Elephant in the room

LAILA Khan Furniturewalla is back at her easel, shaping a new solo outside Mumbai after the success of Untamed Heart. The show—32 layered works shown at Snowball Studio and Gallery Art & Soul—marked her return to painting after 18 years. A Slade-trained artist who also studied creative painting at Central Saint Martins, she has shown widely in India and abroad. "Ganesh in my work isn't an idol, but an evolving energy, a pulse of Shakti," she says of the force that threads through her raw, sculptural canvases. Long devoted to interiors and travel, she has reclaimed the intensity of a full-time studio practice, your diarist has learnt. "The pieces that shaped Untamed Heart were born from lockdown stillness, collective grief and the need to paint for its own sake," says the aesthete, whose new body of work promises sculptural surfaces alive with divinity and vulnerability—art stripped to its most luminous essence.



Laila Khan Furniturewalla