'Fardeen is my biggest critic'

Pic: Srinivas Setty



ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE: Laila Khan Rajpal

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Times News Network

Feroz Khan's daughter, Laila Khan Rajpal has come a long way. In town as artist-in-residence at a B-school, she talks about her childhood, being an artist and life in Delhi, where she lives.

AS AN ARTIST

I have always believed that a human being is transient but his creations are timeless. But for my work to grow and achieve that, I had to grow as a person. When I came out with my first solo show in 2000 there was waywardness in my work. I used to paint ghostly apparitions against the backdrop of monuments. I was quite drawn to portraying the woman's face and body since the feminine form has always been a recurrent theme in art. I would sketch a woman's face resembling Meena Kumari since I adore her. Back then I used to explore the body and hence the sensuality in my works. However, today I have become more inward and prefer to do portraits exploring various emotions, internal struggles of the human mind and a search for satisfaction.

FAMILY MATTERS

My mother always thought I was destined to be an artist, as painting was my hobby since childhood. Being actor Feroz Khan's daughter and not choosing acting as a career is one question that haunts me wherever I ago. To me, more than my father, it was coming from an artist family that mattered. It's all in the genes. My cousins, the girls - Suzanne, Farah and Simone are creatively inclined and established designers and I take pride in that.

PASSING THROUGH

Laila Khan Rajpal like her work is a woman of many hues. **Hyderabad Times** meets the artist to find out what inspires her

FARDEEN, MY BIGGEST CRITIC

He dislikes half of my paintings and the other half that he likes, he keeps! I can undoubtedly say he is my biggest fan and the most vocal critic.

ON ABSTRACT ART

Anything that evokes an emotional response is art. You should always trust the first thing you notice. Don't go looking into the deeper layers of the canvas for some sort of an intellectual answer, when one look at the surface has moved you emotionally. The more you observe art, the more it sensitises you.

ART FOR ART OR INVESTMENT?

Art belongs to everybody and it is something to be shared and possessed at the same time. Today, it has become a priority to a lot more people. You may buy it for investment but it is not going to just adorn your walls. With time, it will enrich your life.

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