

OUR BANGALORE

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April 06 - April 12, 2024 | Pages 16 | ₹2.00

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Immerse in the month-long celebration of artistic expression at the Whitefield Art Collective's 7th instalment, featuring interactive workshops and inspiring exhibits. Ready to get arty?



Sumi Gupta, Curator of Whitefield Art Collective

WHAT, WHERE, WHEN

- **Dates:** April 5 to May 5
- **Venue:** VR Bengaluru, Whitefield Main Road
- **Events:** UNESCO's "A Braided River - The Universe of Indian Women in Science", The Iconic Women Project, Young Artists Program, Bangalore in Focus photo exhibition, Art Bazaar, Art Cinema, and The Art of Brewing Coffee, and many more...
- **Entry:** Free



"I started to explore the lives of other women artists by getting under their skin through their work. There have been hits and misses, as I've tried to learn from each look. Some of the personalities are more elusive than others. It's always a process of inquiry and learning, with some irreverence and creative license thrown in the mix. The idea is to enjoy the process, rather going for the perfect product"

Kadambari Mishra,

photographer. Her photography exhibition, "The Iconic Women Project" will bring to life stories of the unsung female icons of our history at the Collective

ART UNLEASHED

Bindu Gopal Rao

Bangalore's art admirers have reason to cheer this April, as the monthlong Whitefield Art Collective is back in its latest avatar. The month-long festival, known as a one-stop for all things art, this year will showcase an eclectic mix of artistic expressions including visual and performance arts, photography, and several workshops based on the theme "Transcending Boundaries."

New vistas

Through partnerships with esteemed institutions such as Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Bangalore University, and Bangalore School of Design, alongside organisations such as UNESCO and the Iconic Women Project, the objective is to ignite meaningful conversations and inspire creative innovation. "This year's theme invites artists to challenge conventional norms, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and a deeper understanding of global issues. Our aim is to facilitate a journey of exploration and discovery,



A noteworthy collaboration with UNESCO will present a photo exhibition highlighting gender parity in STEM fields alongside a compelling photography project by Kadambari Misra celebrating unsung female icons from history.

Heart for art

In addition to the sculptures and artworks created by student artists, the Whitefield Art Collective will display a retrospective of works by the renowned artists, the Late Achuthan Kudallur, Gita Hudson, and S. Gopinath. "A diverse range of workshops

alongside special programmes. The achievements of Indian women in science through a photo exhibition and panel discussion with UNESCO is a must-attend for thought-provoking conversation about diversity and inclusivity.

"The remarkable stories of unsung female icons from history will be brought to life at 'The Iconic Women Project' led by Kadambari Misra. Bangalore in Focus' will showcase awe-inspiring photographs of the city captured by professional and aspiring photographers. The Young Artists programme facilitated by Million Dreams



transcending boundaries through the unifying language of art," says Sumi Gupta, Curator, Whitefield Art Collective.

He further added that this year, the month-long collective will feature an exciting lineup of events.

"The inaugural ceremony will feature a mesmerising flute recital by Pt. Pravin Godkhindi, complemented by a classical dance performance by students of Vivritti Dance academy and the unveiling of the 'Kala Car'. The festival will delve into the thought-provoking theme of 'Transcending Boundaries,' showcasing over 100 installations and artworks created to challenge perspectives and facilitate relevant discussions," she adds.

will be offered to engage participants' creativity. From the 'Art of Brewing Coffee' by Blue Tokai to the Young Artists programme by Million Dreams Academy, the festival will provide a platform for exploration and self-expression. PVR Cinemas will present art cinema screenings, further enriching the experience for cinephiles and art enthusiasts alike. The Art Bazaar will offer a curated market for artisans to engage with their audience, accompanied by live music," says Gupta.

Events galore

The seventh edition of Whitefield Art Collective will be a host to an engrossing display of fine art, sculptures, and installations

and Snuggles will allow students to explore and express themselves through various artistic mediums. The 'Art Bazaar' will offer a chance to discover unique creations by local artisans. For cinephiles, there's art cinema, and coffee lovers can enjoy a workshop on 'The Art of Brewing Coffee' by Blue Tokai," adds Gupta.

Young talent

Students from Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath and Bangalore School of Design have crafted larger-than-life sculptures based on the theme 'Transcending Boundaries'. "Meanwhile, students from Bangalore University have painted a vibrant wall mural

for the Basement Art project. Pradeep Kumar, faculty at Bangalore University has brought to life the stunning Kala Car. The Whitefield Art Collective in collaboration with Sara Arakkal Galerie and Red Line Art Gallery will feature a retrospective of works by the renowned abstract artist, the Late Achuthan Kudallur as well as other senior and emerging artists like S. Gopinath and Sonu Pujar," says Gupta.

The Art collective Art-is, consisting of popular artists Gita Hudson, Asma Menon Jamal, Jacob Jebaraj, Kavitha Prasad, Shailesh BO, and Thejomya Menon, will also present an art exhibit titled 'Visual Fables.' Whitefield Art Collective has collaborated with PVR Cinemas for screening art cinema, Blue Tokai Coffee Roasters for learning art of brewing coffee, Million Dreams and Snuggles for the Young Artists programme.

Photo finish

There is also a photo exhibition, in collaboration with UNESCO New Delhi office that is sure to awe shutter-friendly Janata. The exhibition promises to be a fascinating showcase based on the UNESCO publication titled "A Braided River: The Universe of Indian Women in Science".

This exhibition features charismatic portraits of women scientists who have left an indelible mark in various domains of science. "Our collaboration with UNESCO stems from a shared commitment to promoting diversity and inclusivity. We recognise the power of art festivals as platforms for fostering social awareness and dialogue, and thus, have partnered with UNESCO to amplify this message further. Through this partnership, our goal is to leverage the intersection of art and advocacy to create a positive impact," says Gupta.

The Kala Car

One of the key installations is the art car and this year's Kala Car holds a unique significance as it has been created in collaboration with the multidisciplinary artist Pradeep Kumar, whose creative vision draws inspiration from the narrative forms and decorative elements of his native culture, the Lambani tribe.

"Pradeep Kumar's distinctive artistic style infuses the Kala Car with a rich tapestry of cultural motifs and storytelling elements, creating a visually captivating masterpiece. Through this collaboration, the Kala Car serves as more than just a vehicle, it becomes a symbol of cultural heritage and artistic expression, inviting viewers to embark on a journey of discovery and appreciation for indigenous art forms," says Gupta.