### Ceramic Sculptures by

# Siraj Saxena

at Olenka, Boleslawiec



P O L A N D





Niblick Capital Private Limited

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## Who will prove their necessity Who will posit their existence

#### - Zbigniew Herbert

Classically Indians believe that our human existence composes of five elements: earth, water, fire, sky and wind. And yet the earth is being degraded and violated in many awful avoidable ways. The sculptures of Siraj Saxena all done on locations and permanently placed on a piece of Polish earth remind us that the earth can also be added onto, could indeed be celebrated and adorned. At one level these sculpturesque pieces look like natural growth, as if they have grown out of the earth. At yet another, they are clearly an addition. They are a gentle, perhaps humble, reminder that the earth needs to be cared for, added to and reaffirmed.

The shapes are abstract and that creates the possibility that they could be endlessly interpreted and appreciated. The earth in its own turn and ways forges a lot in nature which is clearly abstract; it conforms to no preknown shape. The sculptures belong to the self-same earth formations. Globally we seem to be failing the earth: these sculptures assert that there is still hope to feel, embody and rejoice in beauty, grandeur, tenderness and magnificence of the earth. Art cannot aspire to do very much more and Siraj Saxena's pieces together do just as much.

Ashok Vajpeyi March 2018 In 2014, for the first time in the Fiftieth International Ceramic Symposium, I got a chance to go to Poland. This was my first visit to Europe. All the artists were housed in Antonina Guest House. This rest house is owned and operated by Ms. Antonina, who welcomed all the artists cheerfully and was very hospitable. She is herself an aesthete and considers the accompaniment of artists highly auspicious. She is the iconic woman of Bolesławiec city. She also owns a restaurant named Olenka in the middle of the city. We often had food in the same restaurant during our 20 days of stay. I was a guest at both hands. While my art welcomed me in the city, Antonina's love for art welcomed me in her restaurant.

As our workshop came to an end, all the artists presented Ms. Antonina with self made small ceramic sculptures and pots. In this workshop I made many small and big ceramic sculptures and installations as well. I want to gift something to the city that has given me so much love and respect. Or you might as well say that through my work, I want to stay here. Before leaving the town when I offered Ms. Antonina to place my sculptures in her restaurant if pleased, she readily and happily agreed to it. Today it's been almost four years since the presence of my ceramic art works in the town of Bolesławiec. My creation is still there and the memories of this small town (which is worldwide known for its ceramic art and craft) still flow in my mind on the banks of the Bubra river. I express my heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Antonina, my artist friend Mateusz Grobelny and Mr. Jarek Giszter.

Siraj saxena

Delhi India 2018 may 30

Translated by: Afreen Khan



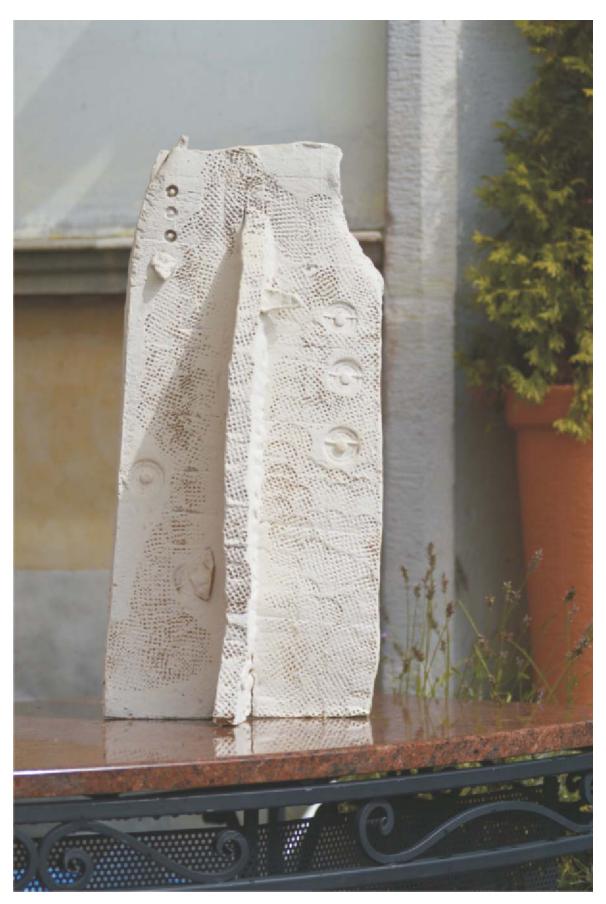
80 x 40 x 28 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



