement
and Honorary President of the association, "Le 6^e, ateliers d'artistes"

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Mr. Jean-Claude Tribolet,

Counsellor for Cultural Affairs

Mr. Jérôme Neutres,

Cultural Attaché

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BNP Paribas Private Bank

Wilson Finance

Le Bon Marché Rive Gauche



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Président de l'Assemblée parlementaire de l'OTAN

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Conseiller de Paris, Maire du 6^e arrondissement
et Président d'honneur de l'association Le 6^e, ateliers d'artistes

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M. Jean-Claude Tribolet,

Conseiller de Coopération et d'Action culturelle

M. Jérôme Neutres,

Attaché culturel

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L'Assemblée Nationale

BNP Paribas Banque Privée

Wilson Finance

Le Bon Marché Rive Gauche



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