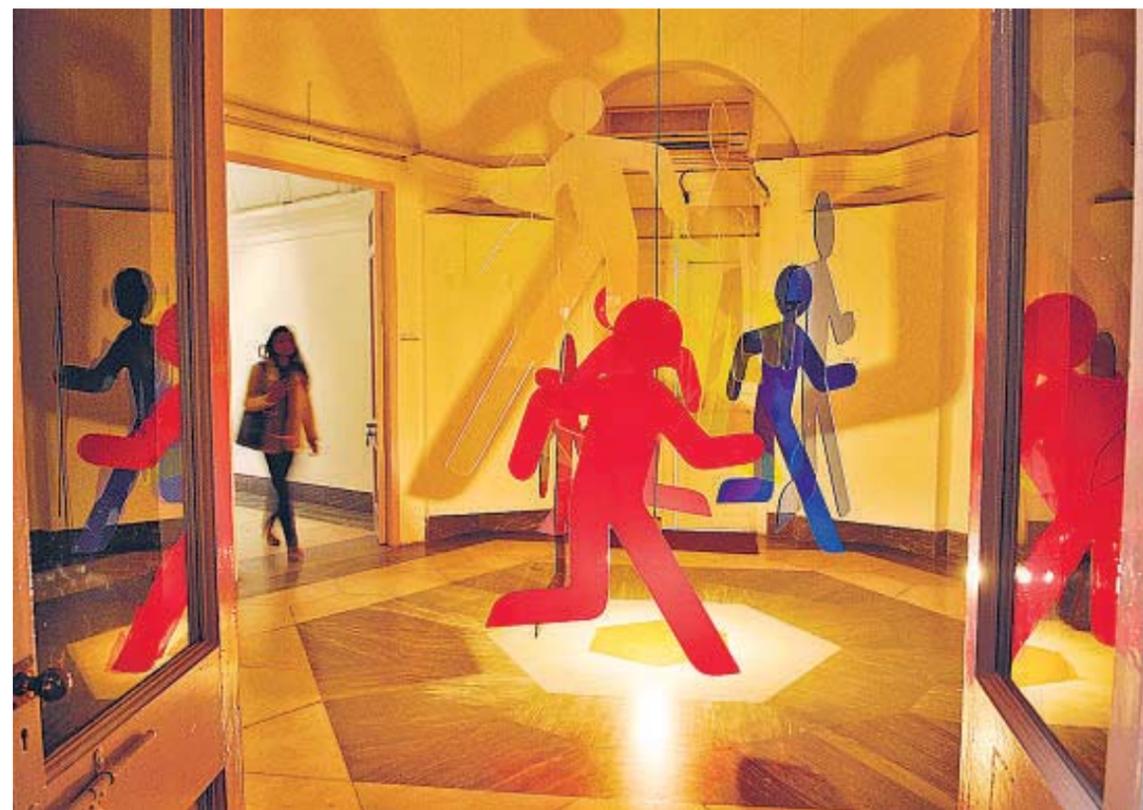


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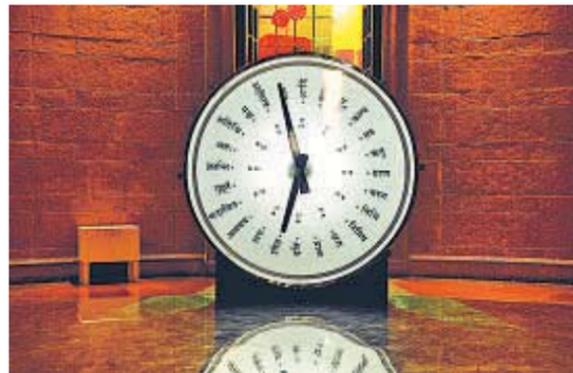


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THE IMMINENT...

Ensemble of 18 renditions of the 'Exit' pictogram, 2010
The Imminent Departure of Anybody, Everybody, Somebody, Nobody and others, is a reminder that in life every now and then, one can find a way out of a situation. A depiction of the 'little running man,' in identical fluorescent acrylic figures, this pictogram denoting 'exit' refers to multiple ways to escape the frozen snapshot of time.



NIGHT & DAY, DAY & NIGHT

24-hour clock, an installation, 2014
A big clock, with 24 words in the Devanagari script replacing the usual digits, forms the focal point of the exhibition. Words such as *pran* (life), *tithi* (date), *ritu* (season), try to sum up various notions of time. According to the artists, time could appear short for someone hence they relate to it as *shran* (second), while it could mean an eternity for someone, who would then, view it as *yug* (century). The clock, like all things symbolic, remains open to interpretation.

