

FRIENDS OF TEHELKA

for freedom

EMERGING INDIAN MASTERS

PREVIEW & AUCTION at ASIA HOUSE

*invest in indian art, buy tomorrow's blue chips
while they are still affordable*

Two years ago Indian artist Tyeb Mehta's 'Mahisasura' sold for nearly \$ 1.6 million at a Christie's auction. This shattered the glass ceiling and there has been no looking back since for Indian art.

In the two years since, with the impact of globalisation, excitement around Indian art has spiraled wildly around the world. Today, the international auction market for Indian art alone is worth \$150 million, up from \$52 million just the year before attracting private collectors and international investment funds.

Compelled by this buoyant atmosphere, Asia House, will help celebrate the 60th anniversary of Indian Independence with an exciting and highly unusual auction in association with Tehelka, an iconic media house in India, and the country's fastest-growing English weekly newspaper. Over May 31 to June 11, 2007, **Art for Freedom** will preview 85 canvases by a spectacular range of established Indian masters and a newer generation of cutting edge artists, at Asia House, 63 New Cavendish Street, London W1G 7LP

As the works of old Indian masters like **FN Souza, VS Gaitonde, Akbar Padamsee, MF Husain** and **SH Raza** have become prohibitively expensive, buyer attention has shifted to a younger generation, throwing up new buzz-names: **Laila Khan Rajpal, Partha Shaw, Seema Kohli, Subrata Kundu, Vasundhara Tiwari Broota**, to name just a few. **Art for Freedom** presents an exciting opportunity for collectors to shop for these emerging masters.

50 canvases. **The Emerging Indian Masters** in the **Art for Freedom** line-up will be auctioned at Asia House by Bonhams auctioneer James Knight on June 11, 2007, 6pm onwards.

Art for Freedom will be on preview at Asia House
May 31 to June 11 2007, 9.30 to 6 pm.

A selection of 35 canvases – The Established Masters – will be auctioned at Bonhams, 101, New Bond Street
London on June 7, 2007, 6 pm onwards

The proceeds of the sale will go towards TEHELKA.

PREVIEW

30th May to 11th June
Asia House

AUCTION

11th June, Asia House

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www.criticalfutures.org

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SIR V S NAIPAUL SPEAKS

This initiative, designed to support both art and media, forms part of the 60th anniversary of Indian Independence. It comes dovetailed with an unusual summit, **The Challenge of India**, being hosted by TEHELKA in association with Asia House at the Royal Society of Arts, London over 7 – 8 June. This summit brings together an impressive raft of speakers – a mix of influential corporate, civil society and political leaders cutting across party lines, from both India and the UK – and will feature talks and discussions led by such eminent personalities as the Nobel Laureate **Sir V S Naipaul** and India's Minister of Commerce and Industry, **Kamal Nath**.

Sir VS Naipaul, who has earlier spoken out on behalf of TEHELKA, says: **'I have backed TEHELKA for its independent voice, courage, and high public values. It has an important role in the vast changes sweeping India.'**

At a time when India is arousing tremendous interest in the world community. TEHELKA's summit offers an unusual window into India. It will tackle issues of public interest in India, rarely discussed in international forums. How is India really responding to globalisation? What are the new energies coursing through the country? How is one to approach its complex socio-political realities? What are the most creative responses to it?

The summit's agenda has been constructed to orchestrate means through which the world can develop a more enlightened and nuanced understanding of the subcontinent.

For more details: www.criticalfutures.org

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ABOUT TEHELKA

TEHELKA is a unique media brand in India, strongly associated with courage, integrity and independent reporting. It is committed to the two most crucial pillars of a free press: public interest journalism and the appetite to question. It is not aligned to any political party or business house.

TEHELKA first shot to international fame when it broke a sting investigation into defence corruption in India in 2001. This was hailed as a watershed in Indian journalism by global media. The government retaliated forcing TEHELKA to shut down. Tarun Tejpal, a reputed journalist, and founder editor of TEHELKA, stood his ground and fought back. TEHELKA's credentials emerged as impeccable, and his stand earned it immense public support.

