

"CALCUTTA BLACK AND WHITE" AN EXHIBITION OF DRAWINGS BY

Shunuprasanna

RPG Enterprises Limited
have great pleasure
in Presenting

**Calcutta
Black and
White**

an exhibition of Drawings by
SHUVAPRASANNA '90
at
Indian Museum, Calcutta
Jehangir Art Gallery, Bombay
Sridharani Art Gallery, New Delhi

My Calcutta

Calcutta, the city of Goddess Kali, darkness – there is deep-rooted affinity between Calcutta and the black colour. In fact, black is Calcutta. The black which absorbs all other colours.

Long before the English merchants reached its shores, Calcutta was dominated by large mosquitos and scavenger storks. Then there were the black dacoits of Kolikata and the Goddess of darkness.

If someone excavates Calcutta deeply, a lot of black coal will be found – perhaps enough to keep all the boilers of the world burning throughout the 21st Century.

Civilisation, culture, religion and politics during the last 300 years have been solidified into a black mass in this strange city.

Dear viewer, are you looking for any riot of colour? Look around carefully and you will discover whatever colour you are seeking. Dear viewer, does any particular colour make you spellbound? Do you have special faith in any particular colour? Give up your fascinations for the time being. Let your eyes turn inward and you will find how easy it is to locate within black whatever colour you have been looking for.

Calcutta is a wonder of wonders, a city of contradictions, light and shade, black and white.

Take, for instance, the Curzon Park in the heart of the city where rats take shelter at the base of a statue of a mighty industrialist. The rats there certainly know how to survive.

A countless number of children roam in the street-corners of Calcutta. Countless people come here in pursuit of their professions. The city has never taken away their spirit of wonder or their inner happiness.

Calcutta, a city of processions! The middle-class here simply loves rallies. But it is so easy to visualise a procession of headless people! Calcutta inspires you to indulge in absurdities.

I love Calcutta – perhaps you too! Everyone one day will perhaps love Calcutta. But none of us will ever be sure of how to make love to Calcutta. This love has to be unplanned, perhaps a bit chaotic.

Generations of poets, artists, musicians, filmmakers, politicians, businessmen and intellectuals have through three centuries tried to experience Calcutta with their love and hate, anger and pleasure, blood and sweat. The mystery of Calcutta, however, remains unexplored.

Have not I told you about contradictions? Calcutta provides equal opportunity to the learned and the illiterate, the generous and the mean, the highly intelligent and the fool. It is so easy to be rich in Calcutta in monetary terms and yet remain so poor in soul.

Here is an invitation to citizens of the world – come and behold the black that is Calcutta. You will realise sooner than later why black is so beautiful. Why the world loves the black.

