

Design Resource

Shilpaloka

Sculpture of Indian Tradition

by

Sunny Kolekar

IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:

<http://www.dsource.in/resource/shilpaloka>

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2. About Artist
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<http://www.dsource.in/resource/shilpaloka/introduction>

Introduction

Shilpaloka is a sculpting studio based in Goa which is run by the eminent expertise in the field of iconographic sculpture of Indian tradition. Mr. Puttaswamy Gudigar, an archeologist and sculptor is the founder director of Shilpaloka. He hails from a historically significant sculptor's family from the ancient Kadamba Dynasty. Many of his family members have bagged National and State awards for their incomparable sculpting works. Till today they have sculpted plenty of idols and are being worshiped in temples across Goa. The Studio Shilpaloka was established in 2005 with a unique vision of evoking and glorifying ancient Indian schools of sculpting like Kadamba, Chola, Rashtrakuta etc. From the last eleven years they have been creating masterpieces in different mediums like black stone, marble stone, wood and bronze which lead their name and fame to reach in the skyscrapers.



Wall imprinted contact number with the art piece of Shilpaloka.

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Details of folk goddess Mahalsa.

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About Artist

Mr. Pattaswamy Gudigar is a sculptor and archeologist, he was working at the National Institute of Oceanography but his passion and compassion for sculpting lead him to leave his job and he started glorifying stones by making extravagant masterpieces. He was born in a very traditional and historically significant family who has the legacy of sculptors from Kadamba dynasty; formally the Gudigar family is from Nagali-Taleigao village in Karnataka. Pattaswamy Gudigar has used his magical sculpting skills to craft many splendid masterpieces including the seven feet Lord Nataraja statue at the courtyard of Goa Rajbhavan and to name few more Mahalasa temples, Verna; Ganeshpuri temple, Mapusa; Varasiddhivinayaka temple, Dona Paula as well as huge sculptural wall in Kadamba – Hoysala style at Kapileshwari Ponda, Damodar Temple Jambavali and Mallikarjunte.



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Tools

The carving begins with the chiseling away of large chunks of redundant rock using a point chisel and a wedge-shaped pitching chisel hammer. This process is known as “roughing out”, “pitching”, or “knocking off”. Once a rough figure emerges, the sculptor then uses basic hammer and point work technique to create more definition. Other specific tools like a turning tools, flat chisel, semicircular chisel, rasps and files are used to create the final figure.

In addition to these traditional tools they have access to power tools like angle-grinder, hand drills and electric cutters which gives ease in their frantic work.



Filing tools and brush.

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Types of chisel and hammer.



Different Types of files.



Brushes to polish the sculpture.



Hammers.

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Electronic trimmer.

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Process

The working philosophy and strategy of Shilpaloka is to revive the ancient Indian school of sculpting and they completely dedicated in customizing sculptures for customers as per their requirement. A customer can approach them with pictorial references and have a one to one design discussion. Once the decision is made artists move on to their research process in which they go through the old paradigm of referred deity or idol to identify the particular iconic elements which is essential for its new depiction and manifestation. As soon as all elements are acknowledged and balanced, artists starts to prepare the line work and transfer it on translucent tracing paper. Afterwards they choose the stone and transcribe the line drawing on it. Once it is done they proceed to carving. Carving is done with the traditional tools like hammers, chisels in various shapes and files. There are few modern tools to smoothen workload of the tedious part like making holes and trimming stone in particular ways, there are drill machines and stone trimmers which are helping the artisans to make carving easy. After the completion of detailed carving they move on to putting black polish to enhance the beauty of artwork, polish helps to shine the surface and it gives the smoother effect to the final output.



Huge blocks of stones as raw material.

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Artist making graph on raw stone block before starting carving.



Artist taking measurements of the stone block.



Trimming stone according to the design is one of the important steps in the process of making sculpture.



Sculpture in process with the help of Drawing.

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Mr. Pattaswamy Gudigar giving final touches to the sculpture of Dwarpal.

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Artist working on a Doorframe for the temple.



Detailing lotus petals pattern on the doorframe.



Detailing lotus petals pattern on the doorframe.



Seating arrangement for artists in working area.

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Washing sculpture with water to remove all the stone particles from the detailed carving.

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Drying sculpture with the help of dryer.

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Products

Shilpaloka offers distinctive and inimitable products to their customers which glorifies their name in the hearts of art lovers. They provide authentic sculptures of various ancient Indian schools of sculpting like Kadamba, Chola, Rashtrakuta which is uniquely carved in various mediums such as black stone, marble, wood and bronze. Their products includes the sculptures of Indian gods and goddesses like Goddess Durga, Lord Brahma, Goddess Mahishasurmardini, Nagdevata(Snake God), Lord Vishnu and his ten incarnations, Lord Nataraja, Lord NarasimhaLakshmi, river goddesses like Goddess Ganga and Narmada as well as some folk lords like goddess Mahalsa, Lord Vetala, village deities and they also make customized door frames. Shilpaloka is specialized in customization according to the prerequisite. Pricing of final product is done according to the use of raw material, design detailing, workmanship; time invested in sculpting and size of the sculpture.



Beautiful stone sculpture of river goddess Ganga.

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Detailings of Lord Bramha.

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Elegant sculpture of river goddess Narmada.



Cobras as a Headgear of folk god Vetala.



Beautiful details of goddess Mahishasurmardini.



Folk god from nearby village of Goa.

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Nagdevi the folk goddess holding beautiful cobras in her hands.



Vetala the folk god.



Narasimhalakshmi in a style of Hoysala School of sculpting.



Folk goddess Mahalsa.

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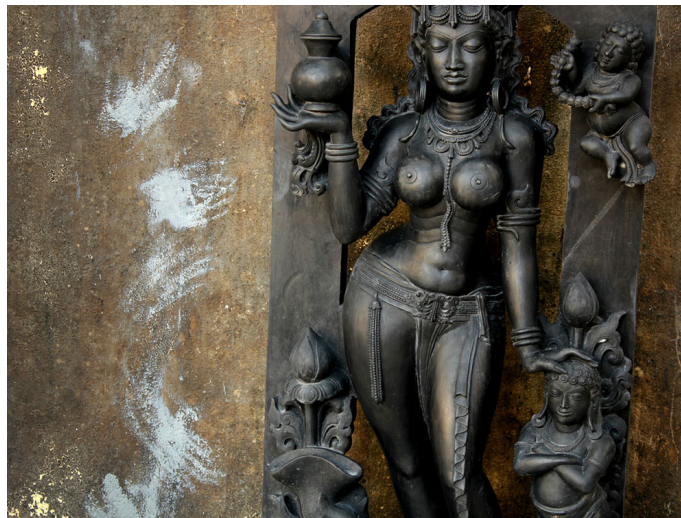
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Godess durga in a style of Hoyasala School of sculpting.



Sculpture of Vamana the fifth incarnation of Lord Vishnu.



Elegant sculpture of river goddess Ganga.



Shivalingas carved in different sizes.

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Beautiful details of river goddess Narmada.

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Links

- <http://www.shilpaloka.com/contactus.htm>

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Contact Details

This documentation was done by Sunny Kolekar at **IDC, IIT Bombay**.

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