



KALAKRITI  
art gallery

# Prakriti

A Quiet Continuum

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A Quiet Continuum

Curated by Ruchi Sharma

On View 3<sup>rd</sup> May - 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2026

## **Participating Artists**

K Sudheesh  
Lal Bahadur Singh  
Roy K John  
Sumanto Chowdhury

**Concept:**

Prakriti: A Quiet Continuum brings together the works of Lal Bahadur Singh, Sumanto Chowdhury, K. John Roy, and K. Sudheesh in a contemplative exploration of nature.

Rooted in observation yet extending into introspection, the exhibition reflects on prakriti as both external landscape and inner state. The works attend to quieter shifts: changing light, passing seasons, textures of terrain, and the silent movement of time. Landscapes dissolve into abstraction, forms emerge and recede, and surfaces hold traces of stillness and motion. Nature here breathes, transforms, and renews itself. In dwelling on these subtle transitions, the exhibition creates a space for pause, reflection, and deeper attunement.

Extending this inquiry, each artist engages with prakriti through a deeply personal lens. K. John Roy, drawing from his native Kerala, returns to motifs such as jackfruit and banana groves. He views them as symbols of sustenance. Informed by iconographic traditions, his painterly language transforms these cultivated landscapes into sites that quietly reflect on erosion of natural abundance.

In contrast, K. Sudheesh's practice emerges from close and sustained observation of a lake near his home, where reflections of ancient trees become meditative thresholds between the visible and the remembered. His practice is rooted in live sketching and developed through layering of colour and texture.



Lal Bahadur Singh, shaped by his rural upbringing and extensive travels across India, constructs vivid and often unexpected juxtapositions of flora and fauna - parrots, cows, and bulls set against shifting rural-urban contexts.

Meanwhile, Sumanto Chowdhury approaches landscape through a process-driven methodology of multiple mounting - layering and assembling surfaces to create both physical and perceptual depth. His works unfold through fragments and planes, where the act of construction mirrors the way landscapes are remembered, revisited, and reassembled over time.

The exhibition dwells in subtleties - shifts of light, textures of terrain, seasonal transitions, and the quiet passage of time. Forms emerge and recede, surfaces hold traces of stillness and movement, and landscapes oscillate between representation and abstraction.

*Prakriti: A Quiet Continuum* offers a moment of deceleration - a space to reconnect with the environment, with time, and with the subtle, often overlooked cadences of the natural world.

-Ruchi Sharma





**K Sudheesh**

Sudheesh K is a Kerala-based contemporary artist whose practice spans painting, drawing, and public sculpture. He received his art education from Universal Art School, Kozhikode, and the Government College of Fine Arts, Thrissur, developing a language deeply rooted in cultural memory, myth, and lived landscapes.

His work often navigates the intersections of history, ecology, and philosophical inquiry, drawing from regional narratives and personal observation. Through layered imagery and symbolic forms, Sudheesh explores themes of displacement, belief systems, and the fragile balance between nature and human intervention. His long-running \*Island Cherala\* series reflects an engagement with geography as both a physical and psychological space.

Sudheesh has presented several solo exhibitions, including Parables from Island Cherala (Akademi Art Gallery, Kozhikode), Dharmapuram (Dravidia Art Gallery, Kochi), and Island Cherala: Darkness at Noon (Akademi Art Gallery, Thalassery). His work has also been widely exhibited in major group exhibitions across India, including collateral and pavilion projects associated with the Kochi-Muziris Biennale.

He has executed public sculpture projects for the Kerala Museum, Fort Kochi, and the S. K. Pottakkatt Cultural Centre, Kozhikode. A recipient of the Kerala Lalithakala Akademi State Award (1993, 1997, 2003), Sudheesh has also participated in numerous national and state artist camps, contributing significantly to India's contemporary art discourse.

