



True to a Fault | In Conversation with Kemal de Soysa

Cultural heritage upholds our distinctiveness as a community as it attempts to model an inclusive frame for the preservation of conventions, ways of living and tradition. The palpable characteristics of culture are those that are physical and tangible yet still retains its visually inherent nature of influencing subsequent generations and eras of art. In this context, the works of the '43 Group housed at the Sapumal Foundation play a critical role in not only preserving Modernist Art, culture and living, but also sharing it in all its authenticity in an intimate setting that is bygone in decorum. We conversed with Kemal de Soysa, Trustee of the Sapumal Foundation who is professionally proficient in the field of Investment Research in understanding the scope of the cultural and social significance of art, and its role in imparting value to the equity of a nation.

Click here to read the full article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/the-43-group-edition-true-to-a-fault>



ARTRA Magazine Modernist Works of the '43 Group Edition e63

The main essay for ARTRA's '43 Group Edition, dissecting the significance of the collective within Sri Lanka's historical art discourse & the novelty of their approach to an evolving civilization & country, is written by Azara Jaleel, Editor-in-Chief. The Art & Living essay published for this edition is written by Rohan de Soysa, the Chairman of the Sapumal Foundation, who explores the exceptional character of Harry Pieris' home that constitutes the Sapumal Collection of the '43 Group as a unique repository not only of the thought process of the Group, but that of their rooted spirit to an authentic Sri Lankan persona. The essays & interviews involve expertise of revered art personalities Cresside Collette; contemporary artist and daughter of Aubrey Collette of the '43 Group who is now based in Melbourne, Kemal de Soysa; Trustee of the Sapumal Foundation, T.

Shanathanan; contemporary artist and a Senior Lecturer in Art History at the Department of Fine Arts, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka & Michael Anthonisz; the Chairman of the George Keyt Foundation. For this edition, we have also interviewed Rita Mannella, the Ambassador for Italy to Sri Lanka & the Maldives, who is an art connoisseur and collector herself, to understand her perspective of the role '43 Group's Modernist Works can play in sharing the story of our nation.

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An Insight into Kamala Vasuki's Art | Kamala Vasuki

Kamala Vasuki was born in 1966. Through numerous tribulations, Kamala grew up in Jaffna, observing. She witnessed the tragedies of war and the tsunami transpire in front of her own eyes. She experienced these and many other misfortunes and survived to transform into a deeply thought out, exceptional artist. Her artwork creates a tremendously unique blend of trepidations and uneasy fears with fragility, kindness, forgiveness and compassion. The suffering expressed, especially in her early works, are so true, yet they are suspended in such merciful mystery that the allure of the painting supersedes. The incredible harshness of the subjects of her works are made subtle, almost subliminal, by the gentleness of her colors and strokes.

View the full article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/an-insight-into-kamala-vasukis-art>

ARTRA Collection



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Catharina Danial | 18 inches by 23 inches | 70,000LKR each

Concept Note Soul Series (2022)

Exploring the rapture within, and the invigoration around, artist Catharina explores the enigma, and that of the ethereal in the 'Soul Series'. Whilst reflecting upon the rich bio diversity of the Jaffna Peninsula, the artist through shape signifies abstract forms of her body, that resemble corals. Her close relationship with the corals is imperative in understanding her one-ness with her beautiful environment and surrounding, which she identifies as her body. However, the transparency in material symbolizes her sprightly spirit and the colors, complimenting her vibrancy - the core essence of her soul. The trinity through which she delves in these series of works in the form of body, spirit & soul is emblematic of her union within.

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In Conversation with Amilani Perera



Daily ARTRA's live session on Friday, 27th of August with Amilani Perera, fashion designer sharing her knowledge on embroidery and know-how while talking about her experience in the fashion industry and her work with the UNFPA for Violence Against Women.