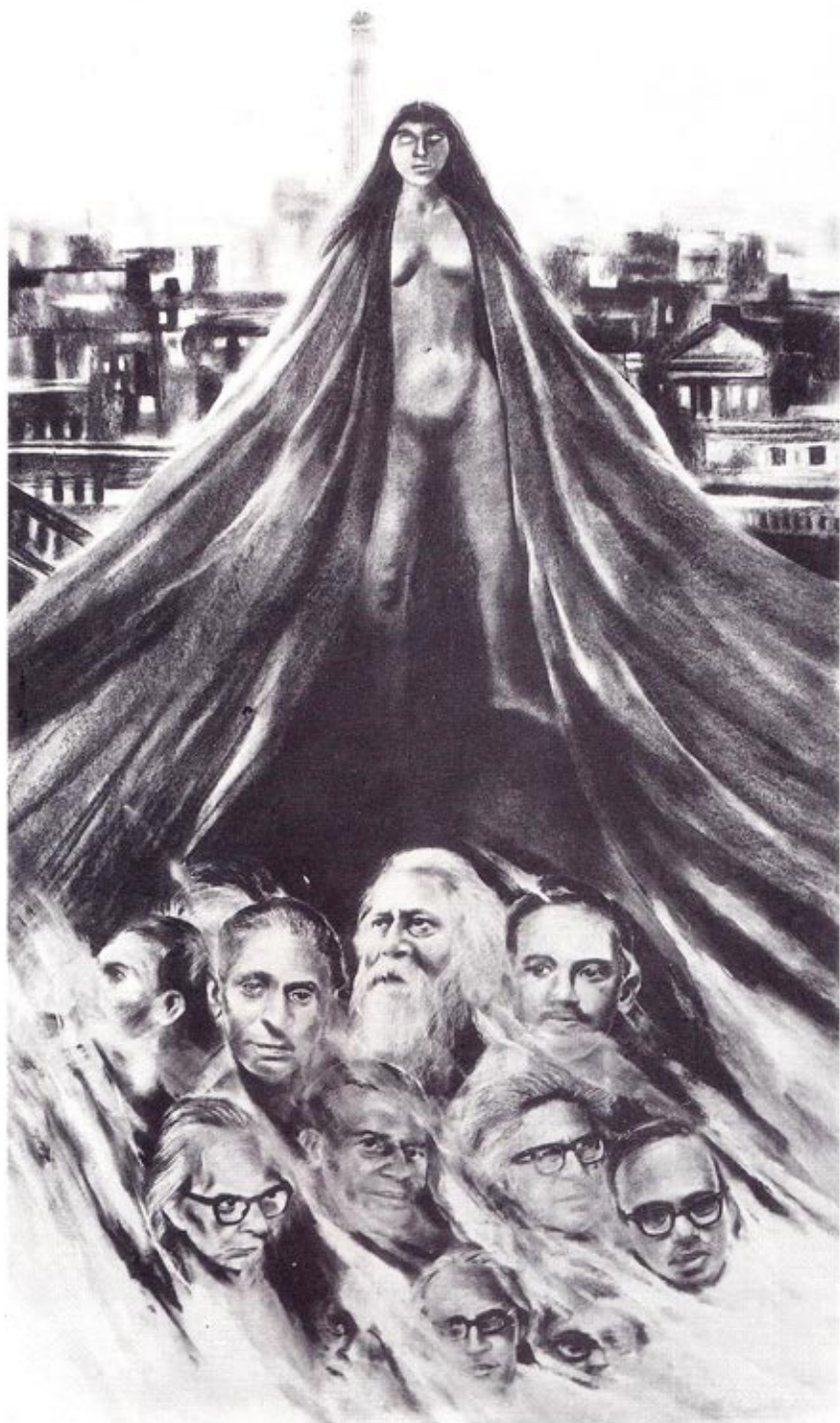
Calcutta can be attractive both in the darkness of the night and in the full moon. The black of Calcutta can draw you irresistably from anywhere – from the sky, from the river, from the distant road.

Having lived in Calcutta for many years I now find it difficult to notice any colour other than black. From within and out, from palaces and slums there is darkness all around – at best it is grey.

To some poets Calcutta has been a lovely woman, others are attracted by its manliness. Whichever way you look at Calcutta, it is black or white!

Let me love my city in black and white.