## Artist Statement:

This recent body of work emerges from an intimate and sustained engagement with the lake near the artist's home - a quiet extension of the Poonoor River that serves as both site and subject. Rooted in extensive live sketching sessions, the works trace the subtle shifts of light, atmosphere, and time that unfold across the landscape, while paying close attention to the enduring presence of the ancient trees that stand along the water's edge.

At the heart of this series lies the motif of reflection. The mirrored forms of trees upon the lake's surface move beyond visual symmetry to become meditations on memory, presence, and interiority. These reflections function as a bridge between the visible world and an inner, emotional landscape, where nature becomes a repository of feeling and recollection.

The lake is approached not merely as a physical location, but as a space charged with atmosphere and resonance. The warmth of sunlight, the stillness of the water, and the quiet rhythm of the surrounding environment evoke what the artist describes as "unknown memories" - sensations that feel at once deeply personal and universally ancestral. In this sense, the works suggest an enduring bond between human experience and the natural world, one that exists beyond language and chronology.

Through a considered use of colour, texture, and surface, the artist translates these pure and elemental emotions into a visual language that is both tactile and meditative.





K Sudheesh  
The Lakes Low Hum, 2026  
Oil on Canvas  
72 x 72 inches (Diptych)



K Sudheesh  
The Weight of Stillness, 2026  
Oil on Canvas  
72 x 72 inches (Diptych)



K Sudheesh  
Chasing the Sun's Last Breath - 2, 2026  
Soft Pastels on Paper  
19.5 x 28 inches (each -Diptych)



K Sudheesh  
Chasing the Sun's Last Breath, 2026  
Soft Pastels on Paper  
19.5 x 28 inches



K Sudheesh  
Stillness, 2026  
Soft Pastels on Paper  
19.5 x 28 inches



**Lal Bahadur Singh**

Lal Bahadur Singh is a young artist making his presence felt in Indian contemporary art. His strength lies in his use of bright colours, distinctive lines, detailing and intense storytelling which makes for great visual impact. Lal Bahadur Singh is an alumnus of the prestigious 'College of Art' in New Delhi where he completed his Masters in Fine Art. His early childhood years were moulded in a 'Gurushiksha' in Gazipur where he also studied art. Lal Bahadur's work deeply reflects his rural upbringing, his extensive travel across rural India and his open mind sensibilities. His attention to the environment and foliage of Indian villages is reflected in the way he uses them as rich background in many of his paintings.

The influence his rural upbringing has is very evident from his arresting and often quite unique depictions of flora and fauna in his paintings. His images are mostly quirky combinations that we least expect but identify almost instantly, and therein lies the beauty of his work. The depiction of the parrot, one of the most easily recognizable and symbolic birds in rural India, is extraordinary as they have been juxtaposed on to an ever-changing urban background devoid of any human form. The cow and the bull, again, very identifiable and revered presence of rural India, are used in a series of paintings to tell us the story of the changing face of life at both the rural and urban locales in this country.

The richness of colours used to depict these life forms are a visual treat. Lal Bahadur's rather unique take on another tangent, that of blatant urbanism at a macro level; forces us to look hard and deep within ourselves and has led him to be coveted by the discerning art collector. His themed collections are great as paintings for homes, corporate houses and museums. They have the capability to make any space instantly vibrant,

colourful, contemplative and chic. 2010: M.F.A in Painting from College Of Art, New Delhi.

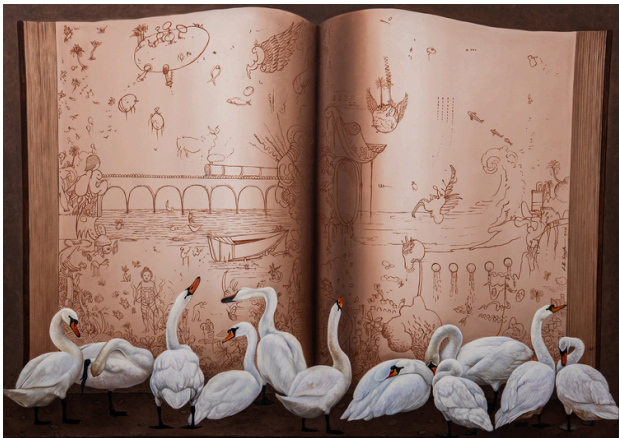
• 2008: B.F.A. in Painting from College Of Art, New Delhi.



