

# HEART of matter

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This is a series of reflective conversations that dwell on holistic living, wellness, history, philosophy, literature, art and culture. Presented by InKo Centre as quarterly editions, in association with partner organisations, these direct and inspirational conversations will focus on lived experience rather than theoretical abstractions.

**We invite you to explore what lies at the heart of matter, what matters most and why.**

Celebrated artist, raconteur and writer Manohar Devadoss is our Special Guest in Edition Two of **Heart of Matter – Happiness Conversations**, curated by Vaani Anand & AVIS Viswanathan.

## **About our special guest: Mano Devadoss**

Mano personifies life's simplest and most beautiful truth that while problems can often impoverish you, financially, physically and emotionally, they always enrich your soul.

That Mano had a fairy tale wedding with Mahema, the discovery within a few years of their marriage that Mano had a progressive degenerative eye condition that was to eventually result in total loss of sight, the tragic road accident that rendered Mahema a quadriplegic and her subsequent confinement to a wheel chair for the rest of her life and how Mano and Mahema lived together for 35 years loving and caring for each other, while raising their only child Sujatha, are well-known and oft quoted as examples of singular courage and determination in the face of adversity. What is less known perhaps is what kept Mano centred – then and now. As a compassionate companion to Mahema and as good parent to Sujatha, what kept him going? What role has art played in his life? How does Mano manage to deal with his physically debilitating condition and yet remain above it? And, how has he come to terms with life and yet, continue to live life on his own terms?

## **About the Curators - Vaani Anand & AVIS Viswanathan**

As curators, Vaani & AVIS will engage the guests in sharing their stories and their learnings from Life about the concept of happiness. Vaani & AVIS are Life Coaches and Happiness Curators. AVIS has also written a Book, "Fall Like A Rose Petal", in which he shares the spiritual lessons of happiness and contentment that he and his family have learnt from living through a bankruptcy, braving fear and pennilessness. The core idea of this event is to remind people that Life is a limited period offer, a gift that we should cherish and not squander.

**At 6.30 pm on Saturday, 7 November 2015, at InKo Centre.**