Shivaprasanna



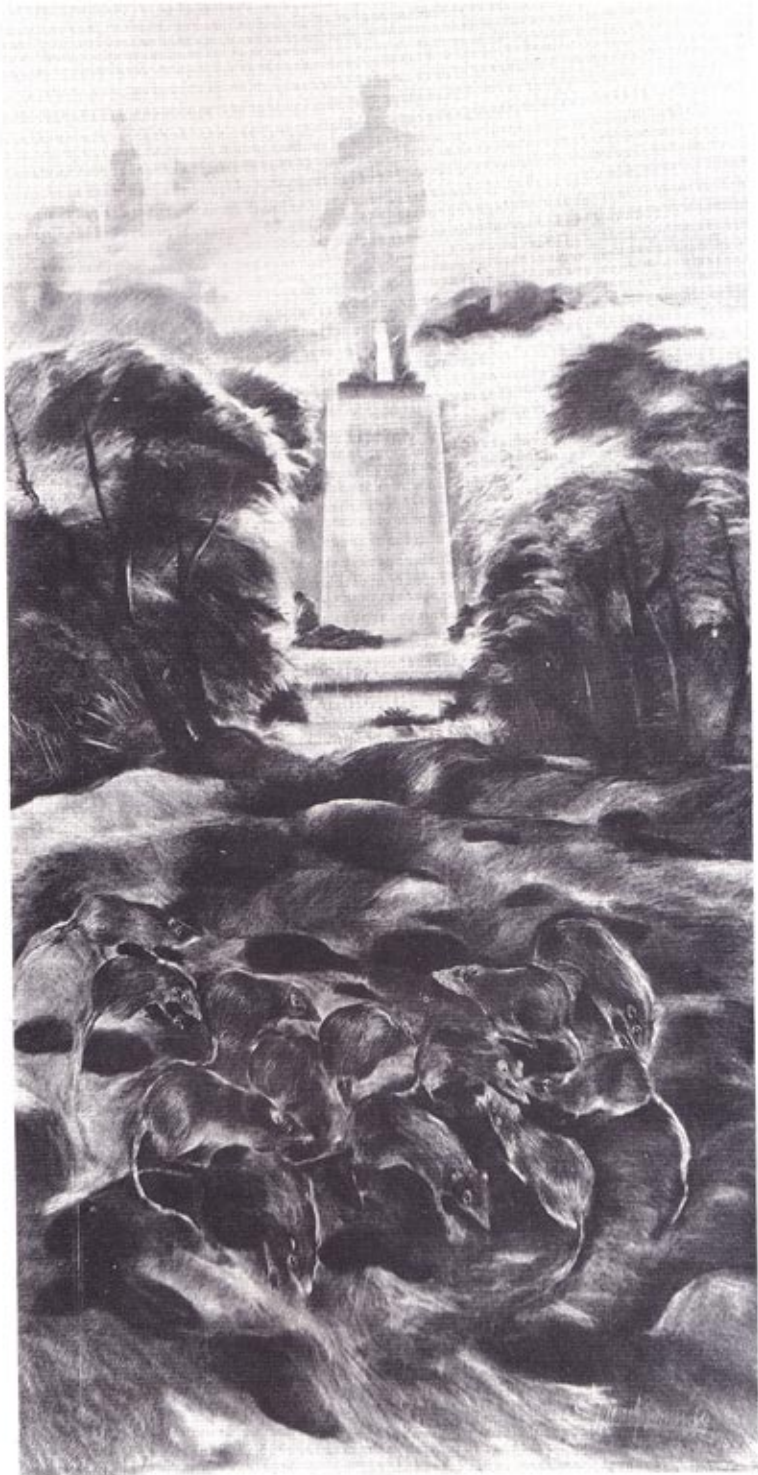
11. Poet's Dream. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



