

Sunayani Devi

Indian Modern Artist

Born June 1875, Calcutta

Died February 1962, Calcutta

Tagore family, sister to Abanindranath and Gaganendranath Tagore, niece to Rabindranath Tagore, primitivist art, self-trained, housewife

Education

Self-taught with no institutional training

Timeline

Selected Exhibitions

- 1908, 10, 12 Exhb., Indian Society of Oriental Art, Calcutta.
- 1911 United Provinces Exhb. organised by Indian Society of Oriental Art, Allahabad.
- 1911 Festival of Empire, organised by Indian Society of Oriental Art for George Vs Coronation Crystal Palace, London.
- 1924 Travelling exhb. organised by Indian Society of Oriental Art and American Federation of Art, USA.
- 2004 Manifestations II, organised by Delhi Art Gallery, Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai and Delhi Art Gallery, New Delhi.

Collections

- The National Art Gallery, Chennai.
- Sri Chitra Art Gallery, Thiruvananthapuram.
- Jaganmohan Palace, Mysore.
- Lucknow University, Lucknow.
- Rabindra Bharati University Museum, Kolkata.
- Academy of Fine Arts, Kolkata.

Text

Points

“Sunayani first drew a red or black outline with brush on paper, which was then filled in with watercolours prepared by herself and applied with a thin paintbrush. She then dipped the sheet into a circular drum of water allowing the colours to be absorbed by the paper. The wash was used as a continuous process through which the form emerged without taking recourse to drawing. She firmed up the outline with the brush once the hazy shapes started emerging out of the washes, the washes themselves investing her works with a delicate hue.” (Mitter)

All Images

1. **Sunayani Devi**
Watercolour and gouache on paper
12.7 X 15.7 in.(32.3 X 39.9 cms)
2. **Sunayani Devi**
Watercolour on paper
6.5 X 12.5 in.(16.5 X 31.8 cms)
3. **Sunayani Devi**
Watercolour and pencil on paper
8.0 X 11.0 in.(20.3 X 27.9 cms)
4. **Unknown**
5. **Unknown**
6. **Seated Woman**
7. **Unknown. From the Kejriwal Collection.**
8. **Seated Woman**