



# The Importance of Loss; Migration, Memory and Continuity.

An exhibition by Aakrit Collective at India Art Fair 2024

## **The Importance of Loss; Migration, Memory and Continuity.**

---

The Unnati Cultural Village is a unique initiative of the Chaudhary Foundation that fuels the evolution of heritage, multidisciplinary arts, crafts and living knowledge systems of Nepal, through its harnessing, preservation, promotion and resultant economic growth.

Unnati's philosophy of revival of national heritage through forms of arts, dance, music, literature, cuisine and traditional habitat is intended to bring the past into the present. It is a sustainable creation of cultural wealth and artistic endeavor that speaks both to the traditional as well as the contemporary. The intention is to incubate a program that is sensitive and holistic.

The Himalayan region of Nepal is a land of warm, hardy, and gracious people from many ethnic cultures who are nestled among the lofty mountains of the expansive Himalayas. The cultural heritage of the Nepalese is extremely nuanced and layered.

It is this layering and complexity that the artists of Aakrit Collective explore through their works. They look into the narratives of Migration, Memory, and Continuity, combined with the technique and the relation of style with both the contemporary and the traditional. It is these components that artists explore presenting the larger picture of Nepal and its socio-political scenario.

## Aakrit Collective

---

Aakrit Collective - A group of five young Nepali artists - explores, investigates and reflects on the subtle nuances of stories deeply rooted within their inter/personal, social and cultural contexts. Their works bind into a narrative that presents the importance of loss of varied themes of memory, change, and continuity.

For the collective, their individual mediums such as printmaking, drawing, traditional and contemporary painting are languages in which the artists contemplate, question, and voice their observations of the 'passage of time' that brings with it the associations of loss and identity.

While the past is an important memory, the future desires to be preserved keeping in mind identity and the complexities of various traditional practices in art and architecture.

One chooses to locate the curatorial premise of the exhibition within this complex tapestry weaving together its varied colored threads, featuring the works of the Aakrit collective, that premieres at the India Art Fair in February 2024.



## Hitesh Vaidya

Hitesh Vaidhya's fascination with his lived experiences reminisces in memorabilia, vernacular, and collective memory expressed through a painterly format coaxing the traditional Paubha paintings of the Newar community he belongs to. He looks into the nostalgia of his vicinity expanding to engulf the transformation he observes around him, where the rapidity of that change jostles with the memory of the city, its architecture, and it's way of life.



### **Narrating the city - Mahakali**

Acrylic in wooden panel

39cm x 91cm x 2.5cm

**INR 2,00,000**



### **Narrating the city - Nagpokhari**

Acrylic in wooden panel

39cm x 91cm x 2.5cm

**INR 2,00,000**



**Narrating the city - Nyatapola**

Acrylic in wooden panel

59cm x 9.51cm x 2cm

**INR 3,00,000**



**Narrating the city - Jagati**

Acrylic in wooden panel

34cm x 33cm x 2cm

**INR 75,000**

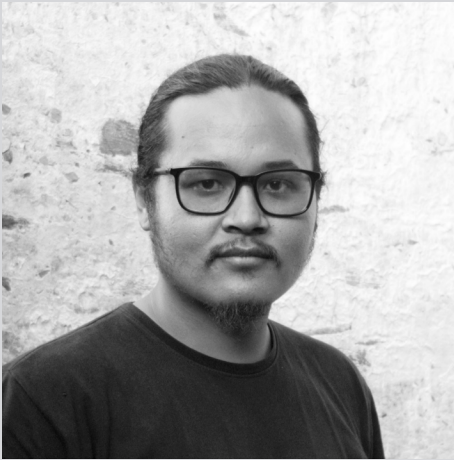


### **Narrating the city - Tachapal**

Acrylic in wooden panel

39cm x 91cm x 2.5cm

**INR 2,00,000**



## Jagdish Moktan

Jagdish Moktan explores and acknowledges his family history by tracing his father's varied roles as a thangka painter, a leftist advocate, and an indigenous activist. He explores his father's archival photographs and books on communism and activism that juxtapose his practice as a traditional thangka painter. Jagdish collaborates with his father to incorporate the latter's writings and paintings into the drawings as a process of empathy, mutual reflection, and acknowledgment.