15. The Balance (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic

10. Royal Garbage. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic

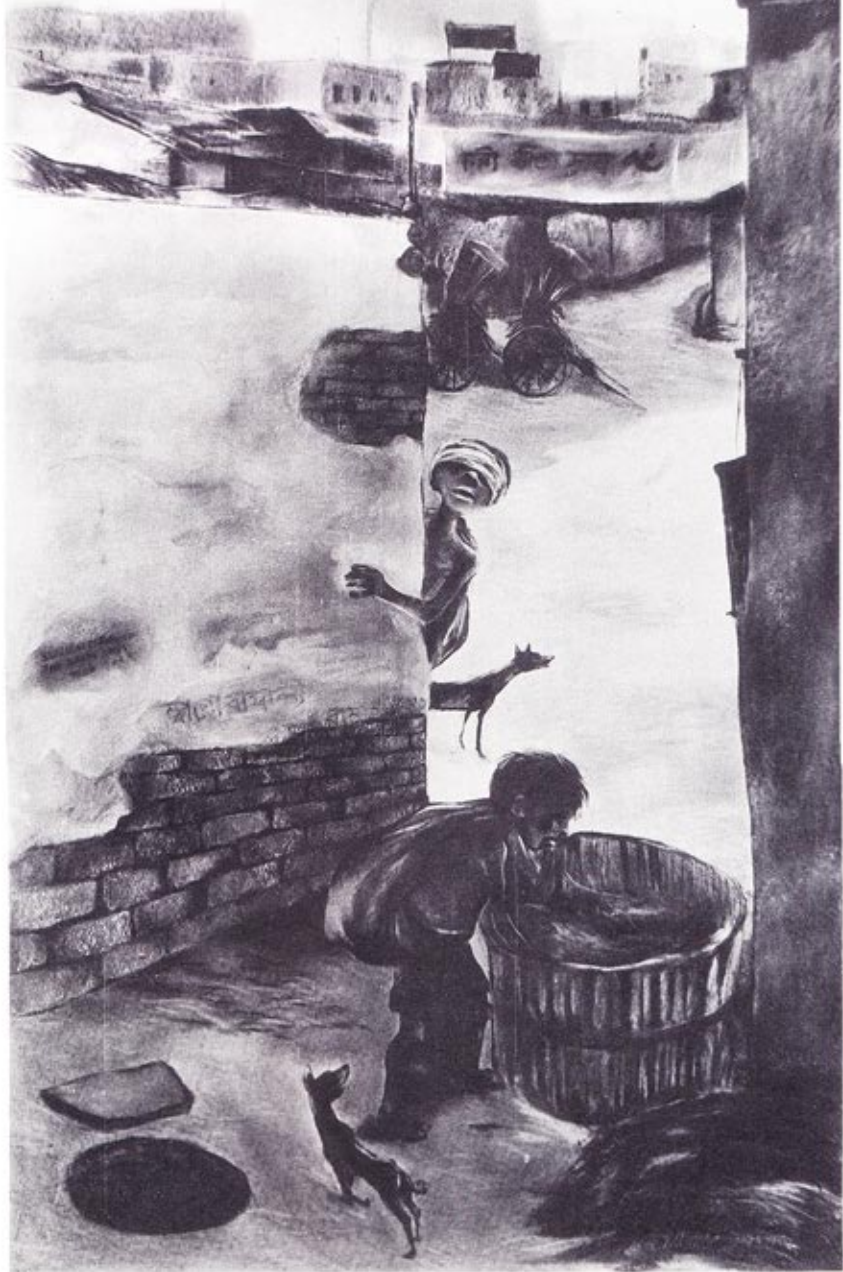




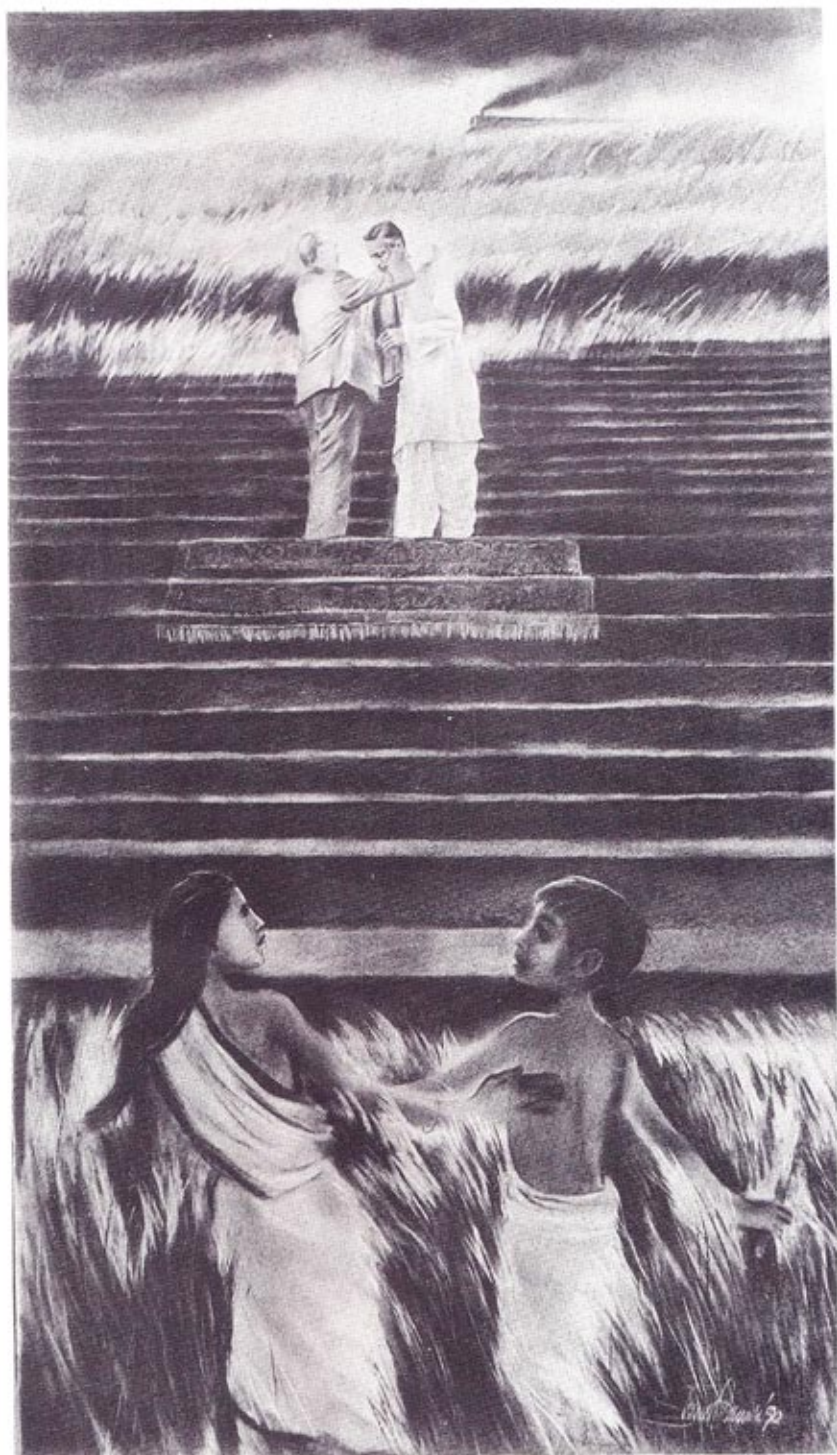
