

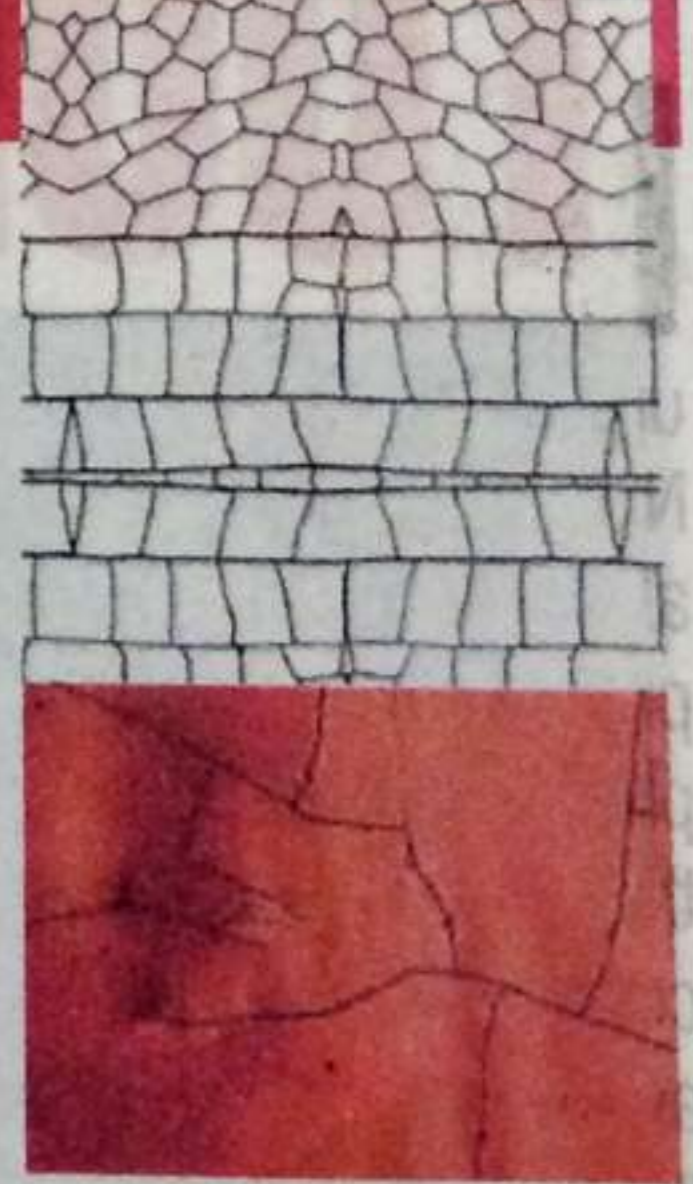
Patterned Perspectives, The Gallery, Inko Centre, #18, Adyar Club Gate Road, till Aug 25, 10am to 6pm; Anaka Narayanan creates exquisite moodboards after getting inspired by the beauty and artistry of the botanical illustrations from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore.

