

Saffronart Hosts Exhibition ‘Remembering Ram Kumar’ in New Delhi

New Delhi, 28 January 2019: Saffronart will host an exhibition in memory of **eminent Indian modernist Ram Kumar at its New Delhi gallery in The Oberoi** during the upcoming India Art Fair. *Remembering Ram Kumar* features 63 works, ranging from the artist’s early figurative years to his lifelong exploration of Benaras. The exhibition will be open to the public from 2 – 17 February 2019.



(L-R) *Composition*, 1958; *Untitled*, 1981; and *Untitled*, 2011. Images courtesy of Saffronart.

Born in Simla in 1924, Ram Kumar was among the first generation of postcolonial artists responsible for carving out a uniquely modern aesthetic in the canon of Indian art. From forlorn figures of alienated city-dwellers in the 1950s to the eventual move towards abstract landscapes, characterised by fragmented colour planes that evoked a meditative stillness, Kumar’s art carried a quiet poignancy. The artist’s works have been part of important exhibitions worldwide, and he was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2010. Kumar, who was also a gifted writer, passed away on 14 April 2018 in New Delhi.

Remembering Ram Kumar features works from across the artist’s career. Among the highlights are **two paintings from his early figurative period – *Vagabond*, 1956**, on loan from the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, which depicts isolated individuals in front of a dark cityscape, and ***Composition*, 1958**, possibly inspired by Kumar’s exposure to the work of Modigliani in Paris. ***Homage to the Wasteland* from 1961 represents the artist’s move towards abstraction**, and a striking untitled **landscape of Benaras, painted in 1981**, portrays his recurring interest in the city. Another highlight of the exhibition is ***Untitled*, 2011**, a large **oil on canvas diptych** from the artist’s most recent abstract period.

Speaking about the exhibition, **Saffronart CEO Dinesh Vazirani said**, “*This exhibition is our tribute to Ram Kumar, with whom we have had an enduring friendship. His works have been included in several Saffronart exhibitions, including a solo show in 2016-17. We hope that Saffronart’s homage to this great artist appeals to collectors, patrons, and art enthusiasts who are in the city for the India Art Fair.*”

The exhibition will be held at the Saffronart gallery in The Oberoi, New Delhi from 2 – 17 February 2019.

VIEWINGS

2 – 17 February 2019

11 am – 7 pm, Monday to Saturday

Sunday by appointment

VENUE

Saffronart, The Oberoi

Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg

New Delhi 110003

ABOUT SAFFRONART

Founded in 2000 by Minal and Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart is a leading international auction house, and India's most reputed, with over two hundred auctions to its credit. Its flagship gallery is in Mumbai, with offices in New Delhi, London and New York. At the forefront of selling Indian art, Saffronart has held online and live auctions, exhibitions, and Dialogues in Art, working with collectors, gallerists and artists to develop a strong market for art and aesthetics. Its focus is to bring transparency to the auction process, and provide easy access and information to collectors around the world. Saffronart's services go beyond auctions to include private sales, appraisals and valuations for clients. Saffronart has set several global benchmarks for online auctions, and was the subject of a case study at Harvard Business School in 2005.

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For further information contact:

Benjamin Bamnolkar | benjamin@saffronart.com | +91 9820888743