69 x 32 x 11 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



68 x 38 x 18 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



77 x 19 x 16 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



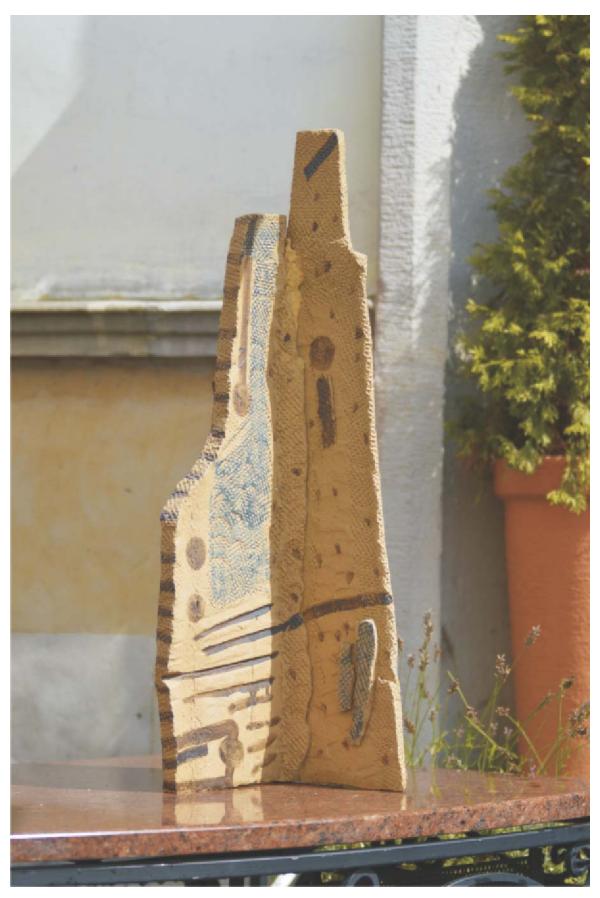
73 x 34 x 18 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



78 x 33 x 25 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



29 x 11 x 6 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014



15.5 x 13 x 6 cm Ceramic stoneware - 2014



39 x 21 x 11 cm

Ceramic stoneware - 2014



40 x 21 x 10 cm



Ceramic stoneware - 2014





33 x 25 x 17 cm Ceramic stoneware - 2014





36 x 35 x 15 cm Ceramic stoneware - 2014





Ceramic stoneware - 2014





Ceramic stoneware - 2014

### Siraj Saxena

#### Born

30 January 1974 (Mhow) M.P.

(B.F.A.) 1996, Govt. Institute of Fine Arts, Indore.

#### **Solo Exhibitions**

Taj Arts Gallery, Indore 1993.

Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 1995

"Khajuraho through the eyes of Siraj" Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 1996.

"Homage to unknown sculptor of Khajuraho" Triveni Art Gallery, New Delhi 2002.

"Kavita-Shilpa" An exhibition of Pottery at India International Centre, New Delhi 2002.

Homage to unknown Sculptor of Khajuraho, Studio-55, New Delhi 2002.

Homage to unknown Sculptor of Khajuraho, Indusind Bank's art Gallery, Chandigarh, 2004.

"The Expanse of Depths" MEC Art Gallery, New Delhi, 2005.

"The Expanse of Depths" The Contemporary Art Gallery, Ahmedabad, 2005.

Aspect of Art London 2006.

"Approximations" Polka Art Gallery New Delhi 2006.

