

# Spotlight On Artist Mansaram's Long Art Career

*Indo-Canadian's Works Invoke Unending Feelings Of Travel Through Time & Dimensions*

TORONTO: The exhibition *The Medium is the Medium* - by media artist P. Mansaram, curated by Indu Vashist and Toleen Touq, will be on show at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery in Toronto.

Co-presented with the South Asian Visual Arts Centre (SAVAC), from February 2 – March 23, 2019, the exhibition thinks through the artist's decades-long practice of repetition.

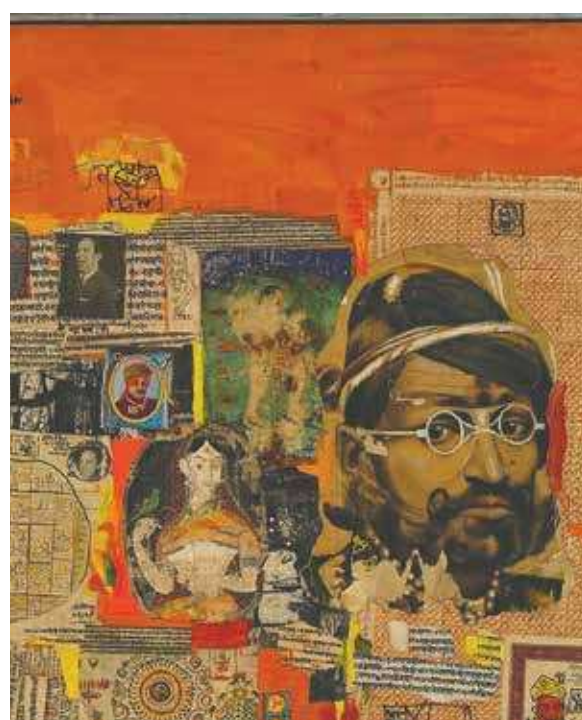
For Mansaram, repetition is art practice, repetition is meditation, repetition is spirituality, repetition is falling in love, and as he says, repetition is a way to finding god. Strategically using recurrence and reproduction through a variety of medium including drawing, painting, collage, text, sculpture, xerox, silkscreen print-making, and film, Mansaram's work invokes unending feelings of travel: through time, dimension and territory.

Panchal Mansaram, stylized as P. Mansaram, is an Indo-Canadian artist whose art is primarily collage-based. His prevalent use of mixed media collage is known as Mansamedia

Spanning more than five decades, the selection of works highlights both material and spiritual elements from the artists' surroundings and everyday life—including characters, symbols and spaces—to convey the



P. Mansaram - Maharana Pratap -Mixed media on paper, 44 cm x 58 cm, 1967.



P. Mansaram - Maharaja - A collage

artist's meditative and transcendent processes in both form and content. In that regard, the ways in which Mansaram assembles different media and creates a sense of place present the viewer with a nuanced narrative of the diasporic experience.

Over the past decade, SAVAC has presented Mansaram's work in several group programs and this exhibition will shine a spotlight on his long career.

Continuously tinkering with old works in response to contemporary shifts, Mansaram holds

the rare ability of keeping an ever-evolving artistic practice that is both timely and germane.

Mansaram was born in 1934 in Mt. Abu, Rajasthan, India and studied at the Sir J. J. School of Art. Shortly after studying at the Rijks Academie in Amsterdam, he migrated to Canada in 1966.

In 2016, the ROM acquired over 700 pieces from the artist's archive reflecting over 50 years of his work. Mansaram's work are also in permanent collection of National Gallery of Canada and Art Gallery of Mississauga.

The ROM's collection is the best repository of the artist's work in the world. His body of work adds a new dimension to our understanding of Indian modernism, as well as to narratives of the history of Canadian art.

The opening reception will be on Saturday, February 2, 2019, 5-7pm at the University of Toronto Art Centre. Extended exhibition hours from 7pm – 12am at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery and the University of Toronto Art Centre for the Night of Ideas.

There will be a Curatorial Tour

with Indu Vashist and Toleen Touq on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 6:30pm at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery. Artist Talk with P. Mansaram will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2019, 1pm at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery.

The exhibition has support from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and Toronto Arts Council. SAVAC is a non-profit, artist-run centre in Canada dedicated to developing and supporting the work and visibility of culturally diverse artists.

## Young Mississauga Poet's First Volume Released In India

MISSISSAUGA: Mississauga has a new poet of Indian origin.

Shehzad Chowhan, who joined as an international student of Lambton College in the city only a few months ago, has just published a volume of 19 poems in India titled 'Arshnuzdah'.

'Arsh' means The Sky in Urdu and 'Nuzdah' means 19 in Persian, Chowhan explained to the Voice. Chowhan is fluent in both languages.

The 100-page book has 19 poems deal-

ing with topics as wide ranging as God, love, empowerment of women and social issues, especially with regard to how people treat their daughters and sons differently. "I feel very strongly on these matters," says Chowhan.

He got into writing verse at the age of 12 "when I first fell in love and wrote a few lines for a girl... People are surprised that my love was so strong... it is the same girl with whom I am in a relationship even today."

Chowhan, who is doing is post-graduate studies in International Business Management, hails from Mumbai, where his family runs a successful construction business. "Although our native place is in Sikha, Rajasthan, we settled in Mumbai a long time ago."

Over the past two months, Chowhan has participated in poetry reading events in Oakville, Mississauga and Ontario where the audiences have been very receptive to his style of verse and imagery.

One of his Urdu-language poems translates freely thus:

*I live only for your love, or else I will run away into the darkness of the night and will never come back, never look back.. But when you leave.. I will come back to you to place a rose on your grave...*

Chowhan, who stays in Malton, is a member of the Ontario Poetry Society and the Mississauga Arts Council and is "waiting to see where life takes me...."



## Man Held In Sexual Assault Investigation

REGION OF PEEL – Investigators from the Peel Regional Police Special Victims Unit have charged a 44-year-old man in relation to a historical sexual assault investigation in Mississauga.

On Friday, January 11, 2019 the victim, a woman in her 30s, reported a sexual assault that occurred in the summer of 1998 when she was a student at a Martial Arts Centre in the Park Royal area of Mississauga. During this time, she was sexually assaulted by a karate instructor on three separate occasions.

Amanullah Yousufy, a 44 year old man from Mississauga, was arrested and charged with Sexual Assault and Sexual Interference. Anyone with information in relation to these incidents is asked to contact investigators at the Special Victims Unit at 905-453-2121, ext. 3460.

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