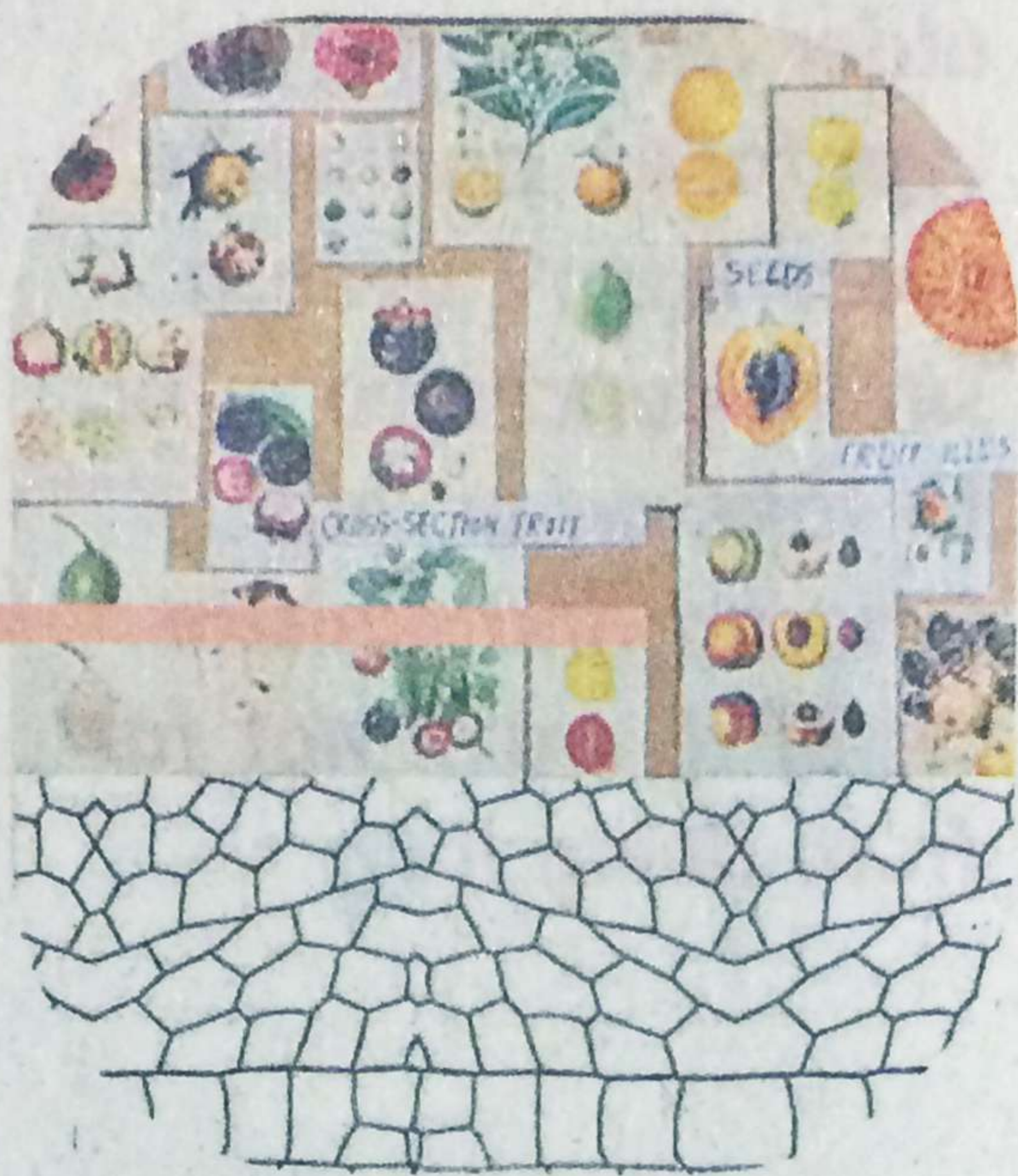


Drama Of Turmoil, Apparao Galleries, 7, Wallace Garden, Nungambakkam, till Sep 15, 11am to 7pm; This exhibition has been curated exploring the beautiful and creative agony of turmoil in art, paintings and photographs.

Enchanted Realms, Gallery Veda @ Shilpa Architects, The Muse, #L20, VSI Estate – Phase 2 (off OMR), Thiruvanmiyur, till Sep 30, 10.30am to 6pm; A collection of paintings and sculptures by various

artist. Eight artists explore hidden realms: a world inside a fish, bonds between men and cows, primordial forms in mercurial metal and reinterpretations of the human figure.





Garden art Chennai

AUGUST 11

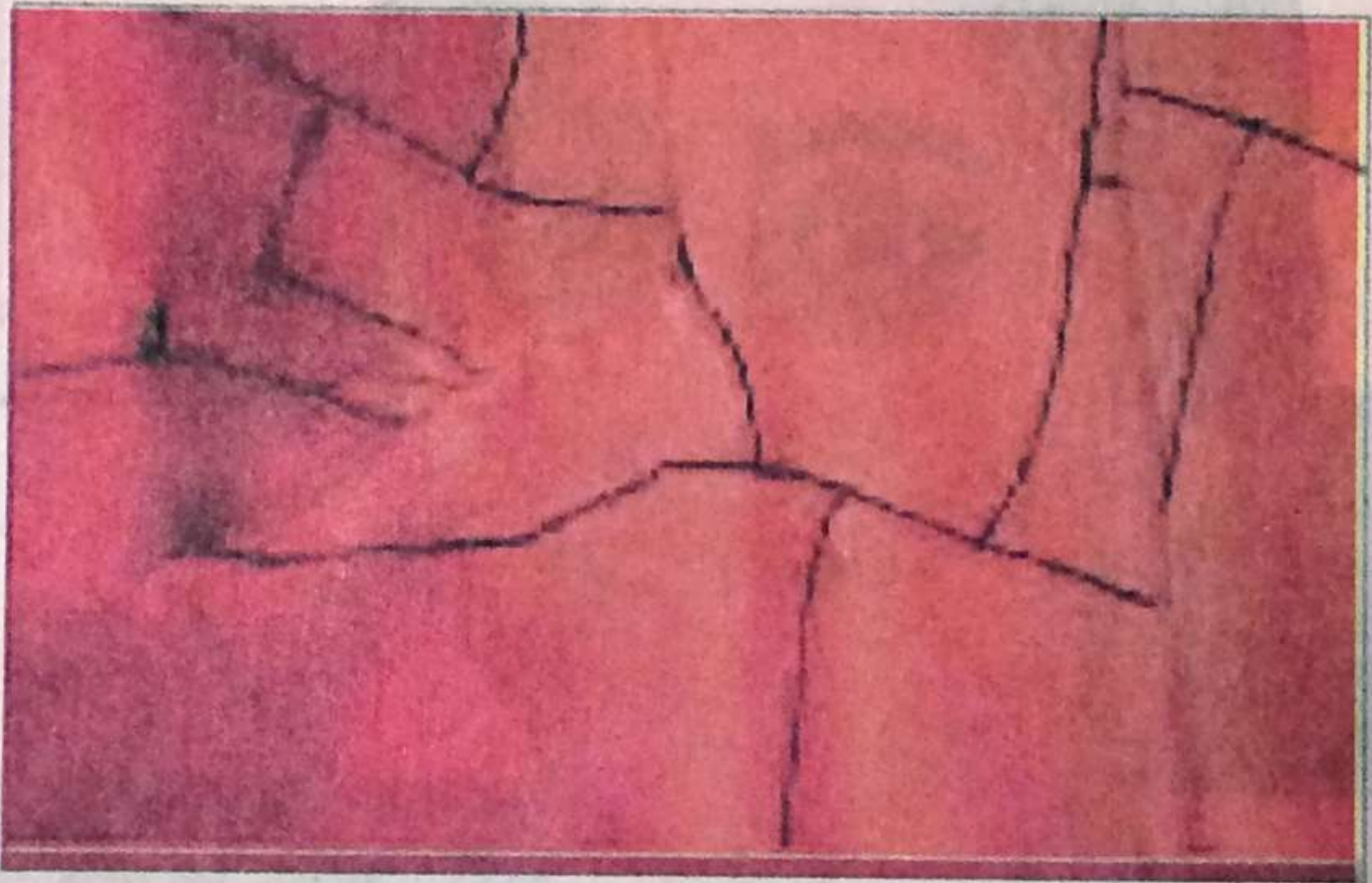
Anaka Narayanan translates her eclectic moodboards into aesthetic clothing at Brass Tacks. InKo Centre presents an exhibition showcasing her work that's inspired by the beauty and artistry of the botanical illustrations from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bengaluru. At The Gallery @ InKo Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, till August 25, from 10 am to 6 pm from Monday to Saturday.

