

Vijaya Kumar Somanchi

About the Artist

Vijaya Kumar is a self taught artist. His ardent love for art helped him study various art forms of all kinds and create original art works using a unique technique that he created since 1969.

Today, he guides research scholars in their doctoral thesis papers. He is frequently invited to give demos in art centres to various sections of people and also in educational institutions that include BFA and MFA students. He also supports the creation of study material for MFA distance education courses affiliated to Karnataka State University. He is an honorary jury member of National Institute of Fashion Technology, Hyderabad. He is also a visiting faculty member at AISFM (Annapurna International School of Film and Media).

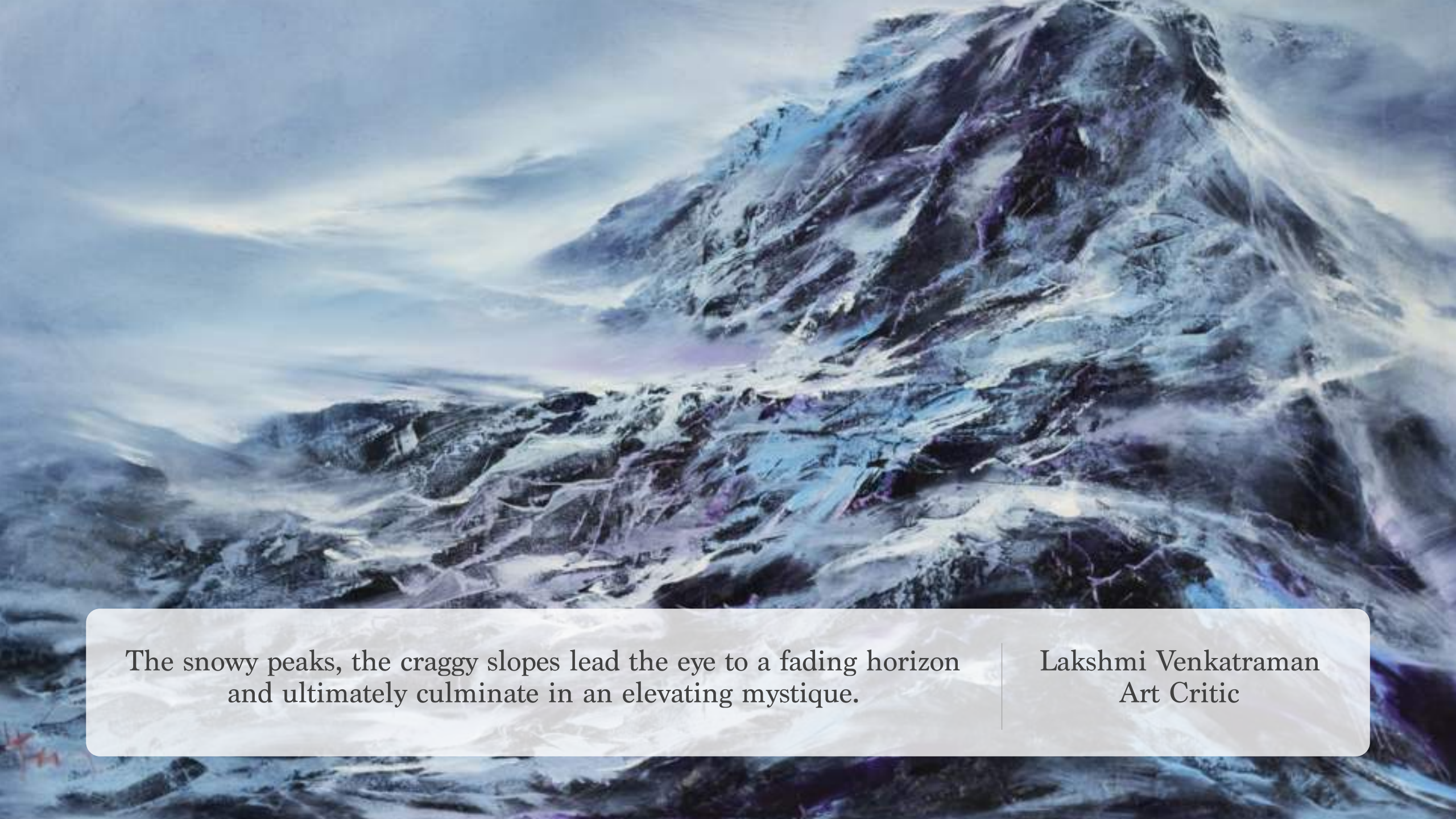


The Artist's Journey

Vijaya Kumar Somanchi is known both for his painting technique and his trademark mountainscapes that take the onlookers on a flight of fantasy. It's equally their journey as the artist's journey for without the latter the former is not possible.

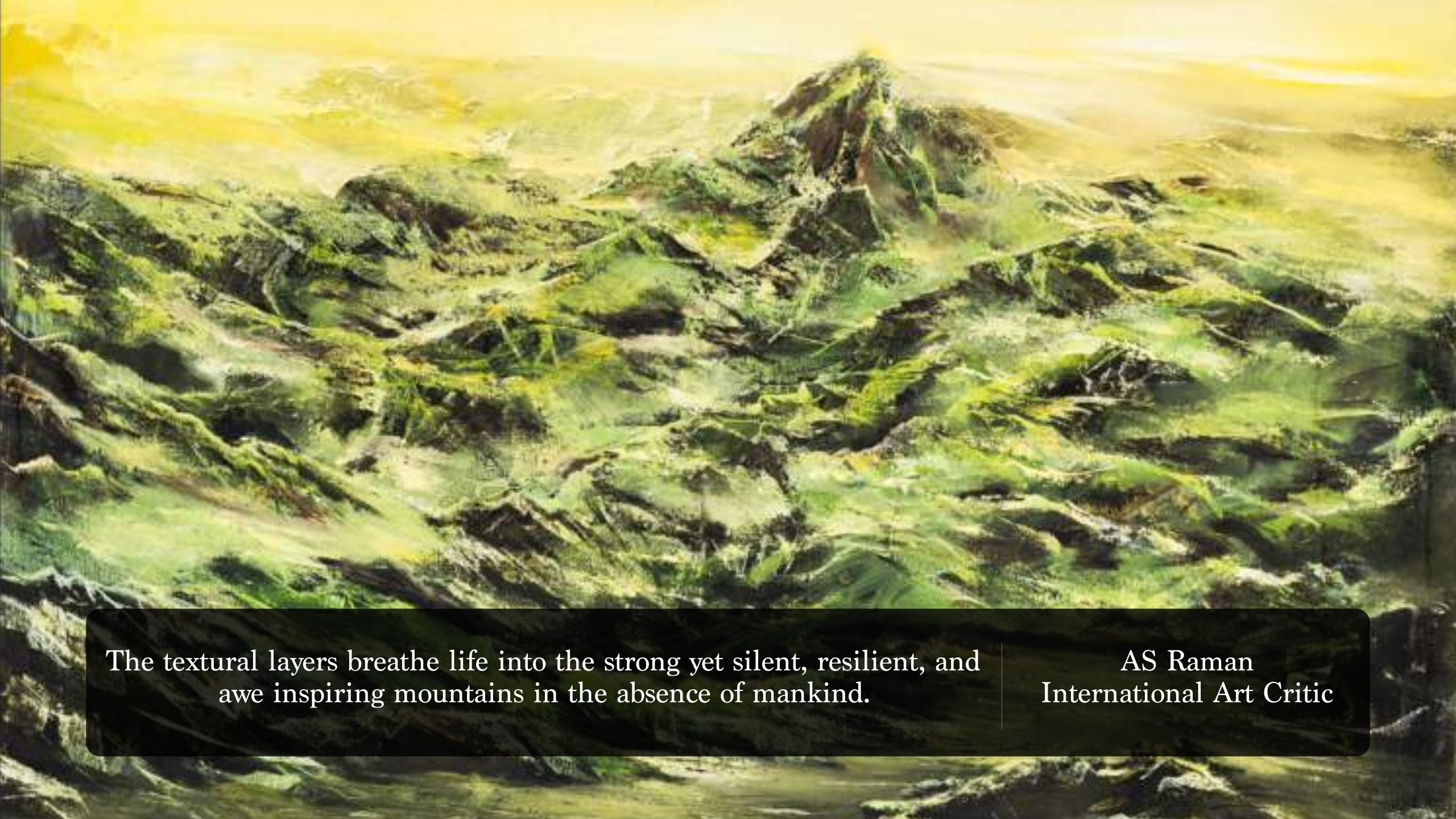
Vijaya Kumar started off with abstract paintings. His first exhibition in Guntur is a group show in 1978 with three other artists. They later became Guntur Kala Pandavas after another artist joined them. Together, they exhibited as a group for close to two decades until 1997 until the untimely demise of one of the brothers. It was in YB Chavan, Mumbai that the curtain came down on the group.

