

## Art Select

Art Select is a Dubai based initiative launched by Kanika Subberwal on the strength of a private passion which today is a strong and successful international business format. The module is based on establishing alliances internationally with established and recognized entities, sharing values and together showcasing contemporary art and the culture it represents in its best form.

Hosting high caliber exhibitions together with providing a platform for emerging artists has given Art Select a definite edge in making art more accessible, thereby strengthening their association with clients from various cities including Dubai, Muscat, London and Singapore. The art exhibited range from The Masters to the emerging talent from India, Pakistan, Europe and the Middle East.

It is the endeavor of Art Select to position itself as a valuable resource for a substantial range of quality art, to advise, consult and assist clients in understanding art as an investment and increase the significance of building private and corporate collections .

For Art Select the pleasure and sense of accomplishment in setting up these windows of great opportunity is further enhanced by its pledge to offer the best of South Asian art to the world and be part of this exciting revolution. Over the years the company has grown with its artists, enjoying a mutually beneficial relationship as their experts have guided young talent to realize its potential and find expression on the walls and easels of high value institutions. If art from the Subcontinent today graces many a corporation, museum or home it is in ample measure a credit to the artist and the mentor.

Beginning its enterprise in New Delhi a decade ago, Art Select has now gone global and enjoyed tangible success in London, Dubai, Bahrain and Muscat. Today, Art Select is synonymous with quality, trust and dependability and guards its reputation as a professional House of Art with unflinching commitment. This single-minded desire to create a surge for Asian art is the Art Select hallmark and, for its owners Amitabh and Kanika Subberwal, there is no compromise in ensuring the buyer's feeling of satisfaction is at its zenith when making a purchase. Their most recent exhibition, Diversity, was an exclusive collection of calligraphic and abstract works by 29 of the region's most renowned artists.

Among the featured artists from Pakistan were the late Ismail Gulgee, an award-winning abstract expressionist who was

known for his conceptual interpretation of Arabic and Urdu alphabets, and Arif Khan, who through his depiction of the names of Allah, offers insight into spiritualism while combining traditional and modern elements.

He is known for combining traditional and modern elements in his paintings that offer deep insight into spiritualism through the names of Allah. Najat Makki, one of the most prominent female artists of the UAE, also showcased her work, abstractions that deal with psychology, the spirit and human relationships.

Karin Adrian, specialist on Middle Eastern contemporary art and senior art consultant, said, "Diversity is a show which gathers 29 artists from different parts of the world. Like the title says - each of the 29 artists has a different style and a different concept. There are calligraphic works, abstract works and figurative works. For all of the participating artists art is the language to express their individual idea about the world and the life.

"There is a lot to discover when the visitor studies life and concept of the artists. It may allow new perspectives about the world and their own life. It is also a wonderful experience to realize the kind of feelings a painting evokes when you look at it. Visual art speaks directly to the soul. First of all, there is the visual idea and then the intellectual part. Quite a lot of people think they have to understand an artwork. It is helpful to understand the idea of an artwork, to see it in an art historical context. But you should trust your own idea when you see an artwork for the first time. There is always an interaction."

Keeping true to its name, Diversity also showcased works from emerging artists such as Bahrain-based Jehan Saleh, whose art takes on abstract depth inspired by the styles of Arabic script. Nasr Warour, a Syrian artist based in Dubai, also showcased his work, abstractions that are interpreted from common human experiences.



Ahmed Khan



Nasr Warour