☎ 24361224

MONDAY 7 AUGUST 2017

CHENNAI TIMES

EVENTS



ART

Patterned Perspectives: Anaka Narayanan creates exquisite moodboards after getting inspired by the beauty and artistry of the botanical illustrations from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore at The Gallery, Inko Centre, #18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till Aug 25.

EVENTS



ART

Sangam [Unplugged]: An art show inspired by Sangam poetry by Bakula Nayak at The Folly, Amethyst, White's Road, till August 10.

MUSIC

Spirit of Youth Festival: Vocal concert by Mula Srilatha at 6 pm and Bharatanatyam by K Sarveshan at 7.30 pm at The Music Academy, TTK Road.

Gokulashtami Sangeetha Utsavam: Vocal concert by Ashwath Narayanan at 6.15pm, at Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T Nagar.

Naada Inbam: 'Insight into the Veena Dhanammal Bani' by Sriram Parasuram at 5 pm, and vocal concert by the Hyderabad Brothers — D Seshachary and D Raghavachary at 7pm, at Ragasudha Hall, Luz Avenue, Mylapore.

ART

Art Exhibition: By Sherly Hephzibah J at Cafe Dream, 9B, 14th Cross Street, Shastri Nagar, Adyar, from 8am to 6.30pm, till August 14.

Patterned Perspectives: Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in

Bangalore at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

Drama N Turmoil: Art show featuring the works of artists PR Sathish, Agathe Patil, John Douglas and Gurunathan, at Apparao Galleries, 7, Wallace Garden, Nungambakkam, till September 15.

Enchanted Realms: A collection of paintings and sculptures by eight artists, at Gallery Veda @ Shilpa Architects, The Muse, L20, VSI Estate — Phase 2 (off OMR), Thiruvanmiyur, from 10.30am to 6pm, till September 30.

DRAMA

Aadi Naataka Vizha: 'Uravodu Vilaiyadu' by Poovai Mani at 6.30pm, at AG PS Dakshinamurthi Auditorium, RK Mutt Road, Mylapore.

August Rush: Staging of 10 plays, of 10-minute duration each, by Creative Organisation for Dramatic Arts (CODA), at 7pm, at Chettinad Rani Seethai Hall, 603, Anna Salai.

MUST SEE MUST DO



ART

Patterned Perspectives:

Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks, inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore, at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

MUSIC

Vocal: A vocal concert by Thirupparkadal S Vasudevan with S Janardhan on violin and Nandan Bhaskaran on mridangam, at 6pm, at 29th Spirit of Youth Festival, The Music Academy, TTK Road, Royapettah.

Duet: A violin duet by BU Ganesh Prasad and BK Raghu with Vijay Natesan on mridangam and Chandrashekara Sharma on ghatam, at 6.15pm, at Music Concerts, Arkay Convention Centre, OMS Lakshana, 146, RH Road, Luz, Mylapore.

Naada Inbam: A concert by S Sowmya with Embar Kannan and Poongulam Subramaniam, at 7.15pm, at Naada Inbam, Ragasudha Hall, Luz Avenue, Mylapore.

