



Exploration In Image Making Project-2

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M.Des. - Visual Communication

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Declaration

The work embodied in the written submission titled "Exploration in image making" has been carried out by the undersigned as part of the post graduate program in the Industrial Design Centre, IIT Bombay, India under the supervision of Prof. Raja Mohanty.

The undersigned hereby declares that this is her original work and has not been plagiarized in part or full from any source. Furthermore, this work has not been submitted for any degree in this or any other University.

I understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action if need arises.

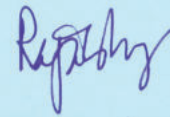


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Approval Sheet

This interaction design project entitled "Exploration in image making" by Tarun kumar, 126250011, is approved in partial fulfilment of the requirements for Master of Design Degree in Visual Communication.

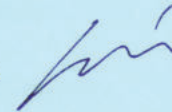
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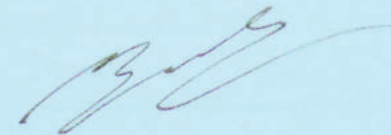
Chair Person:



Internal Examiner:



External Examiner:



Date: 26/11/2013

Place: Mumbai

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Abstract

Images are an important source of our lives. From morning till night we see thousands of images on our smart phone; on television; on computer screen; magazines ; news paper and road side hoardings. Images keep coming at us many mediums and have become an very important source of our knowledge, entertainment and information. As a designer I creating images in many forms like illustration, photography, logo-symbols and posters etc.

This project has been an attempt to understand the process of image making, more critically.

My previous approaches in image creation have been intuitive. While such an an approach continues to be important. In this project I have tried to understand the sources and the content and the formal aspects of visual language more carefully.

As I explored different ideas many images comes to my mind before. A concrete image appears as a final thing.

One important myth that I questioned during this project was my belief that image should always be pretty. There are many things around us that are not always pretty.

I understood that sometimes images that depict our environment as its can be like mirror that reflect our world accurately.

So in my project “Exploration In Image Making” I will create images of things that are often unnoticed by people.

Introduction

Images can be traced back to several years back when prehistoric human started painting on caves.

This project began with my interest in the folklore of Uttrankand. People here still worship many Gods and Goddesses. The initial discussion made me think about images that are sacred and images that are secular. since I felt that i was not very religious, It would be relevant to create images that were secular. I also understood that some images had a literal meaning and in some images the meaning was suggested.

After the revolution of printing and production images multiplied Photography, Posters and later motion pictures in television and cinema at 24 frame per second changed image making drastically.

I also felt that instead of creating images that sought to communicate a message to viewers, it would be interesting to visualize my own thoughts.

I studied images made in the near and distant past. It appeared that a particular period of history has certain characters that was captured by most images created in that period.

From very early times the Pre-European renaissance the creation of image are largely for religious purposes with the growth of scientific thought and the increasing importance given

to lives of human beings (instead of Gods) led to images becoming less religious (and god-centred) and more secular (people centred).

Previous approaches in creating images

At the beginning of the project I looked back at my previous works in image making.

I don't know how it started more than 25 years ago and I came in contact with pencil and paper I remember I learnt to draw before i leant to write. When I looked at images I did in my art school I felt that they narrated some story. I also felt that images that had text to indicate the subject matter at times prevented people from seeing the image.

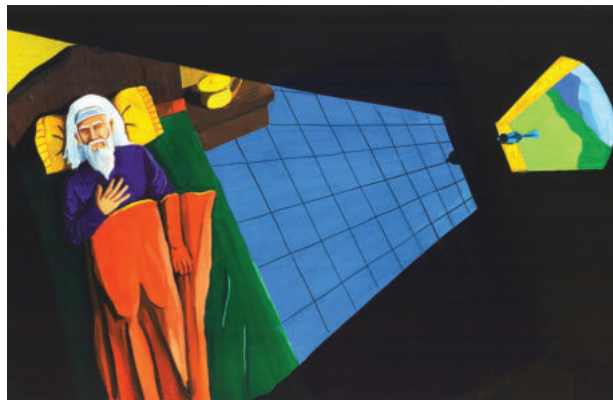
Illustrations during bachelors degree

Story of King and the Nightingale, 2007

Story -There lived an emperor in China, who had a very beautiful kingdom. Everyone admired his palace and gardens but when they heard the nightingale sing, they declared that it was the best of all. When the emperor heard about the nightingale, he sent his men to bring it for him. When he heard it sing, tears came to his eyes. He kept the bird in his palace in a cage.

One day, the king of Japan sent a beautiful artificial nightingale. This nightingale was covered with precious gems and sang wonderfully too. But it could sing only one song. Everyone forgot the real nightingale, and sadly it flew away. Then, one day, the artificial bird broke its spring and could not sing any longer.