7. Sir Hariram Goenka and Rats. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



4. Calcutta Birds. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



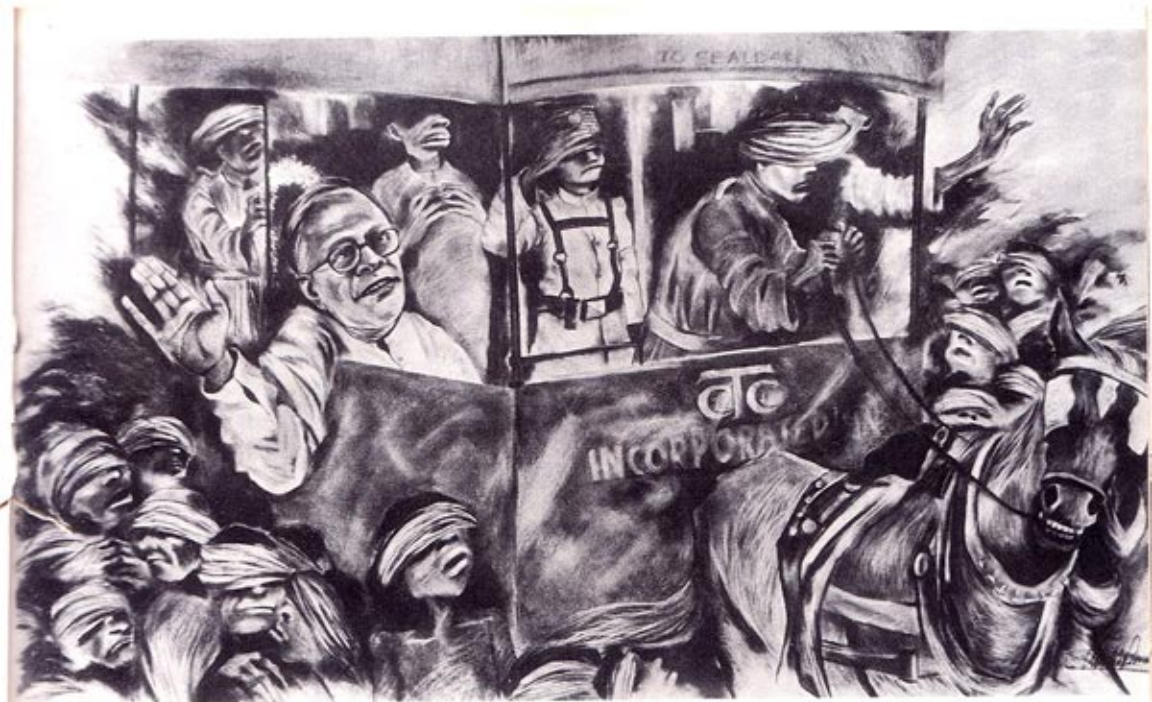
1. "The Kid" (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