"Rejoicing in the visual" Time & Space Art Gallery, Bangalore 2006.

"Nishshabda" Reflections Art Gallery, Indore 2007.

Nishshabda" anant art gallery, kolkata 2008

"Ayonijaa" the art shop kathmandu, Nepal 2008

VARNANAM" David hall fort cochi kerala 2010

'Visible Invisible'Gallery art konsult, New Delhi 2011

"Touch and shadow" yingge ceramics museum Taiwan 2011

"BEYOND WORDS" ABA art contemporani Spain 2012

"Beyond words" ART en Hotel de la missio Spain 2012

"Beyond the words" Espacio micus contemporary arts Ibiza Spain 2013

"An art of the Tattered Time" reflections art gallery indore 2014.

"Singular in plural" gallery podrum Novi Sad Serbia 2015

"Singular in plural" sabac city theater art gallery, sabac city Serbia 2015

The Affirmative Art Traku gatves galerija Siauliai Lithuania Europe 2016

"In Brief" Reflections Art Gallery Indore 2018, India

#### **Group Exhibitions**

Roopankar, Bharat Bhawan, Bhopal 1999.

Devlaikar Art Gallery, Indore, 1994, 94, 95, 96, 98, 2002, 2002. 2005.

M.P. Kala Parishad, Bhopal, 1995.

Fine Art Gallery from Madhya Pradesh, Lalit Kala Academy, Ravindra Bhawan,

Delhi 1995.

Alliance Française de Bhopal, 1997, 98.

Rangdarshani, Bharat Bhawan, Bhopal, 1997.

"Soul of Clay" Curated by Prof. Balbir Singh Katt Cymroza Gallery, Mumbai, 1997.

Sun Art Gallery, Bhopal, 1997.

Exhibition Dedicated to J. Swaminathan, M. P. Kala Parishad, Bhopal, 1998.

"Art from the Land of Heart" Art Indus Gallery, Delhi 1998.

A Group Exhibition with the performance of Mr. Ken Zukerman (Sarod Player, Switzerland) at Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore, 1999

"Kabir Mela" Art Exhibition organized by M.P. Kala Parishad, Bhopal 1999.

"Drishti" A Group Exhibition organized by Alliance Française de Bhopal, 2000.

"Manifesto of Modernism" A Group Exhibition with Assammise Printmakers and Painters at Earthsong Art Gallery, Guwahati, 2000.

"A Tour with Color" A Group Exhibition at Shrimanta Sankar Dev Kala-Kshetra, Guwahati 2000.

"Arthat" A Group Show at ABC Art Gallery, Varanasi 2000.

"Pal aur Rang" (Sail & Color) Group Exhibition on the Banks of river Narmada, at village Patharad, M.P., 2000.

Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Calcutta 2000.

"Anyatha" Alliance Francasie De Chandigarh, 2000.

Alliance Française de Hyderabad, 2000

- "Anadi" A Group Exhibition at Lalit Kala Academy Gallery, New Delhi 2000.
- Gallery Art Junction, New Delhi, 2000.
- "Anadi" A Group Exhibition at Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Calcutta, 2001.
- "Anadi" A Group Exhibition at Chitra Kala Parishad Bangalore 2001.
- "Anadi" A Group Exhibition at National Gallery of Modern Art Gallery, Mumbai, 2001.
- "Aadi" A Group Exhibition at Allinace Françasie, Bangalore, 2001.
- "Similarities & Dissmilarities" at Tao Art Gallery, Mumbai 2001.
- "Apparition" Lalita Kala Academy Art Gallery, Thrissur (Kerala) 2002.
- "Apparition" Durbar Hall Art Centre, Krunkulam (Kerala) 2002.
- "Gangcey 13" Lionel Wendt Art Gallery, Colombo 2002.
- "Ganbeey 13" The Alliance Française de Kandy, 2002.
- "Annual Art Exhibition" at Dhoomimal Art Gallery, New Delhi 2002-03
- 45th National Exhibition of Art Organized by Lalit Kala Academy, Guwahati 2003.
- 45th National Exhibition of Art Organized by Lalit Kala Academy, Hyderabad, 2003.
- "The Bachelor Apartments" an Exhibition at India International Centre, New Delhi-2003.
- "Narmada to Mahavalley" Exhibition at Lionel Wendt Art Gallery, Colombo, Srilanka, 2003.