**Drifting Towards the Red star series**  
Charcoal & Ink on Paper



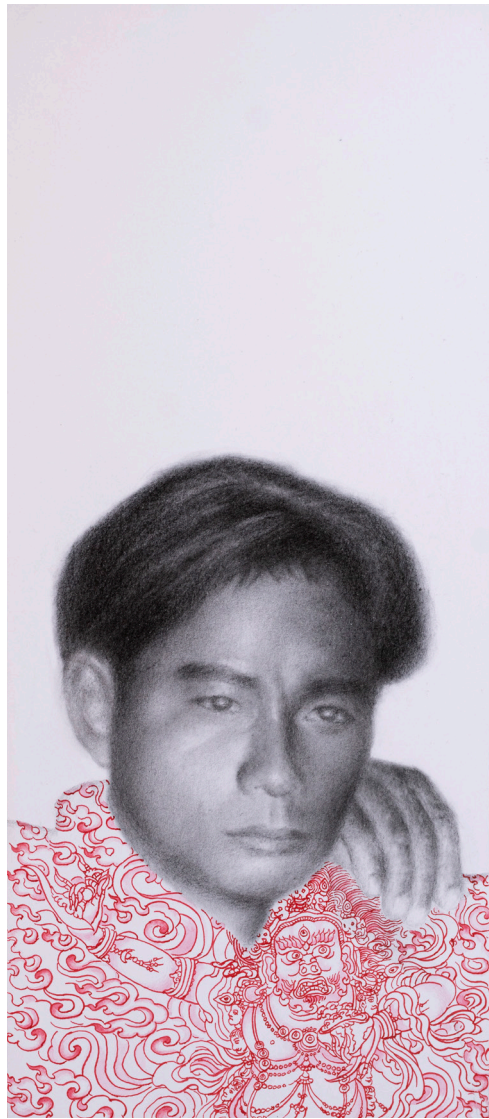
**land of clouds 1**  
11.5 x 36.5 cm  
**INR 50,000**



**land of clouds 2**  
29.5x20.5cm  
**INR 50,000**



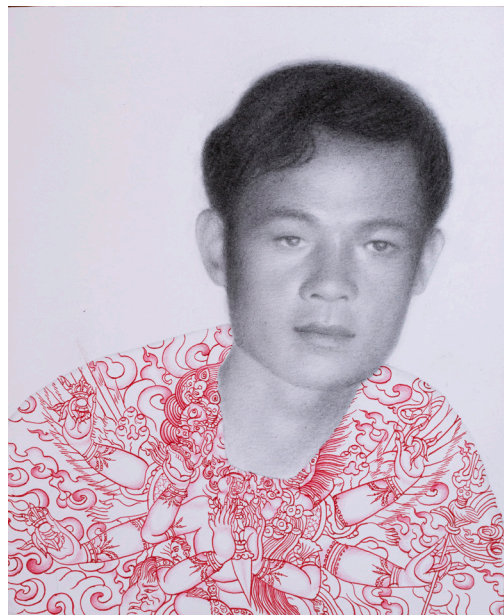
**land of clouds 3**  
17.5x21.5cm  
**INR 50,000**



**land of clouds 4**  
13x29.5cm  
**INR 50,000**



**Land of clouds 5**  
18x29cm  
**INR 50,000**



**Land of clouds 6**  
18x21.5cm  
**INR 50,000**



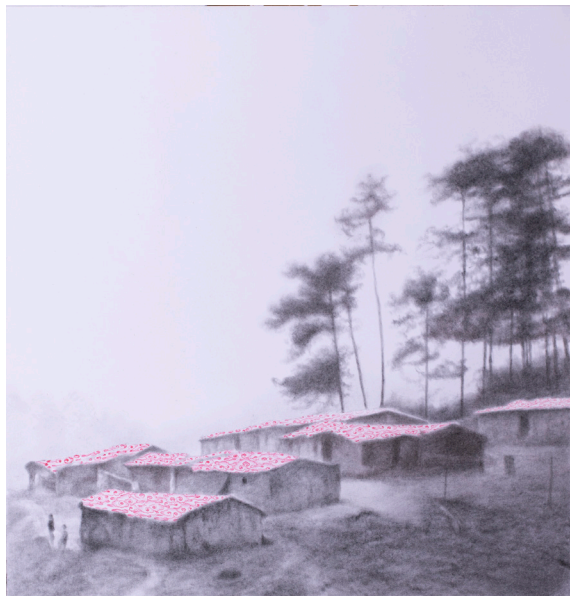
**Land of clouds 7**  
17.3x36cm  
**INR 50,000**



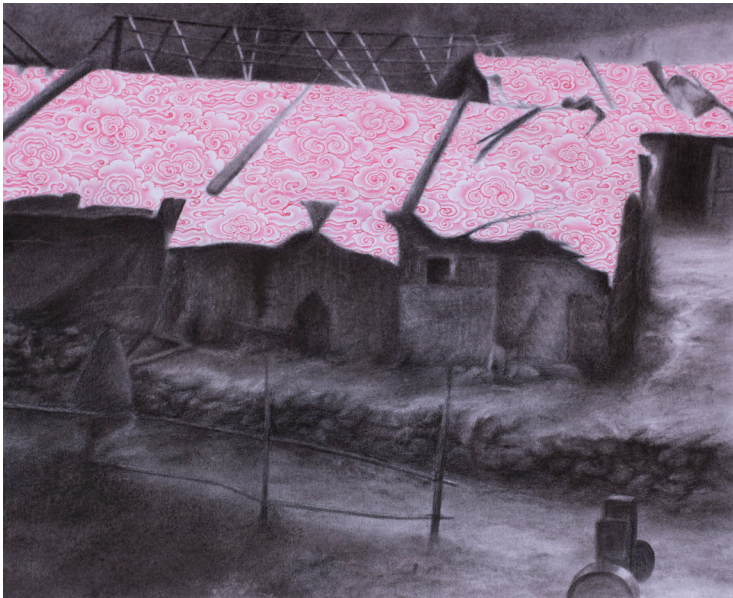
**Land of clouds 8**  
17x42cm  
**INR 55,000**



