

# RESONANCE



# **RESONANCE**

**Recent works by Dimpy Menon**



## RESONANCE

**Dear Friends,**

**Greetings!**

It is the festive season now and I am happy to bring to you this delightful show titled 'Resonance', a solo show by Dimpy Menon at Gallery Art Positive.

Resonance, meaning reverberation or echo actually talks about things that are present continuous. Dimpy introduces us to the potential in her figures that is at once tense and relaxed. It is the moment that is both the high point of motion and the beginning of stillness or vice versa. This balance is at the heart of her sculptures. Her bronzes exemplify not just dancers or acrobats, but movement and dynamism at its best. There is a unity which integrates dance, dramatic action and artistic rendition. Dimpy's works easily become a part of any landscape or sometimes craft a theatrical drama in the space it is kept. Her works are allegorically replicating the theme like a long, philosophical poem. Through simplicity and true life staging, these bronzes will combine the most contemporary techniques with deep perception into psychological imagery.

It has been a pleasure working with Dimpy Menon and I am thankful to her for her imaginative and ingenious contribution. The sculptures are indeed a collector's delight, which I am happy to share with you through this exhibition and the accompanying catalogue.

I hope you will enjoy this show as much as we have in putting it together.

Cheers  
Anu Bajaj.

There is a meditative quality to Dimpy Menon's works arising out of a stillness that characterizes prayer, like the stillness at the eye of a storm. Although it is the human body that tells the story, the subtext of such poetry in motion is this stillness.

For Dimpy Menon's philosophy of movement is equally a philosophy of the moment. Among its elements - since we are talking of the human body - there is grace, contortion, gentleness, abruptness, delicacy, control, and a slew of possibilities. This last is significant because Dimpy's sculptures deal in processes rather than products. There is no finality. It is as if once the viewer turns away, the figures will continue on their way only to quickly assume their original stances when he looks again. The figures arrest your attention in the midst of distraction - some subtly, by appearing to relax on a seat when, for all we know, they might have just arrived there in a rush; others more obviously as in the act of falling. Quiet relaxation is at the other end of intense movement, and a part of it

In Dimpy's world, things just are. The works are remarkably non-judgmental; they stand for themselves and whatever the

viewer makes of them. They do not arrive pre-packaged and demanding a particular set of reactions. It is a testimony to our collective consciousness that viewers often see in the works what the artist intends them to see; it is as much a tribute to the artist's instinct for finding the common humanism that drives us all. What is intensely private thus becomes universal. This is another version of the play of forces that results in the balance here. Taken singly and in groups, the bronzes tell stories. The figures capture the moment just before something happens, or the moment just after the action. At either end of motion is stillness. The bronzes celebrate life, capturing the human form in an array of movements: complex, acrobatic and graceful. They are a tribute to the fleeting moments that resonate in our minds like a line of poetry or a bar of music. The rough granite bases play off against the metal, enhancing the richness of the bronzes. Dimpy Menon, the memorialiser of the moment is equally the memorialiser of movement. Both are eternalized in the same work, and it is this balance, ultimately, that makes her bronzes unique. "The more you do," says Dimpy, "The more there is to do." Artists, poets, composers have all discovered this for themselves through the ages.



