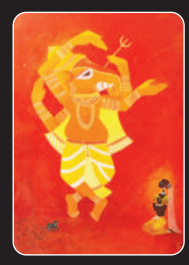

factfile

■ Sudha is a member of the Navi Mumbai Art Society and has been conducting workshops on stained glass paintings and ceramics. Sudha does various genres like abstract, figurative, landscaping, ceramic-pottery, mural, Chinese, stained glass painting or sculptures with the 3-D look.

CREATING LIFE ON CANVAS

57-YEAR-OLD HOMEMAKER, SUDHA BARSHIKAR CREATES MAGIC ON HER CANVAS AS SHE WORKS IN OIL, WATER COLOURS, MIX MEDIA, GLASS, COLD CERAMICS, POTTERY AND 3-D SCULPTURES

SPARSH SHARMA

She creates life on her canvas! Sudha Barshikar is a quiet and humble homemaker who has this great talent to bring life and vibrancy into her artistic work.

Fellow artists, admiring students and even head-honchos in the corporate world, everyone appreciates her skills. "I was into art right from my childhood. I used to do more of figurative painting and landscaping with water-colours. I got well versed with water-colours over the years. Later on, I dabbled into abstract art too! I have worked in oil, water colours, mix media, glass and cold ceramics," informs the sector-12 Vashi resident.

Many paintings, pottery and 3-D sculptures in Sudha's impressive collection depict tribal villagers engaged in their everyday life amidst nature, as well as religious icons like Lord Ganpati. Egyptian history and pharaohs are another frequent theme in her 3-D sculptures. "I have organized exhibitions of my art work at various art galleries and my own house. The response has often been marvellous. Many of my paintings have been bought by big companies and non-resident Indians from different parts of the world," shares the 57-year-old lady.

> I have also taught painting to about 20 girls belonging to below poverty line families. These girls work as rag-pickers for survival. I have always supported social causes

Sudha is a member of the Navi Mumbai Art Society and has been conducting workshops on stained glass paintings and ceramics. Sudha does various genres like abstract, figurative, landscaping, ceramic-pottery, mural, Chinese, stained glass painting or sculptures with the 3-D look. The most highlighted part of the human body, in her figurative art, is the eyes. "I have also taught painting to about 20 girls belonging to below poverty line families. These girls work as rag-pickers for survival. I have always supported social causes and taught these kids to make Diwali greeting cards as well as creating and decorating Diwali diyas, which were sold for charity later," tells Sudha, who is a BA (honours) in Sanskrit.

Although there were times when she had to shift focus from her art to her family life, she could never completely disassociate herself from the former. Her art has been highlighted at various galleries in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. "I vividly remember the overwhelming response of people to one of my pots-n-paintings exhibition where I sold 500 pots. I like sharing my knowledge with eager kids and ladies," says Sudha, who has worked upon 2000 ceramic-pots till now. She was also interviewed live on a regional TV channel in 2005 and an FM radio station in 2003. "My husband Ranjit has always been very supportive to me. These days, I am concentrating more on stained glass painting," says Barshikar, who has adjudged various competitions in schools, colleges and clubs in the city.

> GET IN TOUCH

We encourage comments and enquiries from readers. Tell us about what makes Vashi happening, and how it can be improved.

Editorial Coordinator: Rahul Khilnani **E-mail: mytimesnm@gmail.com** Tele: 22733473
Address: My Times, Response Editorial, 2nd Floor, The Times Of India Building, CST.
For marketing, contact: Jacob Joseph at jacob.joseph@timesgroup.com Tele: 9820187332

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