

**T V Santosh:**

**Biography :**

<http://www.aicongallery.com/artists/tv-santhosh/bio/>

<http://guildindia.com/TVSantosh/CV.htm>

**Country :** India

**Dates :** Born in Kerala, India ,1968

**Lives and works :** The Artist lives and work in Mumbai, India

**Education:** 1997 Master of Fine Art (Sculpture), Faculty of Fine Art, M.S. University, Baroda , India

1994 Bachelor of Fine Art (Sculpture), Kalabhavana, Shantiniketan, West Bengal, India

**Medium and Technique :**

## **Exhibitions :**

### **MUSEUM AND INSTITUTIONAL EXHIBITIONS( Do we have to put them in our final doc )MERGE WITH GROUP EXHIBITIOS**

- 2012 WAR ZONE: Indian Contemporary Art, ARTEMONS CONTEMPORARY, Das Kunstmuseum, Austria
- 2011 INDIA, curated by Pieter Tjabbes and Tereza de Arruda, Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2011 Collectors' Stage: Asian Contemporary Art from Private Collections, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- 2010 The Silk Road, New Chinese, Indian and Middle Eastern Art from The Saatchi Gallery at Tri Postal, Lille, France
- 2010 Vancouver Biennale
- 2009 India Xianzai, MOCA, Shanghai, China
- 2009 Passage to India, Part II: New Indian Art from the Frank Cohen Collection, at Initial Access, Wolverhampton, UK
- 2008 Passage to India, Part I: New Indian Art from the Frank Cohen Collection, at Initial Access, Wolverhampton, UK
- 2007 After Shock, curated by Yasmin Canvin in collaboration with Sainsbury Centre Museum, Norwich
- 2004 Zoom!, Art in Contemporary India, Curated by Nancy Adajania & Luis Serpa, Culturegest Lisbon
- 2003 Crossing generations: diVERGE, curated by Geeta Kapur & Chaitanya Sambrani, presented by Chemould Gallery,  
NGMA Mumbai
- 2003 NGMA Annual Show, NGMA Mumbai

## **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

**2011 The Land, Nature Morte, Berlin**

**2010 Burning Flags, Aicon Gallery, London in collaboration with The Guild Gallery of Mumbai and New York**

**2009 Blood and Spit, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York**

**Living With A Wound, Grosvenor Gallery, London**

**2008 A Room To Pray, Avanthay Contemporary, Zurich, in collaboration with the Guild Art gallery, Mumbai**

Bose Pacia, Kolkata

**Countdown, Nature Morte, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai**

2006 Scars of An Ancient Error, Singapore Art Fair, presented by the Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai

2005 False Promises, Grosvenor Gallery, London (with The Guild, Mumbai)

2004 Unresolved Stories, Nature Morte, New Delhi

2003 One Hand Clapping/Siren, Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

1997 Faculty of Fine Arts Gallery, M.S. University, Baroda

## **Select Group Exhibitions**

### **2012**

**Critical Mass: Contemporary Art from India, curated by Tami Katz-Freiman and Rotem Ruff, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Israel**

**Havana Biennale**

**INDIA- LADO A LADO curated by Tereza de Arruda, SESC Belenzinho Sao Paulo, Brazil**

### **2011**

Indian Rainbow, Luce Gallery, Torino

Collectors' Stage: Asian Contemporary Art from Private Collections, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore

Iconoclasts & Iconodules, Religare Art Gallery, New Delhi

**Icons in Our Midst, Artspeaks India, New Delhi**

**4th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art Rewriting Worlds, curated by Peter Weibel**

**In Transition New Art from India, Surrey Museum of Art, Canada**

**Crossroads: India Escalate, Prague Biennale 5**

**2010**

**Empire Strikes Back, at Saatchi Gallery, London**

**The 11th Hour: An Exhibition of Contemporary Art from India / Diaspora, Tang Contemporary, Beijing**

**The Empire Strikes Back: Indian Art Today, The Saatchi Gallery, London**

Size Matters or Does it?, Part2 at Latitude 28, New Delhi

Size Matters or Does it?, Part 1 at Latitude 28, New Delhi

**Inside India, Palazzo Saluzzo Paesana, Turin**

Freedom to March: Rediscovering Gandhi through Dandi, presented by Ojas Art at Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi

At The Edge, Gallery Maya, London

**Looking Glass: The Existence of Difference, Twenty Indian Contemporary Artists presented by Religare Arts Initiative, New Delhi in collaboration with American Centre; British Council; Goethe-Institut/ Max Mueller Bhavan, New Delhi**

**Indian (Sub)Way, Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi; Grosvenor Vadehra, London**

The Evolution of the Species, Institute of Contemporary Indian Art (ICIA), Mumbai

In Transition: New Art from India, Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond, BC, Canada; Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, Canada

Evidentia, Gallery Sumukha, Bangalore

All That Is Solid Melts Into Air: Indian Contemporary Art in Global Times, Lakeeren, Mumbai

Sculpture, The Guild, Mumbai

**2009**

**Dark Materials curated by David Thorp, G S K Contemporary show, at Royal Academy of Arts, London**

2009 Expressions at Tihar, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi

Failed Plot, part of KIAF 09 at COEX, Seoul

**India Xianzai: Contemporary Indian Art, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), Shanghai Armory Show, New York represented by The Guild, Mumbai**

ARCOMadrid, Spain represented by The Guild, Mumbai

CIGE 2009, China represented by The Guild, Mumbai

Vicissitudes of the Constructed Image, Tangerine Art Space, Bangalore

Recycled, Bose Pacia, Kolkata

Mining Minds, Chaitanya Art Gallery, Kochi

Multitudes, Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, Bangalore in collaboration with Zen Studio Gallery and Artflute.com

Progressive to Altermodern: 62 Years of Indian Modern Art, Grosvenor Gallery, London

Re-Claim/ Re-Cite/ Re-Cycle, presented by Latitude 28 at Travancore Art Gallery, New Delhi; Bose Pacia, Kolkata

**Passage to India, Part II: New Indian Art from the Frank Cohen Collection, at Initial Access, Wolverhampton, UK**

My Little India, Marella Gallery, Beijing

Life is A Stage, Institute of Contemporary Indian Art (ICIA), Mumbai

In The Mood For Paper, F2 Gallery, Beijing

Threshold: Forging Narratives in South Asian Contemporary Art, Aicon Gallery, New York

Where In The World, Devi Art Foundation, New Delhi

Signs Taken for Wonders: Recent Art from India and Pakistan, Aicon Gallery, London

Hot Shots, The Viewing Room, Mumbai

**India Art Now: Between Continuity and Transformation, Province of Milan, Milan, Italy**

Similarities, Lansdowne Gallery, Mumbai

Collision Course, GSK Contemporary: Part 2, Royal Academy of Art, UK

101 Tokyo Contemporary Art Fair 2008, represented by The Guild, Mumbai

Presented by Jack Shainman Gallery at Art Basel Miami Beach, Basel

Kashi 10 Light Years – Anniversary Show, Kashi Art Gallery, Kochi

**2008      Where in the World, Devi Art Foundation, Delhi**

**2007      Continuity and Transformation, Museum show, exhibition promoted by Provincia di Milano Italy.**

2007 SH Contemporary, Shanghai

After Shock: Conflict, Violence and Resolution in Contemporary India', Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

Young Guns, Institute of Contemporary Indian Art (ICIA), Mumbai

Year 07, London, presented by Grosvenor Vadehra, London

India 20, a Group Show that Coincided With the Release of the Book 'India 20', at Rabindra Bhavan, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi

**2006 Lekha and Anupam Poddar collection at The Chrysler Museum, Germany.**

2006 KAAM, Aicon Gallery, New York

Scars of An Ancient Error, Singapore Art Fair presented by The Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai

Here And Now: Young Voices From India, Grosvenor Vadehra, London

Lekha and Anupam Poddar Collection at The Chrysler Museum, Germany

2005 Whose Space is it Anyway?, Gallery Espace, New Delhi

Are We like this Only?, Vadhera Gallery, New Delhi

DOUBLE-ENDERS, Jehangir Art Gallery and the Museum Gallery, Mumbai;

