

Artform: Shora Painting

Shora Painting is a vibrant folk art form traditionally executed on round terracotta plates, originally used to cover earthen pots. Over time, these plates have transformed into canvases for artistic expression, integral to various religious rituals. The art is typically performed on the convex surface of the earthenware, depicting narratives from mythology, folklore, or historical events. These visual representations enhance the aesthetic appeal of the earthenware and serve as a medium for sharing stories and cultural knowledge. Historically utilized for worship, Shora Paintings often depict celestial idols such as Laxmi, Durga, Narayana, and Radhakrishna, each earning distinct titles based on their representations, like Laxmi Shora and Durga Shora. This art form is practiced during special occasions, such as Laxmipuja, using bright and natural colors. In Barak, Shorachitra symbolizes tradition and identity, reflecting the deep-rooted connection between art and spirituality.

Artwork: Durga Shora

The artwork, "Durga Shora," masterfully crafted by Dr. Binoy Paul, embodies the essence of Durga Puja through the intricate depiction of Goddess Durga standing on a lion at the center. This Shora Painting vividly illustrates a scene from the Durga Puja festival, featuring not only the Goddess but also figures of God Ganesha, Goddess Laxmi, God Kartikeya, and Lord Shiva at the top. Additionally, the artist includes a scene of Laxmipuja at the bottom, showcasing Goddess Laxmi. The painting uses bright, natural colors, capturing the vibrant spirit of the festival and the profound connection between art, religion, and tradition. Dr. Paul's depiction is a testament to the cultural and spiritual significance of Shora Painting, elevating the folk art to a medium of storytelling and devotional practice.

Artist: Dr. Binoy Paul

Dr. Binoy Paul, hailing from Silchar, Assam, is a distinguished artist deeply rooted in a family dedicated to the arts. His father was a sculptor, and other family members are painters, providing a rich artistic environment that shaped his journey. Dr. Paul holds a degree in visual arts from Assam University and a PhD, underscoring his academic and creative excellence. His works reflect a profound understanding of traditional art forms and their cultural significance. Through his Shora Paintings, Dr. Paul not only preserves this folk art form but also infuses it with contemporary relevance, creating pieces that resonate with both aesthetic beauty and cultural heritage. His dedication to art and his ability to convey deep cultural narratives through his work make him a prominent figure in the field of visual arts.

Location: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