**Land of clouds 9**  
19.7x42cm  
**INR 55,000**



**Land of clouds 10**  
28.5x29.5cm  
**INR 55,000**



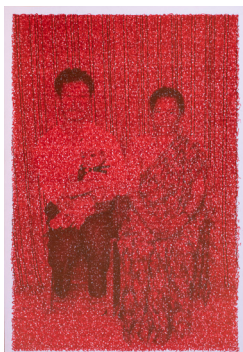
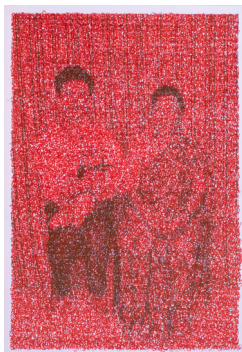
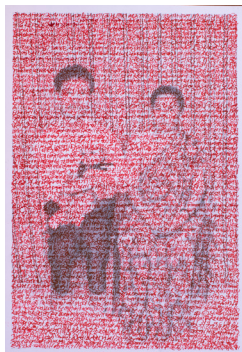
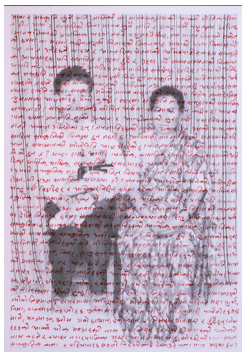
**Land of clouds 11**  
33.5x27cm  
**INR 60,000**