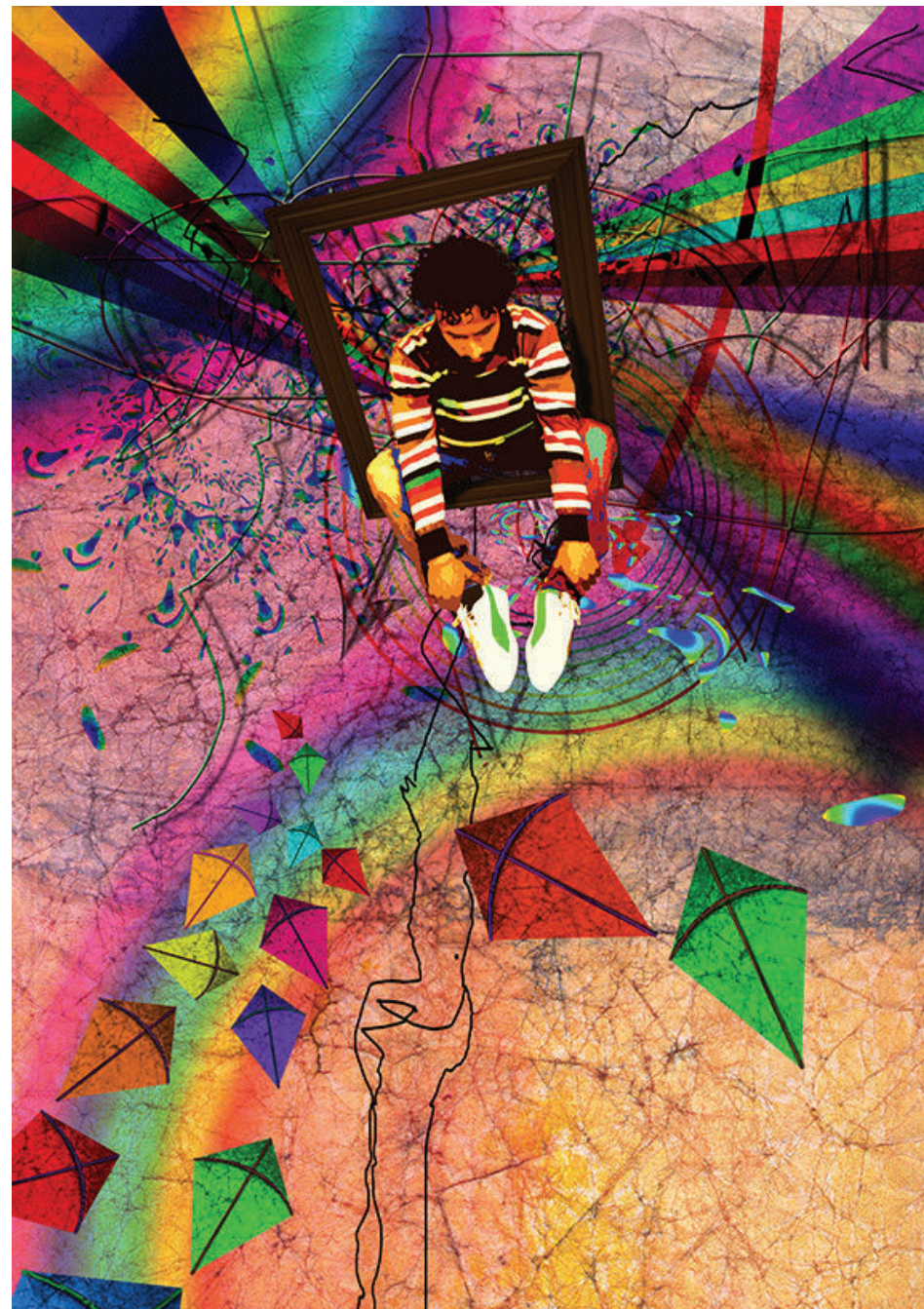
Years passed. The emperor fell ill and was near death. No doctor could cure him. The real nightingale heard this and came to sing for him. Hearing it, the emperor recovered. The bird promised that it would always come and sing for him.



Whenever I have time I explore create images.
Sometimes I began with an idea and sometimes
the idea developed during the process of creation.



Illusion



Freedom



Self-exploration

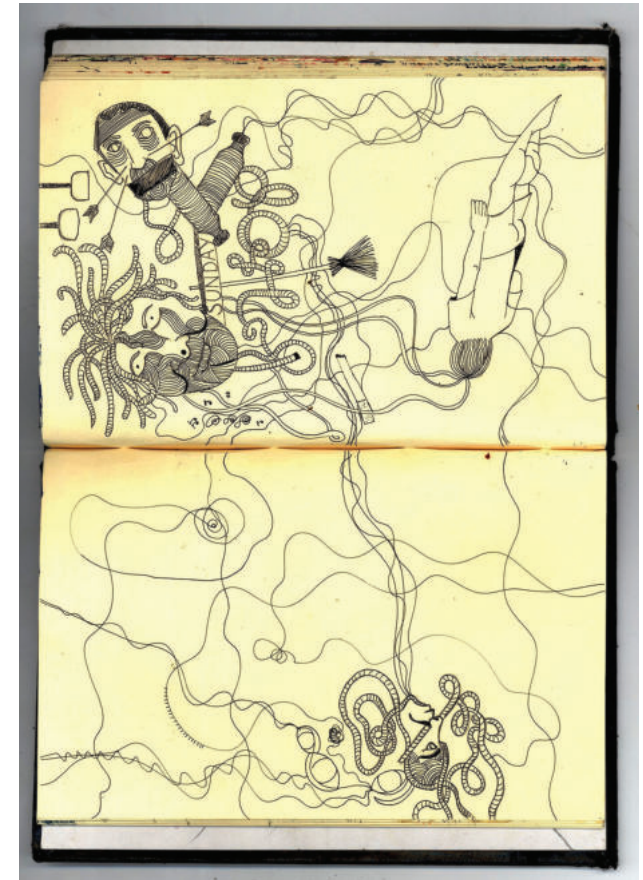
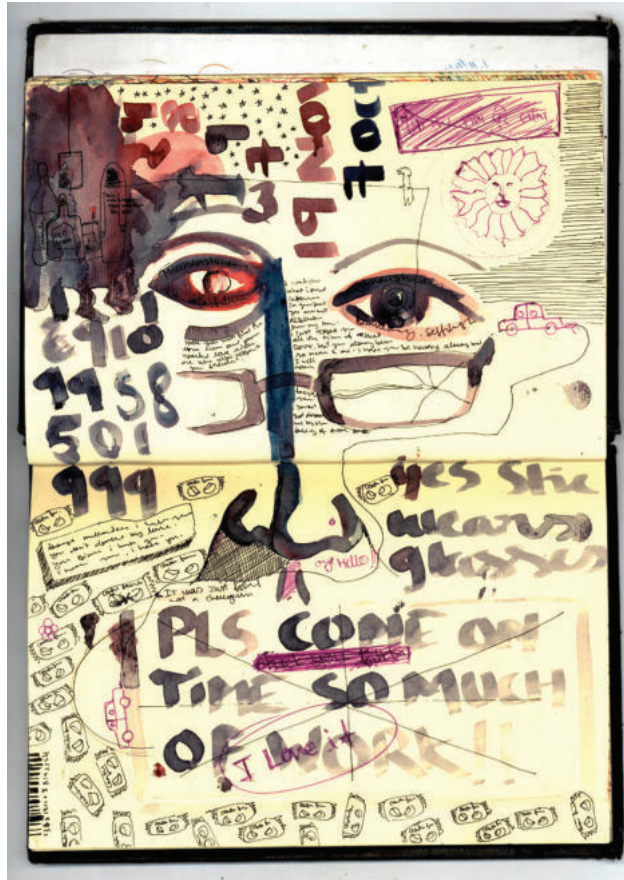


Last night dream

I still had this question in my mind that if the image is not not literal but suggestive and creator of image is not around how could it speak and how it will touch someone.

