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CONNAUGHT PLACE THE WHYNOT PLACE

CP on canvas

EVENT Young artists put together their impression of Delhi's Connaught Place during a summer residency programme

Art has a language of its own. An artist splashes this language on the canvas for the discerning eye to comprehend. An interesting instance of this unique language of art is on display at the Religare Arts.i Gallery in New Delhi's Connaught Place.

The gallery is organising a multi-disciplinary art festival by a bunch of young artists, whose works have come out of a summer-residency programme run by the gallery.

The 10-weeks programme, which has as many as 25 artists participating, has offered a platform to the young minds to explore the realm of their artistic expressions. A common theme, "Connaught Place — Why Not Place" has been given to them to work on during the programme.

Each has come up with some striking pieces of art as a result beautifully capturing the essence of Delhi's central hub.

Individual impressions

Just as you enter the gallery on the city's Kasturba Gandhi Marg, participant Meghansh Thapa's beautiful depiction of the activities of people who throng CP area, meet your eye. Then there are artists like

Sanjay Sahai who has painted a busy tea stall owner, Satadru Sovan who finds a connection with the youth through his portrayal of the cyber space as a medium of communication.

Some participating artists in the show include Gagan Singh, Pratibha Singh, Rana Debnath, Rajashri Smart, etc.

Besides individual works, the artists have also put together a collaborative installation in the 16-day show. Mukesh Panika, the gallery director, talking about the initiative, says, "This exercise is aimed at helping artists identify areas of their strength and inherent possibilities and break through to the next level. The residency provides them a platform to take artistic risks and surprise themselves and the art establishment."

Religare, besides running two galleries, also houses a cafeteria, a curio store, a resource centre and ancillary transitional spaces that can double up to accommodate seminars, symposia, workshops and other art activities.

(The exhibition is on till August 23)

SWATI DEOGIRE

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THE RESIDENCY PROVIDES THE PARTICIPANTS A PLATFORM TO TAKE ARTISTIC RISKS AND SURPRISE THEMSELVES.

**MUKESH PANIKA
 DIRECTOR, RELIGARE ARTS.I GALLERY**