12. A remarkable day (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



9. Light for the Blinds. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



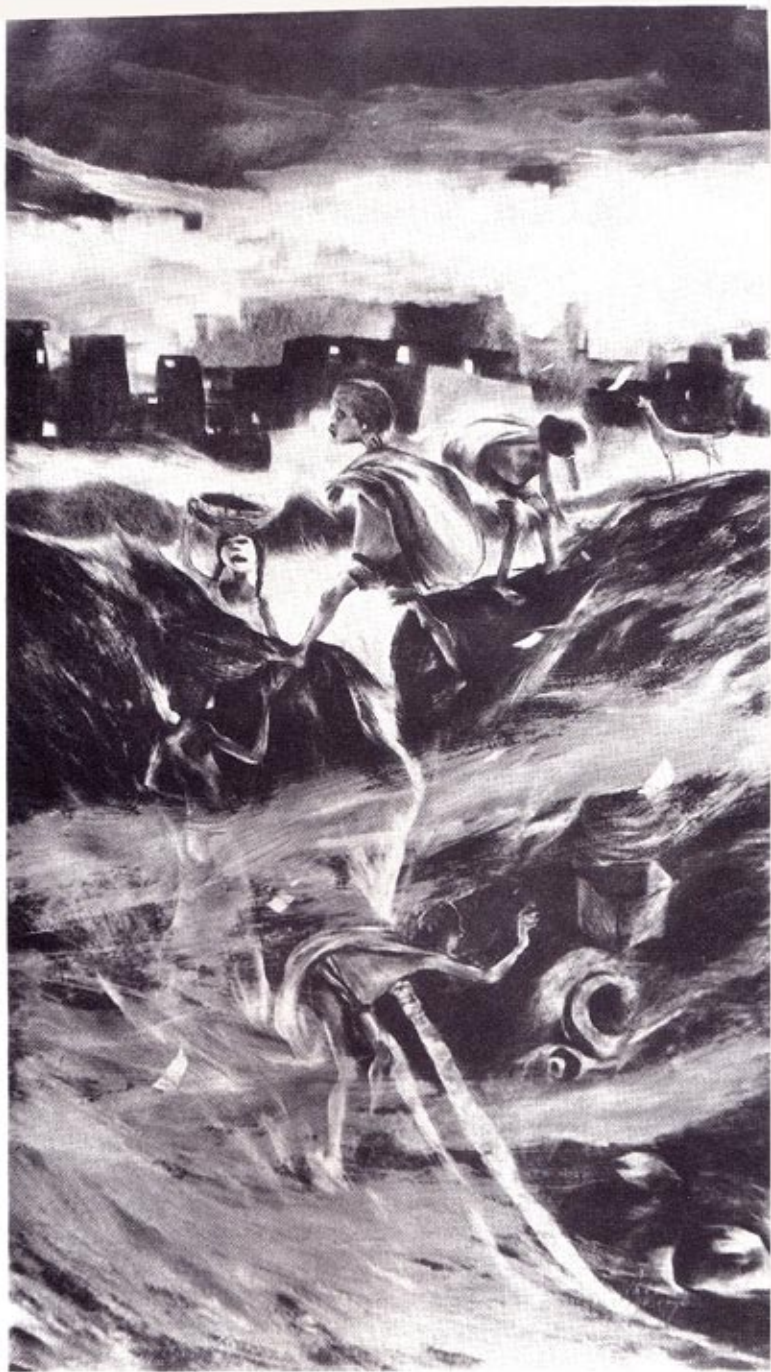
2. Celebrity and celebration. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic

3. Faceless for few Faces. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic

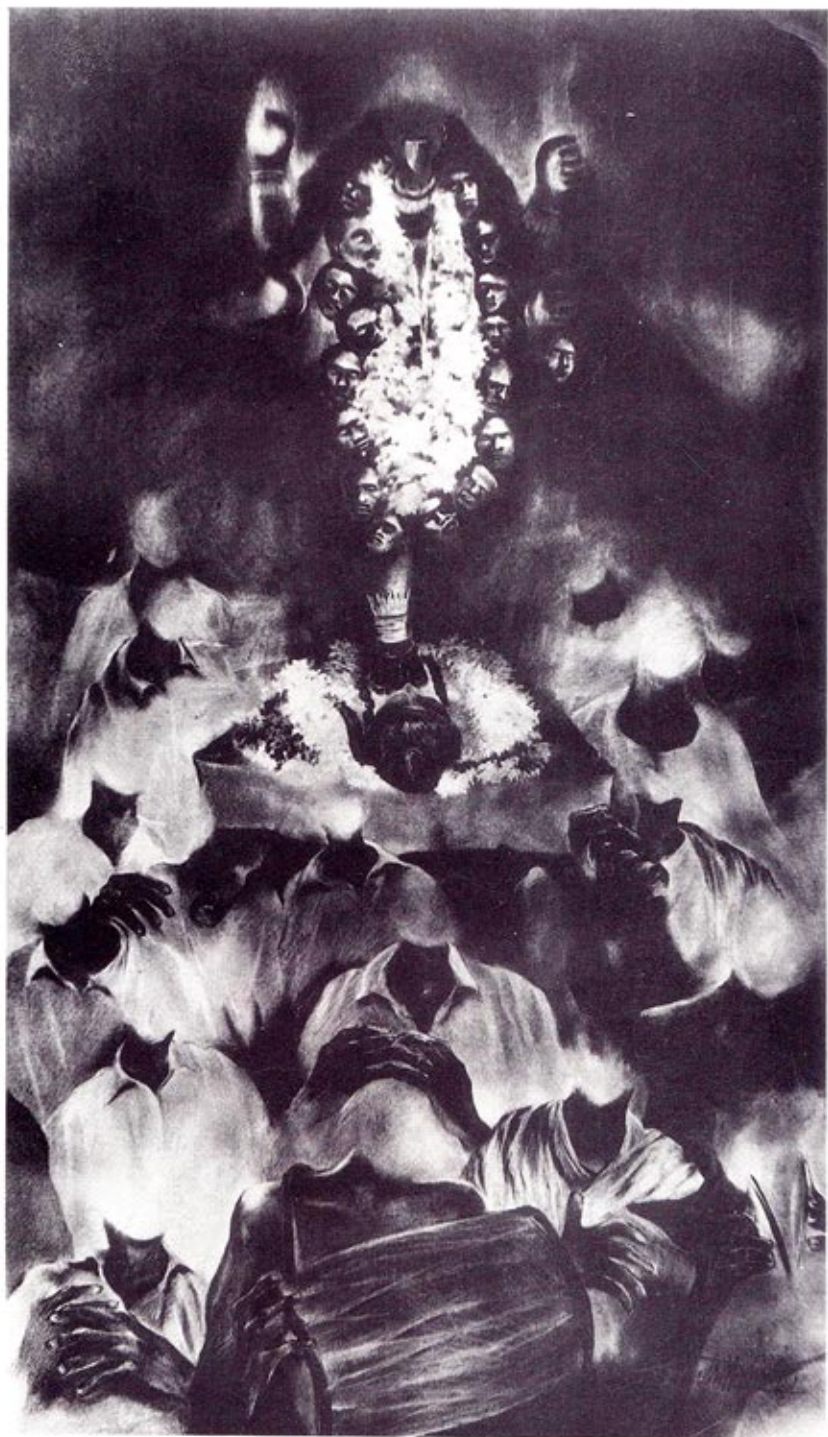




8. Vehicles (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



6. Near Canel East Road. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



14. Disciple (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



5. Noon at North Calcutta. (167 X 100 cm) Charcoal with Acrylic



SHUVAPRASANNA

- 1947 Born in Calcutta.
 1969 Graduated from Indian College of Art, (R. B. University, Calcutta) Group Exhibition with "Arts and Artists" Calcutta.
 1970 Joined "Calcutta Painters", Group show in Calcutta.
 1971 Group shows in Bombay and Calcutta. Awarded by AIFACS New Delhi. Participated in Epar Bangla Opar Bangla Exhibition in Birla Academy, Calcutta.
 1972 One man show in Birla Academy Calcutta, Jt. Secretary "Calcutta Art Fair".
 1973 One man show in Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi.
 1974 One man show in Gallery "Les Hironelles" Geneve, Member "CIRCA" Geneve. One man show in Gallery "Atlantis" Ex En Provence, France.
 1975 Group show in "Gallery Kunsthaus" Stuttgart, W. Germany. One man show in Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi, participated in inaugural Exhibition of "Decor Art Gallery", Calcutta.
 1976 Founded College of Visual Arts, Calcutta. One man show in "Gallery Den Berg", Geneve, Edited with Shakti Chattopadhyaya "Anarchy and The Blue".
 1977 Awarded by Birla Academy Calcutta. Participated in the Exhibition of "Gallery 26" New Delhi. One man show in Decor Art Gallery, Calcutta. Published "Artist" a collection of woodcut Prints.
 1978 One man show in Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi, Awarded by State Lalit Kala Akademi, W.B.
 1979 One man show in "Walburgisschule" Werl, W. Germany. One man show in Max Mueller Bhavan, Calcutta.