**Land of clouds 12**  
25x35.3cm  
**INR 60,000**



**Land of clouds 13**  
Charcoal on Paper  
64 x 20 cm  
**INR 60,000**



**Family Portrait**  
Graphite and Ink on Paper  
16.7x25cm each  
**INR 4,50,000 (set of 9)**



**Drifting towards the Red Star**

Oil on canvas

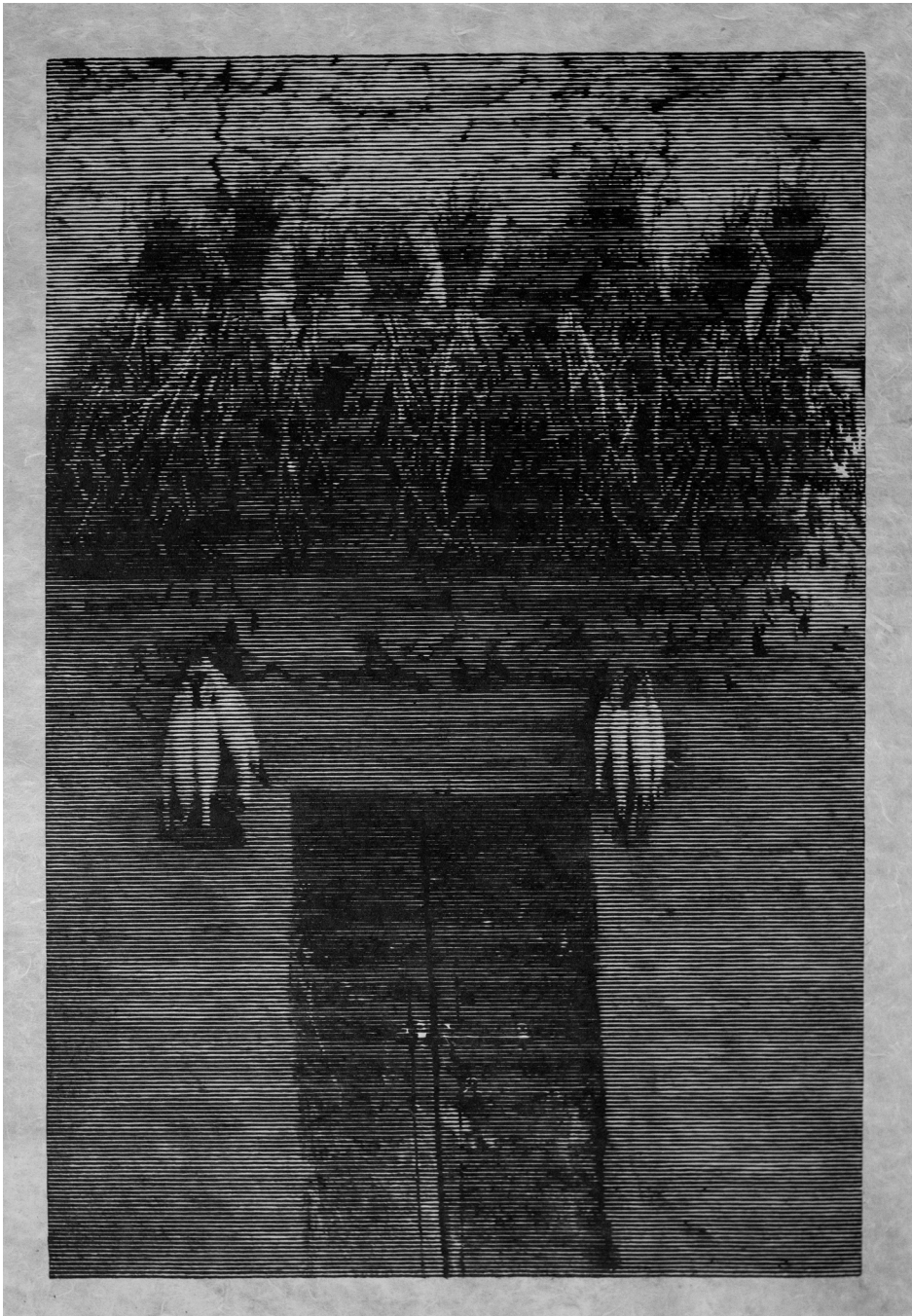
36 x 54 inches

NFS

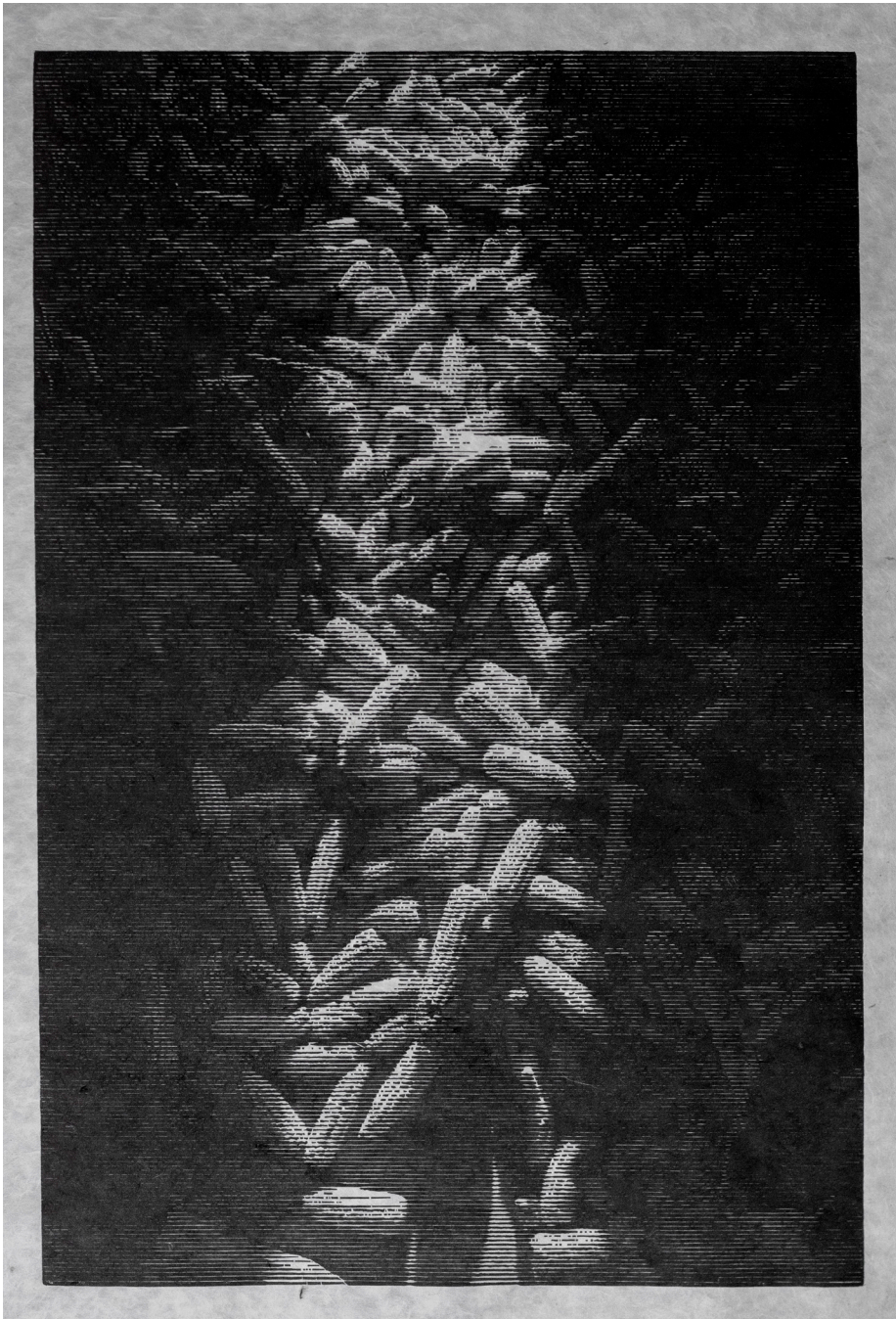


## **Nabina Sunuwar**

Nabina Sunuwar contemplates belonging by reflecting on her abandoned ancestral home. Through a laborious process of printmaking, she carves the meticulous details of the house. It still retains layers of memory of its inhabitants through the abandoned belongings. She relays her yearning for belongingness to the house and imagines its silent reverie as it holds onto the fragments of the past.



