

An abstract painting by Reba Hore, featuring a dense composition of thick, expressive brushstrokes. The color palette is rich and varied, including deep blues, vibrant reds, earthy browns, and bright yellows, all set against a dark, textured background. The overall effect is one of intense energy and emotional depth.

"IN LUMINOUS TENDERNESS"

A solo exhibition of works by  
**REBA HORE**

Curated by: Subhasish Adhikary

Thursday, 9th February, 2023  
to Sunday 6th March, 2023

At Art Magnum 60/2C, 3rd Floor, Yusuf Sarai,  
Aurobindo Marg, Indian Oil Complex, New Delhi-16

Presented by:



### ART MAGNUM

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Proprietress - Mahua Adhikary



REBA HORE (1926–2008) was an Indian artist and activist. She has worked in various mediums ranging from water colours, mixed media, oil paints, pastels to terracotta and bronze. Her artworks were spontaneous, deeply personal and rooted in her daily life experiences. She was the wife of Somnath Hore and mother to Chandana Hore.

Reba Hore's works describe her emotional responses to her day-to-day life experiences as simple as the dogs in her courtyard, the everyday lives of the people of Shantiniketan where she had spent her entire life.

Reba di's works were universal which made her an artist of the highest stature.





## A TRIBUTE TO MAA

It is very difficult to write about Maa because she is my other being....I live in her. She started painting as an emotional expressionist painter. Her college days were in govt. Collage of arts where she met my father. They worked and lived as comrades whole of their glorious journey. Maa took a job in delhi, where i was born, and after my birth she mostly worked at home keeping me beside the small bed,her palette red, green, yellow, orange and blue. At that time my father was teaching in delhi poly-technique.

Their united life and persuasion of art bought them in to delightful experiments in various mediums. Mothers special enjoyment of motherhood gave birth to many colourful canvases. In 1967 they came back to kolkata and then to shantiniketan.

Maa didn't do a job in shantiniketan. I enjoyed her fully at home in my growing years. She had a big four roomed studio and devoted full time into paintings. They both had political lives in kolkata and believed and practised communism. Maa was close to kala bhavan students where father taught. The exchanges with students made her creative life rich. She was very feminine yet strong, compassionate, kind and a loving person. So our home became a community home keeping painter's privacy.

From there .....Towards the end of her journey .....the last three years after she lost her comrade, she worked continuously through various mediums as pastel, clay, bronze, oil,pigment, ink and collage. Her eyesight became dim, leggs tottered, broken bones, thinned palms but she worked in to the luminous twilight in which she merged.

Mahua and Subhasish are an enthusiastic couple who dreamt and wanted to show her works to the world. I agreed and participated in this journey "In Luminous Tenderness" with them as it holds me too.

- Chandana Hore



Golf Green Art Gallery was established with the vision of promoting artists from the West Bengal region. Since then Golf Green Art Gallery has done a tremendous effort in gaining recognition for the artists from Bengal whose works were overlooked for ages and had no appreciation due to lack of sufficient viewers, potential collectors and sensitive curators. The Gallery has also made a statement of its existence by handling the finest of the old Bengal masters. The Gallery has taken a significant role in acquiring the very best of names and has finely curated many shows in Kolkata. More recently, it has taken a step forward outside Bengal associating itself with various other galleries and has drawn attention of collectors, artists and scholars.

The gallery has also started supporting new talent in the contemporary space thereby encouraging the emerging and outstanding artists. From the last decade, the gallery has continuously been the source of many major acquisitions for many institutions and museums. Due to sound and deep knowledge of the country's modern masters, the gallery has gained trust in the foreign shores and is ready to embark on an international voyage.

-Subhasish Adhikary

Mahua Adhikary



Art Magnum's vision and mission is to showcase South Asian art in its austere authenticity and magnificence on a global platform. Since its inception in 1986, it has been nurturing both the emerging and noted artists to further the cause of championing and patronizing South Asian art. Its founder Lt Shri Prakash Chand Singhvi was a visionary whose passion and enthusiasm was the driving force behind the gallery. Presently, Art Magnum's enterprising director, Saurabh Singhvi, is skillfully taking his legacy forward. The gallery has been proudly presenting different mediums of artistic expression ranging from the traditional to the modern, and the contemporary and the experimental. Housed at a contemporary space with ultramodern infrastructure located in the heart of South Delhi, the gallery attempts to give voice to the novel and noteworthy talents through a roster of shows that present the news makers of contemporary genre and also the old masters and marvels of Indian art from the pre and post-independence era.

Art Magnum has innovatively kept striving towards new paradigms reroute to its journey, and has achieved multiple milestones and mammoth goals. The firm has successfully organised elite art events at art capitals across the globe including at New Delhi, Dubai, Singapore, etc and has received critical and popular acclaim for the same. The collection of the gallery includes works of M F Husain, S H Raza, F N Souza, Somnath Hore, Suhas Roy, K G Subramanyan, Paresh Maity, T Vaikuntam amongst the others. Going forward, Art Magnum shall act as a catalyst for the talented young artists striving for creative excellence and shall keep inspiring the art aficionado by showcasing the contemporary and the classic path breakers of South Asian art.

- Saurabh Singhvi

# PREFACE

by RITA DUTTA

Art Critic, The Telegraph

"I have seen a great deal of extraordinariness, but have never been extraordinary myself..." Reba Hore had once said to the late art writer and teacher, Aweek Sen. Perhaps it's this extraordinary modesty that had robbed her of the ambition to achieve fame. Because Reba, remarkable as a person and an artist, did not get the recognition she deserved.

