

CHENNAI TIMES

WHAT'S

HOT

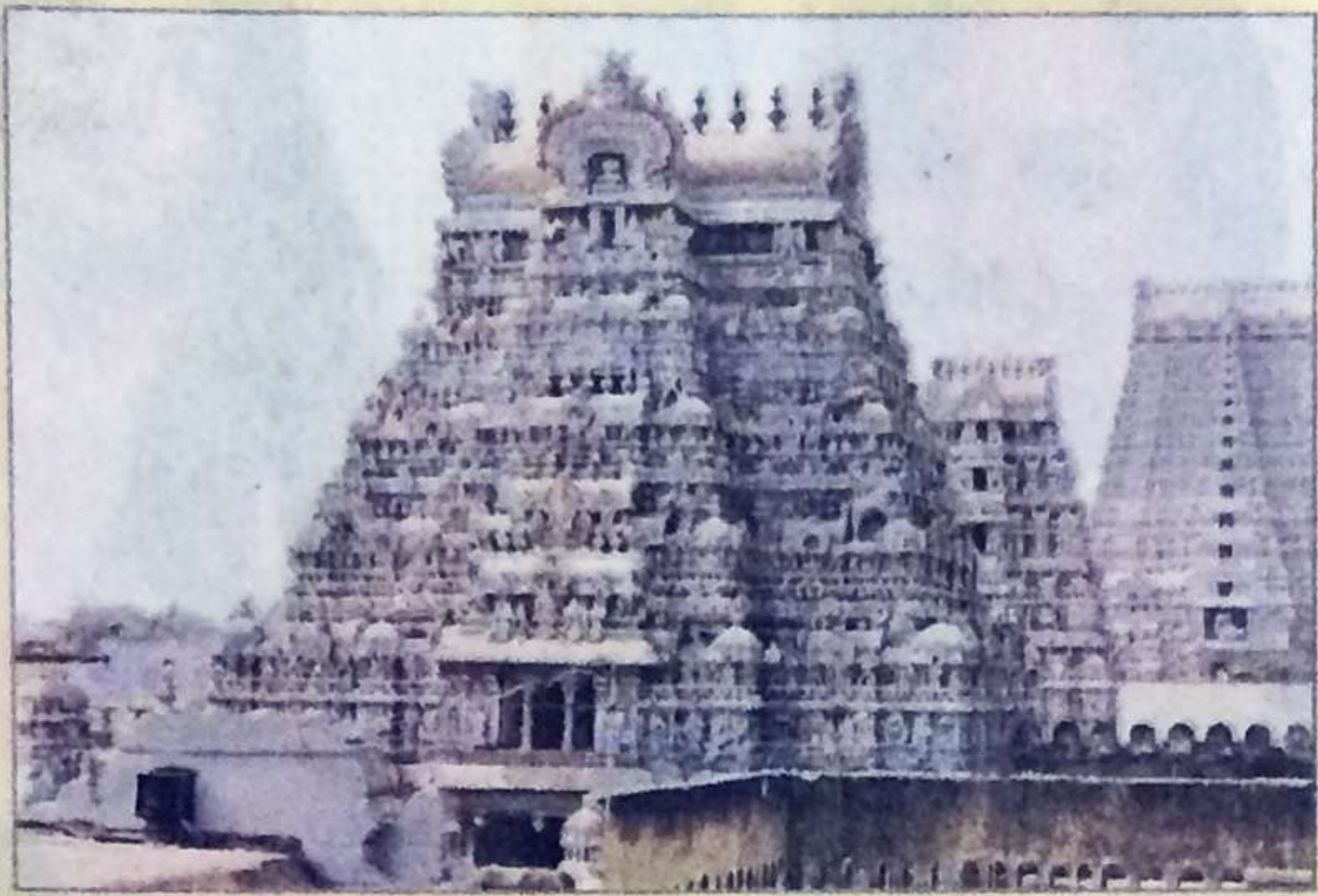


IF IT'S HAPPENING, IT'S HERE.

31 AUGUST 2017

Scrap to Sculpture: Exhibition of beautiful sculptures at Inko Centre, No 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, Opposite Crown Plaza, Chennai-600028, from 10am to 6pm, till September 3.

