

## Biren De

Indian Modern Artist

**Born** 1926 Faridpur, Bengal

**Died** 2011 Delhi

Biren De was a proud practitioner of Non-Tantric ideologies. His work was concerned with the union of male and female principles – which according to the tantric principles, is the universal truth. He used symbols and patterns to bring about a spiritual quality to his paintings and juxtaposition of colours to create a bright and translucent visual that captures the viewer's eye and takes their mind to the highest level of meditation.

### Education

**1949** Diploma in Fine Arts, Government College of Arts and Craft, Kolkata

### Selected Exhibitions

### Posthumous

<b>2014</b> “Figuring the Abstract in Indian Art”, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA	<a href="http://www.pem.org/press/press_release/273-figuring_the_abstract_in_indian_art">http://www.pem.org/press/press_release/273-figuring_the_abstract_in_indian_art</a>
<b>2011</b> “Manifestations VI”, Delhi Art Gallery, New Delhi	<a href="http://www.delhiartgallery.com/exhibitions-images.asp?id=24&amp;exType=EXH">http://www.delhiartgallery.com/exhibitions-images.asp?id=24&amp;exType=EXH</a>
<b>2011</b> “Manifestations V”, Delhi Art Gallery, New Delhi	<a href="http://www.delhiartgallery.com/exhibitions-images.asp?id=23&amp;exType=EXH">http://www.delhiartgallery.com/exhibitions-images.asp?id=23&amp;exType=EXH</a>
<b>2011</b> National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi	

### Solo

<b>1999</b> “A Passionate – Detachment”, The Window, Mumbai	
<b>1991</b> “Watercolors”, Gallerie Ganesha, New Delhi	

<b>1990 “Watercolors by Biren De”,</b> Galerie 88, Kolkata	
<b>1977 “Retrospective 1950-1977”,</b> Dhoomimal Art Gallery, New Delhi	
<b>1974 “Exhibition of Paintings”,</b> Gallery Chemould, Mumbai	
<b>1973 “Biren De – Within The Wheel”,</b> Gallery Chemould, Mumbai	
<b>1963 “Exhibition of Paintings – Biren De”,</b> Fine Arts Gallery, New Delhi	
<b>1961 “Biren De – Exhibition of Paintings”,</b> Kunika Centre for Contemporary Arts, New Delhi	
<b>1953 “Exhibition of Paintings – Biren De”,</b> All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society (AIFACS), New Delhi	

#### Group

<b>2008 “Post Independence Masters”,</b> Aicon Gallery, New York	<a href="http://www.aicongallery.com/exhibitions/2008-08-28_post-independence-masters/">http://www.aicongallery.com/exhibitions/2008-08-28_post-independence-masters/</a>
<b>2003 “Neo Tantrics”,</b> New York	
<b>1999 “Thirteen Indian Painter”,</b> organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts, USA	
<b>1973 “Contemporary Indian Painting”,</b> Washington D.C and Los Angeles, USA, Toronto, Canada	
<b>1972 “Contemporary Indian Painters”,</b> USSR and Greece	
<b>1972 “25 Years of Indian Art”,</b> New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai	
<b>1965 “Ten Contemporary Indian Painters”,</b> M.I.T. Cambridge, USA and New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, USA	
<b>1965 “Ten Contemporary Painters from India”,</b>	

Manila, Hong Kong and Singapore	
<b>1963-64 “Ten Contemporary Painters from India”</b> , Travelling exhibition to the USA.	
<b>1959 “Contemporary Art from India”</b> , Museum Folkwang Essen; Stadische Kunsthalle, Recklinghausen; Museum am Ostwall, Dortmund and Galerie Palette, Zurich, Switzerland	
<b>1957 “Young Asian Artists”</b> , Japan	