Here was a woman who hadn't been to school as a child, but had read Milton and Shakespeare and was a topper girl in her Matriculation Exam. She hated Maths and yet graduated in Economics. She could have done her MA but chose to take up Art, instead. Already, the undergrad had become quite an activist by the age of 17, organising relief for starving villagers pouring into the city during the Famine of 1943. By the time she entered the Government College of Art, her perspective on politics and life had prepared her to become the ideal mate of the committed, barefoot Communist and visual chronicler of the Famine, Somnath Hore. The two had met as students of Art, come close as Communist activists and married in 1954. But the creative imagination and stifling Party directives cannot co-exist for long. So the Hores moved away to concentrate on their art, even as their subaltern sympathies remained undiluted.

It was these sympathyies that, shaking off manifesto stridency, had taken deep humanist roots in both artists, and expanded into a philosophic weltanschauung about suffering. While this was clearly articulated in Somnath, in Reba

it was implicit, subtler. The fact to note is this: despite her close proximity to Somnath and his very distinctive metier, she carved for herself quite an individual idiom.

Loosely speaking, this idiom could be described as Expressionist but her unbridled lines and strokes don't echo masters like van Gogh, Nolde or Kandinsky. In an early oil, *Woman and Flower* (1959), her palette had already become dark and brooding. In works like *Wait for Your Turn*, *Children* (both 1994) and *Habitat* (signed 1995), inchoate, anonymous figures seem to be lashed by a blitzkrieg of swift, volatile lines that trap them in a space that's as tensely claustrophobic as their mute stoicism. In *Moving Group* (date not given) on the other hand, scribbly lines are few but the strokes welter around them punishingly. Elsewhere, the paint is thick and creased, dense with emotion, like in *Couple* and *Mourning Group* (dates not given).

What's important about the present show is its range. It gives viewers an idea of Reba Hore's fluency in different media: brush and ink, ink and wash, pastel, collage and so forth. The collages will be of special interest for they may not have been seen before. A semi-abstraction, with little pieces of coloured paper, evokes a light-hearted tableau of spry shapes. She also detours into what appears, across cyber space, to be abstract arrangements with bits of painted paper. The combative jostle of jagged paper tiles and textured tones seethes with an energy that

threatens imminent eruptions.

Wife and mother, artist and activist, Reba Hore's oeuvre hints at a wealth of experiences, distilled by a thinking mind and a delicate sensibility into her art and her poems—in Bengali but some in English also—that reflect a spectrum of emotions and thoughts. It may be apt to end with one of her poems that gives a glimpse of her sensitive understanding of life's fragility and the human predicament.

Something there!/......something near my heart/  
struggles for air....

The game of blind man's buff/is going strong/I  
gasp for breath/can't go on

One last time, let's find out/what lies in store as  
part of my share...



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Red oxide on paper

17.5 x 13 inches

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder Pigment on pulp paper

19.5 x 18 inches

1999



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Water pigment on paper pulp

13 x 17.5 inches

1997





**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Red Oxide on paper  
17.5 x 13 inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Red Oxide on paper

17 x 13 inches

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Oil on Board

16 x 20 inches

2006







**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on board

14 x 21 inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Water pigment on paper

20 x 30.5 inches

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Powder Pigment on board  
14.5 x 21 inches





**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Powder Pigment on hard paper  
15 x 22 inches

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Terracotta  
3.7 x 2.5 x 5.3 inches



**REBA HORE**

Face I

Bronze

5 x 4.5 x 3.5 inches





**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Terracotta  
4.5 x 4.2 x 5.2 inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Terracotta

4 x 2.7 x 3.9

**REBA HORE**

The Dog

Unsigned

Brush & black pigment on pulp paper

13 x 17.5 inches

1997





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom  
right)

Brush & Ink on paper

10 x 14 inches

1990

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom right)

Brush & Ink on paper

11.5 x 16 inches

1986





**REBA HORE**

Collage-I

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom right)

Painted paper bits pasted on pulp paper

13 x 17.5 inches

1997



**REBA HORE**

Collage III

Unsigned

Painted paper bits pasted on pulp  
paper

12.5 x 17.5 inches

1997



**REBA HORE**

Collage II

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom right)

Painted paper bits pasted on board

13 x 17.5 inches

1997



**REBA HORE**

Collage IV

Signed and dated in Bengali (top left)

Painted paper bits paste

on pulp paper

13 x 17.5 inches

1997



**REBA HORE**

Collage

Unsigned

Coloured paper bits pasted on paper

15 x23 inches

**REBA HORE**

Comapanions 1

Signed and dated in Bengali (top left)

Oil ,Wax and Egg on Canvas

23.5 x 31 inches

1987



**REBA HORE**

Composition

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder Pigment on Board

21 x 14 inches

1998





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Crosshatch, Ink and wash on paper

14.5 x 12 inches

1991

REBA HORE

Untitled

Unsigned

Red Oxide on paper

17.5 x 13 inches





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Crosshatch, ink & wash on paper

14.5 x 12 inch

1991



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Crosshatch, ink and wash on paper

14.5 x 12 Inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Crosshatch, Ink & wash on paper

14.5 x 12 inches

1991

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Crosshatch, Ink & wash on paper