EVENTS



ART

Elements of Shiva Temples: Apparao Galleries and Leela Palace are organising '5 Elements of Shiva Temples' by Prof Madhusudhan Kalaichelvan, at 4.30pm, at Apparao Galleries @ The Leela Galleria, Adyar Seaface, MRC Nagar, on September 2.

ART

Scrap To Sculpture: An exhibition of sculptures, at 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, Opposite Crown Plaza, from 10am to 6pm, till September 3.

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.

The Art of Traditional Games: Forum Art Gallery, in association with Kreedaa, is organising an exhibition of artworks and traditional games of Chennai, as part of Madras Week, from 10.30am to 6.30pm, till September 5.

The Flowers Say Summer: A painting exhibition by Kim Mi Sook on Korean literary paintings at The Gallery, Inko Centre, 18, Adyar Club Gate Road, from 10am to 6pm, till September 15.

Photo Expo: A photography exhibition by three experimental photographers — J Ramanan, K Narasimhan and VJ Rithwik, at Creative Visions, Lalith Kala Academy, Greaves Road, from

11am to 7pm, from September 5 to 10.

Art Expo: An art exhibition that focuses on the art, culture and tradition of Madhya Pradesh, curated by Prayag Shukla, ArtWorld Sarala's Art Centre, 1/12, Ganeshpuram, 3rd Street, Off Cenotaph Road, Teynampet, from 11am to 6pm, from September 5 to 25.

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

CULTURE

Concert: A flute concert by Anirudh, at 5.30pm, a Bharatanatyam by disciples of Saila Sudha Dance Academy, at 6pm, a unique dual voice music concert by Sairam Iyer, at 7.30pm, at Nrityasangama 2017, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. Preetha Reddy Auditorium, Mylapore.

Music: A hip-hop musical performance by Maria Roe Vincent, at 7pm, at Music Concert, Phoenix MarketCity, Velachery.

NUTS AND BOLTS: MOULD THEM INTO ART PIECES

DC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, SEPT. 1

The scrap materials in the automotive industry often make way to the garbage yards, adding to the mountains of waste. A prominent manufacturer, Hyundai Motors, however, proved that scrap is productive, as their employees sculpted the wires, nuts and screws into beautiful artefacts.

The exhibition at the Inko Centre by Hyundai Motors displays the unseen talent of the Men in Blue, as their employees are called within the factory. A multi colour butterfly sculpted with the bolts, metal rods, wheel nuts and big gears, a Rooster made with an array of electronic items and a thirsty crow sculpture are among the total of 15 artefacts displayed at the exhibition. Few art pieces conceptually speak about the development of the Hyundai.

Their making style could be difficult, but the underlined message is the same, that waste is not useless, but a productive item. It also sensitises people about the ways of environmental conservation, besides displaying the teamwork of the employees at the auto-



Watch made by the employees of Hyundai Motors using scrap material.

motive major.

It was a learning process for the employees of various designations. C. V. P. Saravana Priyan, a technician at the Hyundai Motors, said: "Never did we think that scrap would turn out to be majestic art pieces. Creating a sculpture was something, which was completely different from our work profile. We could pull it off so easily, as the idea was appealing. My team had a smith, who taught us to reshape and mould the scrap."

Employees were given a month's time to create any artefact out of scrap. The

output of the effort is not just the birth of the artefacts, but also the positive bond between the employees. S. James Prabhu, a senior engineer, said, "We shared a good bonding as we exchanged ideas and learnt about the sculptures." James's team had created a fighter Airjet.

After the exhibition that ends on September 3, the decorative items would be displayed on the Hyundai Motors campus to instil a deep sense of commitment to the employees, said J. Stephen Sudhakar, senior vice president, administration.

CHENNAI IS TALKING ABOUT

EVENTS



ART

Drama Of Turmoil: This exhibition has been curated exploring the beautiful and creative agony of turmoil in art, paintings and photographs, at Apparao Galleries @ The Leela Galleria, Adyar Seaface, MRC Nagar, till September 15, 11am to 7pm .