As years went by, the evolution of the artist in Vijaya Kumar was evident. His painting slowly went from abstract to surreal and then landed on nature's most decorated art element in the absence of mankind - **MOUNTAINS.**



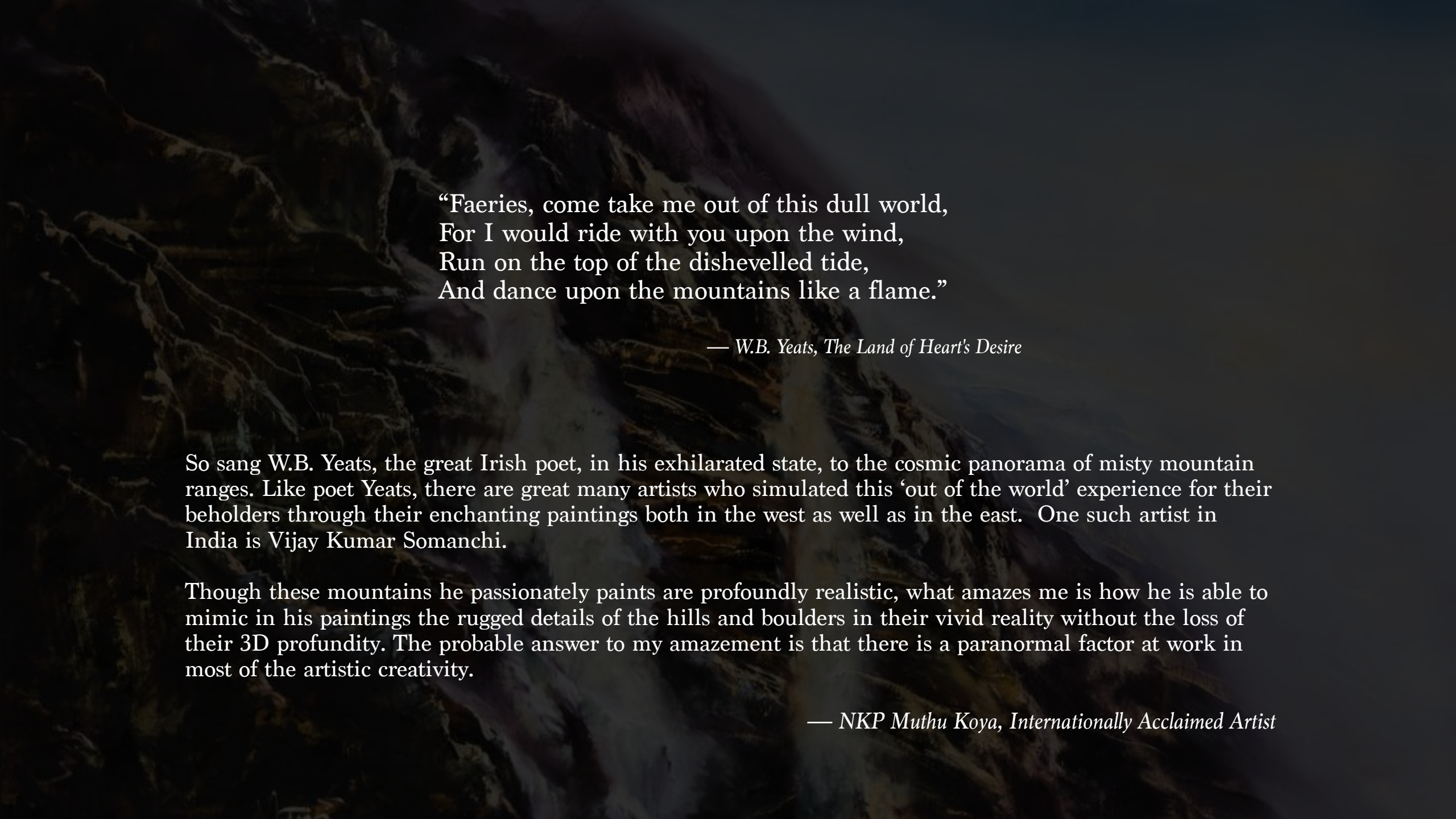
The snowy peaks, the craggy slopes lead the eye to a fading horizon and ultimately culminate in an elevating mystique.