Concert: A concert by G Ravikiran with V Sanjeev, Thanjavur Ramadas and Pudukottai N Ramachandran, at 6.15pm, at 62nd Gokulashtami Sangeetha Utsavam; Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai.

Solo: A violin solo by Vaibhav Ramani with Kishore Ramesh and S

Textile trail
Snapshots from
"Patterned
Perspectives" -
Narayanan's (far
right) recent
exhibition at the
InKo Centre,
inspired by
botanical
illustrations
from the
archives of the
Lalbagh
Botanical
Gardens in
Bengaluru



• BY SRINIVASAN

Beyond fashion cycles

Designer Anaka Narayanan tells us how her handloom story is part of a growing narrative that's gaining support across India

•• ANAKA NARAYANAN

Brass Tacks turns 10 this month and, as with many milestones in business, I find myself in the awkward position of having to report numbers. People ask how many stores I have and what my plans for growth are, but all I can see is how I birthed an idea that has turned into a community of people who speak the same language, how the context of handloom and fashion has changed drastically in India in the last decade, and how my team and I are growing a business without compromising on our design values.

For most creative people, design is a way of communicating with the world. To pour yourself into something you have created and then have people buy your work is, in a sense, their way of telling you that they understand your language and vision. Commercial success is useful and important, but nothing trumps the validation of your work being understood.

Handcrafted love

When I started my first collection, with a pattern-maker and one tailor, out of my parents' living room, it was important that I solve a certain problem through design. The problem, as

I perceived it then, was a void in the market for well-designed clothes tailored from natural, hand-crafted textiles, with modern silhouettes. But sometimes it takes digging a few feet into a problem to understand its real depth. In the early 2000s, the perception of hand-crafted textiles was very different from what it is today. The cheap quality available in the market had given handloom a bad name. A popular

joke about colour fastness at the time was "buy one, get three". Handloom also had connotations of being frumpy. (This is probably the result of years of pitching *khadi* as the go-to fabric because of its ideology, rather than its inherent beauty.)

This misconception made me realise textile crafts was not on the same page as contemporary fashion, and

that my end products had to be really well made. I decided to tackle it by choosing fabrics carefully (strong but soft to the touch, fluid enough to drape, but structured for a tailored garment), working with craftsmen who understood quality and precision, and making sure the silhouettes factored in comfort, movement and functionality. For example, our last Spring-Summer collection was made entirely from handwoven textiles, many of them *khadi* - which means the yarn itself was handspun - and many using natural dyes. The silhouettes were clean, with attention to cut and tailoring quality, but they were also functional (there was a *phiran*-inspired dress that had zero wastage, a tapered *khadi* cotton dress with *jamdani* motifs that was cut in a way that allowed one to walk with wide strides, and a sleeved day dress that flattered the form but still allowed easy movement). By making design the most important factor in my work, I felt confident I could tackle the problems plaguing handloom: quality and the unfashionable tag.

A decade later

The most heartening change in the last 10 years has been the reception handloom textiles has received.

Earlier, I was wary of using the words eco-fashion too frequently; I wanted my work to stand on its own, without the preachy speech on *khadi* and weavers. There was also this expectation in the market that cotton had to be cheap, regardless of whether it was handwoven or the yarn was tie-dyed by hand before it was woven. Today, there are many tasteful fashion labels in the country that work with hand-crafted textiles and the language that's used to describe them has changed. There is a lot more consciousness about the work and skill that goes into these crafts, and there is a high level of eagerness among consumers to learn how their clothes are made. Along with this has come the understanding that cotton is a fibre, and every craft process adds value to the final textile, which in turn gets factored into the price tag.

Changing mindsets

Visible proof that the dialogue related to handloom has changed can be seen at the Lakmé Fashion Week

today. The same event that saw only bling and embroidery in 2007 now has a day dedicated to sustainable fashion, and that space is occupied by talented designers who bring a richness to their work through handwoven textiles.

It's not easy to change the mindset of a population and this is perhaps the biggest contribution that designers working with handloom textiles have made in the last decade (I don't mean to take any credit away from the craftsmen who are the real designers behind the textiles). Growth, scale and commercial success are important, but if those were the only things that mattered, hand-crafted textiles wouldn't stand a chance against their mill-made counterparts. The challenge lies in finding a way to grow while staying true to core values, and for that we must learn to think of designer-entrepreneurs as communicators of a certain ideology first, and businessmen second.

The author is Creative Director and Partner, Brass Tacks.

EVENTS



THEATRE

Mara: Though there have been several adaptation of the epic Ramyana on stage, Theatrekaran's first public show, Mara, 5 and 7pm, at Music Academy Mini Hall, TTK Road, Royapettah.

MUSIC & DANCE

Svantantra: Freedom ensemble bu Sudha Raja's Sargam Choir. Subhasree Thanikachalam's Aaru Medhaigal...Moondry Mugangal by Saindhavi, Santhosh Subramanian, Xavier, Venkat, Kumar and Krithika Shurajith, at 6.00pm, at Hamasdwani, Indira Nagar, Adyar.

