

Uma Nair's Critique on "Eye Filled with Sky"

Sight series

Eye filled with sky and the sight series are an insightful set of works that present an invitation to the contemplation of eyes (Nethra). The moment you see the sight series you recall the great surrealist Rene Magritte and his famous masterpiece *The False Mirror*. The work presents an enormous lashless eye with a luminous cloud-swept blue sky filling the iris and an opaque, dead-black disc for a pupil. The allusive title, provided by the Belgian Surrealist writer Paul Nougé, seems to suggest limits to the authority of optical vision: a mirror provides a mechanical reflection, but the eye is selective and subjective. Magritte's single eye functions on multiple enigmatic levels: the viewer both looks through it, as through a window, and is looked at by it, thus seeing and being seen simultaneously. The Surrealist photographer Man Ray, who owned the work from 1933 to 1936, recognized this compelling duality when he memorably described *The False Mirror* as a painting that "sees as much as it itself is seen."

Eyes and Ganesha

The small eyes of Lord Ganesha indicate a proper focus and determined approach which are pivotal pillars of success. Those who believe say that in a school of thought Ganesha is deemed the lord of the the *Mooladhar Chakra*- the base Chakra.

Mooladhar Chakra signifies the basic survival issues in life. Our daily food, our home, and financial stability. But in an overworked Base Chakra it would mean the person concerned is too involved in this world and needs to find some distance from this Maya. Sages of yore extol us to be innocent and childlike like Lord Ganesha. They say that faith brings trust, for the universe will always provide.
