

ASIAN ART NEWS

THE UNITED STATES/
HONG KONG

NEWS
B R I E F

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East/West Dialogue

Sundaram Tagore Gallery will exhibit by invitation at the inaugural *Art & Antique International Fair* in Hong Kong, May 27 through the May 31, 2006. The Fair will be held the 3-4/F, Hong Kong Exhibition Center, Low Block, China Resources Building, 26 Harbour Road, Wanchai.

Sundaram Tagore Gallery, based in New York, is renowned for featuring artists that engage in cross-cultural dialogue. Asian contemporary art is expanding its influence on the global art market and the Gallery has gathered a group of top contemporary South Asian artists for its show for the Fair, entitled *East/West*.

The Gallery's founder/director Sundaram Tagore is a direct descendant of Nobel Prize winning poet Rabindranath Tagore. Raised in a large extended family of artists, poets, and writers, he received a doctorate in philosophy from Oxford University and worked as a director of Pace Wildenstein in New York before opening his eponymous gallery in 2000. He was named one of the 100 Most Influential Asian-Americans in the United States by *Avenue* magazine in 1999, and

advises many major art institutions including the Museum of Modern Art in New York and National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi.

The *East/West* show in Hong Kong will juxtapose work from artists born in the East who address Western culture in their work with art by Western-born

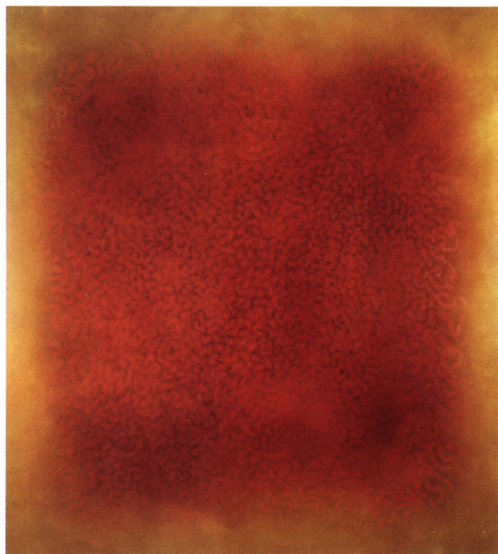
artists who are influenced by Eastern culture. In mediums that include painting, photography, and metalwork collage, the 14 artists from Sundaram Tagore Gallery will explore the tension between the two halves of our modern world, finding points of commonality and transcendence that inspire new ways of

thinking and creating.

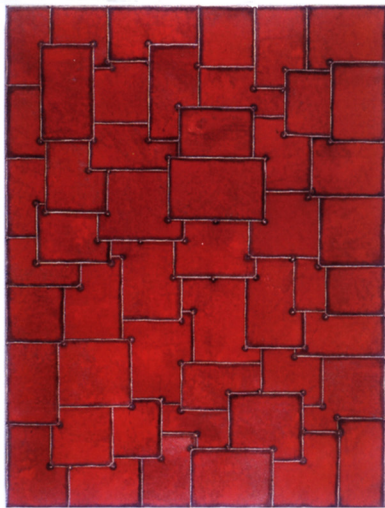
Nathan Slate Joseph creates abstract compositions of pigmented galvanized steel. Joseph treats metal plates with pigments and acid, then solders the squares together, creating overlapping patchwork designs that unite the large-scale energy of Abstract Expressionism with the ease of found-object art. This dialogue between the industrial and the natural is just one of the contradictions inherent in Joseph's work. Born in Israel and raised in New York, he was a compatriot of such influential artists as Larry Rivers and John Chamberlain. Museums that contain his work include the Albright Knox Gallery in Buffalo, New York and the Museum of Modern Art.

Natvar Bhavsar is a color field painter who works in pure pigment. He is largely credited for bringing a spiritual element into the Abstract Expressionism movement in America. Bhavsar's work is influenced by the folk and ritual cultures of India and during his later life spent in New York, where he received a John D. Rockefeller grant and won a Guggenheim fellowship, becoming a member of the New York School of Colorists. His often-massive work is created using dry pigment sifted over paper or canvas, creating shifting all-over fields of variegated fluid and dense color. Of Bhavsar's work, art critic Christopher Andrae wrote, "It is expressionism which arises in a strange paradox somewhere between extremely felt sensuousness and extremely felt contemplation. A visual equivalent, perhaps of eloquent silence." His work is in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Guggenheim Museum, and the Whitney, among others.

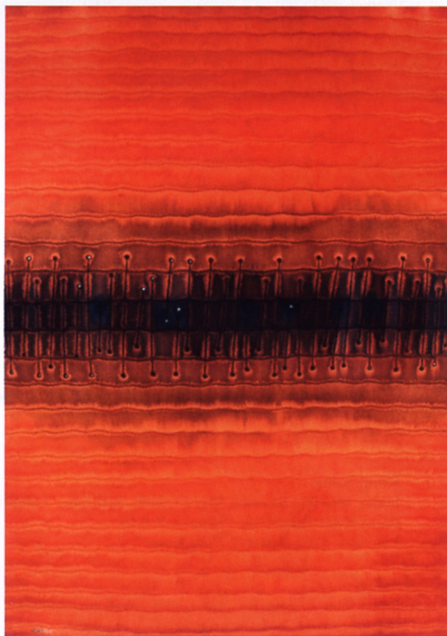
Sundaram Tagore Gallery is located at 547 W. 27th Street, NY, NY 10001. Tel: (1-212) 677 4820. Fax: (1-212) 677 4621. E-mail: gallery@sundaramtagore.com.



Natvar Bhavsar, *Veedhee*, 2004, pure color pigment on canvas, 75 x 68.5".
All photographs: Courtesy of Sundaram Tagore Gallery, New York.



Nathan Slate Joseph, *My Lips*, 2005 pure color pigment on galvanized steel, 80 x 60".



Sohan Qadri, *Udayana III*, 2005, ink and dye on paper, 64 x 48".