1991



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Cross hatch, ink and wash on paper

17.5 x 13 inches





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed in Bengali (bottom left )

Crosshatch, Ink & wash on paper

14.5 x 12 inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed in Bengali (bottom right)

Crosshatch, ink and wash on paper

14.5 x 12 inches

1991

**REBA HORE**

Figures

Signed in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on board

14 x 21 inches

1998









**REBA HORE**

Garden II

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on board

14 x 21 inches

1998

**REBA HORE**

Garden

Signed in Bengali (bottom left )

Powder pigment on board

14 x 21 inches

1998





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Ink & pastel on paper

14.5 x 10.5 inches

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Ink & Pen on paper

14.5 x 10.5 inches





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Ink & Pen on paper

14.5 x 10.5 inches

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed in Bengali (top left)

Crosshatch, Ink , wash on paper

14.5 x 12 inches

1991



**REBA HORE**  
Child Carriers  
Signed and Dated on the reverse  
Oil on Canvas  
35 x 42 inches  
1994





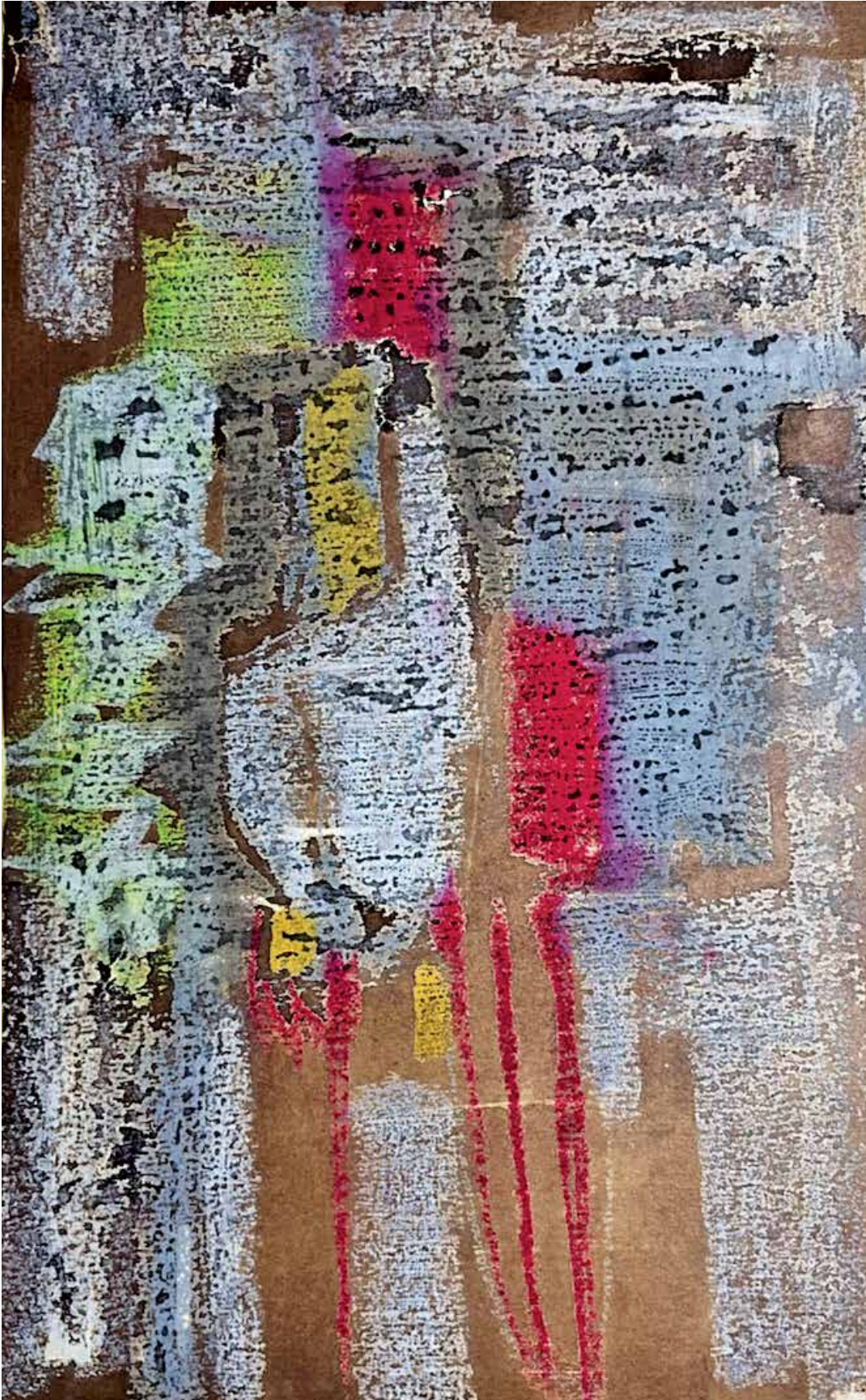
**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Ink and Pastel on paper

14.5 x 10.5 inches



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Ink and pastel on  
paper  
14.5 x 10.5 inches



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Ink and pastel on paper  
10.5 x 14.5 inches

**REBA HORE**

Log Carriers

Signed in Bengali (bottom left)

Ink and Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inches

1999





**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Mixed Media on paper  
17.5 x 13 inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Mixed Media on paper

17.5 x 13 inches

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Mixed media on paper

22 x 30 inches





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed in English (top right)