After coming to IDC my journey continued to explore image making `in my sketch book.

Some of my works after coming in IDC



Exploration in portraits







A Study of Images

As i started the project I studied thework of painters, Illustrators and photographers.

Amrita Sher-gil(1913-1941)

She created art that initially had an European sensibility. Her father was a Indian and mother was a Hungarian and she studied art in Paris. Although she lived very short time of period she painted Indian subjects in a very unique manner.



**The Ancient story teller,
NGMA Delhi**

This painting is scene from a village where an old man is telling stories from ancient topics surrounded by children's. This image short of talks about the sources of knowledge and entertainment for village children's in Indian and the keen postures and expression of kids speaking about the time they are having. It shows the daily activity of woman working and gathering of women's far away newer the building gate.

<http://www.ngmaindia.gov.in/sh-amrita.asp>



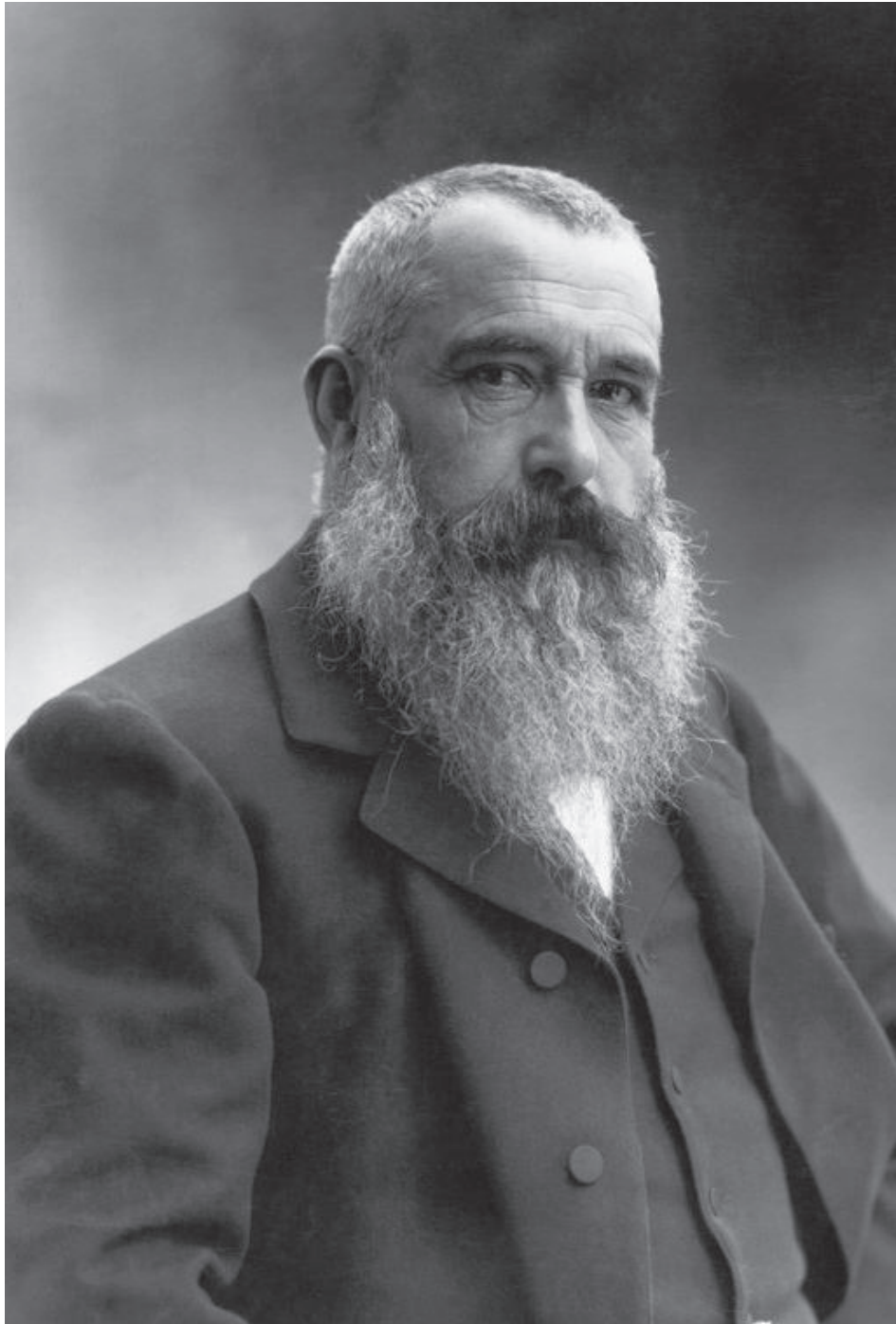
**The Brahmacharis
NGMA, Delhi**

The image of Indian young boys as a practicing spirituality by staying unmarried in which she has done the portrayal of a realm of seriousness of true search for knowledge.



Bride's toilet
NGMA, Delhi

The Indian tradition wedding where bride take to the bath by other female members of the family was very auspicious event to capture as a image.