Vadhera Art Gallery, New Delhi; Gallery Sumukha, Bangalore; Durbar Hall, Kochi

2004 Anticipations, Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

Bombay Boys, Palette Art Gallery, New Delhi

Zoom!, Art in Contemporary India, Culturegest, Lisbon, Portugal

Generation I, Saffronart Gallery, Mumbai

A Journey, Gallery Art and Soul, Mumbai

A Tribute To Bhupen Khakhar, Tao Art Gallery, Mumbai

Group show, Viart Gallery, Delhi

RED, Palette Art Gallery, Delhi

Looking Back, Looking Forward, Sarjan Art Gallery, Baroda

2003 Crossing Generations: diVERGE, Gallery Chemould at NGMA, Mumbai

The Dual Path of Indian Art Today, Gallery Muller and Plate, Munich

Highlights, Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai

2002 Creative Space, India Habitat Center/Sakshi Gallery, New Delhi

Art Edge, Fine Art Company, at National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai & IHC, Delhi

Words And Images, Guild Art Gallery, at National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai

Quotable Stencil, Tao Art Gallery, Mumbai

Cross Currents, Jehangir Art Gallery

Trans-Figuration, ArtInc., at India Habitat Centre, Delhi.

Mela-A Carnival Of Indian Art, curated by Anupa Mehta, RPG Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

Tribute To Picasso, Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai

The Human Factor, Guild Art Gallery at Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

2001'Harmony Show, Nehru Centre, Mumbai

Excerpts From My Diary Pages, curated by Sasha Altaf, Fine Art Company Gallery, Mumbai

Engendering Images Of Women, Guild Art Gallery

2000 Exile And Longing, Lakeeren Art Gallery, Mumbai

Kala Ghoda Show on 'Functional Objects, by The Guild Art Gallery, Mumbai

1997 Group Show, Visual arts Centre, Ahmedabad

Kerala State Exhibition

1996 Bombay Art Society

1993 Group Show at Birla Academy for Arts and Crafts, Calcutta

All India Institute of Fine Arts and Culture Society Exhibition-Delhi

## **Awards and Scholarships**

1997 Kerala Lalit Kala Academy State Award

INLAKS Foundation (India) Scholarship

Kanoria Scholarship

1994 Ramkinker Award

1990-94 Viswabharathi Merit Scholarship

## SEE MORE:

1. Overview: <http://www.aicongallery.com/artists/tv-santhosh/bio/>
2. Overview: <http://www.guildindia.com/tvsantosh/index.htm>
3. Overview : <http://www.artslant.com/global/artists/show/49661-tv-santhosh>
4. Artworks closeup : <http://www.initialaccess.co.uk/exh/60/9/passage-to-india/t-v-santhosh>
5. Interview : <http://www.artslant.com/ny/artists/rackroom/49661>
6. Interview: [http://www.flashartonline.com/interno.php?pagina=articolo\\_det&id\\_art=826&det=ok&title=T.V.-SANTHOSH](http://www.flashartonline.com/interno.php?pagina=articolo_det&id_art=826&det=ok&title=T.V.-SANTHOSH)
7. Images: <http://www.artnet.com/artists/t.v.-santhosh/>
8. Overview : <http://www.itasveer.com/artsmart/articles/emerging-contemporaries/artworks-of-t-v-santhosh>
9. Image: <http://www.myarttracker.com/node/379714/artworks/by-artist>
10. Artworks closeup : <http://thediplomat.com/new-emissary/2010/06/02/t-v-santhosh%E2%80%99s-burning-flags/>
11. Overview : [http://www.saatchigallery.com/artists/tv\\_santosh.htm](http://www.saatchigallery.com/artists/tv_santosh.htm)
12. Press Release : <http://www.phillips.com/detail/TV-SANTOSH/UK010108/193>
13. Press Release: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/artsales/4435563/Art-Sales-TV-Santhoshs-Living-With-a-Wound.html>
14. Interview : <http://www.artnewsviews.com/view-article.php?article=a-conversation-with-tv-santosh&iid=18&articleid=421>
15. Overview : <http://grosvenorgallery.com/artists/santhosh-t-v/>
16. Overview : [http://www.telegraphindia.com/1081102/jsp/graphiti/story\\_10048652.jsp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1081102/jsp/graphiti/story_10048652.jsp)
17. Overview : <http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/plumage/entry/why-is-tv-santosh-important>
18. Review : <http://www.hindu.com/mag/2003/08/31/stories/2003083100120200.htm>
19. Review : <http://www.modernedition.com/art-articles/apocalyptic-art/apocalypse-in-art.html>
20. Interview: [http://archive.tehelka.com/story\\_main54.asp?filename=hub201012psychology.asp](http://archive.tehelka.com/story_main54.asp?filename=hub201012psychology.asp)
21. Review : [http://www.naturemorte.com/exhibitions/2008-01-25\\_t-v-santosh/press-release/](http://www.naturemorte.com/exhibitions/2008-01-25_t-v-santosh/press-release/)
22. Review : <http://artradarjournal.com/category/z-artists/tv-santosh-z-artists/>
23. Interview : [http://www.theartstrust.com/Magazine\\_article.aspx?articleid=25](http://www.theartstrust.com/Magazine_article.aspx?articleid=25)



