



A Portrait of Barbara Sansoni

Barbara Sansoni was born amongst the mountainous regions of Kandy, Sri Lanka in 1928 on the twenty-second day of April to Bertha Daniel and R. Y. Daniel of the Ceylon Civil Service. Barbara grew up amidst varying cultural experiences of Ceylon as a result of her father's occupation as Assistant Government Agent. His postings took him to Batticaloa, Mannar, Matara, Kurunegala and Kandy, taking them from one town to another in succession. She was educated at a boarding school in Kodaikanal, South India after which she studied for a year at St. Bridget's Convent for her Higher School Certificate in 1945. She then went on to study in England for five years at the Regent Street Polytechnic. In 1952, Barbara married Hildon Sansoni, and gave birth to their children, Simon and Dominic. In 1981 after the demise of Hildon in 1979, Barbara married Dr. Ronald Lewcock. Despite her perpetual movements during which she hardly committed to a fixed location, she grew with a community of artists, designers, architects and friends who were likeminded, and many are now regarded as icons of Sri Lankan art and architecture, such as Geoffrey Bawa, Ulrik Plesner and Laki Senanayake to name a few.

Click here for the full research article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/barbara-sansoni-edition-a-portrait-of-barbara-sansoni>



Art, Design & Cultural Idiosyncrasies | Canadian High Commissioner David McKinnon & Victoria Walker

How does art stimulate a wider conversation of cultural engagement in living spaces? Canada House, situated in Bauddhaloka Mawatha Colombo 7, home to High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and to Maldives David McKinnon and Victoria Walker epitomizes an exquisite experience of living with art & heritage. An abode of whimsical splendour, as one enters the sprawling garden, one notices the neatly cut terraces, luscious vistas and Canada House itself turned inside out into a space characterizing cultural diversity in grandeur. Canada House, home to Canadian envoys since 1955, draws a variety of tangible cultural artefacts across a circle of artists, painters, designers and craftsmen from diverse nationalities and periods, which brings forth Alan Collier Hills in Alberta to Anoma Wijewardena's wondrous horizons. Intrigued by the works that adorned the walls, some of which are from the official collection while most belong to the current occupants, in our conversation with High Commissioner David McKinnon and Victoria Walker, we explore the manner through which art plays a role in reflecting the deeper consciousness and identity of a nation.

View the full article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/art-design-&cultural-idiosyncrasies-2>

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Art & Living



Co Founders, James Balmond Creative Director of Balmond Studio & Azara Jaleel, Editor-in-Chief of ARTRA Magazine talk about Art & Living.

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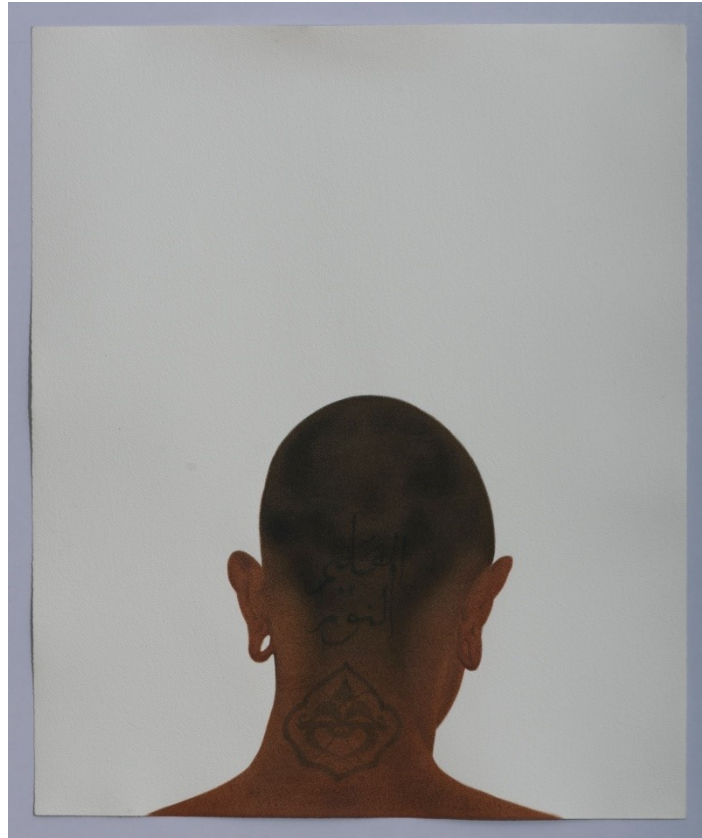
Lines of Tales | Ajmal Imthiyas