### Text

<b>News</b> Biren De, Hemant Sareen, Art AsiaPacific Magazine, April 2011	<a href="http://artasiapacific.com/News/BirenDe19262011">http://artasiapacific.com/News/BirenDe19262011</a>
<b>Blog</b> Obituary: Biren De (1926-2011), Uma Nair, Times of India, March 2011	<a href="http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/plumage/obituary-biren-de-1926-2011/">http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/plumage/obituary-biren-de-1926-2011/</a>
<b>News</b> Biren De Elected as Lalit Kala Akademi’s Fellow, One India, October 2006	<a href="http://www.oneindia.com/2006/10/04/biren-de-elected-lalit-kala-akademis-fellow-1159965341.html">http://www.oneindia.com/2006/10/04/biren-de-elected-lalit-kala-akademis-fellow-1159965341.html</a>
<b>Review</b> Bird’s Eye of Indian Art in Hong Kong, Avantika Bhuyan, Business Standard, March 2014	<a href="http://www.business-standard.com/article/specials/bird-s-eye-view-of-indian-art-in-hong-kong-114051501068_1.html">http://www.business-standard.com/article/specials/bird-s-eye-view-of-indian-art-in-hong-kong-114051501068_1.html</a>

### Awards

**1964** National Award for ‘Dying Ogre’, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi

**1958** National Award for ‘Apparition’, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi

### Selected Images

1 **Biren De, *Untitled*, 1956**, oil on canvas, 37 x 31”

2 **Biren De, *Untitled*, 1981**, acrylic on canvas, 26.5 x 42”

3 **Biren De, *Untitled*, 1990**, oil on canvas, 40 x 40”

4 **Biren De, *Untitled (Gossip)*, 1953**, oil on canvas, 21 x 14 5/8”

- 5 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1979, oil on canvas, 50 x 50 cm
- 6 Biren De, *The three Vaishnavites*, 1956, oil on canvas, 66 x 89 cm
- 7 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1967, oil on canvas, 30 x 48 3/8"
- 8 Biren De, *Three Fisherman*, 1951, oil on canvas, 18 x 24"
- 9 Biren De, *April '73*, 1973, oil on canvas, 52.3 x 40.3"
- 10 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1976, oil on canvas, 22 x 27.8"
- 11 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1967, acrylic on canvas, 19.12 x 23.75"
- 12 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1970, oil on canvas, 55 x 38"
- 13 Biren De, *Two Figures*, 1953, oil on canvas, 20.3 x 24.4"
- 14 Biren De, *Ardhanarishwar (Half man and half woman)*, ink on paper, 4 x 6"
- 15 Biren De, *Shiva Dancing*, ink on paper, 3.5 x 5.5"
- 16 Biren De, *The moment*, 1966, oil on canvas, 53.5 x 42.2"
- 17 Biren De, *Untitled (Girl waiting)*, 1957, oil on canvas, 18 x 22.2"
- 18 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1973, oil on canvas, 52 x 40"
- 19 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1955, oil on canvas, 22.2 x 17.7"
- 20 Biren De, *Untitled*, oil on canvas, 24 x 35.8"
- 21 Biren De, *Encounter: Night arrives*, oil on canvas, 16.1 x 20.1"
- 22 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1956, oil on canvas, 10.2 x 14.1"
- 23 Biren De, *Untitled*, 1983, oil on canvas, 48 x 34"
- 24 Biren De, *January*, 1992, oil on canvas, 44 x 38"
- 25 Biren De, *March'79*, 1979, oil on canvas, 40.2 x 40.2"
- 26 Biren De, *The musician-1*, 1957, oil on canvas, 30 x 21.75"
- 27 Biren De, *Press Release*, 2014, "Figuring the Abstract in Indian Art", Peabody Essex Museum

<http://artist.christies.com/Biren-De-18089-bio.aspx#loadProfileContent>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/specials/bird-s-eye-view-of-indian-art-in-hong-kong-114051501068\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/specials/bird-s-eye-view-of-indian-art-in-hong-kong-114051501068_1.html)

<http://artasiapacific.com/News/BirenDe19262011>

<http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/plumage/obituary-biren-de-1926-2011/>

<http://www.indianartcircle.com/keshavmalik/birende.shtml>

<http://artasiapacific.com/News/BirenDe19262011>