- "Deh" Alliance Franaise de Delhi, 2004.
- 7th Oita Asian Sculpture Exhibition, Oita, Japan 2004.
- "Trayee" an Exhibition of Drawings on Poetry, IGNCA, New Delhi, 2004.
- "Trayee" an Exhibition of Drawings on Poetry, Alliance Française de Bhopal, 2004.
- "Trayee" an Exhibition of Drawings on Poetry, Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 2004.
- "Collective Spaces" M.E.C. Art Gallery, New Delhi 2005, 2006, 2007.
- "Aseem" an Exhibition at Alliance Françasie de Delhi, 2005.
- "Traces of Touch" at Academy of Fine Arts & Literature, New Delhi, 2005.
- "People in Progress" at Academy of Fine Arts & Literature, New Delhi, 2005.
- "Traces of Touch –II" India Habitat Centre New Delhi 2006.
- "Primal Force" Cima Gallery, Kolkata 2006.
- "Art Watch" Gallery 88, Kolkata 2006.
- "Absolute Abstract" The Taj West End, Bangalore 2006.
- "Synergy in Call of Destiny" "India Habitat Centre New Delhi 2006.
- "Different Strokes" Polka Art Gallery, New Delhi 2006.
- "Nine" Polka Art Gallery, New Delhi 2006.
- "Color Any Harmony" Mahua Art Gallery, Bangalore 2006.
- "Gimme Red" Polka Art Gallery, New Delhi 2006.

- "Lire En Fete" Alliance Française de Bhopal, 2006.
- "Matter of Forms" Curated by Ratnottama Sengupta at Samanvai Art Gallery, Jaipur 2007.
- "Independent India" Alliance Française de Delhi organized by Ati Art Gallery, New Delhi 2007.
- "Endearing Pallate" India Habitate Centre 2007
- "Timeless Expression" India Habitate Centre 2007.
- "Indelible India" India Habitate Centre Curated by Ratnottama Sengupta 2007.
- "Independent India" Hotal Ishta, Bangalore 2007.
- "Amurt" Aakar Prakar Art Gallery, Kolkata 2007.
- "Past Present unto the Future" Contemporary Indian Art Dhumimal Art Gallery, New Delhi 2007.
- "Summer show" CIMA art gallery, kolkata 2007
- "Mind' eye" Studio Basant New Delhi 2008.
- "realms to go" India Habitat Centre New Delhi by M.E.C art gallery New Delhi 2008
- "Homage to j. swaminathan" dhoomimal art gallery New Delhi 2008
- "Structure & mystic space" tamarind art gallery New York 2008
- "The wandering library-2" cargo21 gallery.Paris 2008
- "GenNext" 4th Aakriti art gallery kolkata 2009
- "The sacred breath" Iconart gallery hygerabad 2009
- "CHATURDHAA" a group show at lalit kala akademi new delhi 2009
- "The spirit of a butterfly" gallery art and soul, Mumbai 2010
- "GenNext" 5th Aakriti art gallery kolkata 2010
- 'Spirit 2010'Manit campus Bhopal 2010

'Portrait of an artist' Dhoomimal art gallery New Delhi 2011

53rd National exhibition of art lalit kala akademi chennai 2011

"Rejoice in art" Epicentre, Apparel House, Gurgaon 2011

"Yesterday Today Tomorrow" curated by Ms. Ratnottama sengpta, Blue Sea Mumbai 2011