ART

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THE TIMES OF INDIA, CHENNAI
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2017

TIMES CITY

A Prathap



CREATING ART FROM WASTE: A visitor takes a look at exhibits made out of scrap by the employees of Hyundai at the InKo Centre

MEET THE SCRAP SCULPTORS

Waste From Industries Transforms Into Works Of Art In Their Studios



A Prathap

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A few years ago, when city artist George Kuruvilla was hosting British author and photographer Michael Freeman, the latter asked to be walked around "characteristic sections of Madras."

"As we soaked in temples and music spaces, I realised there was one component of the urban landscape we just couldn't miss - the vibrant scrap market of Pudupet," says Kuruvilla. With the city's largest concentration of used car and automobile scrap dealers, the thriving business hub gave Kuruvilla several takeaways — many of which made it into his series, 'Man and Machine'.

"We live in such great proximity to massive urban and industrial waste, and yet go about our lives like we are not connected to it. In many ways, the man and the machine are constantly blending into each other. And like all this immense debris that

we share our space with, someday, we will disintegrate too," says Kuruvilla, whose works under this series have sold at nearly ₹2.5 lakh each.

The professional art market is witnessing a growing sensibility of artists who work with 'found objects'.

India is said to generate more than eight million tonnes of hazardous waste from its industries every year, and although just a minuscule part of this is re-purposed by these artists, it can significantly change the way we view waste; and that is the starting point, they believe.

This idea also seems to have resonated with some manufacturing industries. The Hyundai plant in Chennai recently asked its employees to create something purposeful out of whatever they could lay their hands on at the zero-value scrapyards. The result was a series of 15 imaginative and thought-provoking works fashioned out of metal sheets, conveyor

frames, oxygen masks, fans, nuts, bolts, pipes and wires, which were displayed at the InKo Centre earlier this month.

"In the manufacturing industry, most of us work with our hands. Our staff had previously created little works of art out of scrap during Ayudha puja. This year, we just decided to do it more systematically, as it also doubled up as an innovative employee engagement initiative," says Stephen Sudhakar J, vice-president, HR, Hyundai Motors.

And when you can consistently recognise value in what you see — even if it is heaps and heaps of scrap — you can exhibit to sell-out shows, as Arzan Khambatta, one of India's leading sculptors, has shown time and again. One of his recent works is a contemporary take on India's

first aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant. What adds character to it is the fact that it has been created out of scrap from the real Vikrant aircraft, whose value was reduced to the weight of its metal, after it was sold by the government to a scrap dealer. "But for all the commodores who flew it, that ship was like a mother. So, they got together, pooled in money, bought the scrap and passed it on to me. 'Keep Vikrant alive', they told me," recalls Khambatta. And he indeed immortalised it, as it stands as a memorial sculpture near the Naval dockyard in Mumbai.

"Scrap metal sculptures are taken for granted. But serious sculpting is in being able to see the scrap piece, recognising its potential and using it as it is, with minimum tweaking," says Khambatta.

"For instance, I once came across two parts of a truck that held the suspension. The part at the back looked like a man in a cloak, and the one in the front looked like a kid. I put them in front of each other, threw a chessboard in the middle and called it 'Chess lessons from father to son'. Just taking a washer, making a head; taking a rod and making the body — that doesn't work for me," he adds.

What is also growing is the use of e-waste — art created out of circuit boards, computers — which is now being increasingly used to create installations. City-based curator Sharan Apparao says buyers of these works are as discerning and encouraging as conventional ones.

"The demand is for the artists and their aesthetic, and has little to do with the material used. There are no people specifically looking

for industrial art, but there are those who like the idea of upcycling. One of Subodh Gupta's new works, for instance, is a broken and beaten up aluminum vessel. He explores the concept of migration and how it works in a middle-class mind, using the symbolism of this vessel," she says.

"It was sold for some millions. So, someone who doesn't understand such a work may trivialise it, but those who do will pay those few million dollars for it."

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Arzan Khambatta,
SCULPTOR

JUNK ART: (Top) Exhibits at a recent art created with automobile parts; (right) a work from George Kuruvilla's series 'Man and Machine'