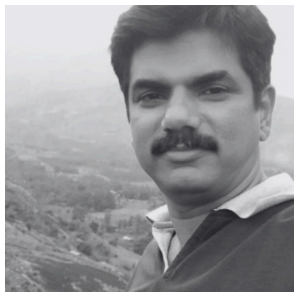
Lal Bahadur Singh  
Prakriti  
Acrylic on Canvas  
48 x 60 inches



Lal Bahadur Singh  
Untitled, 2026  
Acrylic on Canvas  
48 x 60 inches



Lal Bahadur Singh  
Untitled  
Oil on Canvas  
42 x 59 inches



**Roy K John**

Roy K John (1977) reminds his viewers of the avant-garde art movement in France that came into prominence during the post-impressionist's era. Newer styles were being applied to newer ways of looking at the world beyond the borders of the country, when artists, like Henri Rousseau, made big contributions to the art world. John's art elaborates on his own identity as a resident of the tropical parts of the world and politically claim the flora, faunas, fruits, and the animals that are particularly important to Indian forests.

The richness of the jungles along with the richness of John's colour palettes make a very interesting composition on the canvas. These works speak of the luscious nature that can be traced as an underlying thematic analysis of the human condition. His depiction of vegetation and flowers - such as lotus and lilies - are effective means to look at language that is generally used in visual cultures. The artist also portrays giant cultivation areas where trees are laden with fruits, such as jackfruits and bananas. Given the current looming threat to the environment, John's works are an engagement with the essence of life and deforestation. His depiction of the various birds in these forests are a deep reading of the divine presence which he further elaborates in his alternative series by exploring the iconic human forms. Interestingly, these artworks vary so much in composition that it is easy to see the commandability his practice carries. All in all, some of his works are detailed in intricacies while some of them are potent in compositions.

John graduated from Kalabhavan School of Arts in Thrissur and, later, pursued a Master's on traditional mural paintings at the Temple of Arts, Guruvayoor. Combining his traditional techniques of mural painting skills to



that of a newer style of his own, John created a visual language that is particularly his own. His narratives carry a strong note on Kerala's natural greenery and beauty. His realistic images are direct engagements with his rural surroundings and his schooling in icon and iconography aids him well. His methods of creating the modern day Indian avant-garde is a means to invite his audiences to a world of symbolic meanings and metaphors.

Most of his artworks are acrylic or oil on canvas. His colour palette is famous for his use of shades of greens, yellows, and reds that help elaborate on Kerala's natural landscape and beauty. Occasionally, we do get to see colours such as pinks and other cool-toned colours that heightens his involvement with his personal memories and desires.

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John lives in Kerala.



Roy K John  
My Garden, 2023  
Oil on Canvas  
36 x 36 inches



Roy K John  
Untitled - 7, 2024  
Oil on Canvas  
36 x 30 inches



Roy K John  
Untitled - 16, 2025  
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas  
36 x 30 inches



Roy K John  
Untitled 22, 2025  
Acrylic on Canvas  
36 x 30 inches



Roy K John  
Untitled 25  
Acrylic on Canvas  
36 x 30 inches



Roy K John  
Untitled  
Acrylic on Canvas  
48 x 36 inches



**Sumanto Chowdhury**

Sumanto Chowdhury was born in Murshidabad district of West Bengal in 1979. After finishing his school in Murshidabad, he joined Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan to pursue a bachelors' degree in Fine Arts. In 2004 he completed his BFA in Painting with a first class degree from Kala Bhavana. In the same year he came to Hyderabad for further studies. In 2006, he finished his Masters of Fine arts in Printmaking from Sarojini Naidu School of Arts and Communication, University of Hyderabad. After that he was working as assistant artist, under the guidance of the eminent Indian artist Padmasree K. Laxma Goud.

