

Pics: Pradeep Pathwal

S H Raza
with Satish
Gujral

Kiran Gujral



Raseel Gujral with Nayana Kanodia

VETERAN MEETS VETERAN

This was an art show Mumbai was waiting for since a long time. Veteran artist **Satish Gujral** flew in from Delhi along with his wife **Kiran** and daughters **Alpana** and **Raseel** for the preview of his latest show. Art lovers, collectors, artists and fans of the artist stormed into the Jehangir Art gallery to meet their favourite artist and admire, yet again, his paintings.

It was endearing to see another veteran in the field, **S H Raza**, make it to the show despite his age and not-so-perfect health.

Gujral and Raza sat talking for a long time, catching up on one another's lives, discussing their love (art) and enjoying their time spent together.

Pheroza Godrej, who later takes the show to her gallery, was heard talking about the show to **Sarayu Doshi**,

Tasneem Mehta and **Monica Vaziralli**. Delhi's **Navin Ansal** and **Feroze Gujral** enjoyed catching up with their Mumbai friends. **Nawaz Modi** Singhania took her time observing the works, you could tell she loved them. **Devicka Bhojwani**, **Sangita Jindal**, **Kabir Bedi**, **Arzan** and **Khushnuma Khambatta**, **Jaideep** and **Seema Mehrotra**... the venue was indeed buzzing!



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Navin Ansal and Alpana Gujral



Pheroza Godrej and Sarayu Doshi



Brinda Miller and Kahini Arte-Merchant



Krsna Mehta

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and (top)

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Pics: Sachin Gokhale



Pia and
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Tina Tahliani Parikh (centre) with James Ferreira and Savio John

Mumbai's fashionable ladies do just that on Tuesday evening. The two designers showcased their love-inspired summer lines along with the Spring/Summer collections of other designers at Tina's fashion store. Sharmilla Khanna,

Sangeeta Khanna, Haseena Jethmalani and Bijal Meswani were among the women spotted getting their dose of summer fashion.



Haseena
Jethmalani



Sharmilla Khanna



Sangeeta Chopra

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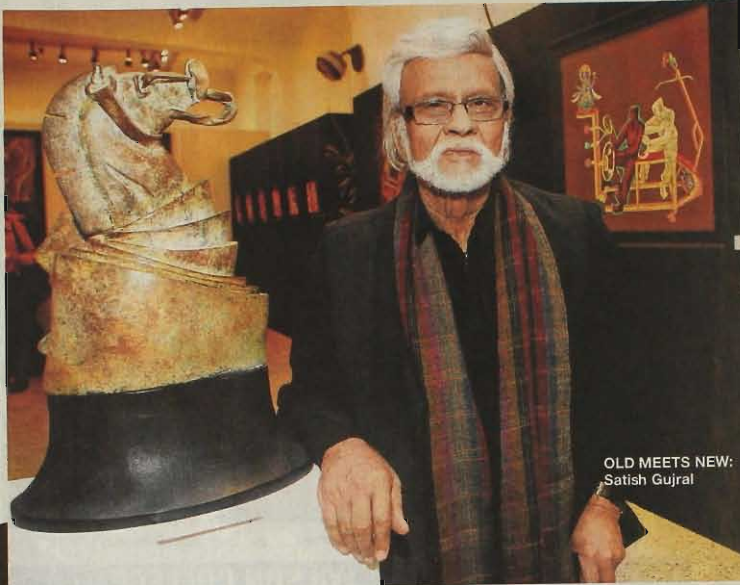
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Nineteen forty eight. That's the year Satish Gujral first dipped his brush into paint. 2010, half a decade and more later, he's still at it. What's more, over the years he's experimented with different mediums ranging from painting to drawing to sculptures, even architecture. He's explored diverse themes, as he bluntly puts it, "If I have nothing new to say, I won't say anything, I won't hold a show for years." Now, again, the veteran artist has something different to share - his latest exhibition, *Tryst with Modernity and Tradition*, comprising paintings, drawings and sculptures, relates, through three varied mediums, the artist's observations, experiences and thoughts about the marriage between tradition and tech-



Pradeep Pallawi

OLD MEETS NEW:
Satish Gujral

and new inventions have become an integral part of our lives. But at the same time, the roots of our cultures are still alive. While on the one hand we have new technologies and machines, on the other, we still have an image of God in our homes. This exhibition expresses this new language of the co-existence of tradition and modernity," Gujral states. His message of 'Evolve, but without letting your roots die' carries forward into the world of art as well. "I like the new wave of young, experimental art that is taking over the Indian art scene. But one must not forget that only art which has national roots can become international and hence universal. New-age artists must not reject their traditional moorings."

He's left his mark in almost every conceivable medium; which one challenges and excites him the most? "It's never one above the other. Today I feel like having vegetables, tomorrow I might feel like eating chicken! That does mean I prefer chicken to vegetables. It's a feeling at that point in time. It's not what I want, but what the form wants of me. I ask the form which medium it wants," Gujral points out.

In different periods, varying concerns

have driven the artist. Some offered relief, some stirred and provoked, others he questioned. But we sense a state of calm in this series, a mellow and meditative treatment; has the artist in him conquered the angst of the Partition-induced turmoil and reached a place of peace and self-acceptance? Gujral smiles, "The mind is in constant turmoil till I arrive at the soul of things. But at 84, after having seen so much, I now want to paint the other side of turmoil with the same force."

Age no bar, subject no bar, at 84

Gujral continues to be a pictorial storyteller. "God has given me so many years and I don't want to be ungrateful for them," he smiles and even as he promises to be back with more, he sticks to his conviction of constant experimentation. "Novelty challenges the mind, it forces you to think. If I knew what my next show will be about, I would start tomorrow. But I know there will never be a repetition."

The exhibition is on at Jehangir art gallery till Feb 23 and will continue at Cymroza art gallery from Feb 24-March 31.

'I ask the form which medium it wants...'

At 84, veteran artist **Satish Gujral** continues to experiment. His latest show of paintings, drawings and sculptures explores the conflicts between modernity and tradition, finds Nicole Dastur

nology.

His creative philosophy lies in experimentation. Change is the only constant with Gujral, be it in content, style or technique. Or else, he states, the medium becomes "stale". It is this

uncomfortable feeling of familiarity that draws him to find other identities time and again. "One can discover new things every day, everywhere. I once remember observing burning cinder as it turned from red to black. The colour and the texture of that transformation excited me, inspired me. Over the past decade, technology



An Imran Ahmed Khan painting



Ways of Seeing



Lords of War

Turmoil and peace across the border...

Desperately Seeking Paradise', the spectacular pavilion highlighting contemporary art of present day Pakistani artists, at the recent Dubai art fair, evoked admiration and interest in Pakistani art

influence on contemporary Pakistani art and artists including Rashid Rana, perhaps the most important figure amongst the new generation of Pakistani artists. While on the one hand, Pakistani diaspora artists including Shahzia Sikander

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