THE PLATTER SHOW at the lalit hotel new delhi 2012

Mritika national ceramic exhibition, bharat bhavan Bhopal 2013

Rangpoorvi lalit kala akademi new delhi 2013

"Fabrications" at the brewhouse New Delhi 2014

"Singature Of Diversity" habitat center New Delhi 2014

17th miniatures international exhibition croatia 2014

18th miniature international exibition Croatia 2015

19th miniature international exhibition Croatia 2016

GenNext 5th Aakrati Art Gallery New Delhi 2014

18th miniature international exhibition Croatia 2015

The new collection gallery time and space Bangalore 2016

Gallery XX panevezys Lithuania 2016

The 11th international biennial exhibition of contemporary textile art Kherson Ukraine 2016

ASYAAF & hidden artists festival Gallery LVS Seoul Korea 2016 19th miniature international exhibition Croatia 2016

Himalayan art camp exhibition at Pokhara art gallery Pokhara Nepal 2017

International Painting and Wood Art Workshop Secondary School Garbatka Letnisko, Poland 2017

Arboretum Zaklad Fizjografii Bolestrazycach 2017, Poland.

Museum Atelier ONH Koserow Germany 2017.

A group exhibition curated by shir Prayag shukla ar Sarlas,s Art Centre Channai 2017,India

20th miniature international exhibition Croatia 2017

GANDHI an exhibition of contemporary art at Patna art museum Patna 2017

21st miniature international exhibition Croatia 2018

#### **Participation**

Camp by S.C.Z.C.C. at Indore 1994

The International Workshop of Ceramic Art in Tokoname Japan 1997

"A Tour with Color" Painting & Sculpture workshop, Jorhat & Bokakhat, Assam 2000

"Pal or Rang" (Sail & Color) A Painting camp on the Bank of River Narmada at Village Patharad (M.P.) 2000.

"Rangeeli Sadak" A workshop to paint the road, College of Art Chandigarh 2002.

"Narmada to Mahavalley" an installation on River Mahavalley, Kendy, Srilanka, 2003.

Participated in Slumping glass technique workshop, Gurgaon, 2005.

Painting Camp at Shimla 2006.

Painting Camp at Bheemtal, Uttranchal, organized by Rai Foundation, New Delhi 2007.

"Manduroop" Painting Camp at Mandu (m.p.) organized by reflection art gallery, Indore. 2009

"National painting camp" virsa vihar, jalandhar (Punjab) 2009

Painters camp at Bali indonesia organised by polka art gallery new delhi 2009

"National painters" camp at thekkady organized by kerala lalithakala akademi 2009

"Varna Virasat 2010" National painters camp at shobhavana moodubidre organized by Alva's Education Trust 2010

National Ceramic Camp organized by national lalit kala akademi new delhi at bahrat bhavan Bhopal 2010

Bhedaghat national painting camp Jabalpur organized by prakrit arts chennai2010

"Save the planate" International painting camp at dharampur H.P. organized by tellusart Sweden 2011

"Rewa diaries" Dhara ji M.P. 2011

Artist in residence at International ceramics research and residency centre Yingge ceramics museum Yingge Taiwan 2011.

3rd China Chang Chun International Ceramic Symposium China 2014

50th International Ceramic Art Symposium Boleslawiec, Poland 2014

Participated in a painters art colony at frushka goura Novi Sad Serbia 2015

Conducted a fabric art workshop for the rural women of village sirsama Udaipur organized by MA Foundation New Delhi 2015

Participated in International painting symposium at Mark Rothko Art Centre Latvia 2015

Participated in a international ceramic camp platerow Poland 2016

Participated in a International painting camp organized by artists association Panevezys Lithuania 2016.

Himalayan art camp pokhara Nepal 2017

The International Plein-Air, Garbatka-Letnisko Inspiration, 2017 Poland.

The 15th International Plein Air "Wicker in the Arboratum

2017, Poland.

9th Annual Ceramic LabOro 2017, Certer of Polisg Sculpture, Oronsko 2017, Poland.

11h International Pleinair,Otto Niemeyer-Holstein,Koserow 2017 Germany.

2nd International Art Workshop Krabi Andaman Museum Thailand 2018

5th KMUTNB International Art & Design Workshop Bangkok Thailand 2018

#### **Scholarship**

Junior Scholarship by HRD Ministry Government of India 1998-2000.