Concert: Vairamangalam Lakshminarayanan Day Concert — Syama Sastri Kritis by T Shyamsunder, Nikhila Shyamsunder and TS, at Naada Inbam, Ragasudha Hall, Luz Avenue, Mylapore, 6.15pm

Concert: Mandolin concert by

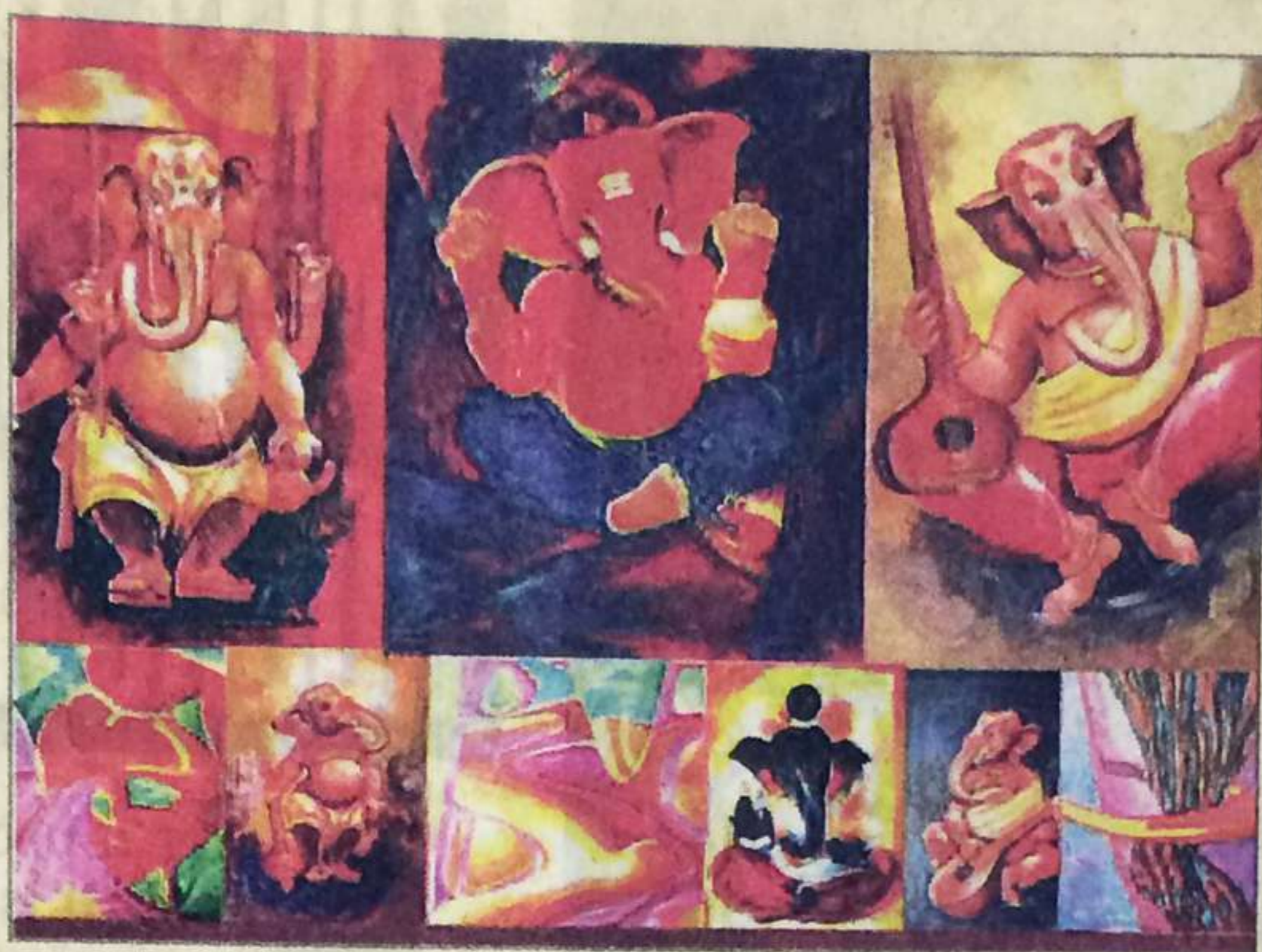
7.30pm, Soul Garden Bistro, Ananda Road, Alwarpet.

ART

Art Exhibition: The art works of Sherly Hephzibah J are exhibited. There are seven art pieces that are made of tiny stars, at Cafe Dream, Door No 9B, 14th Cross Street, Shastri Nagar, Adyar, 8am to 6.30pm, till Aug 14.

Patterned Perspectives:

Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks, inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore, at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

MUST SEE MUST DO**EVENTS****ART**

Ganesholsavam: An exhibition of paintings, celebrating Lord Ganesha, by Ramesh Kannan, at Kadambari Art Gallery, East Coast Road, Muttukadu, from 10am to 6pm, till August 31.

