

is Pleased to Offer a Special Conversation on the Origin and Evolution of a Museum for the 21st Century in Bengaluru, India.



Krishna eating the Fire | Manjit Bawa | c.1980 | India | Oil on canvas | Image: H. 180.5 cm, W. 246.5 cm | MAC.00480

Join us for an Insightful Conversation with Founder of
MAP, Museum of Art & Photography, Bengaluru

Abhishek Poddar

Led by renowned Collector, and
SACHI Founding President,

Dr. Gursharan S. Sidhu

Free Online Zoom Webinar

Please Register here

Sunday, August 21,
10:00 AM, Pacific Time, USA

Sunday, August 21
10:30 PM, India Time

For Inquiries, email info@sachi.org;
Tel. 952-201-9320

Transforming Passion into a 21st century Museum: A Conversation with Abhishek Poddar

Some of the finest museums of Asian Art arose from the aesthetic passion and taste of single individuals with a burning desire to share their collections with the public. These institutions serve as touchstones of quality and centers of learning bringing the glories of art to everyone.

This conversation with Abhishek Poddar probes not just the latest in a line of visionaries – Charles Lang Freer (Freer Gallery of Art), Dr. Richard Fuller (Seattle Asian Art Museum), and Avery Brundage (our own Asian Art Museum in San Francisco), plus Indian scholarly aesthetes, Rai Krishandas (Bharat Kala Bhavan) and Dr. Mohinder Singh Randhawa (Chandigarh Art Museum) – but also reflects on his innovative and pioneering spirit for our times. An industrialist of renown and a passionate collector of Indian art from all ages and its different dimensions, Abhishek has over the last few years moved from personal enjoyment to a brilliantly conceived project to share his vast collection – the setting up of a new museum from the ground up in the dynamic city of Bengaluru, India. This soon to open museum, MAP – the Museum of Art and Photography will house the fruits of his tireless and decades-long collecting, plus works contributed by others.

The conversation focus will be two-fold. First on Abhishek and his collecting journey with its many dimensions of discovery, excitement, and surprises, and then, on his vision that, through intense, astute focus, and tireless work, is now close to realization in 2022.

The conversation, in Q&A narrative form, will be appropriately illustrated with works from the MAP collection.



Portrait of a Barasingha (Antelope) | Jangarh Singh Shyam | mid 1980s | Madhya Pradesh, India | Pigment on paper | Image: H. 137 cm, W. 233 cm | PTG.00061

MAP is a singularly special institution embracing not only the finest of scholarly and museum practice, but also employing our beloved world of technology to bring art to everyone world-wide even in the face of challenges, such as the pandemic through which we have been living.

Abhishek Poddar

is a prominent collector and patron of the arts in India. He has been collecting art since high school and has created a significant collection of South Asian art, craft and antiquities, including modern and contemporary art and photography.

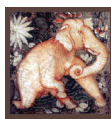
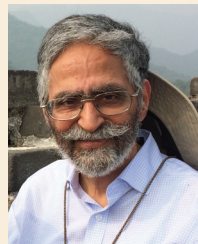
He is the force behind the upcoming Museum of Art & Photography (MAP), in Bengaluru, where he serves as a Trustee and to which he donated the initial leadership gift and a substantial portion of the family's art collection.

Besides serving on various boards and committees in India, Poddar also serves on the advisory committees of the India-Europe Foundation for New Dialogues, headquartered in Rome and on the Lincoln Centre Global Advisory Council.

He was named as one of Asia's 2018 Heroes of Philanthropy by Forbes Magazine.



Dr. Gursharan S. Sidhu, after a long career in academia and the hi-tech industry (Apple Computer and Microsoft), now focuses on his passion for the arts of India. He and his wife have been life-long collectors of Indian paintings and photographs, as well as art from Mexico. A former Co-Chairman of the board of the Smithsonian Institution's Freer and Sackler Galleries, he currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Seattle Art Museum, the US Board of Trustees of the Museum of Art & Photography–MAP (Bengaluru), and on the Acquisitions Committee of the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. He is an alumnus of IIT-Madras and of Stanford University.



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