24. Overview :[http://www.digplanet.com/wiki/TV\\_Santhosh](http://www.digplanet.com/wiki/TV_Santhosh)
25. Review :<http://www.livemint.com/Leisure/imqZWfUv3P9POzHraq49bO/The-art-of-war.html>
26. ArtworkCloseup:[http://bindumodern.org/Gaur%20Collections/Contemporary%20Artists/T.%20V.%20Santosh/index\\_GaurCollect\\_Contemporary\\_Santosh.html](http://bindumodern.org/Gaur%20Collections/Contemporary%20Artists/T.%20V.%20Santosh/index_GaurCollect_Contemporary_Santosh.html)
27. Review :<http://www.americanbazaaronline.com/2013/02/12/aicon-exhibition-highlights-best-of-contemporary-indian-art/>

[http://www.lucegallery.com/past/Indian-Rainbow---Atul-Dodiya---Jagannath-Panda---Justin-Ponmany---T-V-Santhosh---Thukral-&-Tagra/press-release/ca\\_12627.html](http://www.lucegallery.com/past/Indian-Rainbow---Atul-Dodiya---Jagannath-Panda---Justin-Ponmany---T-V-Santhosh---Thukral-&-Tagra/press-release/ca_12627.html)( EXHIBITION )

<http://dailyserving.com/2009/10/t-v-santhosh/>( EXHIBITION )

<http://animalnewyork.com/2009/t-v-santosh-exhibits-blood-spit-in-chelsea/> EXHIBITION )

<http://www.likeyou.com/en/node/5372> EXHIBITION )

#### **Text :**

Employing the themes of war and global terrorism, South Indian artist T.V. Santhosh paints in lurid greens and shocking orange, recreating the effect of a colour photographic negative. The artist charges his large canvases with figures in contoured and compromising positions. Like many of his politically motivated contemporaries, Santhosh lifts pivotal episodes from recent history and renegotiates their appearance with a shock-bulb of violent energy that eclipses the work. Santhosh's paintings of impending doom, a world at the brink of an atomic end, are intentionally more apocalyptic than cathartic. Tracing an Ancient Error is an illuminated work of what appears to be a bearded man lain out, revealing his chest, holding onto something resembling a thread. An image from recent news events, Santhosh captures this scene and reinvents its value as a piece of anonymous and charged history.

[http://www.saatchigallery.com/artists/tv\\_santosh.htm](http://www.saatchigallery.com/artists/tv_santosh.htm)

Santhosh has switched positive for negative colours in this work. An aged man appears to be operating a sewing machine in a confined space. The artist riddles the surface with wisps of illuminated light that fall over the image like uncontrollable energy or an explosive force. Santhosh often borrows from news images in his works but in representing them through negative colours, suggests otherwise hidden implications to be surmised.

