

Artform: Phad Painting

Phad painting, a vibrant and intricate form of scroll art originating from Rajasthan, India, stands as a testament to the region's rich cultural tapestry. Renowned for its bold lines, vivid colors, and elaborate storytelling, Phad painting transcends mere artistic expression to embody a living tradition of narrative art. Traditionally executed on a long piece of cloth known as 'Phad', these paintings depict legendary tales of heroic deities such as Pabuji and Devnarayan. Each artwork unfolds like a visual epic, meticulously detailing the adventures and moral narratives that have been passed down through generations.

Artwork: Pabuji Ki Sawari

"Pabuji Ki Sawari" exemplifies the essence of Phad painting, focusing on the heroic exploits of Pabuji, a revered folk deity of Rajasthan. Set against a backdrop of intricate brushwork and vibrant hues, this piece captures Pabuji's role as a protector of cattle and champion of the underprivileged. Every detail, from the characters to the fauna and flora, is painstakingly crafted, reflecting not only artistic prowess but also a deep cultural resonance.

Artist: Gopal Joshi

Gopal Joshi, hailing from Bhilwara, Rajasthan, represents a distinguished lineage dedicated to Phad painting. With a family history steeped in artistic excellence—his father honored with the Padma Shree and himself a recipient of the President's Award—Gopal Joshi continues to uphold and innovate within this cherished tradition. Beyond his accolades, Joshi is a dedicated mentor, passing on his expertise to future generations and ensuring the perpetuation of Phad painting's legacy.

Location: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Team Member: Kritika Joshi