ART

The Penetrating Line: An exhibition that has limited edition paintings by Tiruchirappalli-based KM Adimoolam, that focuses on the rulers of the country, in all their valour and glory, at Art Houz, No 41, Kasthuri Ranga Road, Alwarpet, Near Poes Garden, from 11am to 7pm, till August 11.

Art Exhibition: The art works of Sherly Hephzibah J, featuring seven art pieces that are made of tiny stars, at Cafe Dream, Door No 9B, 14th Cross Street, Shastri Nagar, Adyar, from 8am to 6.30pm, till August 14.

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MUSIC & DANCE

Veena: A Carnatic veena recital by Ramana Balachandran with B Ganapathy Raman and Sunil Kumar, at 5.45pm, at Hamsadhwani, Indira Nagar, Adyar.

Concert: A vocal concert by Neela Ramgopal with R Rahul, Poongulam Subramaniam and KV Gopalakrishnan, at 6.15pm, at Naada Inbam, Ragasudha Hall, Luz Avenue, Mylapore.

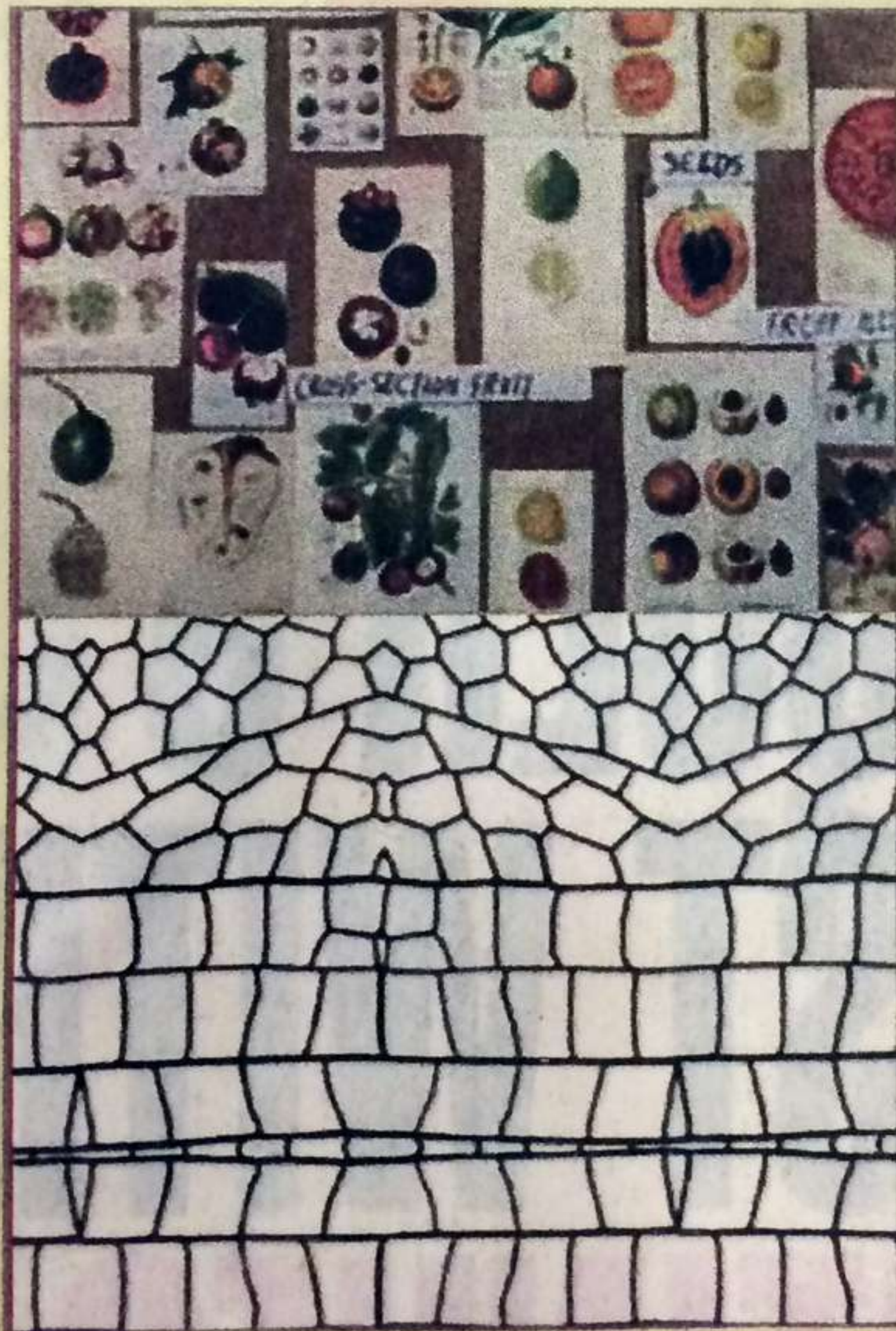
Duet: A violin duet by KJ Dileep and Sangeetha with R Kishore and DV Venkatasubramaniam, at 4.30pm, at 62nd Gokulashtami Sangeeth Utsavam, Sri Krishna Gana

MUST SEE MUST DO

CHENNAI TIMES

MONDAY 14 AUGUST 2017

EVENTS



ART

Patterned Perspectives: Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks, inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore, at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

MUST SEE MUST DO**EVENTS**

CHENNAI TIMES

**ART**

Painting: An oil painting exhibition that has works done by Phyllis Smith Ansari and Sara D Celas, at Studio Palazzo an Art Gallery, Flat 6, Anderson Apartments, 6 9/2, Anderson Road, Nungambakkam, from 11.30am to 7pm, till August 31.