*Leaning* | 15" x 9" x 11" | bronze on granite



*Lotus Pond* | 11" x 9" x 12" | bronze on granite



*Seated Figure (Man)* | 44" x 28" x 24" | bronze



*Mother and Child* | 42" x 28" x 17" | bronze



*On the Ball* | 18" x 18" x 11" | bronze on granite



*Still on the Ball* | 24" x 8" x 7" | bronze on granite



*Torso with Flowers* | 41" height | bronze



*Tumble* | 18" x 16" x 6" | bronze on granite



*Mother and Child* | 26" x 10" x 4" | bronze on granite



*Freedom* | 31" x 15" x 7" | bronze on granite



*Reaching Out* | 33 x 12 x 6 | bronze on granite



*Mobiles (hanging)* | rod 58" figure 20" each | bronze



*Mobiles (hanging)* | rod 66" figure 17" | bronze



*Mobiles (hanging)* | rod 41" figure 9" | bronze



*Mobiles (hanging)* | rod 49" figure 14" | bronze



*Mobiles (hanging)* | rod 57" figure 16" | bronze



*Breaking Through* | 14" x 14" each | bronze



*Looking Out* | 15" x 15" each | bronze



*Dancers* | 15" x 15" each | bronze



*Jump* | 58" x 15" x 8" | bronze on granite



## GALLERY ART POSITIVE

**Gallery Art Positive** is known for its focus on seminal exhibitions and other art initiatives, working with both the young and established artists. Building on the in-house expertise of Bajaj Capital Ltd, a wealth management company with a fifty year track record, Art Positive expanded its services some five years ago, as a unit of Bajaj Capital Art House (BCAH), to include the business of art as a holistic initiative. Ranging from organizing special shows to online exhibitions, master classes, personalized portfolios, art education initiatives as well as advice on buying, selection, display, insurance, handling, care and conservation of art, Art Positive, is also engaged in specialized and personalized art advisory services to a wide spectrum of collectors and institutions, both locally and globally.

Incorporating an expansive 5000 square feet of state-of-the-art designed display area, spread across two floors and located in Lado Sarai, the latest art hub in the capital city. Curated solo and group exhibitions of seminal work by masters from across the country and cutting edge art in varied modes, media and prices, are held in the gallery. Its

annual Art Spotting exhibition, now in its third edition, features short listed Art Positive & BCAH Arts Fellowship Award applicants' work, and is a unique platform for promising young artists to exhibit in a prestigious gallery while the final winner of the rupees one lac BCAH art award gets to work for a solo show hosted by the gallery.



## DIMPY MENON

**Dimpy Menon**, born 1963 at Ahmedabad is a graduate in fine arts from the College of Art Chennai in first class and learnt sculpting at the Central St. Martin's in London. She has continued to work as a sculptor throughout her career refining her form and technique with consistent practice. Metal, that she likes to work in, seems to turn into lithe material as she moulds it to give form to her kinetic compositions that celebrate life. The stones that she searches and collects to chisel and refine before adding to her metal sculpture add a distinct look to her work. Her installations depict flexibility and agility of human form in various dynamics and movements. Handling the entire laborious process of sculpting from a drawing to clay to bronze, working on her own, Dimpy creates installations, some that are small and can be hand held or displayed on table top and others in larger than life scale for outdoor and open spaces. Many of her work adorns public spaces in Chennai. Also the Oberoi in Mumbai, TVS Sundaram Clayton in Chennai and Banyan in Bangalore besides a Garden sculpture at Rolf and Ute Rettberg's place in Germany and other private houses and corporate buildings elsewhere. With solo exhibitions in Chennai, Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai and other metros, she has already had over

50 shows, throughout the country and abroad including at Dubai, Singapore and London from where her work has been picked up for important public, corporate and private collections including those of Biocon, Standard Chartered Bank, Park Hotels, General Electric, Davangere College of Arts Karnataka, State Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi and Leela Galleria. She has participated in some important workshops and is two times winner of Venkatappa Art Gallery and Museum Scholarship and State Lalit Kala award. She had a solo booth at the India Art Fair, 2014 with Gallery Art Positive. The artist is currently working on some large commissions besides preparing for a solo. She lives and works in Bangalore.



**Gallery Art Positive**

F-213/B, Lado Sarai, Old MB Road, New Delhi 110030

E: [Lopamudra@galleryartpositive.com](mailto:Lopamudra@galleryartpositive.com)

M: 09953520170 / T: 011-46604128

W: [www.galleryartpositive.com](http://www.galleryartpositive.com)