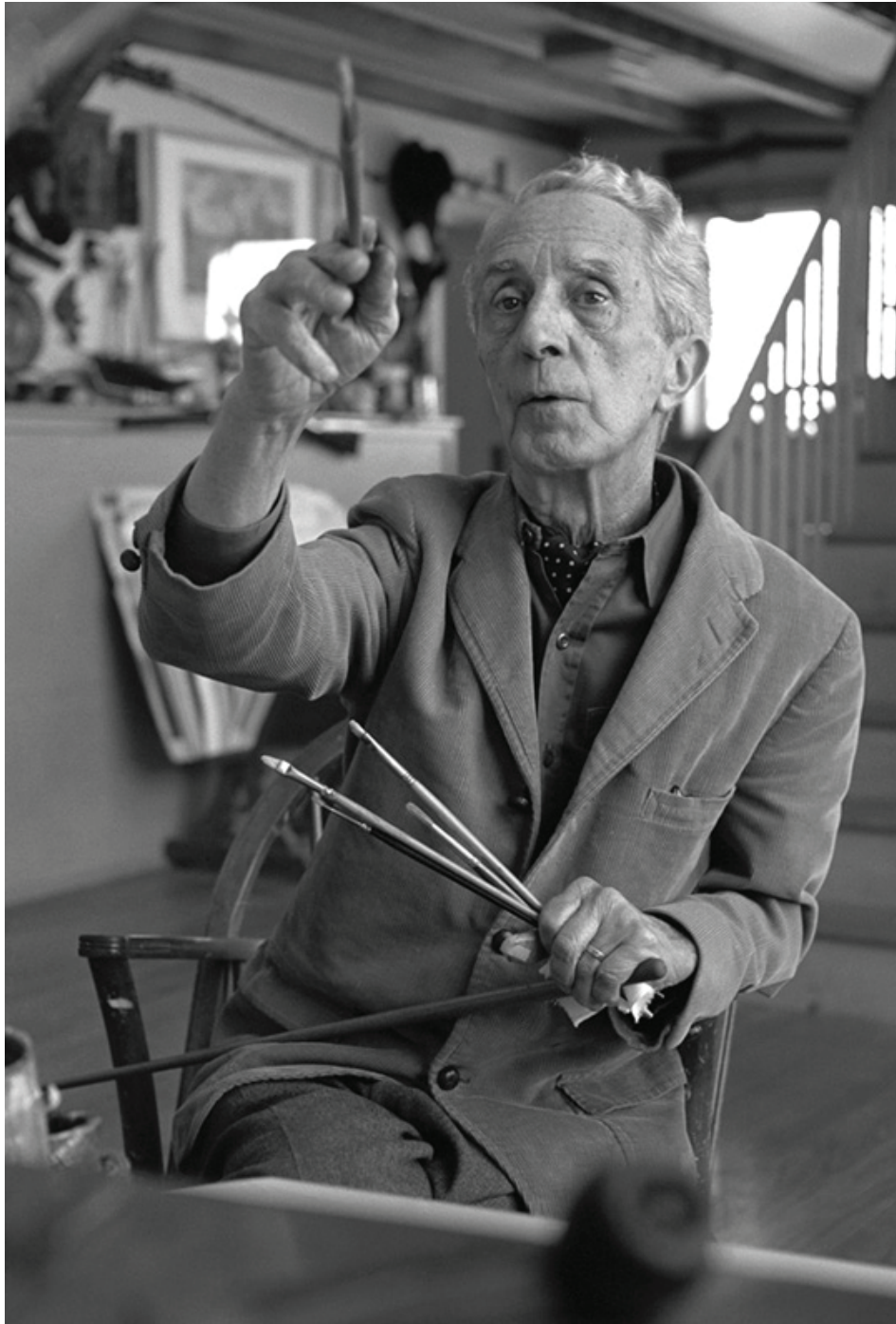
Claude Monet(1840-1926)

Monet was a French painter who is known for his impressionist style and known for his natural landscapes. He imitate nature in a free impressionist style which has been derived from his works only.



House of Parliament series

Monet painted a series of paintings of the Palace of Westminster, in London between 1900-1905. All work of art are of same size and same view. But all has different impression depicting different time and weather. He did not completed all works on the spot but later worked on these.



Norman Rockwell, 1894 - 1978

He was an American painter and illustrator. He is known for American cultural depiction in his works where it is not focused on glorifying someone but to show a common man existence in the society.