#### **Collections**

Ministry of external affairs govt. of India, Roopankar, Bharat Bhawan Bhopal, M.E. C. Art Gallery, New Delhi, Asian Academy of Film & Television, Noida, Lal Bagh Indore, S.C.Z.C.C. Nagpur, IWCAT Tokoname Japan, Gallery Kyo-E-Gama Tokoname Japan, Gangcey Srilanka, Gandhi Peace Foundation New Delhi, CESCI Madurai, Pashupati Acrylon Ltd. New Delhi, Rathi Super Steel Ltd, New Delhi, Som Dutt Builders Ltd.., New Delhi, Press trust of India new delhi, max India new delhi and many private collections in Thailand, Australia, France, Finland, U.A.E., Germany, New Zealand, Singapore, America, U.K., Belgium, Netherlands, U.S.A. Yingge ceramic museum, Andaman Art Museum Thailand, KMUTNB Bangkok Thailand, Taiwan, Spain. Serbia, Bhutan, Chaina, Poland, Croatia, Egypt, Kuwait, South Africa, Lithuania Etc.

#### **Others**

Worked at Ceramic workshop, Bharat Bhawan (A multi Art Complex) Bhopal, 1996-2000

Conducted a Terracotta workshop for school Children at Blue Bells International School, Organized by CASP, New Delhi 2003.

Conducted a Terracotta workshop for the students of B.R. Nahata Pharmacy College, Mandsour organized by Spicmacay at Mandsour 2000.

Extensively Traveled South of Madhya Pradesh on bicycle sponsored by Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission, M.P. Govt. Bhopal 1998

Extensively Traveled Narmada Valley (West of M.P.) on bicycle 1999.

Worked for CESCI Madurai 2003

"Yamuna Yatra" Extensively Traveled River Yamuna Valley, organized by "We for Yamuna" 2004.

Worked for Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi 2004.

Conducted a design & Technical development workshop in Ceramic Art at Khurja 2005.

Conducted a Art workshop with the students of Shri Ram College of Commerce, New Delhi 2005.

Conducted a painting workshop for sathi centre, Delhi 2007 Done a commission art work for national Gandhi museum new Delhi 2010

Designed a book of children poetry written by prayag shukla "uunt chala bhai uunt chala" 2010. which is published in Hindi, Marathi

and English by pratham books 2012.

Conducted a ceramic art workshop at Yingge ceramics museum Taiwan. 2011.

Commission art work at National Gandhi Museum New Delhi 2011.

Color and fun art workshop with kids at Govt. Elementary school, Yingge .Taiwan 2011.

A big ceramic mural art work commissioned by Max hospital Dehradun India 2012.

Counducted a art workshop at aarohi baal sansaar at satoli during the kumaon himalaya ride 2014 organized by aarohi.2014 Did few art Installation for Antara senior living Dehradun India 2015

Conducted a fabric art workshop for the rural women of village sirsama Udaipur organized by MA Foundation New Delhi 2015. Did a commission art work at Tuk Tuk microbrewery South Africa 2016.

Associated with VANA retreats Dehradun as a Artist since 2013 Travelled Assam and Meghalaya on bicycle 2017 Visited japan 1997, srilanka 2002, nepal 2008, 2017, Indonesia 2008, Taiwan 2012, Mallorca Spain 2012, London 2013, Bhutan 2013, Chaina 2014, Poland 2014-16-17, Serbia 2015, south Africa 2016, Kuwait 2016 & 2018, Lithuania 2016, Germany 2017, Thailand 2018.

#### Auction

"India on Canvas" organized by Khushi New Delhi 2006.

"Art for Freedom" organized by Tehlka, London 2007.

#### **Address:**

Flat No. S-2, Plot No. 7, Sector-1, Vaishaili, Ghaziabad, U.P. 201010, India

Phone: 91-120-4324534, Mobile: 09868514534

Email - siirajsaxena@gmail.com

