

Saffronart to Host Two Successive Auctions this December

- Works by S H Raza and Raja Ravi Varma lead the Winter Live Auction on 8 December in Mumbai
- The Winter Online Auction on 9-10 December features modern and contemporary South Asian art and collectibles
- Saffronart inaugurates its newly refurbished gallery and office space in Mumbai

Mumbai, 30 November 2020: Saffronart will offer works by some of the most distinguished names in modern and contemporary South Asian art in two back-to-back auctions in December 2020.

The **Winter Live Auction of Modern Indian Art (8 December)** will be held in Saffronart's **newly refurbished gallery in Mumbai**, and features **40 works** by leading artists including S H Raza, Raja Ravi Varma, Jehangir Sabavala and Manjit Bawa. The **Winter Online Auction** will take place on **9-10 December 2020** on Saffronart's website, with a curated catalogue of **100 works** of modern and contemporary Indian art, folk and tribal art, and art by South Asian artists and diaspora artists.

Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart CEO and Co-Founder said, *"From the beginning of its journey, Saffronart has always aimed to offer the best of Indian art through our auctions. Closing out our 20th year, we are pleased to be presenting two back-to-back auctions featuring exciting and significant art for both new and seasoned collectors. With the live auction, we are also inaugurating our brand new space in Prabhadevi which marries art and technology, enabling us to continue to innovate and make art accessible to wider audiences. We are committed to the convergence of the online and offline space."*

WINTER LIVE AUCTION | Modern Indian Art (8 December)

The Winter Live Auction features two significant paintings by **S H Raza. *Jodhpur, 1976*** ([Lot 28](#), estimate: **USD 650,000 - 850,000; INR 4.75 - 6.2 crores**) is a rare depiction of the Rajasthani city, and represents a shift in the artist's style, medium and subject, as well as the beginning of his return to his Indian roots. ***Gestation, 1989*** ([Lot 10](#), estimate: **INR 90 lakhs - 1.2 crores; USD 123,290 - 164,385**) – the cover lot for the sale – was painted in the following decade, considered the zenith of Raza's career, in which the artist continued to explore geometric forms and the motif of the *bindu* in his paintings.

Another leading lot is **Raja Ravi Varma's** oil on canvas ***Portrait of Raja of Dewas, Junior, circa late 1800s*** ([Lot 35](#), estimate: **INR 5 - 7 crores; USD 684,935 - 958,905**). Regarded as one of the early pioneers of modern Indian art, the artist was known for his photorealistic portraits with enriching detail, as seen in this stunning painting of Narayan Rao Puar. **Jehangir Sabavala's** untitled 1992 painting ([Lot 9](#), estimate: **INR 2 - 3 crores; USD 273,975 - 410,960**) continues the artist's preoccupation with painting solitary landscapes which offered space for contemplation.

The auction will take place at the Saffronart gallery in Mumbai, and is preceded by viewings (by prior appointment) in Mumbai and New Delhi. We are committed to following all safety protocols in these uncertain times. All lots can be viewed online on saffronart.com.



WINTER ONLINE AUCTION | Modern and Contemporary South Asian Art and Collectibles (9-10 December)

The Winter Online Auction features works by **leading modernists** including M F Husain, Ram Kumar, S H Raza and Natvar Bhavsar. An untitled oil on canvas painting by **M F Husain** ([Lot 67](#)) depicting three women conversing in the shade of a tree is rendered in a muted palette, and estimated at **USD 89,045 - 116,440 (INR 65 - 85 lakhs)**. A **1974** work by **Ram Kumar** titled *Landscape* ([Lot 99](#)) exemplifies the planar abstraction that was unique to the artist's style, and is estimated at **USD 82,195 - 109,590 (INR 60 - 80 lakhs)**.

Among contemporary Indian artists are works by **Anju Dodiya** (Lots [120](#) and [121](#)), **Atul Dodiya** ([Lot 119](#)), and **T V Santhosh** (Lots [125](#) and [126](#)). Works by South Asian and diaspora artists include a C-print from **Rashid Rana's** *Ommatidia* series ([Lot 139](#)), a mixed media work by **Nusra Latif Qureshi** ([Lot 136](#)), and a striking installation by **Idris Khan** titled *Below the Line, 2017* ([Lot 140](#), estimate: **USD 61,645 - 89,045; INR 45 - 65 lakhs**) in which the artist uses printed texts that appear like an explosion of colour across the surface of his chosen medium.

The auction also features several works of folk and tribal art (Lots 106 - 118), including 4 paintings by renowned Gond artist **Jangarh Singh Shyam**, a Bhil painting by **Lado Bai**, a Madhubani painting by **Baua Devi**, a 20th century **Garuda Vahana** from Karnataka, and a Jarandaya mask and Panjurli from the **Bhuta and Theyyam traditions** from Karnataka and Kerala.

The online auction will take place on saffronart.com and is preceded by viewings (by prior appointment) in Mumbai and New Delhi. All lots can be viewed on the website.

AUCTION DATES

Winter Live Auction | 8 December 2020, Mumbai, 7.30 pm

Winter Online Auction | 9 - 10 December 2020 on saffronart.com

VIEWINGS BY APPOINTMENT

MUMBAI

Through 10 December 2020
11 am – 5 pm, Monday to Saturday
(By prior appointment only)

VENUE

Saffronart, Industry Manor
Appasaheb Marathe Marg
Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025

NEW DELHI

Through 10 December 2020
11 am – 5 pm, Monday to Saturday
(By prior appointment only)

VENUE

Saffronart, The Oberoi
Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg
New Delhi 110003



SAFFRONART

20 YEARS OF SAFFRONART

Founded in 2000 by Minal and Dinesh Vazirani, Saffronart is a leading international auction house, and India's most reputed, with more than 300 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.

Website: www.saffronart.com | **Facebook:** @saffronart | **Instagram:** @saffronartartindia

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