Going to church

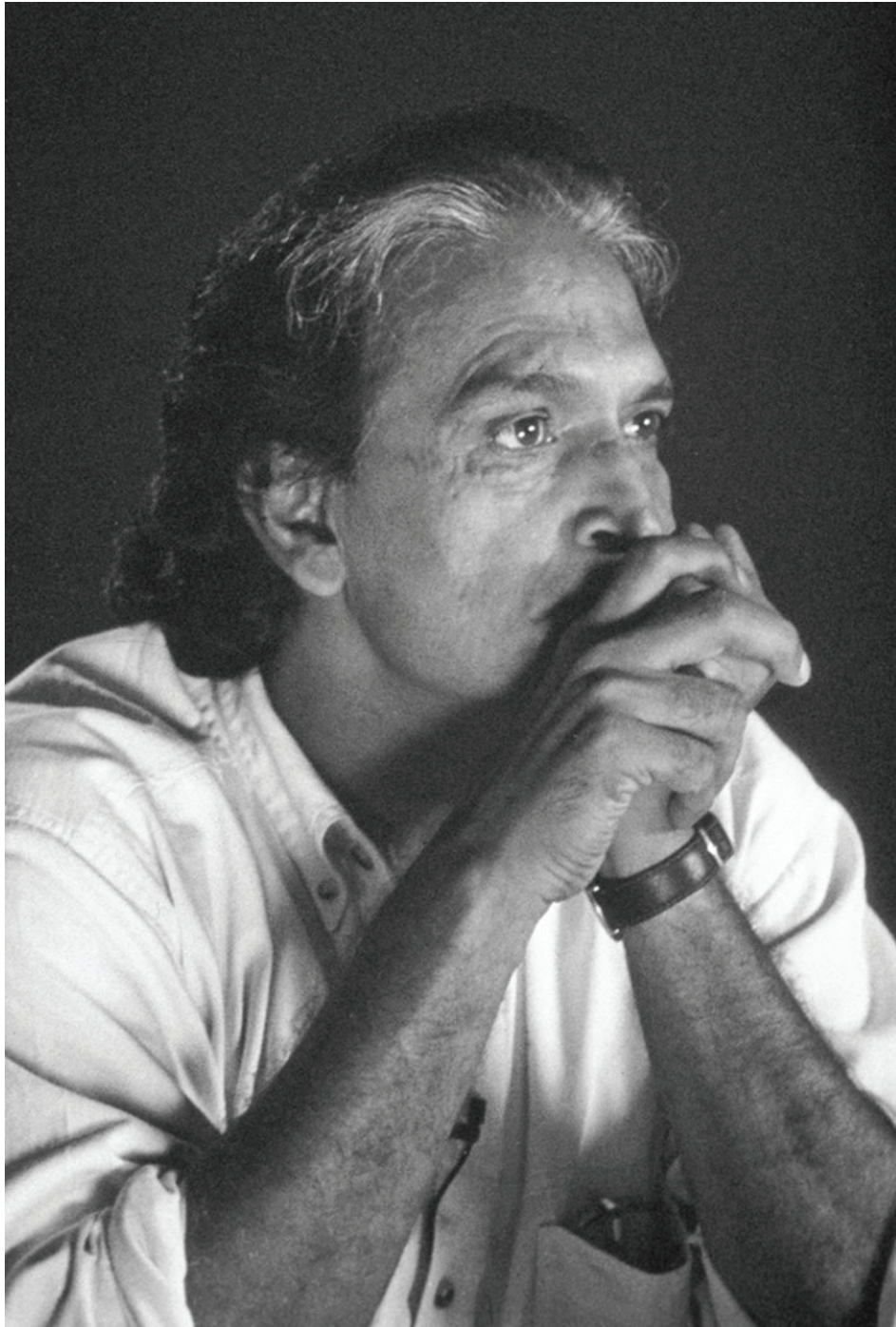


Gossips



Saying Grace

<http://www.nrm.org/>

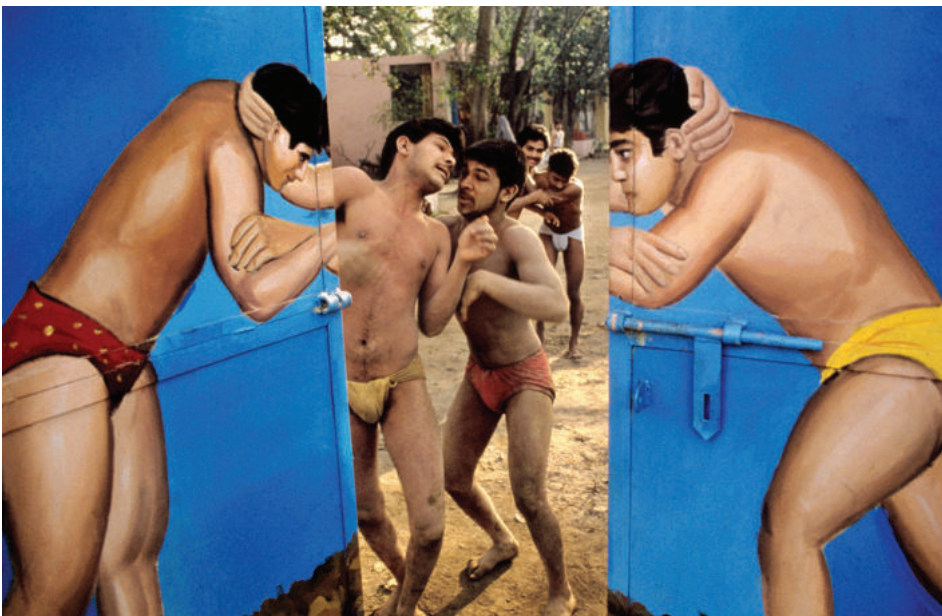


Raghu Rai, 1942

Raghu Rai is the Indian photographer and photojournalist, who apart from photojournalism known for his street life capture in a very unique way of observation. His images speak about comparison between power and people which make his images so fascinating many times shows the fusion of notion among people's perception.



