

Mid-Day India, Tanishka D'Lyma, March 21, 2023

Attend these art exhibitions by two young artists in Mumbai this week

This week, don't miss on these shows that draw from familial and community experiences by two young and exciting artists on Mumbai's art scene.

(...)

A visual conversation

Bringing a larger sense of dynamism into the gallery space, Amol K Patil's Black Masks on Roller Skates is built through sculptures, kinetic installations, drawings, holographic video, poetry and performance seamlessly to create what he tells us is an entire installation in itself. His upcoming solo exhibition at Project 88 is an excerpt of Patil's larger exhibition at documenta fifteen in 2022 at Kassel, Germany. He shares, "At documenta fifteen, the show was a larger conversation about my whole community, and how they travelled from Konkan to Kolhapur, to Bombay which draws from my grandfather's and father's archives. My grandfather was a Powada (a traditional protest art form) singer and performer, and wrote poetry, while my father, Kisan Patil, a theatre activist."



S10, Bronze Sculpture. Pics Courtesy/Patil and Project 88 (right) D19, Ink and water-based paint on MDF Plywood

Drawing from memories of when he encountered a single script, along with cassettes of immigrant dialects put together by his father who passed away when he was still a child, Patil tells us, "When I read my father's script that was biographical of the community and when you engage with it, too, you will realise that he never wrote about one person but many through the narration of one person." Patil does the same through his artistic practice calling it his individual protest that talks about the experiences of the Dalit community. "His work addresses the oppression built into urban cities in order to imagine spaces of resistance," says Sree Goswami, director of Project 88.



Amol K Patil

The 36-year-old artist will highlight this in artworks that include map lines similar to a cut-out of Google Maps, bronze sculptures, drawings and a kinetic installation that will see sand moving as if breathing to showcase the journey of his people and the stories that continue to live in memory, legacy and reality, as well as a performance where he collaborates with young Powada writers and the Yalgaar Sanskrutik Manch to recreate and present a live rendering of his grandfather's poems. Patil speaks about the visual translation of his work: "The overall project uses the materials through which I feel I can speak about my community, their freedom, separation and its other aspects. It's a loud conversation that continues today with my generation," Patil signs off.

Starts March 23, 6 pm to 9 pm Till April 29; performance on March 30 at 6 pm At Project 88, Colaba.