

Video Ga Ga RICHA BHATIA Posted online: Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 2203 hrs IST

54-year-old artist Ranbir Kaleka's video world is full of lingering shadows, sunbeams streaking across lengthy corridors and a sense of loss and resurrection, all seen through a brightly coloured acrylic overlapped on a video, with tinkling music in the background. Kaleka's inventive Fables from the House of Ibaan- Stage 1 is part of the first audio-video exhibition, Mechanisms of Motion currently on at Anant Art centre in Noida.

However, the title of the show gives the viewer just a peep through the door into this eclectic world of video and sound. To get the full on surround sound effect, you need to stride on in and take a look for yourself at the works of 14 artists like Susanta Mandal, Ayisha Abraham, Baiju Parthan, Vivan Sundaram and Yashas Shetty.

From Bangalore-based Abhishek Hazra's mathematical conundrum in Laughing in a Sine Curve to L N Tallur's massive drum and bass in Sound Marketing, Mumbai-based Navjot Altaf's uneasy psychological turf in the slowed-down interactive video installation Catch and Baroda-based Suresh's audacious Golden Quadrilateral, Homage to Road Makers that is a montage of shots with maggots juxtaposed against a speeding highway, the work underscores a deep personal angst against society's ills. "I shot the video when I was based in Godhra and its inspired by Satyendra Dubey who fought against corruption in the Golden Quadrilateral highway construction project," explained Suresh, 47, a senior lecturer at the Faculty of Fine Arts, MSU, in Baroda.

Curated by Bangalore based art critic Marta Jakimowicz, the show took one and half years to be put together. "It would have been unthinkable to display movement through diverse mediums 100 years ago. With technological advances it has become possible," said Jakimowicz.

Vivan Sundaram's Barefoot with Hussain artwork was created through the contribution of the viewers as they walked across the gallery and made an outline of their feet in an attempt to show solidarity with Hussain, who is currently in exile. "It gives a sense of participation to the viewer and is a good medium to express our solidarity with Hussain," said Delhi-based Sundaram. Cariappa's tepid performance of the quotidian activities in life put a dampener in the end. The prices of the works begin from Rs 60,000.