

Laila Khan Translates Tradition to Contemporary Charisma

Ganeshas : Born of dhyana shlokas

The colours and the contours of an *Untamed Heart* have a series of Ganeshas created in the fragments of deeper intensities in the hands of artist Laila Khan who has this historic exhibition after a long hiatus.

The tones and tenors of her colours evoke a *dhyana shloka* type hymn that escorts one to meditate in the heart and praise the sacred form of Ganesha, the son of Shiva and the flame of wisdom. He is described as having five hands, elephant-headed and with a crescent moon-like tusk but Laila creates amorphous beings of an evanescent era.

Laila creates Ganeshas as if they are forged in ancient mineralogy—dark shades of garnet, amethyst, or cloudy quartz—that pulse with the energy of the form and its beauty of an inner being. In these series, she explores both personal and universal experiences of time and experience, meditating on its gravitas and its inevitability. For the artist Laila a sensitive nurturer of finer sensibilities, this contemplation of time relates to her life as an artist of solitude.

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