Mixed Media on paper

22 x 30 inches

**REBA HORE**

The Rooster

Signed and dated in Bengali  
(bottom left)

Mixed Media on paper

15 x 22 inches

1988



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Oil on board

16 x 20 inches

2006





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in English (top left)

Oil, Wax & Egg on canvas

32 x 24 inches

1967



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed in Bengali (bottom left)

Oil on board

16 x20 inches

2006



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (top left)

Oil on board

16 x20 inches

2006



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in English (top left)

Oil on Canvas

24 x 18 inches

1987



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and Dated in English (top centre)

Oil on canvas

33 x 24 inches

1989

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Ink and Pastel on paper  
14.5 x 10.5



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Oxide on paper  
17.5 x 13 inches





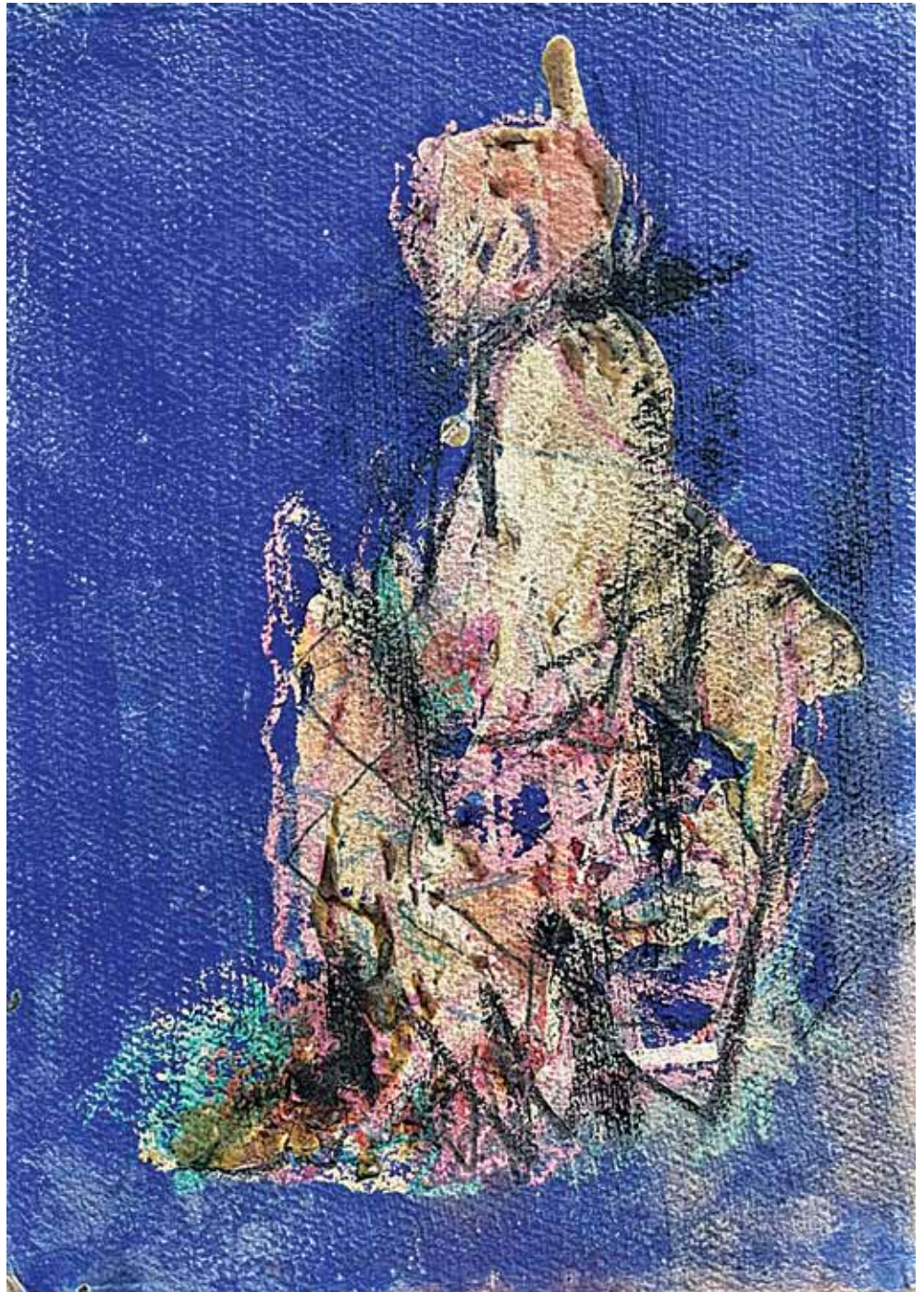
**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Oxide on paper

17.7 x 13 inches



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Oxide on paper  
17.5 x 13 inches

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Pastel & Ink on paper  
22 x 28.5 inches



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed in Bengali (bottom left)

Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inch





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.4 inches

2000



**REBA HORE**

Moving Group

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inch

1999

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inches

2000





**REBA HORE**

The Rose

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inches

1999

**REBA HORE**

Waiting

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Pastel on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inches

1999



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Pigment & Oxide on paper  
22 x 30 inches





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated Bengali (bottom left)

