



NEW GENERATION PRINT-MAKERS OF ODISHA

Arts

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ABSTRACT

The significant efforts of few artist could change the dimensions of art education in Odisha and also created a positive feelings among the common men women more motivated and towards art education and joined with dedication to learn arts, which has created a positive feeling towards art education among the new young generation of the state. The young men and women joined the B.K Collage of Art and craft with new thoughts, new feeling new hopes, ambitions of life and over all with lot of dreams of life since then, the collage has produced many exuberant artist and have circulated the name and fame of the state not only at the national level but also at the international level. The collage imparts training from area of traditional art to the modern art. The collage developed under the able leadership of Dr.Pathy is performing it's duty with dedication and devotion.

KEYWORDS

ODISHA, PRINT MAKING, ARTIST, ART EDUCATION

The year 1982 is very important and remarkable for the history of "Art in Odisha". In this year with the sincere efforts and leadership of Dr. Dinanath Pathy and many others "The Bibhuti Kanungo" Collage of art and craft was re-established in the capital and temple city of Odisha the Bhubaneswar, this collage was previously started by Artist Sri Bibhuti Kanungo at Cuttack, but could not sustain for a long period and defunct in few months. But after sometime with the dedicated efforts of the Dr.Pathy, the collage was resettled at Bhubaneswar in the year 1982 with ideas and ideologies. Then the collage renamed in the honour and member of the founder artist Mr. Bibhuti Kanungo and named as B.K. Collage of Art and craft and since then it is running with the same name. The graphic art department is one and unique among the other department of the collage, in which D.N Rao is working as the head of department. Sri Rao is an artist with reputation specially in the field of Graphic Art. In the following few lines, it has been attempted to discuss on the life and contribution of Sri Rao to the field of Graphic art in state. Sri D.N. Rao the artist of modern times was born with lot of hopes expectation. He joined the Government school of art and craft located at khaliote in the year 1968, to materialise the childhood aims of his life. After completing the diploma course in art in the year 1971 he came to Bhubaneswar and joined as an Artist-Cum-photographer in the BJB Collage.

Under the guidance of Dr. Dinanath Pathy he joined the newly established B.K Collage of Art and Craft as a lecture in the department of graphic Art. At that time, there was no such facility in that department and the graphic art was restricted to the work of wood cut lino cut only. Sri Rao was teaching of Litho and Etching work in the Collage. In the year 1990 with the dedicated efforts of Dr.Pathy, the Litho machine was brought and installed in the collage reading in Lithography. The senior students were having the opportunity of handling the newly setup litho machine. In the request of Dr.Pathy, Mr. Ramahari Jena was coming to the collage sometimes to discuss about the technical operations of the litho machine and was giving demonstrations on lithography to the students of lithographic department. Sri Dipti Prakash Mohanty was born in Khurda district in the year 1958. His graphic prints are of high standard. He is considered as a legendary personal in the world of Print-Making in Odisha from his graphic prints. While in the entire nations serigraphy was commonly available and seen at the time it was a dream for our state Odisha. The dream of Odisha was materialized by a man named as Sri Babla Senapati. Babala Senapati is well known in the country, Specially creating a name in the art of serigraphic reproduction or silk-screen printing. He deals herein of his experience and success in the process, and its bright prospects to produce cheaper reprints of masterpieces. The artists of Odisha, those who were deprived of doing Etching and Lithography got the first opportunity to experience those from the Rashtriya Lalit Kala Kendra established at Bhubaneswar on the financial assistance of Kendriya Lalit Kala Academy. The Rashtriya Lalit Kala Kendra at Bhubaneswar was established in the year 1988. Due to lack of exposure Odia Artists, many of them very gifted and preserving, have not been able to make the desired impact on the art scene in India. So after the continuous drought this Award certainly is a welcome drop of impetus for the art and artists of Odisha. It is not only a belated recognition of the gift and excellence of Odisha

artists but also a much-needed boost in the arms of the young and upcoming artists of the State. Sri Ramahari Jena who had completed his art education from Calcutta. Attempts have been made to present something on the artist Sri Ramahari Jena, who is considered as the Shining star in the art firmament of Odisha. After forty three years of aridity Ramahari Jena Odia artist to win the National Award by Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi for the year 1989. It is strange that though there was never a dearth of talent, Odisha had so far failed to hit a winner as far as doling out patronage in the form of National Award by the Academy is concerned. Due to lack of exposure Odia Artists, many of them very gifted and preserving, have not been able to make the desired impact on the art scene in India. So after the continuous drought this Award certainly is a welcome drop of impetus for the art and artists of Odisha. It is not only a belated recognition of the gift and excellence of Odisha artists but also a much-needed boost in the arms of the young and upcoming artists of the State. Born in a middle class family in Ghatakuri village of Aska (Odisha), Ramahari gave vent to his artistic bent quite early in life. Leading a carefree childhood in his village, the child indulged in various forms of artistic and creative work: Writing script for the street drama, holding plays in noontime in the backyard along with the gaggle of noisy village kids, fashioning masks out of newspapers and swords out of stray planks, making idols on the sly for the coming Puja-everything pointed to an exceptional creativity and sensitivity in the boy. "I always dreamt to be an artist I still dream" says Ramahari.

While making hesitant forays into the world of paintings, through Chalk and charcoal, he got his "first teacher" in his mother. While she, a deeply religious lady, drew elaborate patterns with powdered rice on the floor of their house in true Odia tradition, the young Ramahari watched intently, then imitated his mother with tentative fingers and finally excelled in the art. With a tremendous energy for work Ramahari Jena today wields his brush in the Studio of Rashtriya Lalit Kala Kendra, Bhubaneswar and guides students down the intricate ways of Graphics. He is happy for Odisha has got recognition. As he attains more and more skill in Graphics, a desire for murals has seized him and before long he should be leaping rewards for his tireless labour. One of the disciples of Kalabhawan, Shantineketan educated Sri Biswarupa Bose was artist Sri Banabehari Parida. Sri Parida has lot of contributions to the field of graphic art in Odisha. During his studentship at Kalabhawan at Shantineketan on behalf of Chhatra Sammilani a magazine entitled "Saptaparni" on art and literature was published annually, in which the selected art and literature were published. In the year 1960 an art entitled "Companions" of Sri Parida was published in a bicolor wood print and that was his first wood cut print. He was delighted to see his first wood cut print published in the magazine and from that day he had decided in himself to be a graphic artist or print maker, for which, he has personalize the graphic art. While he was a student at Shantineketan, he had also developed some wood cut prints and Lino-cut prints, but could not get opportunity to do some work on Etching and Lithography. He came back to Odisha in the year 1960, after completing his art education from Kalabhawan, Shantineketan and in the same year he had got appointed at Basic Training College at Anugul. He continued in that College and settled at Cuttack. After joining at Cuttack Sri Parida, came in contact with the

contemporary artists of his time and again started doing works on graphic art. He had also participated and sent his graphic arts to different art exhibition organised inside and outside Odisha.

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