

Personal journey

Select works in inks, dyes and incisions on paper

The Moment, an exhibition of select works in inks and dyes and incisions on paper by Copenhagen-based abstractionist Sohan Qadri, will be displayed from 26 October to 3 November at Kumar Gallery, 11, Sunder Nagar.

Among the early abstractionists introduced by Kumar Gallery were VS Gaitonde, Biren De, Ram Kumar and GR Santosh. Sohan Qadri who joined this group in 1963 has remained true to his direction, ever evolving and revealing his spirit and soul in his works. Qadri's work reflects an intense personal journey, enhanced and inspired by the depths of his own painterly inner realm. An artist, poet and vajrayan tantrik teacher, 76-year-old Sohan Qadri loves to create symbols, which for him mean 'energy'. The essence of his paintings is energy or Shakti, which moves. He dislikes creating figurative visuals as, according to him, "they destroy the painting". With no formal training in art, he makes his own colours and prefers to work on paper.

The most challenging thing in Qadri's art is its technique. His works are to be seen back to front. He allows the colour to percolate through the thick hand-made paper he paints on, allowing forms to develop on the other side that he then textures by tearing and blending the surface. Call them bindus or yonis, but to us they represent an alternative harmony of form and texture.