Pigment on board

14 x 21 inches

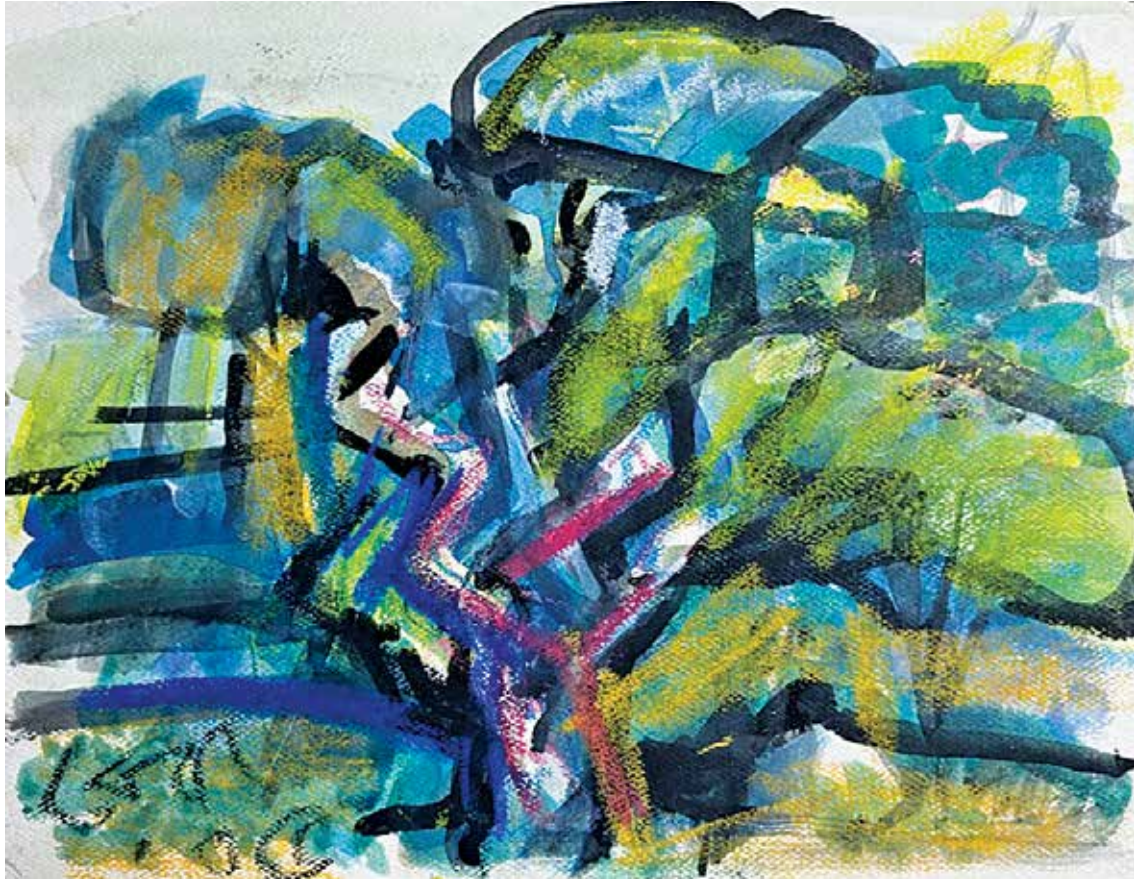
1998



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Pigment on paper  
30.5 x 20 inches

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Pigment & Oxide on paper  
22 x 30 inches





**REBA HORE**

Signed and dated in English (bottom left)  
Pigment on paper  
8.5 x 11.5 inches  
2005



**REBA HORE**

Untitled  
signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)  
Powder Pigment on board  
14 x 21 inches  
1998



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (top left)

Powder Pigment on board

21 x 14 inches

1998

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (top left)

Powder pigment on board

14 x 21 inches

1998





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Unsigned

Signed and dated in Bengali(bottom left)

Powder pigment on paper

18.5 x 19 inches

1999



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom right)

Powder pigment on paper pasted on cloth

16 x 22 inches

1991

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Powder Pigment on pulp paper  
18 x 18.5 inches  
1999