Click here for the full video

<https://www.facebook.com/dailyartra/videos/553328169151205>

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ARTRA's Emerging Artist



A Story of Fashion in Film | Kasuni Rathnasuriya

How can the genre of film accentuate the nuances of fashion? The visuality of fashion is heightened by film as it allows for the depiction of a story, highlighting the artistic scope of a designer collection. KÛR by Kasuni Rathnasuriya for its recent SS2019 Collection developed a fashion film, 'Handmade' to present its innate relationship with Sri Lanka. Directed by Dimon John with music composed by professional Charitha Attalage, this fashion film beautifully captures the narrative of KÛR through inventive presentations of surrealism and abstract storytelling. KÛR was launched in Sri Lanka in 2009 after Kasuni graduated with a degree in Fashion Design from Academy of Design. In 2010 she won the award of British Council Young fashion Entrepreneur- 2011.

Click here for the full article

<https://artra.lk/applied-art/a-story-of-fashion-in-film>

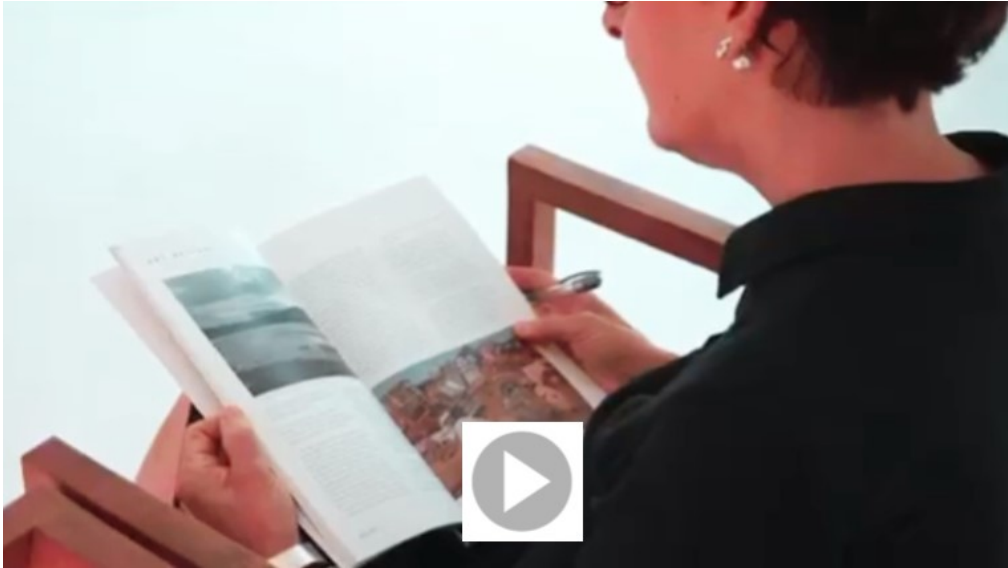
ARTRA's International Eye



Binary | Cem Sonel | Anna Laudel Düsseldorf

Bringing different materials together for his digital-based serial works, multi-disciplinary artist Cem Sonel's solo exhibition 'Binary', is now on display at Anna Laudel Düsseldorf until July 1, 2023. The name of the exhibition refers to the binary coding system and revolves around concepts that take their expressive power from their simplicity. By using computer codes and led panels, Sonel explores new production techniques in the intersection of new media and street art. Additionally, the artworks in this comprehensive selection are made of upcycled materials such as digital screens, MDF, LED panels, and plexi plates that are considered waste or have lost their function.

Click here for the full article
<https://artra.lk/visual-art/binary>



ARTRA Magazine is an amalgamation of concepts galore, from nature and art to technology's influence on art mediums and presentation; be it for a collector or the corporate world, each edition is multifaceted in its perspective, exploring diverse mediums and ideologies. Curate your own collection, or gift a customized collection for a friend. Contact us on +94 77 570 1891 for a consultation, or drop in to our office at Level 10, Parkland Building, Colombo 02 with prior appointments.

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