



## Summoning Nature's Quintessence | Druvinka Madawala

Stimulus, spirituality and oneness with nature evoke the artistry in our cover personality for this edition, Druvinka Madawala. Hailed as one of Sri Lanka's leading contemporary artists, Druvinka's work is a reflection of the transcendent realms that the environment embodies. Her works have travelled the world mirroring her simple demeanour and rooted spirituality in the forms of solo and group exhibitions not only in Sri Lanka, but also in India, London and Malaysia. Having gained prominence as an artist after a solo exhibition in Colombo in 1990, Druvinka has since used visual art to elicit a deeper understanding of the environment whilst portraying her unique relationship with nature.

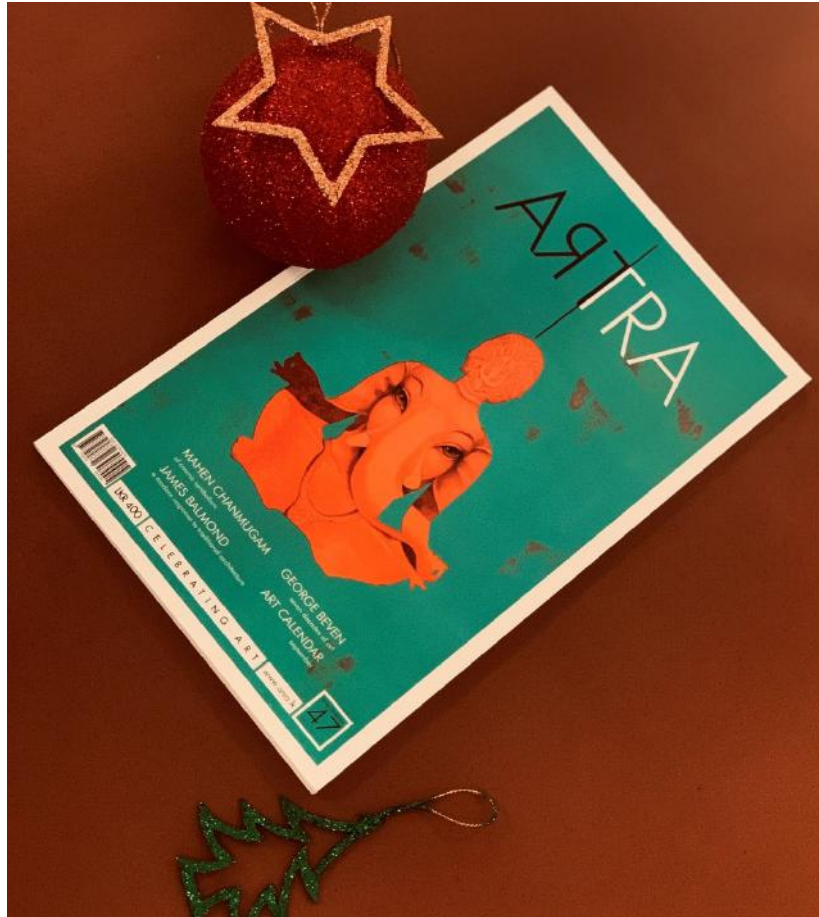
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<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/summoning-natures-quintessence-2>

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## Art, Architecture & Archaeology | Architecture of Anjalendran

C. Anjalendran imparted much of his learnings unto the people he met and into the houses he built. The architect effortlessly took on the role of a cultural conduit as he conveyed and translated his own interpretation of the Sri Lankan identity, instilling a sense of authenticity into homes with a strong fortitude and resolution through an urgency of fervency and passion. He was both an architect and an art aficionado and is greatly knowledgeable in both these fields, creating a system that celebrated each. He designed spaces that were culturally rich and in doing so, highlighted the significance of archaeological characterization. In unravelling the life and works of Anjalendran on ARTRA Magazine's Architecture of Anjalendran Edition, we conversed with revered contemporary artist Jagath Weerasinghe as he explored the ways in which the architect and his thought processes created an epoch of distinct classification.

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## Encounters | MMCA Sri Lanka

“Featuring the works of George Keyt & Janani Cooray, part of the third rotation of Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Sri Lanka’s ‘Encounters’ takes on an introspective look on the role of clothing that which question gender & societal prejudices, passed on from one generation to another to the detriment of empowerment at large. Do take your time to watch the video installation of Cooray’s walk along Baseline Road wearing the barbed ‘osariya’ that which is showcased at the exhibition, open to public at their premises at Crescat Boulevard, Colombo, to observe society’s blind acceptance of norms and conventions without question or thought provocation, to their own decay, spreading like a disease stifling their agency and potential.”

Editor-in-Chief

Click here to read more about encounters  
<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/encounters>

## In Conversation with Anoma Wijewardene



Find out artist Anoma Wijewardene's favourite local & international art festivals! Read all about her on [www.artra.lk/visual-art](http://www.artra.lk/visual-art) Anoma Wijewardene whose paintings and installations push the boundaries on issues of climate change, peace, inclusiveness and reconciliation recently exhibited at Sotheby's Gallery Hong Kong and The Art Fair London. Her numerous solo exhibitions have included those in London, Sydney, New Delhi, Kuala Lumpur and The Maldives. Group exhibitions in Brisbane, Singapore and Dubai.

Click here for the full video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dgopExd2oA>

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## ARTRA's Emerging Artist



### Adding Dimensions to a Theatrical Experience | Anushka Senanayake

As the founding director of theatre company 'Theatre Junction' which began in 2012, Anushka Senanayake has been critically innovative and consistently progressive. What we admire of Anushka is her grit and the manner in which she addresses complex subject matters and decadent traditions through her plays, which recently fruited powerfully in the popular production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's 'Cinderella' (2017), a noteworthy theatrical interpretation of the modern dynamics of a defiant young woman expressed through alternative types of performance tastefully.

Click here for the full article

<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/adding-dimensions-to-a-theatrical-experience-2>

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## ARTRA's International Eye



### Over The Edge | Thameur Mejri

Thameur Mejri investigates complexities of human existence by identifying parallels between paradoxical ideas of violence, innocence, guilt and shame. The human figure acts as a central element throughout his compositions, the vigorous manner in which Mejri places the figure onto the canvas, reflects the relationship between painting and painter, suggesting self-portraits that battle to fully emerge and reveal themselves. Thameur Mejri's newest body of work is centered on the genesis of any drawing, which is the point, the line, and the brushstrokes of the flashy colours that serve as a plenum background to black bold graphite hatches.

Click here for the full article  
<https://www.artra.lk/visual-art/over-the-edge>



The visceral narrative of ARTRA Magazine's Modernist Works of '43 Group edition, includes over 60 works of art by the collective, reflecting the spiritedness of the artists and their artistic chemistry within their works that collectively bring out the instinctual, especially of love, truth, beauty, form and spirit. Whilst the pages of the magazine begin with Ivan Peries's stickly figure in quiet contemplation and introspection, it is juxtaposed with Justin Daraniyagala's whimsical nightmare to set the tone for the visual narrative, presenting the '43 Group's explicit understanding and paradoxical responses to the nuances of the spirit, emotions, relations and of course, the human condition.

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