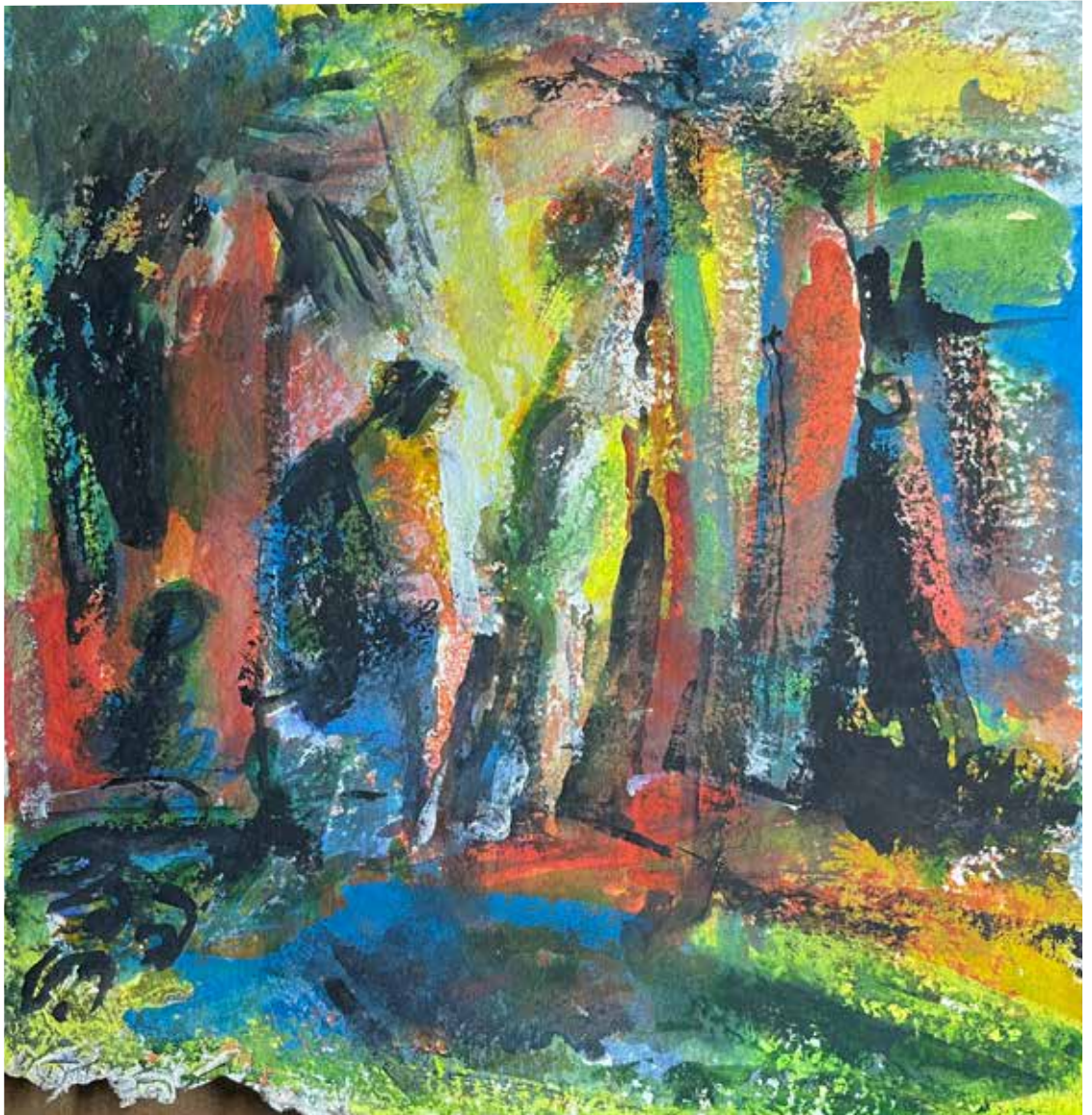
**REBA HORE**

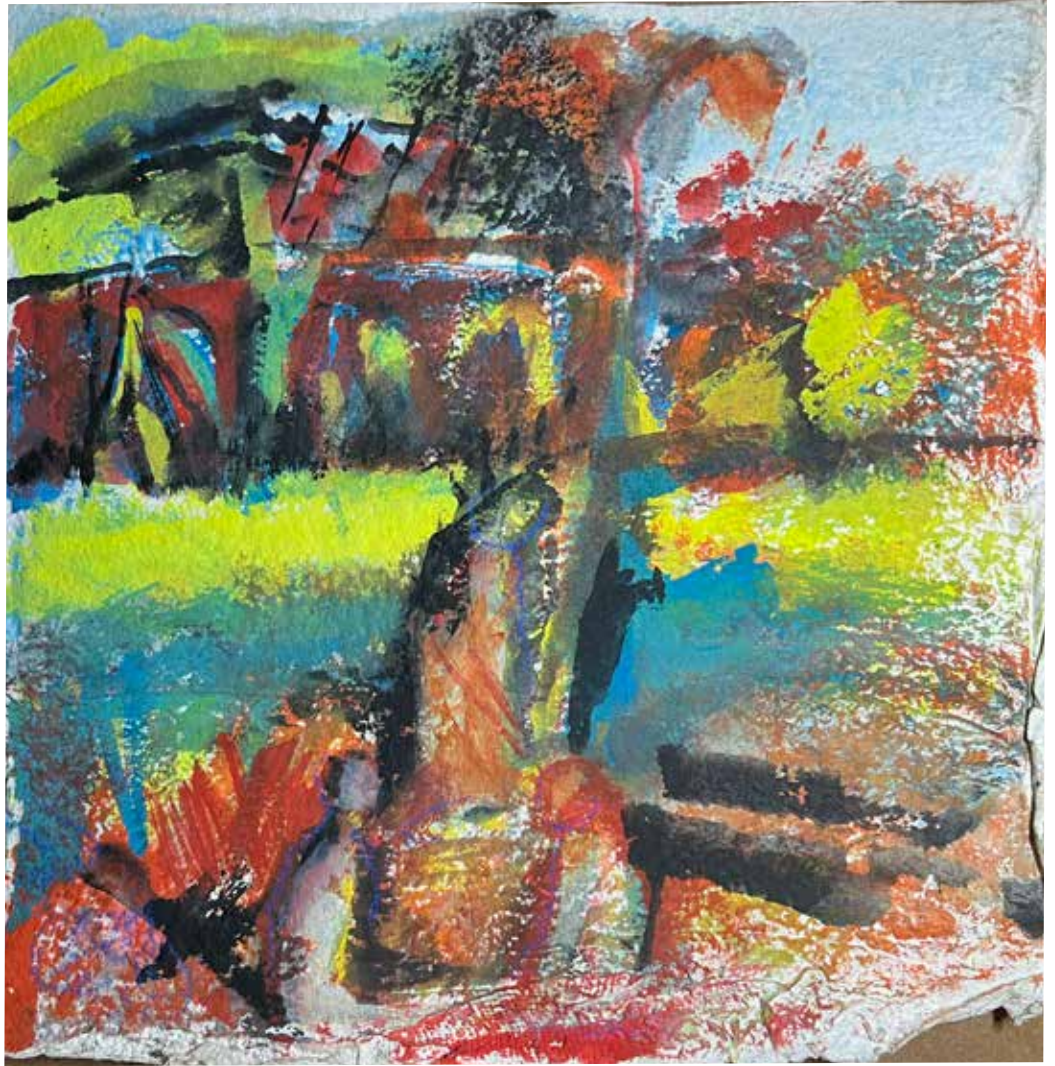
Untitled

Signed in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on pulp paper

