

SIMA Workshop at Tulapur

Having planned the art workshop twice last year 2009 and then having to cancel it, first due to the delayed monsoons and the H1N1 scare the second time, the workshop finally got underway on the 17th of January 2010, a Sunday, to Tulapur off Nagar road about 45 minutes from Pune.

Having hired a 17 seater mini bus, twelve of us SIMA members set out from outside Poona Club gate by 8.15am. As we were still in the midst of winter, the weather was crisp and pleasant and the spot at Tulapur was scenic. The place was full of trees and shade, so the artists were comfortable to paint to their heart's content.

Tulapur is the confluence of three rivers- Iddrayani, Bhima and Bhama, of which Bhama has dried out and does not exist. There is a small temple at this place and



also the samadhi of Sambhaj Maharaj, who was captured by the Moghul emperor Aurangzeb, held prisoner here and eventually killed by him.

The workshop went off well, what with some artists like Nandkishore Dhadnekar, Shailesh Sonawane, Mrudalini Punde, Geeta Vir and soon to become SIMA member Nirmal Jangli doing serious quality work. Of course, some regular members were missed at the workshop. As an incentive for attending the workshop, Cmde Rajan Vir announced that the artists could display 2 extra paintings each, during the forthcoming annual SIMA exhibition. Having had breakfast and lunch at location, we returned back to home base by 5.15pm.

- Jayanti Shetty



Exhibition of Mr. & Mrs. Dhadnekar

"An Artist should plan for his aged days while giving joy of colours to others. Many artists land in miserable state in their later days. They should keep a commercial view in mind without depending on community which enjoy the joy of artist's creation." A standout quote but underlines facts in artist's life is quoted by Digvijay Kapadia, of Maratha Chamber of Commerce and Industries. He was inaugurating 19th Exhibitions of Paintings by eminent Artist couple Mr. Nandkishore and Lata Dhadnekar.

The Exhibition held at Late V.G. Kulkarni Art gallery, Nasik from 16th December 2009 to 20th December 2009. Inauguration ceremony was held under chief guest Mr. B.B. Chandak, GM Lokmat and eminent landscape artist Shivaji Tupe, Bal Nagarkar, Principal Lalit Kala Mahavidyalaya and many artists, press personalities, art lovers were present at venue. Various media like TV Channels, Cable networks and print media, covered the event with flying colours.

Mr. Tupe said on the occasion "Landscape painting is like worshipping nature. It is like showing hidden beauty in its original form to other people. An Artist's mind keeps fresh by giving live elation and joy of nature's beauty to mankind through his paintings". Mr. Dhadnekar covered Konkan-Mulashi-Mahabaleshwar with his brush on handmade paper. The transparency in water colours and freshness in paintings is his skill and speciality. Along with landscapes Mrs. Dhadnekar created some compositions in Indian Decorative style. These compositions and Cold Ceramic Frames give a creative feeling while observing. There were total 30 paintings in exhibition. The Nasik people who are appreciative to art visited exhibition in large groups and gave tremendous response. Due to Requests from many visitors Mr. Dhadnekar gave demonstration of water colour landscapes. He also got invitation from two fine art collages of Nasik. During demonstration he showed different techniques of using water colours along with trips and tricks of landscape paintings. After demonstration there was Question and Answers session, which solved many art lover's queries regarding paintings.



For Correspondence with SIMA please write to: **The Society of Indian Marine Artists**
1/402, Gera Gardens, Koregaon Road, Pune - 411 001.
Tel.: 020-26132316 / 26120786 Fax : 020 26120785 E-mail : indmarfdn@eth.net



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Half yearly News Letter of the Society of Indian Marine Artists

Editorial

Dear Friends,

It seems that only a short while ago, when world attention was focussed on dealing with the problems that were predicted to be caused with the turn of the century, and here we are having entered the second decade of the new millennium, with all computers and systems safe and sound, at least on that account! SIMA a product of the new millennium, was started in 2001, and is also a decade old. It would thus be appropriate to recount the genesis of SIMA, especially for our newer members, "The Society of Indian Marine Artists (SIMA) was formed in 2001, following the workshops conducted by Mr Robert King, Member of the Royal Society of Marine Artists, UK, who was invited to India by the Indian Maritime Foundation (IMF). The workshops were conducted by Mr King at Mumbai in association with the JJ School of Arts, and at Pune in association with the Nag Foundation. The response to the two workshops by participating artists was immense and spontaneous, and SIMA was born as a sister organization to IMF. Over the years since it was formed in 2001, SIMA members have taken part in several workshops at locations near the sea and water-bodies around Pune, such as at Mumbai with the Indian Navy, NDA Khadakwasla, Alibag, Alandi, Lonavala and so on. Several Exhibitions have also been held annually to showcase the seascapes painted by SIMA artists, at Balgandharva Kala Dalan, Empress Gardens, Art 2Day Gallery, etc. "