**Feeling of home I**  
Relief print on Nepali paper  
60.96cm x 40.64cm  
**INR 52,500**

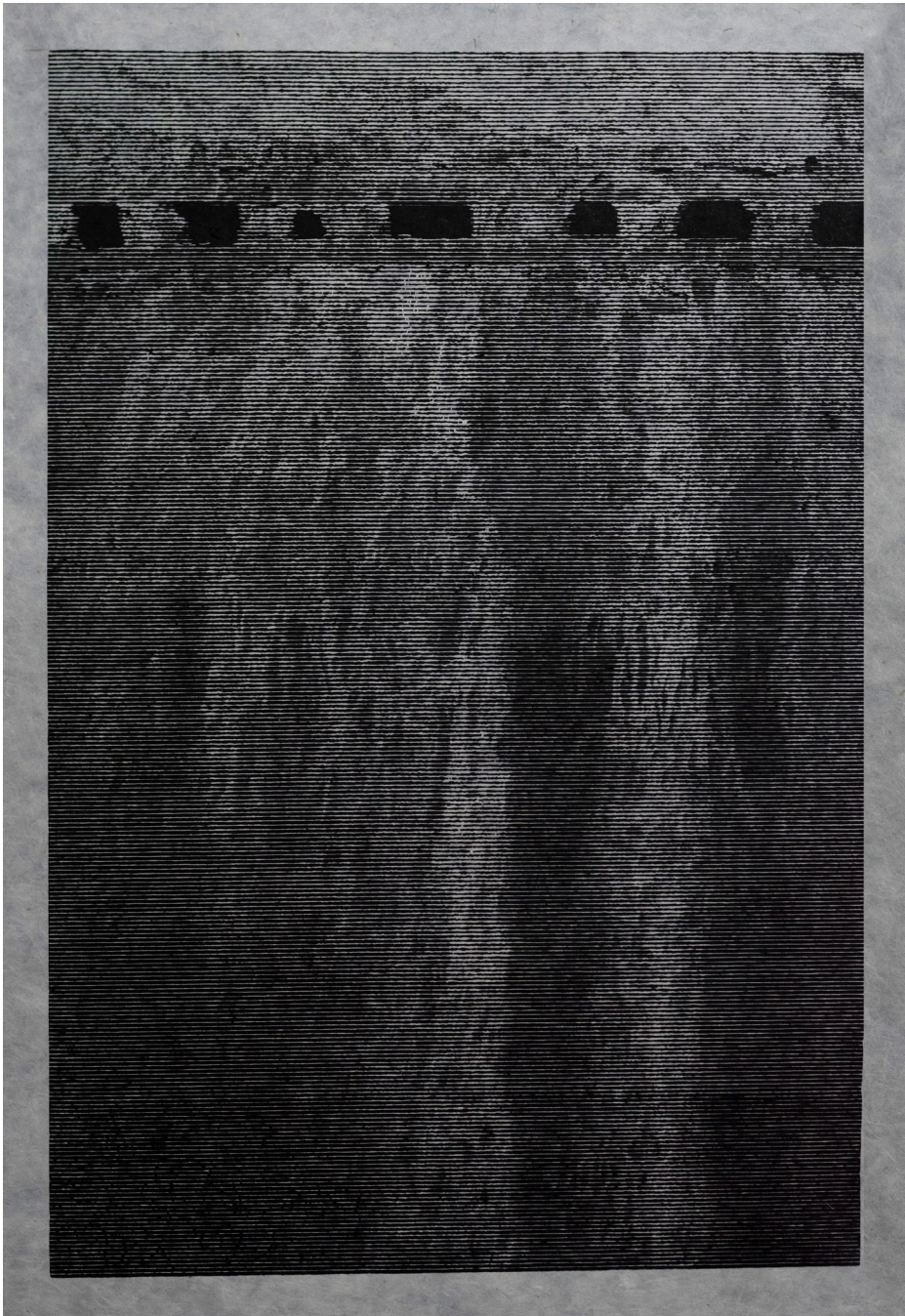


**Feeling of home II**

Relief print on Nepali paper

60.96cm x 40.64cm

**INR 52,500**

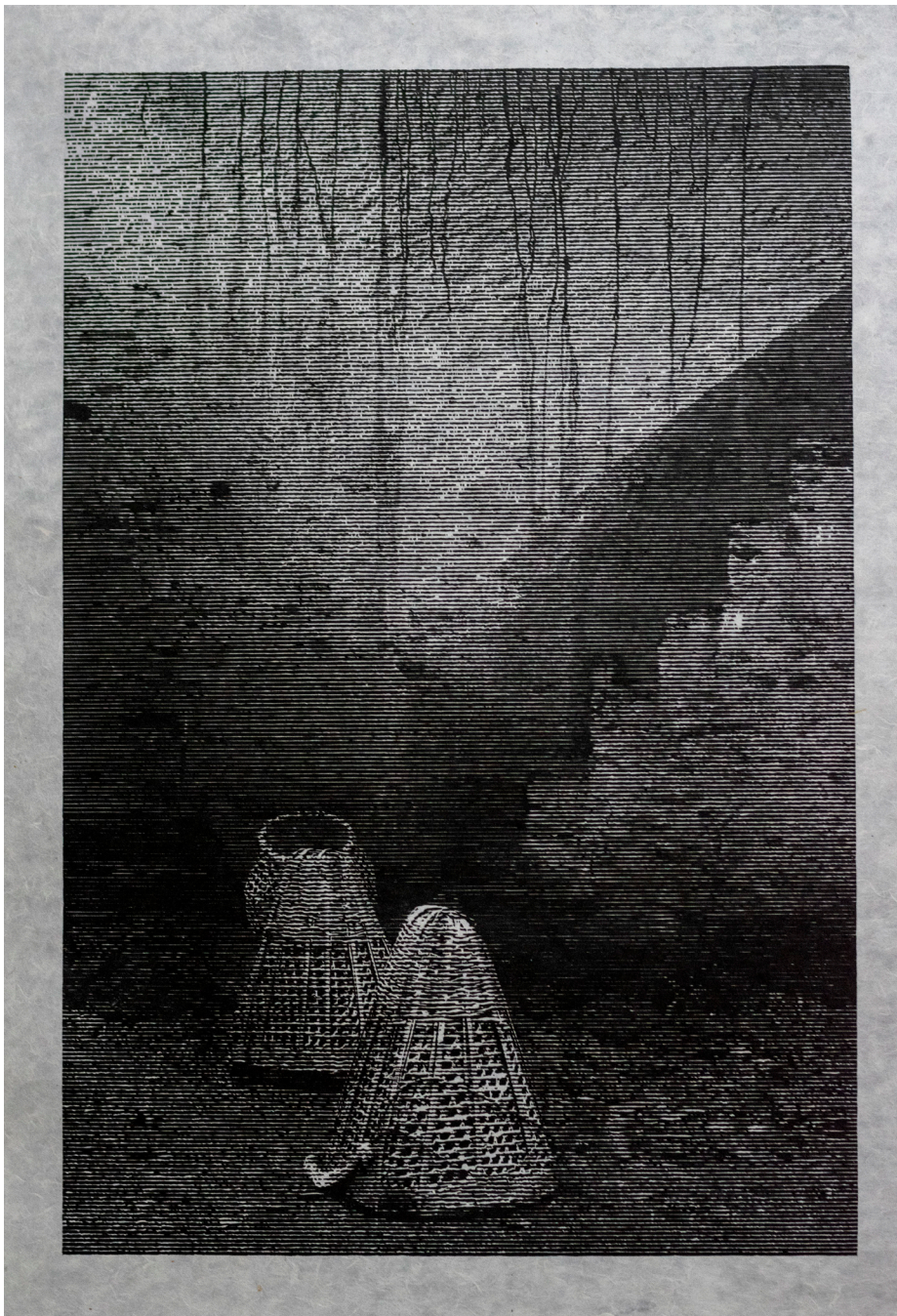


**Feeling of home III**

Relief print on Nepali paper

60.96cm x 40.64cm

**INR 52,500**



**Feeling of home IV**

Relief print on Nepali paper

60.96cm x 40.64cm

**INR 52,500**



**Feeling of home V**

Relief print on Nepali paper

45.72cm x 60.96cm

**INR 52,500**



## **Pooja Duwal**

Pooja Duwal creates a contemporary portrait of Bhaktapur as she narrates the everyday life of the city to which she belongs. One may attach a larger sense of identity and history to the mundanity she captures as it juxtaposes a traditional way of life permeated by modern-day concerns. Through the confident strokes of oil paint, she weaves an intimate ode to the city, a tribute that pays homage to its uniqueness and venerates the subtleties of its simplicity.

