

Partnering for
conservation and growth
in art and culture



Art and culture

represent the supremacy of human expression, transcending all boundaries and confines. They enhance our lives in innumerable, immeasurable ways, as our heritage, our present and our legacy for future generations. They inspire us, each in our own way, not just to appreciate them, but also to share in, contribute to and otherwise foster them as best we can: and in doing so, be the best we can be.

For what they give us, we must support them, preserve their traditions and promote new forms of expression so they continue to add beauty, meaning and purpose to our lives.



GITANJALI MAINI



SANDEEP MAINI

TAKING FORWARD A TRADITION

The Sandeep and Gitanjali Maini Foundation (SGMF) was formed in June 2017, to carry out and build on gallery g's and the Maini Group's several art-and-culture fostering activities.

Gitanjali Maini's initiatives, at gallery g, have extensively promoted art and artists at many levels. It's a commitment Sandeep Maini shares, as reflected in the Maini Group's own programmes. SGMF has been started with the Maini Group Founder Dr. SK Maini's blessings, as someone who's always fostered art and culture.

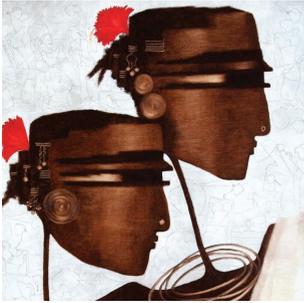
OUR LOGO

The four free-form shapes in the monogram, each in its own colour, symbolize what we stand for – yellow for clarity of purpose, red for initiative, green for renewal and blue for idealism. Together, their vividness reminds us of the joy that art and culture give us, of why we must work to sustain them.

MISSION

We will do this by creating a structure of systems and processes, so they continue to evolve and flourish. The minimal, contemporary font and composition of the name Sandeep and Gitanjali Maini Foundation signify the clarity of this structure which will foster a diversity of artistic and cultural genres and formats.

We will reach out in a phased manner to identify and connect with stakeholders in various artistic and cultural endeavours and initiate interactions and interventions through events, programmes and other mediums, sponsorships and mentorships. Some ongoing and scheduled initiatives are listed here.



ARTISTS INITIATIVE PROGRAMME

A phased series of sponsorships and mentorships which Gitanjali Maini started with the Artists Initiative Programme (AIP) to promote new and up-and-coming artists at gallery g. The AIP has helped several artists like Bharti Prajapati and Mohammed Osman forge successful careers.



THE KOCHI MUZIRIS BIENNALE

The Kochi Muziris Biennale (KMB) is India's first and only visual art biennale. Its quality and diversity, its universality and strong local roots have set it apart as one of the world's most successful biennales.

Our multi-levelled engagement with the KMB began with the first edition in 2012-2013, extending from Gitanjali Maini's role as promoter to gallery g's working individually with many of the Biennale's participating artists, including the its curators themselves, Bose Krishnamachari and Riyas Komu.



THE RAJA RAVI VARMA HERITAGE FOUNDATION

A step that profoundly impacted how heritage art is now viewed and promoted was the starting of The Raja Ravi Varma Heritage Foundation (TRRVHF) in 2015.

Raja Ravi Varma was one of modern India's greatest artists. His work influenced how art developed in our country and his grasp of printing technology took his work to millions of his fellow Indians. What's more he led the way for many for his peers and later artists, and helped draw attention to other forms of our art and culture: the SGMF now works with TRRVF to ensure that his legacy continues to grow.

Facilitating heritage custodianship and new forms of creative expression. Some of our initiatives:





MANU PILLAI

Manu S Pillai's first book *The Ivory Throne: Chronicles of the House of Travancore*, won the 2016 Tata Prize for best first work of non-fiction and the 2017 Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar. We promoted and launched it at gallery g in January 2016. We're supporting the writing and promotion of his next book, he's now researching at King's College, UK. It will explore, for the lay reader, how the early European fascination with Indian culture became so antipathetic and how 19th-century Indians countered it. Warren Hastings and Rammohan Roy, among other period figures, will be in it.

Empowering
through dialogue,
interaction and
support



URU MATTANCHERRY

URU Art Harbour, Mattancherry, Kochi is a space for creating and sustaining art and culture, while engaging the community in the process. URU organises exhibitions, other events and initiatives including workshops and residencies for artists, musicians and philosophers, and publishing books. Its first exhibition, Mattancherry, with 13 artists and curated by Riyas Komu, began in August 2017.



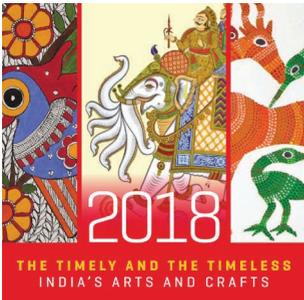
JAY VARMA

Jay Varma, wellknown academic realist painter, and a descendant of Raja Ravi Varma's, is now in his 4th and final year of study and internship at Studio Incamminati, Philadelphia, under SGMF's auspices Varma's goal is to extend his technique and experience through mentor and peer reference. SGMF and gallery g will hold his debut show in 2020.



CHARIOTS: DECORATIVE ELEMENTS

In February 2018 we will also partner Gallery G in *Chariots Decorative Elements* a show of temple chariot artefacts, some over 100 years old. This is a major show of antiquities, which are being shown for the first time in Bangalore.



ARTS AND CRAFTS CALENDAR

Our aim to promote traditional art and craft forms will be through a programme of select initiatives. Some of these forms feature in the 2018 Maini Group desk calendar, a timely reminder of the need to work to conserve them all.

Should you wish to find out more about us, do email us



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