MUSIC & DANCE

Concert: ISKCON is organising Janmashtami celebrations, at 6pm, at Bhaktivedanta Swami Road, Off ECR, Akkarai, Sholinganallur.

Bharatanatyam: Urur Olcott Kuppam Vizha is presenting a bharatanatyam recital for students of Chathur Lakshana Academy of Fine Arts, at 6pm, on Chennai Central railway station.

Hamsadwani: A concert by Ramakrishnan Murthy with Charumathi Raghuraman, Manoj Siva and Chandrasekara Sharma, at 7pm, at Hamsadwani, Indira Nagar,

Avenue, Mylapore.

ART

Vision of Freedom: The Forum Vijay Mall is organising 'Draw-A-Dream', a drawing competition for children between the age of four and fourteen, as part of Independence Day celebrations on its premises, at 4pm.

Patterned Perspectives: Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks, inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore, at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

MUST SEE MUST DO**EVENTS**

CHENNAI TIMES

**ART**

Ganesholsavam: An exhibition of paintings, celebrating Lord Ganesha, by Ramesh Kannan, at Kadambari Art Gallery, East Coast Road, Muttukadu, from 10am to 6pm, till August 31.

ART

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ings and photographs, at Apparao Galleries, 7, Wallace Garden, Nungambakkam, from 11am to 7pm, till September 15.

Enchanted Realms: A collection of paintings and sculptures by various artists, at Gallery Veda @ Shilpa Architects, The Muse, #L20, VSI Estate – Phase

EVENTS



FILM

Cine-Club: Screening of Xavier Dolan's comedy 'Laurence Anyways' at 7pm, Alliance Française of Madras, 24, College Road, Nungambakkam.

MUSIC & DANCE

Mozart: Masonic Music Et AL by Madras Chamber Orchestra conducted by Bernard Wacheux from France at 6.30pm, at Museum Theatre, Pantheon Road, Egmore.

8th Sri Jayanthi Music Festival: Namasankeerthanam by Gyneshwar Ramakrishnan Bhagavatar and group at 4pm, and vocal concert by Lalitha Mohan at 7pm, at Vani Mahal, GN Road, T Nagar.

Spirit Of Youth Festival: Concert by SK Mahathi at 6pm and Bharatanatyam by BM Nidhaga Karunad at 7.30pm, at The Music Academy, TTK Road, Royapettah.

Madhuradhwani: 'Tamil Isai Andrum Indrum' — a musical presentation by Gayathri Girish at 6.15pm, at Arkay Convention Centre, OMS Lakshana, 146, RH Road, Luz, Mylapore.

Sankari Natarajan 81st Birthday Concert: Violin solo concert by Vaibhavi Ramani at 6.15pm, at Naada Inbam, Ragasudha Hall, 85/2, Luz

Avenue, Mylapore.

Gokulashtami Sangeetha Utsavam: Concert by Salem Gayathri Venkatesan at 6.15pm, at 62nd Gokulashtami Sangeetha Utsavam, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai.

THEATRE

Aadi Naataka Vizha: Staging of the play 'To Hell With Yema' by Karthik Nagarajan and Baskarat 6.30pm, at Aadi Naataka Vizha, AG PS Dakshinamurthi Auditorium, RK Mutt Road, Mylapore.

ART

Art Exhibition: By Sherly Hephzibah J at Cafe Dream, 9B, 14th Cross Street, Shastri Nagar, Adyar, from 8am to 6.30pm, till August 14.

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MUST SEE MUST DO

EVENTS



FILM

Korean Film Festival: Screening of 'Woochi' at 6.30pm, at Russian Centre For Science & Culture, 74, Kasturi Ranga Road, Alwarpet.

ART

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Enchanted Realms: A collection of paintings and sculptures by various artists, at Gallery Veda @ Shilpa Architects, The Muse, #L20, VSI Estate – Phase

WHAT'S

HOT

IF IT'S HAPPENING, IT'S HERE.

CHENNAI TIMES | WHAT'S HOT

FRIDAY 18 AUGUST 2017



ART

The Art of Traditional Games, Forum Art Gallery, 57, 5th Street Padmanabha Nagar, Adyar, till Aug 31, 10.30am to 6.30pm; An exhibition of artworks and tradi-

photo exhibition by The Chennai Photowalk Group who have documented close to 100 photowalks.