Sumanto Chowdhury's art draws inspiration from architectural forms and Indian miniature paintings, showcasing intricate details both in interiors and exteriors. Notably, his vibrant use of colors—pink, blue, red, yellow, and emerald green—creates symbolic narratives that evoke a sense of place, often devoid of human figures yet rich with their implied presence. Chowdhury's works captivate viewers with expansive landscapes and panoramic skies, bridging nature and habitation seamlessly.

Sumanto Chowdhury held his first solo show in 2008 at Space art Gallery, Hyderabad. Till date the artist has held eight solo shows in Hyderabad and Chennai from 2008 to 2017. He has participated in several group shows in Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Goa and Gwalior. He has received the National Award (Junior Category) by South Zone Cultural Center, Nagpur in 2015, "The emerging Artist Award" by Prafulla Dahanukar Art Foundation in 2015 and an award from Aranya Art Foundation in 2006.

Represented artist by Kalakriti Art Gallery.



Sumanto Chowdhury

Untitled, 2026

Colour pencil, pen and watercolour on paper board

29 x 59 inches



Sumanto Chowdhury

Untitled, 2026

Colour pencil, pen and watercolour on paper board

27 x 68 inches



Sumanto Chowdhury  
Untitled, 2026  
Colour pencils on paper board  
41 x 41 inches



## **About Kalakriti Art Gallery:**

Established in 2002, Kalakriti Art Gallery is one of South India's leading art spaces, dedicated to showcasing a wide spectrum of artistic practices from the region and beyond. Founded by Rekha & Prshant Lahoti, Over the decades, the gallery has built a strong reputation for its commitment to both contemporary and modern Indian art, presenting works by established masters, post-independence pioneers, and emerging contemporary voices.

Spanning 7,500 square feet, Kalakriti has hosted numerous groundbreaking exhibitions, featuring stalwarts such as Jogen Chowdhury, Thota Vaikuntam, K.G. Subramanyan, Shuvaprasanna, Orijit Sen, Avijit Dutta, and Vinita Karim, while also championing younger contemporary talents including Anupama Alias and Priyanka Aelay. The gallery has also introduced several international artists to Hyderabad for the first time.

Beyond exhibitions, Kalakriti actively fosters dialogue and scholarship through talks, panel discussions, workshops, book launches, film screenings, and artist interactions. The gallery regularly collaborates with institutions such as Alliance Française, Goethe-Zentrum, and the University of Hyderabad, and has participated in national and international art fairs including the India Art Fair, New Delhi, and the Kochi-Muziris Biennale.

Kalakriti has also been at the forefront of public art initiatives in Hyderabad, with projects such as the Street Art Project, the IKEA India Underpass Mosaic Mural, the IKEA India Median Sculpture, and the iconic LOVE HYDERABAD installation.

In 2003, with the vision of enriching Hyderabad's cultural landscape, Kalakriti founded the Krishnakriti Foundation, its philanthropic arm. The Foundation organizes the annual Krishnakriti Art and Culture Festival, supports scholarships such as the Krishnakriti French Scholarship, and conducts art camps, residencies, and public art projects, advancing the pillars of art, culture, and education.

Kalakriti also houses one of the largest private collections of antique maps and vintage photographs of South Asia, preserved under the Kalakriti Archives (KA), offering a valuable visual record of the subcontinent's cultural history. Its initiatives further extend to The Gallery Café and Art Café, blending art with hospitality, lifestyle, and culinary experiences.

Over two decades, Kalakriti has remained steadfast in its mission: to promote diverse artistic perspectives, expand the cultural narrative, and build enduring platforms for Indian art on both national and international stages.



**KALAKRITI**  
art gallery

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**Open on all days (11 am - 7 pm)**



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