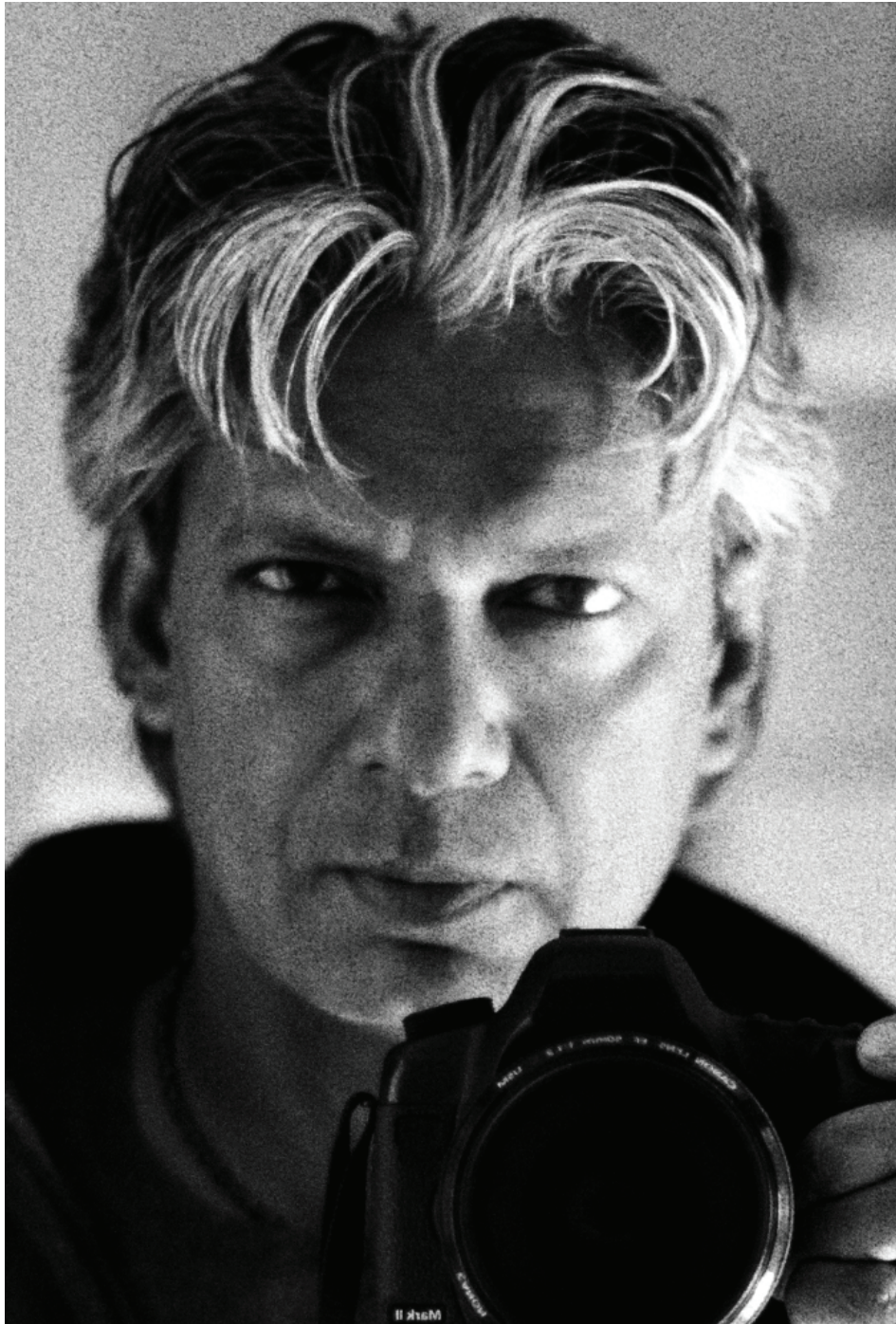
Two Old Men



Wrestlers



Mother Teresa- A Life Dedicated



Prabuddha Dasgupta, 1956 - 2012

He was a Indian fashion photographer who is known for his black and white imagery where he capture the speak able images where he tried to make a connection between his view and people without concerning about the beautiful scenic beauty. His topics varied from indoor to outdoor cultural activities.



Longing



Edge of faith



Ladakh

Initial exploration

The discussion on how images had transformed from being religious to secular made me think about my own belief. Was I religious/ was I an atheist? I felt that while I might not call myself an atheist, I did not have very strong religious beliefs either.

For my initial exploration I therefore decided to create images that were connected to people that I know. this was a new learning for me. Creating images that were connected to my own thought and belief, gave them a special significance. creating images that started with an objective of communicating a message that was not closely linked to my own thoughts and beliefs, but intended to address some issue is less personal.

I realised, when images have a personal and subjective starting point, they can also communicate the internal point, they can also communicate the internal world of the creator to a viewer. sometimes their personal image can also touch a viewer.

The Images exploration started with the objective of creating images that were linked to ideas such as secularism , feminism, Human, machine and nature, freedom and so on. some images also touched on ideas related to religion and some images made as of an abstract visual language.



Secularism

The image talks about secularism that the material world is so complicated and varied from many greedy things where at the same point the Roster shown aside of the image has nothing to do with all these materialistic world and serving his flesh equally to everyone. He just seems like a keen observer who keep watching and awake people from dream to reality every morning but result came out as a another material thought and greed attracts them again.



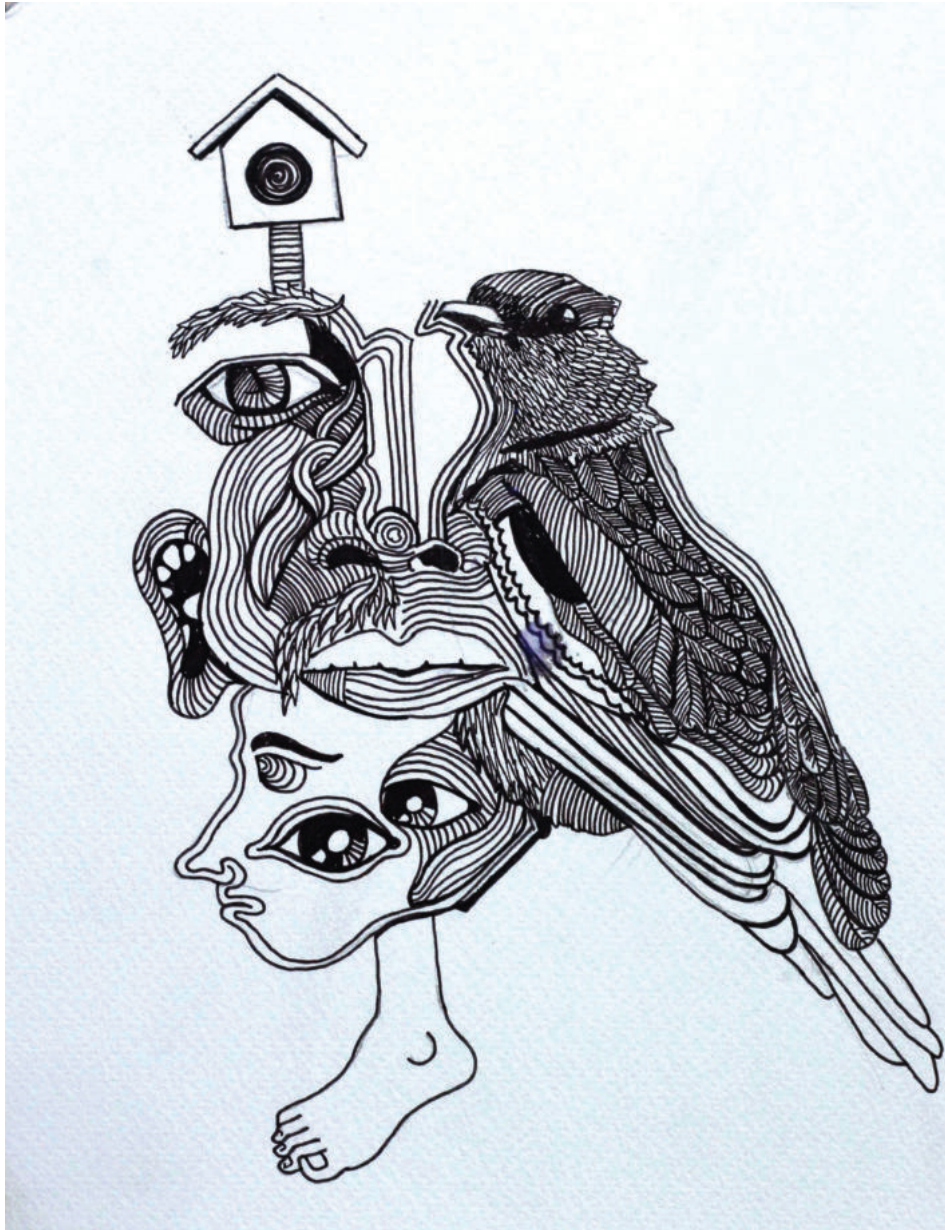
Feminism

In this the image of women is shown like a some dangerous creature by the society where she taking the pain of this as a burden by hiding her identity by covering her body with her hands and at the same time she is also the creator of new life in her womb as the also takes so much pain. Society talks about Feminism by using the great words but still there is many contradictions among people.