18.5 x 17.5 inches





**REBA HORE**

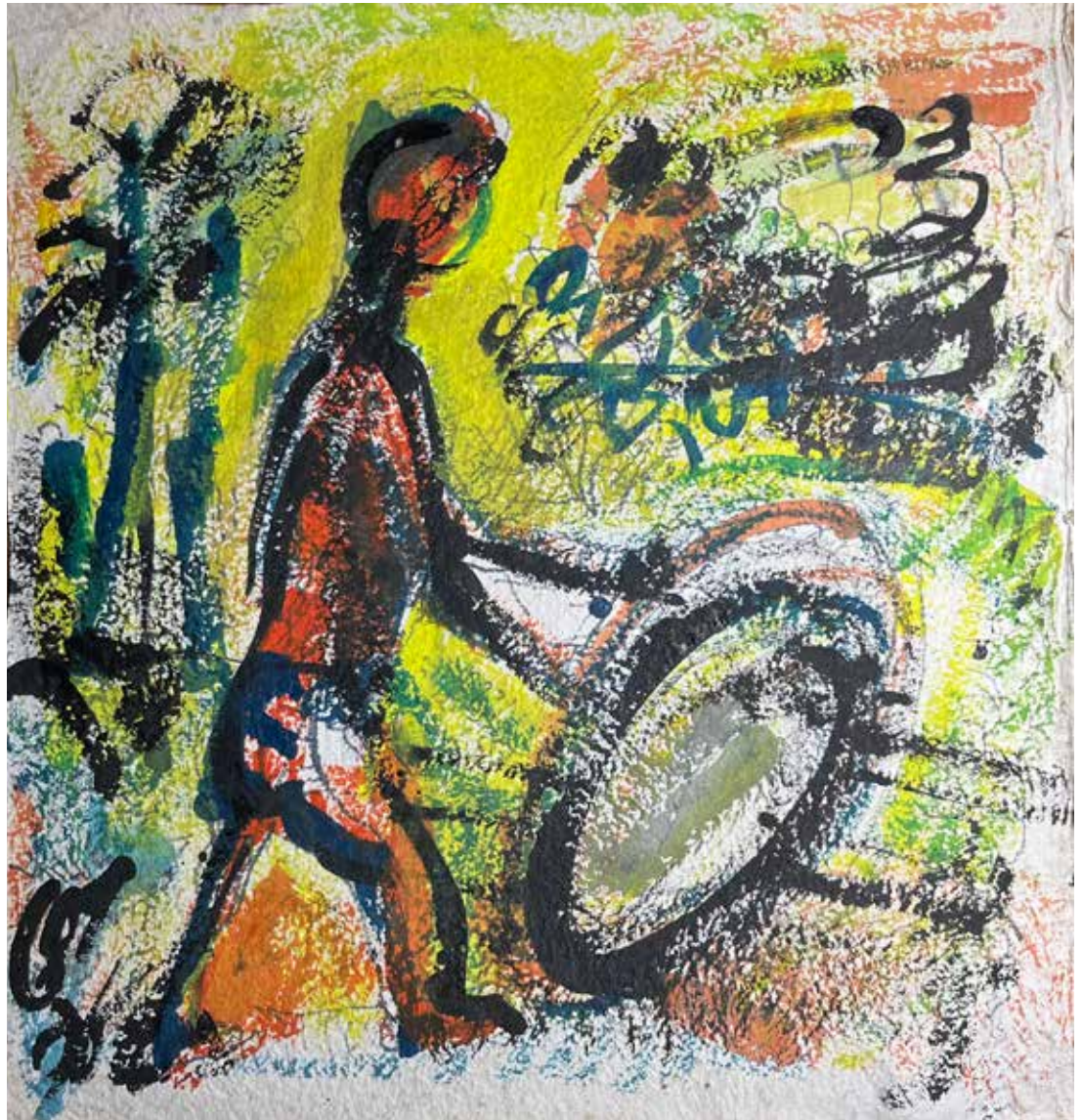
Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on pulp paper

