

DR AMIN JAFFER, CHRISTIE’S INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR OF ASIAN ART MEETS...  
...MRS TINA AMBANI, FOUNDER OF THE HARMONY ART FOUNDATION



*“I am delighted that Christie’s, the world’s leading art business, Harmony Art Foundation and Barclays Wealth have united in this significant collaboration which highlights the importance of patronage within the arts. Art crosses boundaries and unites people with a stimulating, shared appreciation of creativity and originality. Christie’s is proud to facilitate the sale of works from the Harmony Art Foundation as part of the London sale of South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art on 11 June 2008 and we feel confident that with bidders around the world these works will raise significant funds to help the Foundation’s future activities.”*

DR AMIN JAFFER

**TINA, YOUR INSPIRATIONAL VISION AND COMMITMENT TO THE ARTS LED YOU TO FOUND THE HARMONY ART FOUNDATION IN 1995. THIS WAS WELL BEFORE THE SURGE OF GLOBAL INTEREST IN MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART. WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO DO SO?**  
I recognized the need to provide a non-profit platform for emerging artists in the subcontinent and to build bridges of understanding between other cultures and artistic perspectives. Many Indian artists who are prominent today started their careers at Harmony, including Jitish Kallat, Anju Dodiya and Atul Dodiya. In support of this endeavour, on 11 June the Harmony Foundation will be offering 12 works for sale at Christie’s. The proceeds will be used to further the organisation’s activities.

**THE HARMONY ART FOUNDATION HAS INDEED ALREADY MADE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN SUPPORTING ARTISTIC PRACTICE. CAN YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT HARMONY ART FOUNDATION?**  
Yes of course, I am truly passionate about the Harmony Art Foundation; it aims to empower artists and sculptors in India by creating infrastructure for them to blossom, furthering exchange and dialogue through international collaboration; giving awards and holding residencies that promote Indian and international artists and sculptors; and offering private support for non-mainstream art forms like sculpture, environmental and video installation. Over time, the foundation wishes to create a keener sense of knowledge and sensitivity about the rich spectrum of contemporary art practices in the country.

**HOW DO YOU SEE THE ROLE OF HARMONY ART FOUNDATION EVOLVING AND DEVELOPING GOING FORWARDS?**  
Going forwards, the foundation aims to hold more events and workshops and work with museums and private collectors, in India and across the world. The collaboration between Christie’s, Barclays Wealth and Harmony Art Foundation to sell these 12 works and raise funds will enable the foundation to achieve its mandate.

**CAN YOU PROVIDE SOME INSIGHT INTO THE WORKS BEING OFFERED FROM HARMONY ART FOUNDATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH BARCLAYS WEALTH AT CHRISTIE’S SOUTH ASIAN MODERN + CONTEMPORARY SALE OF 11 JUNE?**  
Of course, the 12 works to be offered have estimates ranging from £3,000 to £20,000, making this an accessible group of works, with fascinating provenance, which will hopefully excite both new and established collectors. They are led by Francis Newton Souza’s Untitled, 1956, H.G. Arunkumar’s playful sculptures Toys: Aeroplane- Car-Sprung Ball, which are brass and nickel coated, 2006 and Navjot Altaf’s powerful sculpture December 15th, 2000. The others are wonderful, dynamic works also and I would recommend that people look at the catalogue to find out more.

**THANK YOU TINA, FINALLY, WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO TELL ME ABOUT THE HARMONY ART SHOW, WHICH I BELIEVE IS INDIA’S LARGEST ANNUAL PRIVATE CONTEMPORARY ART SHOW?**  
Over the past 13 years, the show has attracted over half-a-million people and provided a platform to a wide range of artists from all over India who are at different points in their careers; it has nurtured emerging talent, and made the acquisition of art a simpler, linear process by creating an accessible environment where the artist and collector - amateur or seasoned - can find each other. In recent years, the Harmony Art show has sought to emphasise the link between art and wider society by fostering a sense of responsibility and commitment towards the underprivileged. The Foundation is associated with social welfare organisations that exhibit the creative talents of underprivileged children at its shows.



clockwise from top left  
Navjot Altaf (b. 1949)  
December 15th - 2000  
edition 2/6  
£18,000 – 20,000

Francis Newton Souza (1924-2002)  
Untitled  
£15,000 – 20,000

HG Arunkumar (b. 1968)  
Toys: Airplane - Car - Sprung Ball  
edition 2/5  
£15,000 – 20,000

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