The formation of Junior SIMA was another step in the right direction, as is evidenced by the huge response that it has evoked from Children and their parents. This issue is thus dedicated to Junior SIMA. The exhibition and competition was organized at the Empress Botanical Gardens on 1st November 2009. The official report has been written by a truly motivated parent, and even though the prize winners' names have been highlighted, I feel that all children who participated were winners, by virtue of the experience gained in giving their creativity a medium to express itself. The event seems to have inspired others too; Poems by Mehrotra and Anuradha Thakur, examples this inspiration. On the subject of Anuradha Thakur, the enthusiastic secretary of Junior SIMA, her untiring efforts in putting it all together must be lauded. The Chief Guest, Rtn Ebe Chaney was welcomed by SIMA President, Commodore Rajan Vir in his inimitable style. In his speech, Mr Chaney was all praises for the children and their efforts. He also had a very strong message for the children, which was heard with rapt attention by all present. The other event of this half year was the twice postponed SIMA outdoor workshop, which finally happened on 17th Jan 2010. Jayanti has written about it. A write-up about Mr Nandkishore Dhadnekar's exhibition is also included in this issue.

It is necessary for me to remind all of you that a number of members have not renewed their membership. Please do so at the earliest by contacting the IMF Office (Tel. 26132316) or Jayanti Shetty (Mob. 9822309201). The SIMA exhibition has been brought forward this year and is scheduled to be held on 6th, 7th and 8th February at the New Art gallery, Ghole Road. So do get yourselves ready for an early start to the season's activities.

With best wishes to all of you,

Dipti Chitnis

Editor





A Poem composed by an art enthusiast:

"The wings of imagination led me to places I had never been before. Struggling to identify myself I yearned to be noticed. A ray of light and a rainbow appeared before me. Colours, Brushes, canvasses are all that I now only see"

- Anuradha Thakur - Secretary, Junior Sima

*We children are god's favourite flowers
In nurseries love does bloom.
We dwell in these delightful bowers
We know not any gloom.
Our hearts nestle parent's love
We have but children's hearts.
Life is a treat to enjoy
Like pastries, jam and tarts.
We draw the sea, we paint the ships
With twinkling eyes and smiling lips;
And colourful fish and multicoloured sails
And sea-horses dancing on sand, with snails.
Coloured clouds in distant skies
Serene and blue are calming waves
and life next to a sea shore
Is best we know for sure.*

-Pankaj Mehrotra
01 Nov 2009



The children were anxiously waiting for the results of the competition. The respected Judges had a hard time selecting the winners, as all the participants had done exceptionally well.

Junior SIMA Exhibition and Art Competition 2009

The Society of Indian Marine Artists (SIMA) held their Annual Art Exhibition of seascapes on Nov-1, 2009, at the Empress Gardens, showcasing the talents of children of all age groups.

The children were given blue ribbons and registered. The function started with the National Anthem, followed by the drawing competition. The theme was related to sea, underwater animals & scenes at sea beaches, according to the age groups. The creativity & imagination of the children was worth a watch. The competition lasted for almost an hour, after which refreshments were served.



Arrival of the Chief Guest: The Chief Guest Mr. Chaney was felicitated with a bouquet. The President of the Inner Wheel Club Dr. Shashi Saxena was also given a warm welcome. The judges for the competition were: Mr. Macha Mr. Dhadnekar and Mrs. Aruna Grover



This was followed by a demonstration of seascape paintings by respected Mr. Macha. He also explained the use of various brushes & mixture of colours. He captivated the crowd with his aesthetically beautiful art work.



Respected Mr. Malwankar gave another demonstration, bringing alive the sea & the rocks.



The prizes awarded were as follows:

Under 5 years - Certificate - Rushan Ahmed
5-8 years :
1st prize - Shivam Agarwal
2nd prize - Priyanka Kataria
3rd prize - Ishita Deepak

8-11 years :
1st prize - Dhriti Agarwal
2nd prize - Aditya Dutta
3rd prize - Dhrew Lekhwani
Consolation prize - Sayyed Khalaluddin Ziauddin

11 years & above :
1st prize - Nidhi Shetty
2nd prize - Nachiket Gaekwad
3rd prize - Vaishnavi Joshi
Consolation prize - Kajal Agarwal

All the prize winners received trophies.

The children learnt a lot, & enjoyed the experience. The captivating program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. (Mrs.) Saxena. Mr Macha & Mr Malwankar were given a token of appreciation on behalf of SIMA.

A special thanks to all the parents who were present to applaud all the participants, & who helped in running the program successfully.

-Pinky Dutta