The artistic career of TV Santhosh has been single-mindedly focused, and intensely so, on one, singular area of human activity, leaving in the public domain a visual consolidation of his concern. This body of work can be seen as an attempt to chart 'the un-making of the world, a pulling apart' by the debased and continual effects of dehumanization. Although his paintings and sculptures are sentient to violence, of lurking danger and the pervasive surge upon surge of (de-racinated) inquiries, his renditions remain unapologetic in looking at the open wounds in our failing world. His quixotic vision of someone from the inside willingly looking further remains stubbornly unapologetic, pervasively critical, making one understand the passion and the role of 'the artist of our time'. – Shaheen Merali

“One of the elements that instantly captures the critical imagination of the viewer while engaging with the works of T.V. Santhosh is the meticulous way in which they transgress the mundane media images into the realm of a critique of media-culture in general. This character of our global society is one of the center-points of T.V. Santhosh’s artistic scrutiny. One of the recurring thematic of T.V. Santhosh’s work can be broadly defined as the overarching presence of the notion of violence in contemporary societal life. His works simultaneously engage with the physicality of violence as well as the notions of violence produced by various statist apparatuses.

The media-driven imageries thrust to produce the answer of who they 'really' are, further stereotypes certain communities and cultures and endangers the polity in substantial ways. In this context, T.V. Santhosh’s attempt to critically scrutinize the media imageries acquires the status of a complex political positioning. This is not to say that T.V. Santhosh’s positioning is absolutely devoid of the vulnerability of the citizen-subject. But this recognition of vulnerability allow us to further identify that more than violence what constitutes the thematic of his works are the ways in which the citizen-subjects experience and perceive these various forms of violence. The genealogy of the transgressive tactics of T.V. Santhosh displays that images are not a mere outcome of our 'pure' imagination but our imaginations are the by-product of the image of the 'real' constructed through multiple ideological mediations.” –Santhosh .S

“His paintings are based on images taken from the news media which Santhosh renders in solarised colour schemes, in reference to photographic negatives. His images of choice document war, terrorism and violence. What strikes us immediately about Santhosh is his grasp of the crises of our globalised present, his taste for translating current events, even as they unfold, into narratives that are too allegorical to be history, yet too mutable to be myth. His pattern of selection is determined, however, by the key themes of war and catastrophe: his is an art attentive to the specific idioms of contemporary global conflict, to the diabolical pact between knowledge and terror, the skewed antagonism between puissant globality and weakened locality. Significantly, the artist is preoccupied with the distortion of science and technology into vehicles of terror: the laboratory, as much as the battlefield, is where the action of his paintings is set; the two venues are often conflated.” - Ranjit Hoskote

T. V. Santhosh is best known for his paintings. Throughout the 1990's he worked primarily in black and white isolating single images in atmospheric fields of grey in paintings that owe something to the iconography of Pop Art and black and white press photography. More recently his paintings have employed the visual effect of solarisation, a process once popular in the 1960's as a means of 'psychadelicising' photographic images. These skilfully executed paintings have a photographic quality that clearly appropriate references from print media, television and the internet. This solarisation in which tonal values are reversed in neon pinks, purples and greens are a defining element of T. V.

Santhosh's paintings sometimes assembled as diptychs juxtaposing negative (solarised) and positive images side by side. The tonal reversal acts as a deliberately provocative visual metaphor intended to reveal dark areas of society in the most vivid way. Santhosh's subject matter deals with violence and injustice. His paintings are a comment on inequality, famine, terrorism and war.

T. V. Santhosh's installation 'Counting Down' consists of the figures of thirty stainless steel dogs, each one mounted with a digital timer on its back. These are the dogs of war that Santhosh has described as a 'reference to the Nazi dogs who would come before the soldiers themselves'. The timer on each dog counts down towards the end of the world. 'Counting Down' is apocalyptic in its vision, it associates aggressive imagery with the idea of totalitarianism and fascism, and a vision of ultimate disaster.

<http://www.initialaccess.co.uk/exh/60/9/passage-to-india/t-v-santhosh>

**Videos :**

<http://vimeo.com/29613781>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YC0NRCCoCHU> **KEEP THIS TENTATIVE.**

**Bibliography :**

<http://guildindia.com/T.V.Santhosh-BookRelease-Bloodandspit.htm>

<http://guildindia.com/TVSANTHOSH-BookRelease.htm>

<http://guildindia.com/TVSantosh/PublicationsofTVSanthosh.htm>