

Spiritual quietude reflects contemporary aesthetics

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Kumar Gallery's tribute to K.S. Kulkarni becomes a show that reflects the brilliance of an artist who is before his time. Canvases, three works on glass and a series of works that were done on paper all reflect the art of contemporary aesthetics done so many years ago. "The entire universe is an ocean of creative energy," he had said.

"Manifestations can crystallise as a tree, stone, the ocean, air or flora and fauna. In human beings, there is physical and intellectual energy. In the manifestation of this energy there are always two elements, you can explain that in terms of man or woman, positivity or negativity, cold or heat. I am influenced by the Indian definition of *rajas*, *satva* and *tamas*. Like tension

in a stringed instrument, the tension in my work creates its own creative music," he added.

The works in the show become the terrain of perceptions and perspectives. In some ways, you think of his language of minimalism and his understanding of cultural traditions and humanistic values. You also think of the deeply-rooted tenor that is such a part of Indian tradition.

An individualist, manifesting his own understanding of the expression of humanism, the works show his spiritual quietude, a deepening of the weaving of artistic intentions that blend the abstraction of limpid lucidity and the deeper tenets of protean sensibilities. The essentials of equivocal tonalities, the simple luring linearity of the line, the finer nuances of drawing man and woman, man and



Clown by Kulkarni

nature, and man's role in the simplified existence of iconic idealisations makes these works powerfully poignant, so much like the poetics of heady prose.

The exhibition is on at Kumar Gallery till December 15