Human, Machine & Nature

Man has developed so much with the technology and science and it seems like he has forgotten his place of origin. But still there is a very direct connection of nature among Man, machine and nature. The world in which we live in is based on technology but the intelligent plan of nature. So whatever we do we somehow always stay connected with nature.



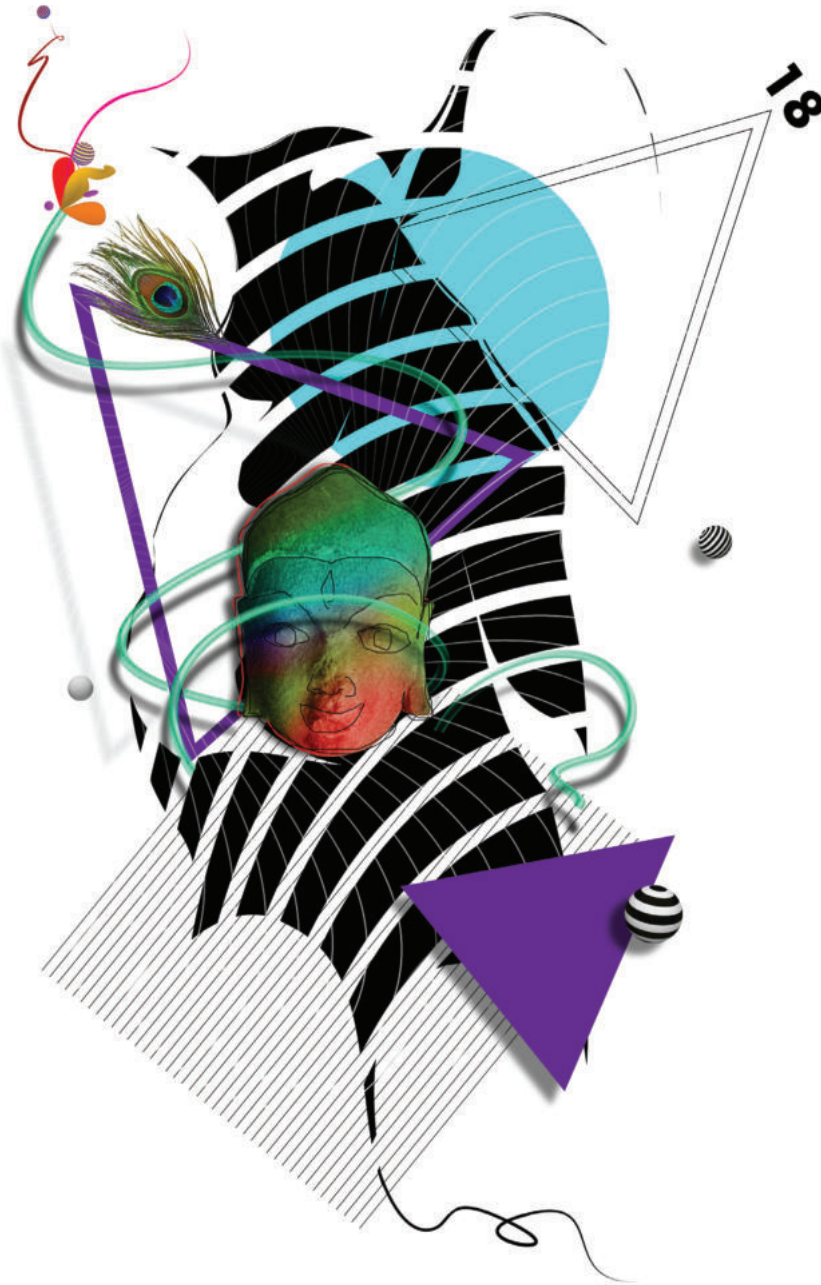
Birdwatch

We see colourful birds and enchanted voices of nature created by nature in television etc. but what more pleasurable then getting in touch of these beautiful creatures without any mediator. Which is the real bird watching. Here I wanted to talk about the bird watching which is without and technical gadgets etc.



Thoughts of Freedom

The portrait speaks of a image of a women who has freedom in her mind and very far away from materialistic world who after getting married is short of feeling like bounded by the society and people. So here its shows her state of calm which is not real her mind and heart is on fights of thoughts



Buddha & Krishna

In this image although the depiction seems like religious but the image in real wanted to say that the whatever the teaching of Krishna and Buddha but the conclusion is same. I my thoughts both of them never enforced anyone to fallow any strict rules of life but to follow the destiny in correct ways.



Abstarcted Connection

In the image I just explored the sense of illusion I feel in my mind whenever I see the world where people are not like as they seems and speak. It's a fake world and we love it. The triangle symbolise the world as always three points of view where one is you second is how you behave and third is reality which is “ We are just a friction of a dot in the universe” and as it's a infinite we are exist nowhere in this world but we still search keep searching for our identity

Further exploration

Gradually I moved away from creating images that sought to communicate issues and ideas to creating images that were connected to specific experiences and feeling.



Women



Pure love and Infants

The image is based on the quotation by Johnny Depp where he says that
“The only creatures that are evolved enough to convey pure love are dogs and infants.”.



Self-exploration



Teenagers thoughts

In this image I am trying to compose a expression of a teenage girls where she facing the confusion of life in this complicated world. The balloon talks about the flight of freedom and in her upside down umbrella she what to collect the bubbles created in the rain and on the other side there is a black and white chess ground directing her to play cleverly in this materialistic and selfish world , the flower are symbol of purity in her heart.

Final exploration

Secular is a very broad subject. As every image which is not saying about something related to religion or belief is secular. again it was a big question before me whether my personal image were “secular”. Instead of being too much bothered by this, I began to create images of things around us that went unnoticed. Some of them subject were not pretty.

As my final area of image exploration with discussion I have come to conclusion that I will make the images those are not based on beautiful topic but the things those are ignored and unobserved. Now I start observing what is around me and my view points about that particular. Without caring if someone thinks differently about that thing. It's all my process of learning towards the exploration in image making. So I choose some situations and topics those are unnoticed and ignored.



Boys at work

Every day we dispose our garbage from homes which is in tones and when we floating in our sweet dreams. Someone clean and takes it very far away to dispose. Most of the people working are teenage boys of school going age. They are ignored people and but very important part of our society.



