

Rathn.
Moitra



Rathin Moitra is one of the members of the Calcutta Group, which was formed a few years ago in Bengal. It is composed of young painters and sculptors who have definitely left behind the influence of the Indian Society of Oriental Art, and who have been inspired both by the fresh winds blowing from European art since Cezanne and by the art of Jamini Roy and the folk art of Bengal.

Moitra comes from a feudal family in Bengal, who had their estates very near that of the Tagore family. The artist has done some portraits of the poet and was influenced by him from his childhood.

He had been greatly moved by the devastation that famine wrought in Bengal. Much of his work depicts the horrors of that period—for no sensitive artist could remain unaffected by a phenomenon that affected the whole material and spiritual life of the people.

Art heightens and depicts life, not as a photograph would do, but as can only be achieved through the medium of paint. It depicts what the mind and the spirit can sense and feel, that which is true of the age in which the artist lives. This in turn develops new forms which can express that spirit more vividly. The Calcutta Group had an exhibition of their work in Bombay three years ago, which caused some controversy, because a conventionally minded public will not understand that while interpreting life, art has to be truthful and recreate the spirit of the age, even if that spirit manifests itself in horrible conditions; and that there is such a thing as the "beauty of ugliness," as in a Javanese Mask of a terrible mood, or an Indian sculpture representing Siva-Shakti in its stormy and destructive aspects.

The Calcutta Group believe that a new art movement in India can only be created by a courageous attempt to face realities.

A. De. S.

S. No.	Title of the Picture	Price (Without frame)
1.	RIVER FESTIVAL	Lent by Mrs. P. Jayakar.
2.	AT THE BEAT OF DRUM	Rs. 200
3.	BEFORE THE DANCE	Rs. 200
4.	SANTHAL FOLK DANCE	Lent by Mr. K. M. Gandhi.
5.	REUNITED	Rs. 500
6.	SANTHAL DANCERS	Rs. 175
7.	REAPERS	Lent by Miss Anil D'Silva.
8.	NOONDAY SIESTA	Rs. 200
9.	SANTHAL MOTHER	Rs. 150
10.	THE BOATMAN	Rs. 200
11.	RESTING	Rs. 175
12.	THE RED ROAD	Rs. 100
13.	SUFFERING	Rs. 100
14.	THE DRUMMERS	Rs. 150
15.	THREE FIGURES	Rs. 175
16.	DESIGN	Rs. 100
17.	COMPOSITION	Rs. 100
18.	LANDSCAPE	Rs. 100
19.	DOGS	Rs. 90
20.	"CARRY ME"	Rs. 90
21.	"I RISE AGAIN"	Rs. 150
22.	VILLAGERS	Rs. 200
23.	SKETCH	Rs. 40
24.	"	Rs. 40
25.	"	Rs. 30
26.	"	Rs. 30
27.	"	Rs. 25
28.	"	Rs. 40
29.	"	Rs. 25
30.	"	Rs. 40
31.	"	Rs. 25
32.	"	Rs. 30
33.	"	Rs. 30
34.	"	Rs. 30
35.	"	Rs. 30
36.	"	Rs. 25
37.	"	Rs. 30
38.	"	Rs. 30

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ON
22nd September 1947

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From 23rd Sept. to 29th Sept. 1947.

Price As. 2.