## Glimpses of Home

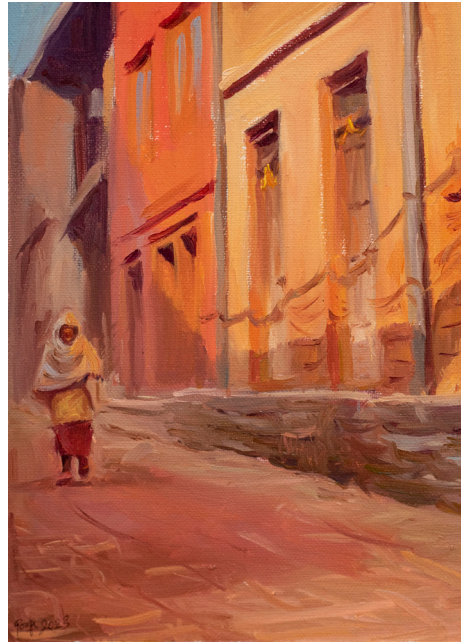
Oil on Canvas

5 x 7 inches

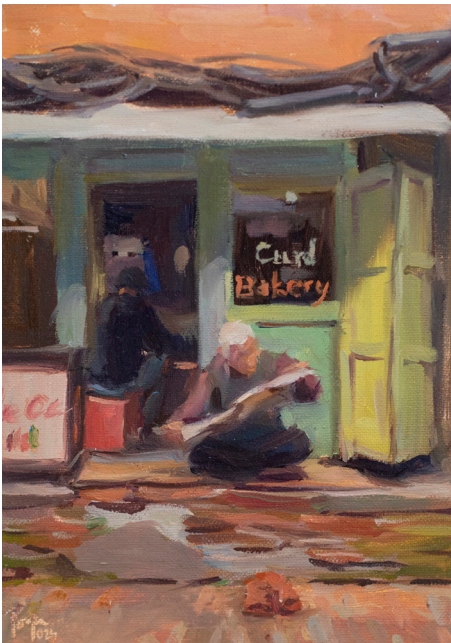
INR 25,000 each



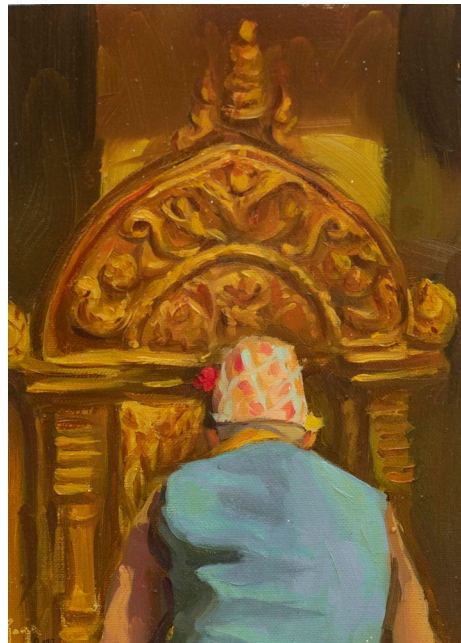
Bara Pasal



Alleyway



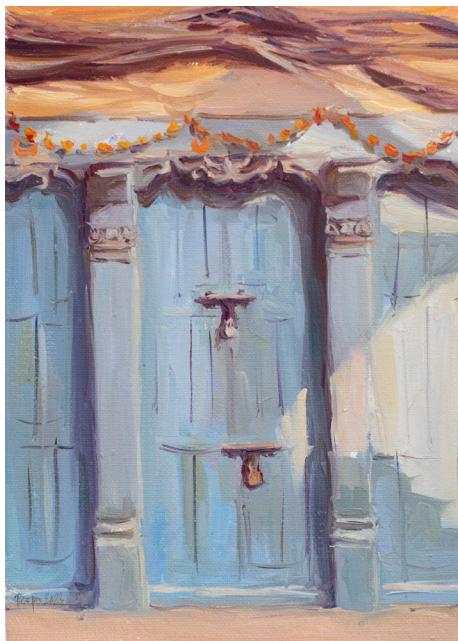
Cafe Morning



Devotee



Basking the Sun



Front Door



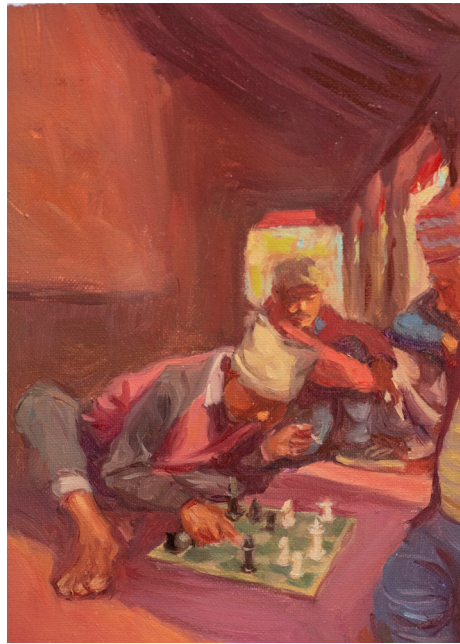
Doorway



Falcha



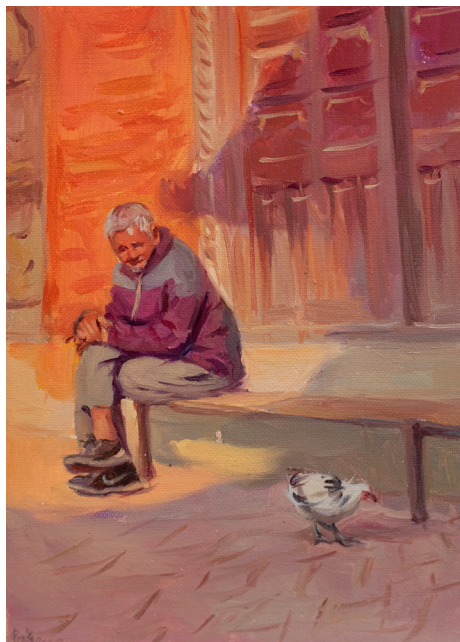
Front Yard



Game of Chess



Washing



Leisure



Waiting



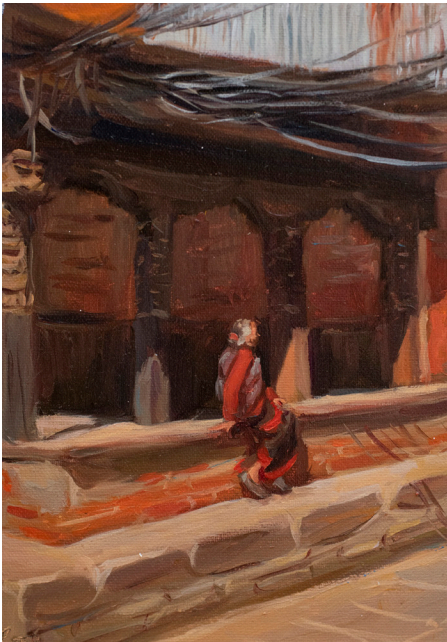
Old Doorway



Morning Sun



Morning Walk



Reminiscing



To the Temple



Slow Morning



Messy hair



View from the window



Sleeping dogs



**The Realm of Women I**

Oil on canvas

18 x 24 inches

**INR 70,000**



**The Realm of Women II**

Oil on canvas

18 x 24 inches

**INR 70,000**



## Tashi Lama

Tashi Lama captures the dilemma and despair artisans in Nepal are facing for being short-changed in the carpet industry, which neglects the importance of sustainability and well-being of its artisans. He delves into the underlying issues that have compelled skilled artisans to uproot themselves from their crafts and cultures, and to settle with mediocre labour options abroad. He articulates his discontent by intertwining the finesse of traditional thangka art with modern elements drawn from the carpet industry and the migratory experience, offering a contemplation on the prevailing uncertainty among artisans.