Lakshmi Venkatraman
Art Critic



The textural layers breathe life into the strong yet silent, resilient, and awe inspiring mountains in the absence of mankind.

AS Raman
International Art Critic



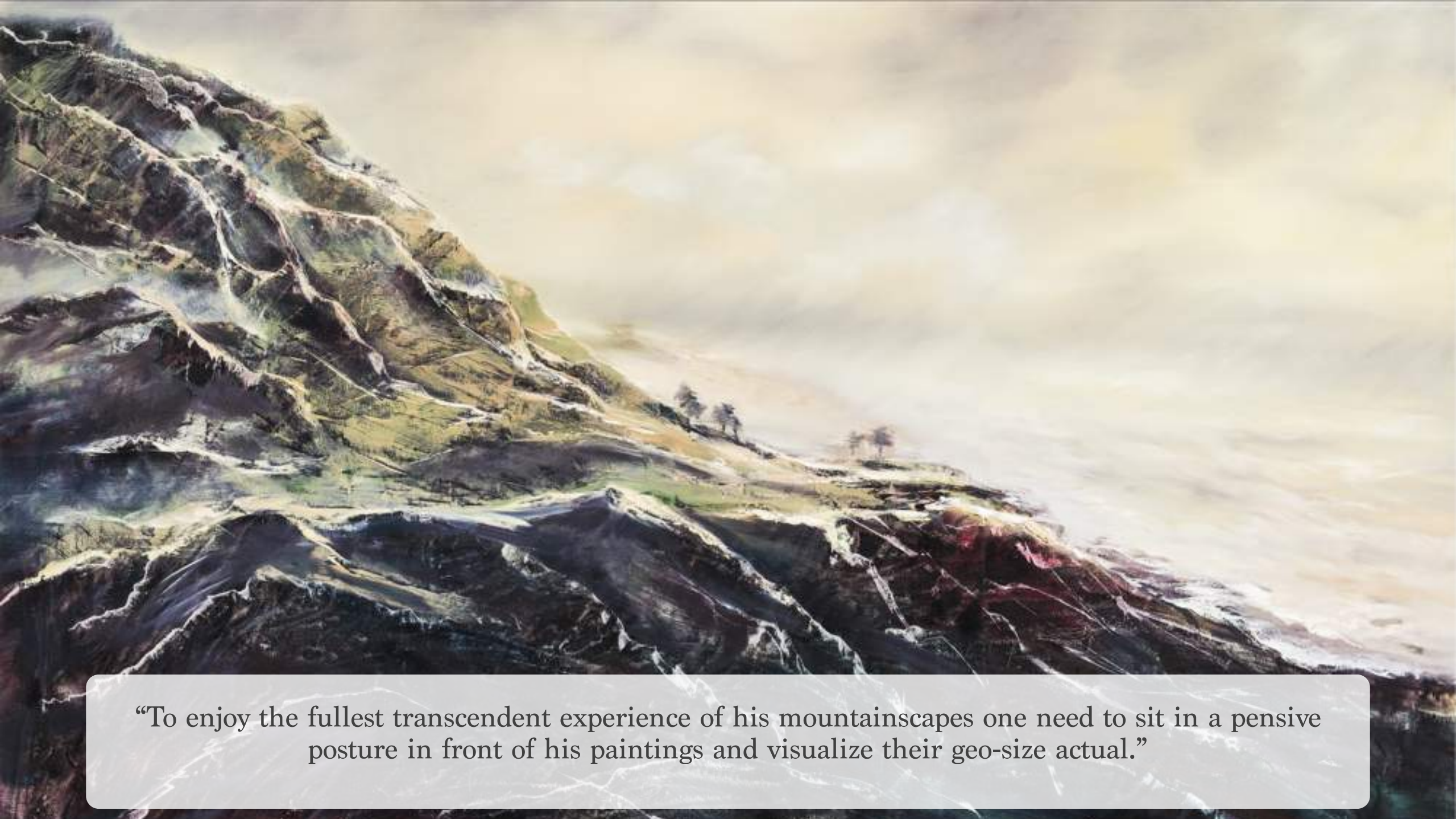
“Faeries, come take me out of this dull world,
For I would ride with you upon the wind,
Run on the top of the dishevelled tide,
And dance upon the mountains like a flame.”