Painting exhibition, Hotel Ambassador Pallava, 30, Montieth Road, Egmore, till Aug 30, 11am to 8pm; A painting exhibition by MS Shwetha, a B.Com student, who will be displaying 30 of her paintings.

Patterned Perspectives, The Gallery, Inko Centre, #18, Adyar



tional games of Chennai by various artists. There will also be a short talk on traditional games of Chennai.

The Duo, 41, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet, till Sep 4, 11am to 7pm; A painting exhibition by husband and wife, Harish Ojha and Sonal Varshneya', where they are

Club Gate Road, till Aug 25, 10am to 6pm; Anaka Narayanan creates exquisite moodboards after getting inspired by the beauty and artistry of the botanical illustrations from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bengaluru.

Ganeshosavam, Kadambari Art Gallery, DakshinaChitra, East

EVENTS

**ART**

Duo: A painting exhibition, titled 'Duo', by artists Harish Ojha and Sonal Varshneya, where they pick different themes to showcase their beliefs and values, at 41, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet, from 11am to 7pm, till September 4.

ART

Eyes Of Madras: A photo exhibition by The Chennai Photowalk Group who have documented close to 100 photowalks, at CP Art Centre, 174, Eldams Rd, Vannia Teynampet, Lubdhi Colony, Alwarpet, from 11am to 8pm, till Aug 20.

Patterned Perspectives: Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks, inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore, at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

tion has been curated exploring the beautiful and creative agony of turmoil in art, paintings and photographs, at Apparao Galleries, 7, Wallace Garden, Nungambakkam, from 11am to 7pm, till September 15.

Enchanted Realms: A collection of paintings and sculptures by various artist, at Gallery Veda @ Shilpa Architects, The Muse, #L20, VSI Estate – Phase 2 (off OMR), Thiruvanmiyur, from 10.30am to 6pm, till September 30.

MUSIC & DANCE

Concert: A vocal concert by

EVENTS

**ART**

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The Art of Traditional Games:

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Enchanted Realms: A collection of paintings and sculptures by various artist, at Gallery Veda

EVENTS

**ART**

Duo: A painting exhibition, titled 'Duo', by artists Harish Ojha and Sonal Varshneya, where they pick different themes to showcase their beliefs and values, at 41, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet, from 11am to 7pm, till September 4.

CULTURE

Lec-dem: Mridangam in bharatanatyam — a lec-dem by Nellai D Kannan with Roja Kannan, at 6.15pm, at Naada Inbam, Luz Avenue, Mylapore.

ART

Patterned Perspectives: Exhibition of Anaka Narayanan's artworks, inspired from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bengaluru, at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till August 25.

Road, Nungambakkam, from 11.30am to 7pm, till August 31. There will also be a short talk on traditional games of Chennai.

Oil Work: An oil painting exhibition that features the works of Phyllis Smith Ansari and Sara D Celas, at Studio Palazzo an Art Gallery, Flat 6, Anderson Apartments, 6 9/2, Anderson Road, Nungambakkam, from 11.30am to 7pm, till August 31.

Ganeshotsavam: An exhibition by Ramesh Kannan celebrating

WHAT'S

HOT

CHENNAI | FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2017

IF IT'S HAPPENING, IT'S HERE.

CHENNAI TIMES | WHAT'S HOT



ART

Patterned Perspectives, The Gallery, Inko Centre, #18, Adyar Club Gate Road, till Aug 25, 10am to 6pm; Anaka



Painting exhibition, Hotel Ambassador Pallava, 30, Montieth Road, Egmore, till Aug 30, 11am to 8pm; A painting exhibition by MS Shwetha, a B.Com student, who will be displaying 30 of her paintings. Her paintings are in various mediums like poster colour, water colour, dry pastel, acrylic colour and pencil shading. All her works are inclined towards nature.

Painting exhibition, Studio Palazzo an Art Gallery, Flat 6, Anderson Apartments, 6 9/2, Anderson Road, Nungambakkam, Aug 31, 11.30am to 7pm; An oil painting exhibition that has works done by Phyllis Smith Ansari and Sara D Celas.

Narayanan creates exquisite mood boards after getting inspired by the beauty and artistry of the botanical illustrations from the archives of the Lalbagh Botanical Gardens in Bangalore.

Ganeshosavam, Kadambari Art Gallery, DakshinaChitra, East Coast Road, Muttukadu, till Aug 31, 10am to 6pm; An exhibition by Ramesh Kannan celebrating the upcoming Ganesh Chaturthi festival.

The Duo, Art Houz, 41, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet, till Sep 4, 11am to 7pm; A painting exhibition by husband-wife, duo, Harish Ojha and Sonal Varshneya.

Creative Visions, Lalith Kala Academy, Greams Road, from Sep 5 to 10, 11am to 7pm; A photography exhibition by three experimental photographers J Ramanan, K Narasimhan and VJ Rithwik.