

S.G. Vasudev

Early Life and Education

Born in 1941 in Mysore, Karnataka, S.G. Vasudev is a prominent Indian painter known for his contributions to modern Indian art. He pursued his formal art education at the Government College of Fine Arts in Chennai (formerly Madras), graduating in 1968. During his time there, he was mentored by the renowned artist K.C.S. Paniker, which significantly influenced his artistic development.

Artistic Journey and Themes

Vasudev's artistic oeuvre is characterized by recurring themes such as the "Vriksha" (Tree of Life), "Humanscapes," "Earthscapes," and "Mithuna" (couples), exploring the interplay between nature, human relationships, and existential concepts. His works span various mediums, including paintings, drawings, copper reliefs, and tapestries. The *Tree of Life*, in particular, became a central leitmotif in his practice, symbolizing continuity, rootedness, and cosmic interconnectedness.

Cholamandal Artists' Village

In 1966, Vasudev co-founded the Cholamandal Artists' Village on the outskirts of Chennai, alongside his mentor K.C.S. Paniker and fellow artists. This artists' commune became a pivotal space for contemporary artists in South India, fostering creativity and collaboration. Vasudev lived and worked there until 1988 before relocating to Bangalore, where he continues his artistic practice.

Solo Exhibitions (Select List)

- "Containing Multitudes", Bharat Art Space Gallery, Delhi (2023)
- "Drawing on Memories", Forum Art Gallery, Chennai (2023)
- "Interwoven", Kolkata Centre for Creativity, Kolkata (2023)
- "Painted Weaves", Gallery Sumukha, Bangalore (2017)
- "A Tribute to Ramanujan", Galerie De' Arts, Bangalore (2016)
- "Recollections Reconnections", multiple venues including Gallery Sumukha (2014), Crimson Art Resource (2012), Kynkyny Art Gallery (2011), Forum Art Gallery (2011), Gallery 88 (2011), and Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi (2011)
- "Journeys of the Spirit", Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai (2021)
- "Vibrations of the Soul", Art Alive Gallery, New Delhi (2018)
- "Soul and Rhythm", Gallery Sanskriti, Kolkata (2015)
- "Tribute to Ramanujan", exhibitions held in Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, London, and Chicago

Group Exhibitions (Select List)

- Paris Biennale, France (1968)
- Second Biennale, Havana, Cuba (1986)
- Festival of India, Japan (1988)

- "The New South: Contemporary Painting & Sculpture from South India", UK (1996)
- "Indian Abstracts: An Absence of Form", DAG, New Delhi (2014); Mumbai and New York (2015)
- "Madras Modern: Regionalism and Identity", DAG, New Delhi (2019)
- International Exhibition of Drawings, Yugoslavia (1972, 1974, 1976, 1986, 1988)
- Anniversary Exhibitions at Gallery 88, Kolkata (1995), and Gallery Ganesh, New Delhi (1993)
- "Harmony Show", Nehru Centre, Mumbai (1996)
- Participation in major art fairs and events such as India Art Fair and exhibitions organized by Lalit Kala Akademi

Awards and Honors

- **Padma Bhushan**, Government of India
- **National Award**, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi (1967)
- **State Award**, Karnataka Lalit Kala Akademi, Bangalore (1988)
- **Karnataka Rajyotsava Award**, Bangalore (1994)
- Awards from Tamil Nadu Lalit Kala Akademi (1965, 1977, 1979)
- Awards from Karnataka Lalit Kala Akademi (1965, 1979)
- **Government of India Cultural Scholarship for Painting** (1964–1966)
- Paniker Puraskaram, Kerala Lalithakala Akademi (2021)
- Honorary Doctorate, Bangalore University (2015)

Collections

Vasudev's works are part of several prestigious collections, including:

- National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi
- Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi
- Safdarjung Museum, Hyderabad
- Citi India Corporate Collection
- Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
- Museum of Modern Art, Paris
- Glenbarra Art Museum, Japan
- Private collections in the USA, UK, Germany, Singapore, and Australia.