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Untitled art fascinates all

SHEFALI MARTINS | MUMBAI

For once, I have come to an art exhibition, where I can understand without explanations, and even titles," says ad man and theatre person Alyque Padamsee about artist Laila Khan Rajpal's ongoing exhibition "Dreams do not have Titles". The preview for this exhibition was held at the ICIA Building on Thursday and it saw Laila's celebrity family and friends come in full attendance to support and admire her work. But besides the glamour, there was tradition as well, for the exhibition was inaugurated by actor and activist Shabana Azmi, who lit the ceremonial lamp. While she was seen keenly observing the paintings, and getting intricate details about the colour palette used and the like, from the artist, others were also looking and talking about the paintings with keen interest.

Among those present from the art and glamour world were Laila's husband Rohit Rajpal, her parents Sundari and Feroz Khan, brother-actor Fardeen Khan, aunt Zarine Khan, cousins Mallika Khan, Sussanne Roshan and Simone Khan, Alyque Padamsee, designer Nisha Jamwal, actors Urmila Matondkar and Neelam, chocolatier Zeba and Rajesh Kohli, singer Talat Aziz with wife Bina and many others.

The art-oriented interest of the evening was evident in the fact that none of the celebrities were ready to discuss anything other than the art works with media persons.

Laila's show is based on the feminine predicament. She states, "My aim is to transform the complexities of the figure into harmonies of simplified forms, revealing the innate reality." Her works are never titled as she wants the viewer to have the freedom and not the burden of being shown the way, rather than finding it.

Her brother Fardeen, shares similar feelings, he says, "I don't think titles are required at all for art works. Even where they have titles, I don't read them, I like to draw my own interpretation." The actor says that he likes three particular paintings from the display because "they spoke to him".

The exhibition is on till April 7 at the ICIA building.



(From left to right) Laila Khan Rajpal, Simone Khan, Sussanne Roshan and Zarine Khan at the event





(Left) Actor Urmila Matondkar; (above) actor Shabana Azmi at the preview of Laila Khan Rajpal's paintings. THE ASIAN AGE photographs