18.5 x 18.5 inches

1999



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on pulp paper

19 x 18.5 inches

1998

**REBA HORE**

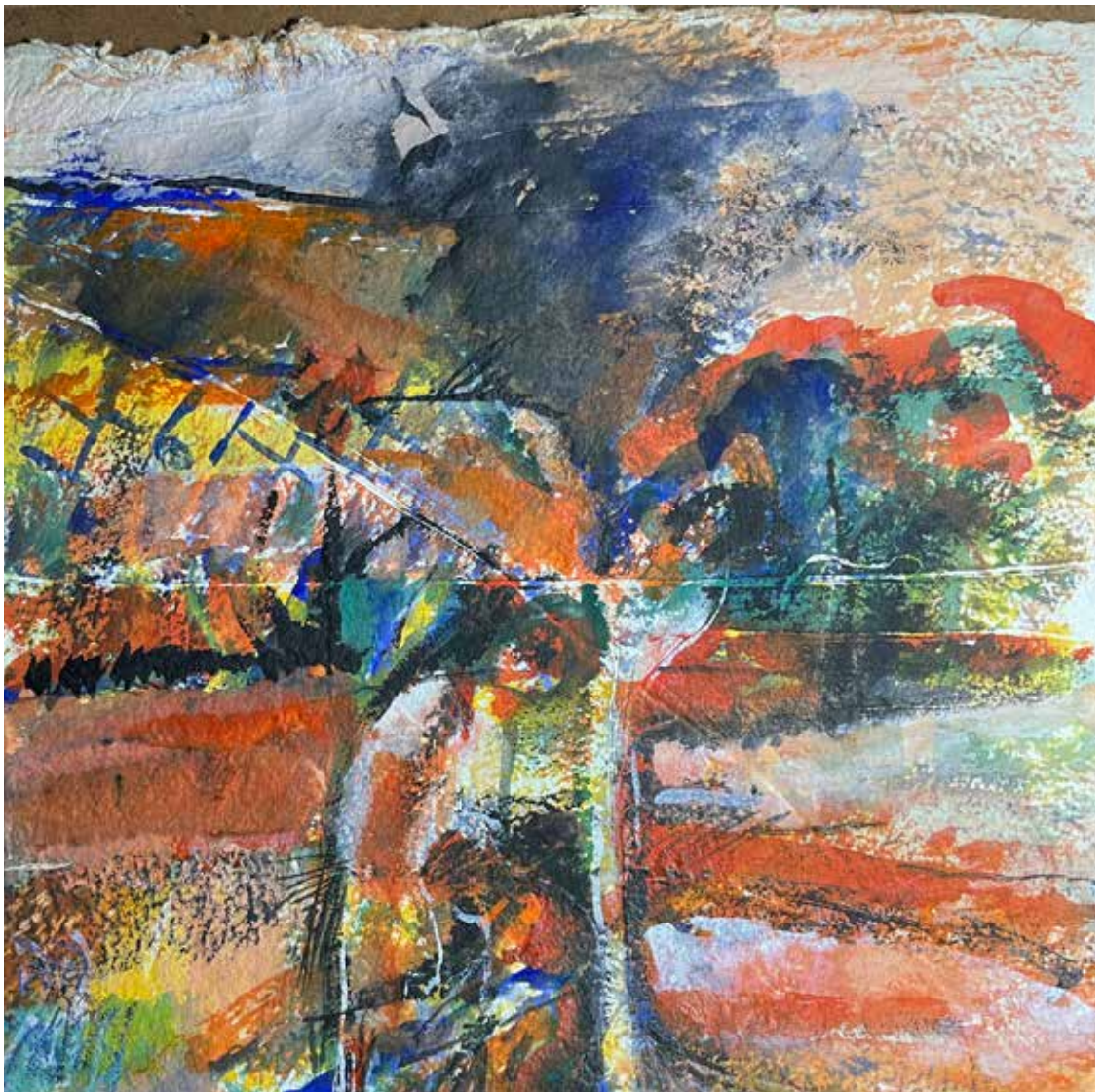
Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom left)

Powder pigment on pulp paper

18.5 x 18.5 inches

1999



**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Terracotta

4.5 x 5 x 3 inches





**REBA HORE**  
Face I  
Terracotta  
5 x 3 x 3 inches



REBA HORE

Face II

Terracotta

6 x 3.5 x 3.5 inches



**REBA HORE**  
Face II  
Terracotta  
6 x 3.5 x 4 inches



**REBA HORE**  
Face IV  
Terracotta  
7X3x3 inches

**REBA HORE**  
Sleeping Figure  
Terracotta  
4.5 x 5 x 3 inches



**REBA HORE**

Sitting Figure-II

Terracotta with moss

5 x 4 x 5 inches





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (bottom right)

Water pigment on paper

8.5 x 11 inches

1992

**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali (top left)

Water pigment on paper

8.5 x 11 inches

1992





**REBA HORE**

Untitled

Signed and dated in Bengali and English(bottom left)

Mixed Media on paper

10.5 x 14.5 inches

2000



**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Water pigment on paper  
30.5 x 20 inches

**REBA HORE**  
Untitled  
Unsigned  
Water pigment on paper  
20 x 30.5 inches





Published in conjunction with the exhibition

In Luminous Tenderness

A solo exhibition of works by Reba Hore

organised by Art Magnum & Golf Green Art Gallery  
at Art Magnum , 60/2C, 3rd Floor, Yusuf Sarai,  
Aurobindo Marg, Indian Oil Complex, New Delhi-16  
from 09 February to 06 March 2023.

2023.

Curator: Subhasish Adhikary

Author: Saurabh Singhvi

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Photography: Subhasish Adhikary  
Design: Raj Kumar

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Reba di is always a source of inspiration and an abyss of love for me and my wife mahua. Her creativity is vast and unimaginable. The colours are always experimental and created. Her strokes are enormous and powerful, yet calm and versatile. We feel proud to bring the most exorbitant and incredible works of Reba Hore.

- Mahua & Subhasish Adhikary

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