In 2004, TEHELKA was relaunched as a national weekly English newspaper. In a campaign unprecedented in the history of media, thousands of ordinary Indian citizens supported the comeback of the paper with advance subscriptions. Also, 220 of some of India's most eminent citizens – writers, artists, film stars, politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen – paid Rs 1 lakh each [GBP 1235] to become Founder Subscribers of the paper. In the three years since its relaunch, TEHELKA has re-established its reputation for hard investigative journalism, fine writing and in-depth analysis. Some of the most important public interest stories in India in the last three years have been broken by TEHELKA.

The paper is read by all the important intellectuals and decision makers in India. And some of the best Indian writers and columnists have written for TEHELKA – including **Arundhati Roy, Amitav Ghosh, Rana Dasgupta, Amit Chaudhuri, Meera Syal, William Dalrymple, Patrick French** and others.

TEHELKA's involvement with public interest issues is amplified by its **Critical Futures** series. Last year, TEHELKA hosted a path-breaking new forum **The Summit of the Powerless** in India. This brought together on a single platform the three stakeholders of a free society: money power, political power, and people power. It triggered many crucial new conversations and was widely hailed as a first in India.

This year, the TEHELKA Foundation – an adjunct of the paper – hosted a smaller, but highly successful mini conference on **Equality, Quality and Quantity – The Elusive Triangle in Indian Education**. The Foundation seeks to inspire young people to engage with the community and to work towards social integration. Frequent workshops and programs are held to raise awareness of citizen rights and responsibilities as well as helping individuals improve their life skills.

TEHELKA's **The Challenge of India** summit in London is part of its **Critical Futures** series.

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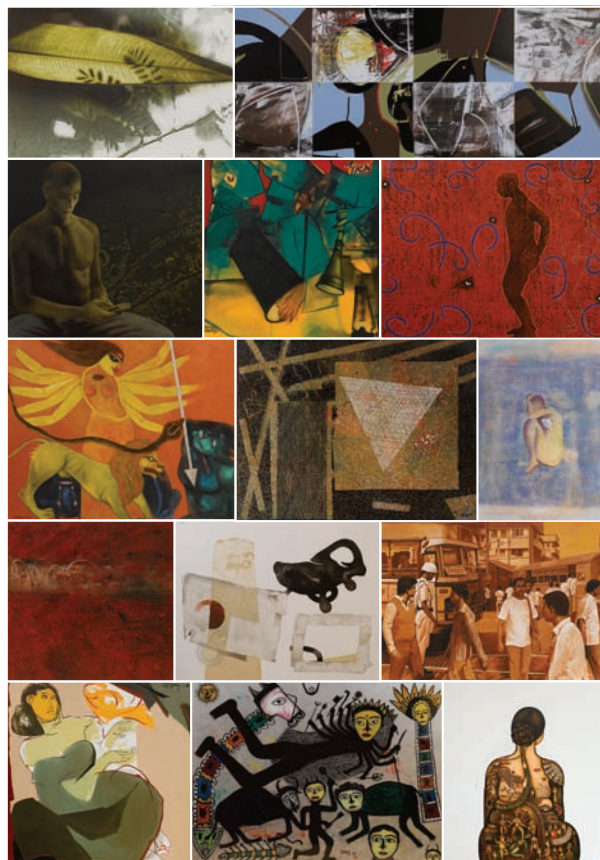
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ASIA HOUSE

Asia House is London's 'must visit' centre for everyone with an interest in the rich and varied cultures and economic vibrancy of Asia. As a leading pan-Asian organisation, Asia House offers a range of unique opportunities to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of business, diplomatic and cultural interaction between Asia and Britain. Our remit covers Asia in the widest possible geographic context – from Iran to Japan and from the Central Asian Republics to Indonesia.

Stefan Kosciuszko, CEO Asia House commented, "Asia House and Tehelka are the most powerful partnership to present a cutting edge view of contemporary Indian business and culture. Be prepared to be surprised, delighted and enlightened".



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