

# Heavenly Bodies

C.P. Satyajit's **Heavenly Bodies**, is reminiscent of the works of great documentary photographers who scoured this country in 'Camera Caravans' often setting up camps at a photo site till they got their photograph right! Satyajit carried a medium format cameras like the pioneers, with artificial lighting and recorded the everyday life of a particular cross-section of people, with extreme clarity.

In this exhibition, Satyajit trains his lens on farmers, tree climbers, masons, fishermen, leading humble lives, eating simple food and finding, through their daily physical labour, a natural way of stay fit and healthy.

Satyajit's artistic foundation as an Indian classical dancer and choreographer, helps foreground the vital necessity of harmony of body and mind.



## C. P. SATYAJIT

**Satyajit** is a professional freelance photographer based in Chennai, India. He graduated from Loyola College in 1996, specializing in Visual Communication, subsequently trained under Iqbal Mohammed, founder Light & Life Academy and Alumnus of Brooks Institute. Since 1999, Satyajit has engaged in photography, spanning automotive, architecture, interiors, fashion, food and jewellery.

Satyajit's artistic foundation however began in a very different field. From a very young age, he trained as a classical dancer under the careful tutelage of his parents, Mr. V P Dhananjay & Mrs. Shanta Dhananjay, reputed teachers and performers of Indian Classical dance. Moulded in an atmosphere of rigour and creativity, Satyajit became one of the brightest prospects in Indian Classical Dance performing and choreographing globally and winning numerous dance awards by the age of 22. When his career seemed set to soar, he turned towards his inner calling, Photography. To deepen his understanding and hone his skills he chose a dramatic and challenging life change. Completely immersing himself into the visual art form and with due training, Satyajit began his new career as a photographer in 1999.

Satyajit created a niche segment in the advertising field by combining his passion for automobiles and photography, thereby becoming the first Automobile Specialist in the country. He has the distinction of being the first Indian photographer to design and shoot with a motion rig for automobiles. His Clients are Honda, Hyundai, TVS, Ashok Leyland, Royal Enfield, Hero Motorcycles and Bajaj Automotive to name a few. He has experience as an 'aviation photographer', having participated in an International Research Project on Air Safety, where he did extensive photography from the runway.



The driving force behind Satyajit's photography is his affinity for the outdoors. He derives inspiration from the ever changing quality of light; the intensity and magical quality of nature that can affect people in different ways. In his own words, "Photographing, nurtured and sustained inside, as a process, rather than flying to the result can be a greater experience of life both seen and unseen"



Heavenly Bodies is my personal work. A self-commissioned project done out of my deep involvement in photography. Over the last few years these images have taken a larger space in my Photographic life. My exhibit of "advertising work" over the past 15 years had always taken precedence for its own purpose. But Heavenly Bodies deepened my sense of purpose in the process of photography.

As I readied this project, what came to light is the line of consistency in thought & intentness. An aspect that expresses my engagement with life. In this era of photography that is a blitzkrieg of images taken from various kinds of cameras and posted almost instantaneously all over, I sat back thinking of the many countless moments I paused before taking a picture. A picture for myself. That picture became part of my own story that grew out and beyond the borders of the image.

Collecting and editing these images have given me that purpose that I had thought was fading away.

Unfelt until Unseen!!

- C P Satyajit



The exhibition will be on view at The Gallery @ InKo Centre  
from **17 - 30 January 2019**  
10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m, Monday to Saturday.