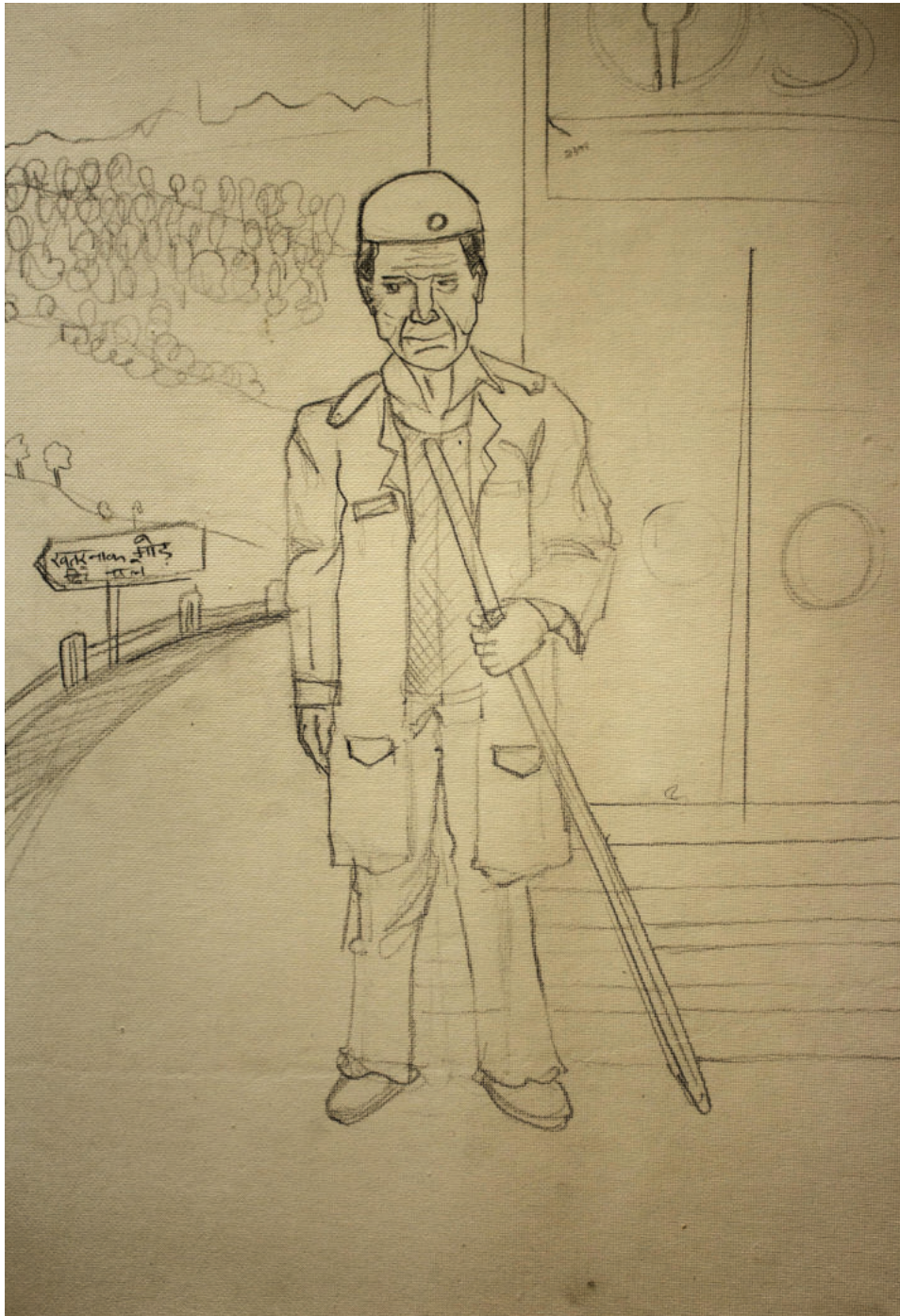
Waiting & weighting

I am seeing this old man for a long time more than 10 years he looks same as when I was a kid. He sits near the entrance of subway near my home in Delhi. The most interesting thing about him he is a old lonely man with no home but he is not a beggar. He has this weighting machine for which he charge only one rupee which is same since a long time. I see him sitting quite in the posture of waiting but he is not other than some customers, where on the other side people fighting for the power, money and living materialistic life.



Mess workers

As a quite observer during my project I recall many thing from my day today interaction with many people around me those left unobserved. Among them young man working in my hostel mess are I found very Important. A thought came in my mind that where I was back in 5 years and where I am now and also I can imagine a better future for myself since I am studying in a prestigious university but what about these boys. They are not much educated and don't have such facilities. It will be a very rare thing for them to live a comfortable life. They would be doing the same job all their life with no great expectation other than a day off from their work.



Security Guard

During my visit in Almora every day I used to see a old security guard at SBI ATM. He seems like a old army retired man because of his clothes and shoes. May be he served army or someone gave him the old torn cloths. He was completely unnoticed for people around. Sometimes he also clean the cars and taxi in the afternoon.



Fruit seller

A old man with long beard I saw in the middle of the market in Almora. He was having a old fruit shop outside the wall of a street. I have seen him much time smoking and sometimes drinking in the evening. I brought some apples from him and price was very reasonable, may be because he might have took those from the villages nearby. Although there were many other big fruit shops around but he never seems restless of this competition.

Conclusion

The project will come out as my learning in image making where I could understand the process, thinking and layering in an image. I also learn about things those are unnoticed and also be part of the image creation. I belong to the group of people who are quite privileged in terms of life, food, facilities, education, and entertainment. We meet and interact with similar people and ignore many things in the larger society in which we live. But there are many who are a very important part of this larger society, but remain unnoticed.

I have created images of people who, in my thinking, are important and don't get the respect they deserve. What kind of hopes and desires do they have? Do they hope for some miracle that might transform their lives or have they just accepted that the privileged world is beyond their reach? Do they just work so hard for two meals a day? These people are not begging anything from the government or from society but, I think, they deserve all that we have kept them deprived of.

What is it that can bring about a society that is more equal? Education for all? A better understanding of the destiny we share as humans? The wisdom that a happier world free of conflict is possible only when we can see what we do not see?

In this project I am trying to address the people and things those are very important part of our life and society but we don't see them

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