Ajmal Imthiyas, the winner of ARTRA's artist challenge under the category of sketching, is a budding artist who is currently pursuing higher studies at AMDT. It was the promising talent he displays as a young artist that drove us to recognize him. He shares a closer bond with the pencil, commanding it in such a way that, together, they produce an artwork that attracts the eye of the viewer instantly. The visual art form of sketching requires a particular skill set which includes attention to detail, patience, and professionalism in creating, and one look at the artworks created by this promising artist shows that he is equipped with all he needs. The intricate details of his sketches invite the viewer to engage with the artwork for a lengthier period of time, thus providing intellectual pleasure while the obvious visual appeal offers aesthetic pleasure. We thus celebrate Ajmal for his mastery at artistic expression where he intersects the traditional craft of pencil sketching with the modern art of 3d sketching.

Click here for the full article

<https://artra.lk/visual-art/lines-of-tales-2>

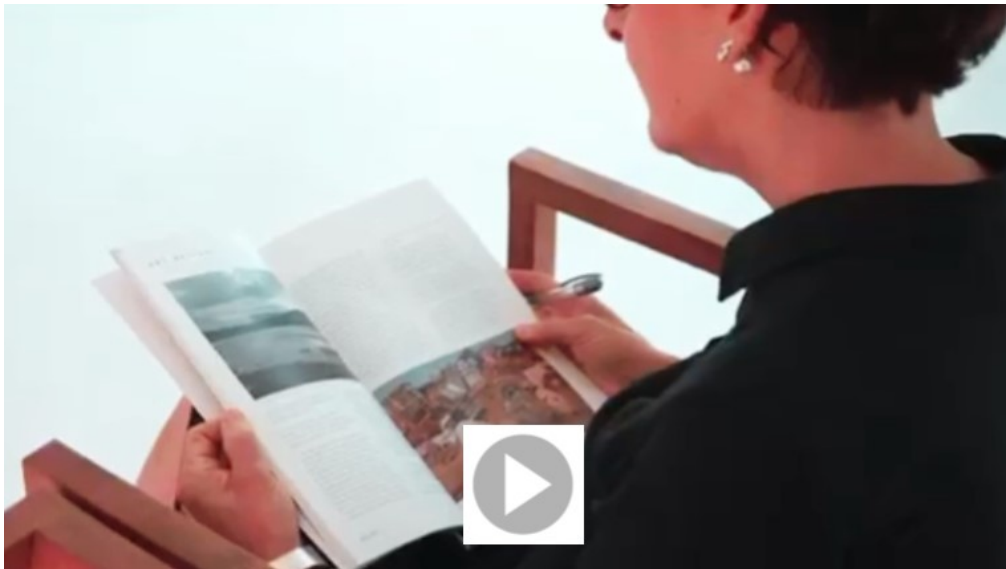
ARTRA's International Eye



Man of Faith | Ali Kazim

Ali Kazim attempts to inspire and instill faith in the people and a down-trodden society through his series, 'Man of Faith' for the Cancerfund-Galle exhibition, 2021. The collection, a series of portraits of the people that surround the artist are those that depict belief, those that transpire a sense of faith. And through these portraits, the artist intends to create a space where individuals feel at rest in challenging and tumultuous environments. Thus, he creates for 'Tonight No Poetry Will Serve'. The Cancerfund-Galle exhibition was founded by Pakistani artist and writer, Mariah Lookman; she initiated the exhibition in attempt to provide a medium through which cancer patients find solace and healing through art. The exhibition brings together twenty-four artists from across the globe to aid in this initiative. Pakistani artist Ali Kazim is one of the selected artists who will be showcasing his work for this initiative as he attempts to inspire faith through intriguing portraits of individuals he has interacted with throughout his experiences.

Click here for the full article
<https://artra.lk/visual-art/man-of-faith>



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