**Karkhana IV**

Mineral pigment on cotton canvas, Gold

24 x 31 inches

**INR 1,50,000**



**Karkhana V**

Mineral pigment on cotton canvas, Gold  
24 x 31 inches

**INR 1,50,000**



**Karkhana VI**

Mineral pigment on cotton canvas, Gold

24 x 31 inches

**INR 1,50,000**



**Georgina Maddox**  
Curator

---

Georgina is an independent critic-curator with 18 years of experience in the field of Indian art and culture. She blurs the lines of documentation, theory, and praxis by involving herself in visual art projects. Besides writing on immersive art for STIRworld, she is a regular contributor to The Hindu, MASH Mag, and Architectural Digest. Georgina has curated over two dozen exhibitions in India and Abroad.



**CG | UNNATI CULTURAL VILLAGE**

• Art • Craft • Literature • Cuisine

A CHAUDHARY FOUNDATION Initiative

---

Harkapur, Gairidakot Municipality - 12  
Nawalpur, Gandaki Province , Nepal

[www.unnaticulturalvillage.com](http://www.unnaticulturalvillage.com)

[cgunnati@gmail.com](mailto:cgunnati@gmail.com)

+977 9801067442 | +977 9820114462

  [unnaticulturalvillage](#)



Sponsored by



---

[info@thesaathproject.com](mailto:info@thesaathproject.com)