 1980 One man show in "National Museum Singapore", and in Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi. Participated in Silver Jubilee Exhibition, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.
 1981 One man show in Max Mueller Bhavan, Calcutta and Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi. Edited with Jogen Choudhuri Journal on Contemporary Indian Art called "ART.TODAY".
 1982 Participated in Poster Workshop in British Council.
 1983 One man show in Calcutta Art Gallery, Calcutta, Jehangir Art Gallery, Bombay, "Kreissparkasse" Ludwigsburg and "Volkshochschule" Essen, W. Germany. Edited Portfolio "The Eyes of Time". Participated in All India Painting Workshop of Max Mueller Bhavan, Calcutta.
 1984 Founded "Arts Acre" an artists Village in Calcutta.
 1985 One man show in "Painters Home Gallery" Calcutta. Participated in 3rd Asian Art Biennale, Bangladesh, and in Graphic Art in India since 1950.
 1986 Participated in IInd International Biennale Havana, Cuba.
 1987 Participated in "Indian Drawing Today 1987" organised by Jehangir Art Gallery Bombay. One man show in Birla Academy, Calcutta.
 1988 One man show in IDM Gallery Munich and St. Paulus fastellte Ludwigsburg, West Germany. Lecture Workshop in Horniman Museum, London.
 1989 One man show in "Jehangir Art Gallery" Bombay and "The Gallery Madras". Participated The Bombay Art Society Centenary invitees show.
 1990 Participated in IInd International Biennale, Ankara, Turkey. Participated in All India Painting Workshop "War and peace" of Max Mueller Bhavan, Calcutta. 25th year's show of Calcutta painters in Birla Academy.

Permanent collections :

National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, Govt. College of Arts New Delhi, U.P. State Lalit Kala Akademi, W.B. State Lalit Kala Akademi, Chandigarh Museum, Punjab University, NCERT New Delhi, Birla Academy Calcutta, Air India, Times of India, W.H.O. Geneve, Kratel SA, Stuttgart etc.

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