— W.B. Yeats, *The Land of Heart's Desire*

So sang W.B. Yeats, the great Irish poet, in his exhilarated state, to the cosmic panorama of misty mountain ranges. Like poet Yeats, there are great many artists who simulated this ‘out of the world’ experience for their beholders through their enchanting paintings both in the west as well as in the east. One such artist in India is Vijay Kumar Somanchi.

Though these mountains he passionately paints are profoundly realistic, what amazes me is how he is able to mimic in his paintings the rugged details of the hills and boulders in their vivid reality without the loss of their 3D profundity. The probable answer to my amazement is that there is a paranormal factor at work in most of the artistic creativity.

— NKP Muthu Koya, *Internationally Acclaimed Artist*



“To enjoy the fullest transcendent experience of his mountainscapes one need to sit in a pensive posture in front of his paintings and visualize their geo-size actual.”



Awards

- AP Lalit Kala Akademi, Hyderabad 1981
- Kalapeetam, Guntur 1978, 91
- Andhra Academy of Arts, Vijayawada 1990, 92
- Hyderabad Art Society, Hyderabad 1995, 97, 2013
- Pune 1998
- Fremont Art Association, USA 2009

Group Shows

Hyderabad

- CCMB. 1992
- LV Prasad Eye Institute 1992
- Kala Bhavan, 1994
- Hotel Kakatiya. 1996
- Minaaz Art Gallery 1996, 98
- ICCR. 2004
- Srishti Art Gallery 2013
- Muse Art Gallery 2014
- SV College of Fine Arts 2015
- State Art Gallery 2014, 15
- Novotel 2016

Chennai

- Chola Shereton. 1993
- Gallery Sri Parvati 2006, 08
- Lakshmana Art Gallery 1998
- Ayya Art Gallery 2013

