

Jogen Chowdhury

Born: 19 February 1939, Daharpara, Faridpur (now in Bangladesh)

Nationality: Indian

Current Residence: Santiniketan and Kolkata, India

Profession: Visual Artist, Painter, Educator, Former Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

Education

1960 – Government College of Art & Craft, Kolkata 1965–1967 – École des Beaux-Arts, Paris (French Government Scholarship) Training under William Hayter at Atelier 17

Artistic Practice

Mediums: Ink, Watercolour, Pastel, Oil

Themes: Figurative works with political, psychological and sensual undertones

Style: Distinctive line drawing, textural compositions, expressionism

Known for: Mastery of cross-hatching and contour lines, stylized human forms

Academic & Professional Roles

1972–1987 – Keeper of Art, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi 1987–2000s – Professor of Painting, Kala Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan Founder of Artists' Forum, New Delhi and Calcutta Painters Group Professor Emeritus, Visva-Bharati University

Solo Exhibitions (Selected)

- 1966 Galerie de Haut Pavé, Paris
- 1972 AIFACS Gallery, New Delhi (Inaugurated by President V. V. Giri)
- 1996 Glenbarra Art Museum, Japan & CIMA Gallery, Kolkata
- 2002 Bose-Pacia Modern, New York
- 2007 Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi
- 2019 Emami Art, Kolkata (Retrospective 1955–2015)

Group Exhibitions (Selected)

- 1967 Prix le France de la Jeune Peinture, Paris
- 1982 Festival of India, Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 1986 2nd Havana Biennale, Cuba
- 2008 Modern India, Institut Valencià d'Art Modern, Spain
- 2015 DAG Modern, India/USA
- 2020 The Sixties Show, DAG Mumbai

Awards & Honors

- 1958–1960 Academy of Fine Arts & Calcutta University Awards
- 1966 Prix le France de la Jeune Peinture, Paris
- 1986 Award, Havana Biennale, Cuba
- 1995 Honorable Mention, International Print Biennale, Bhopal
- 2001 Kalidas Samman, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
- 2010 Honorary D.Litt., Rabindra Bharati University
- 2012 Banga Bibhushan, Govt. of West Bengal
- 2016 Zainul Samman, Dhaka University, Bangladesh
- 2023 Asia Arts Vanguard Award, Asia Society India Centre

Collections

- National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi & Mumbai
- Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi
- Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Kolkata
- CIMA Gallery, Kolkata
- Glenbarra Art Museum, Japan
- DAG, New Delhi & Mumbai
- Various private collections across India, Europe, USA, and Japan

Publications

- Jogen Chowdhury: Enigmatic Visions, Glenbarra Art Museum
- Jogen Chowdhury Sketchbook 1962 & 1986–87, Debovasa Publications
- Features in books such as Major Trends in Indian Art, The Flamed Mosaic, and DAG catalogues

Political Career

2014–2020 – Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), representing West Bengal (All India Trinamool Congress)

Languages

Bengali, English, Hindi