Mumbai

- YB Chavan Gallery 1993
- Jehangir Art Gallery 1996
- Nehru Centre 1999

Group Shows

New Delhi

- Ravindran Bhavan 1998
- Habitat Centre 2000
- ABN Amro Bank 2002

Bangalore

- Venkatappa Art Gallery 1992,95
- Objects of Desire 1996
- Space & Time 1997,98,2000
- Chitra Kala Parishad 1996

Others

- Birla Academy of Arts, Calcutta 1998
- Govt. Museum, Chandigarh 1998
- ABC Art Gallery, Varanasi 1998
- Chitram Art Gallery, Cochin 1998
- Green Park Hotel, Pune 1999
- Patnaik Art Gallery, Guntur 2000
- Santhi Art Gallery, Guntur 2015
- Siddhartha Engg College, VJA 2014
- Akruthi Art Gallery, VJA 2015

Solo Shows

Hyderabad

- State Art Gallery 2014, 15
- Minaaz Art Gallery 1998
- ICCR 1998
- Salar Jung Museum 2011
- Beyond Coffee 2012
- Icon Art Gallery 2015
- Malaka Spice 2017

Bangalore

- Chita Kala Parishad 2000, 02
- Bangalore Habba 2003, 04, 05

Mumbai

- Bajaj Art Gallery 1997
- Jahangir Art Gallery 2001, 10, 15
- Pawai Art Gallery 2004

Others

- Ravindra Bhavan, New Delhi 1997
- Gallery Sri Parvati, Chennai 2004, 06
- Patnaik Art Gallery, Vizag 2014
- Akruthi Art Gallery, VJA 2015

Participation / Juried Shows

- AP Lalit Kala Akademi 1975, 77, 78, 81
- Hyderabad Art Society 1977, 95, 97, 2013
- AIFACS, Delhi 1978, 97
- Regional Centre 1991, 93, 93
- National Exhibition, Delhi 1981, 91, 92, 95, 97, 2001
- SCZCC, Nagpur 1992
- Art for Hope, Bangalore 1995
- Art For Hope, Mumbai 2005, 07
- Police Academy, Bangalore 1997

- Lalit Kala Akademi's Kalamelas 1992, 93, 95, 98, 2015
- Fremont Art Association, USA 2009
- Plein Air, FAA, USA 2009, 12
- World Telugu Conference 1996, 2012
- Jakarta, Indonesia 2004, 05
- Conklin Bros, Mixer, USA 2009
- Chitra Santhe, VJA 2015
- Khajuraho Dance Festival 2016



Art Camps/Demos

- Sculptors Forum of India at Guntur 1975
- Regional Camp at Amaravati 1990
- Regional Camp at Bijapur, Karnataka 1992
- Hyderabad Art Society, Hyderabad 1995
- Cultural Dept. Hyderabad 1996
- Hasta Shilpa, Manipal. 1995
- GS Shenoy Memorial Camp, Bangalore 1995
- Kala Vrit Nyas, Ujjain 2000, 02
- Koviloor, Tamilnadu 2008
- Tirupati, organised by Images 2006
- Hrishikesh, Gallery Sri Parvathi 2013
- East Yadavalle, TWAAS 2014
- Polavaram, State Cultural Dept. 2014
- Subhankan Fine Art Academy, Indore 2016
- Novotel, Hyderabad 2016
- Swaminarayan International School, VJA 2017
- Raja Maan Singh Tomar Music and Arts University, Gwalior 2017
- Subhankan Finearts Academy–International Art Camp, Indore 2017
- Dayalbagh Education Institution, Dayalbagh 2017
- Baikunthi Devi Kanya Maha Vidyalaya, Agra 2017

Collections

- New Delhi - Lalit Kala Akademi, Reserve Bank of India, Uttams, National Gallery of Modern Art.
- Bangalore - Time & Space, Calcium Group, Mr. ND Rao.
- Hyderabad - AP Lalit Kala Akademi, State Bank of India (LHO), ICCRI, Culture Dt., UTI Bank, Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait, Grey Hounds, Mr. K Raghuram Raju.
- Calcutta - ITC LTD.
- Chennai - Regional Centre.
- Bhopal - Bharat Bhavan.
- Vijayawada - State Bank of India (RO) / (Main Branch), Ramcor, NASC.
- Guntur - ITC ILTD Divn., Godfrey Phillips, SBI (Main Branch), Nuziveedu Seeds.
- Varanasi - ABC Art Gallery.
- Bombay - Mr. MP Barucha, Mr. Pankaj Kothari
- California (USA) - Mr. Thomas Pierson, Mr. Frank Burkeen, Mr. Srinivas Vedula, Mrs. Himabindu, Mr. Vamsi Venidandla, Mr. Sailesh, Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Doug, Mr. Larry Li
- Florida (USA) - Mr. Rajesh Jain, Mr. Praveen Pasupuleti

Also, in other Private collections in UK, Canada, New Zealand and Mauritius

As Secretary, Kalapeetham (1997-2016)

- National Seminar on Art 1998
- Felicitation to Padma Sri SV Rama Rao 2000
- Demo Lecture by NKP Muthu Koya 2000
(DAVP New Delhi)
- Lady Group Show (Blooming Heights) 2001
- Demo by SK Rajavelu 2002
(Weavers Service Center, Madras)
- Group show of 40 artists in Guntur 2004
- Seminar on Art 2004
(Revival of Lalit Kala Akademi)
- Tagore's Gitanjali - Works by J Rama Rao 2006
- Felicitation to Kalaratna CSN Patnaik and D Subrahmanyam (Cine Artist) 2006
- Public Wall Paintings Initiative (GMC) 2010
- On the spot paintings in connection with Art of Living; an attempt for LIMCA record 2011
- Art Camp 2012
- Tribute to Bapu (World renowned artist) 2013
- Walking show at ITC, ILTD Gnt 2015
- Organized purchase of art by ITC 2015
- Painting shows (Solos)
 - D Nagavardha
 - G Narasimha Rao
 - Amanullah Khan
 - Osman Khan
 - Vijaya Kumar S

Kalapeetham Guntur

(Recognised by Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi. Regd. No:93/71)

As Vice President, TWAAS (2013-Present)

- Art Camp at East Yadavalli 2013
- Art Camp on Godavari (Polavaram) 2014
- Group Exhibition at Akruthi Art Gallery , VJA 2014
- Group Show at Eluru 2014
- Art Camp on account Godavari Pushkaraalu 2014
- Benefit Show on HudHud, AP State Gallery of Art 2014
- Group Exhibition at Visakhapatnam 2015
- Chitra Kala Santhe, VJA 2015, 16
- Organized Ladies Art Camp, VJA 2016
- Art Camp on account Krishna Pushkaraalu 2016
- Seminar on Lalit Kala Akademi 2015
- Submission of Memorandum to Honorable CM of New AP Shri CB Naidu on Lalit Kala Akademi 2016
- Organized Ladies Art Camp on the occasion of Women's Day at Visakhapatnam 2017
- Art Demos (VJA, Eluru, VSKP)



Special Mentions

- Visiting Professor at AISFM
- Visiting Professor at School of Architecture and Planning, VJA
- Lecture on Contemporary Art aired on AIR (All India Radio)
- Played the role of a Guide to Dr. KP Sivam for his Doctoral Thesis on Andhra Folk Art
- Completed a dissertation on KM Adimoolam, Chennai (Internationally acclaimed abstract artist)
- Annual Jury Member to National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Hyderabad

Studios

INDIA

TELANGANA
53 Vertex Privilege
ASR Raju Nagar
Nizampet Road
Hyderabad 500 072

ANDHRA PRADESH

2-12.76/E
Anjireddy St
Sthambalagaruvu
Guntur 522 006

USA

9839 Belladonna Dr
San Ramon
CA 94582



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<https://www.facebook.com/vijaysart>