WEEKEND EX

YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

An ongoing multimedia exhibition in the city explores the perception of time through various approaches and urges viewers to free their thoughts

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A series of light bulb fixtures named Revoltage, perhaps calling for our inner rebel energy to survive the conflicts of current times; a carpet suspended mid-air to give an impression of flight; an installation of a handprint that seems to exhort you to act before it's too late. You may think you are in a wonderland or a laboratory where every curio is a specimen to be studied, but all this and many more such puzzles are part of the thought-provoking artworks displayed at the ongoing multimedia exhibition titled *Asmayavali* (The Untimely Calendar) by the Delhi-based Raqs Media Collective.

The artist trio of Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula and Shuddhabrata Sengupta, who form the collective, chose this time of the year when we are looking at ways to overcome the flux of our times.

"The show aims to understand the concept of time and to begin conversations and questions about it," says artist Jeebesh Bagchi. Everything is open to individual interpretation, he adds. Are Indians ready to understand such abstract contemporary art? "There is a definite audience here," says Bagchi. "The only thing missing is the culture to devote time towards art. We give hours for cinema and cricket but sadly not for art, unlike people in the West."



THE NOORONIHAR & PARIBANO TRANSPORT COMPANY

Kilim, embroidery, text, 2012
The artists want the viewer to join them on an imaginary, uplifting and optimistic flight of fantasy. The concept of a flying carpet from the fairy tale *Arabian Nights* is re-imagined in current times. The artists fantasise that princesses Nooronihar and Paribano from the tales, run a transport company, with flying carpets for hire. The idea is to instill faith that one can take wings and fly anywhere one wants to. The notion of impossibility, limitations and time frame is just in the mind.

PASSAGE OF TIME

The Raqs Media Collective's solo show at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) is like an extended conversation around the concepts of time. More than fifty works in a range of media — video, installations, mixed media assemblages, sound, photography, print and sculpture are on display. The show concludes on February 8, 2015.



UNTOLD INTIMACY OF DIGITS

Animation, archival trace, video loop, 2011
The striking handprint against an azure backdrop has an eerie, intriguing quality about it. The animation is explained via a video loop and has a back story: This is the first ever handprint taken of a Raj Konai, an Indian, way back in 1858, for forensic purposes. It is currently in the custody of the Francis Galton Collection of the University College of London. This is where Raqs first encountered the image of Raj Konai's hand while researching a work on the history of the Andaman Islands. In 2006, during a residency at the Institute of International Visual Art, London, they started thinking with this archival trace in their lecture performance, 'The Anthropometry of the Soul'. Historically, fingerprinting experiments, and later technologies, all began with this handprint. According to the trio, over the years the symbol of this hand has led to many different interpretations, ranging from one denoting a dance mudra, a blessing, a call to wake up and act. And much more.

HT PHOTOS: SAUMYA KHANDELWAL

PICK OF THE WEEK

PATCHWORK INDIA
The Dastkari Haat Samiti is once again gearing up for its annual display of the finest handicrafts from all corners of India. The hugely popular craft bazaar has an added attraction this year — the intricate and beautiful and ancient craft handicrafts from Tibet, handed down through the generations.

11.00am till 9.00pm, January 1-15, Dilli Haat, INA. Call: 9873798874



A TRYST WITH NATURE

The beauty of nature in all its myriad forms can be seen at a solo show by artist Surya Prakash. The most ubiquitous aspects of nature are given the aesthetics of a new visual play that is worth checking out.

11.00am till 7.00pm, December 11-January 8, Chawla Art Gallery, Square One mall Saket. Call: 29561819

EMOTIONALLY CHARGED

A series that captures life in its stillness as reflected by the artist is put on display in a show titled *Subjective Idioms*. Artists Nilotpal Dhawaj Sinha and Hans Shinde showcase works where the figures have an odd, disconcerting quality about them and yet connect emotionally to the viewer.



11.00am till 7.00pm, Dec 8 - Jan 7, Art and Aesthetic, Old M B Road, Lado Sarai. Call: 9810540472

MULTIPLE REALITIES

The Films and Theatre Society organises a five-day Winter Theatre Festival. The festival will see Rakesh Bedi set the stage with his famous play 'Massage' in which he plays as many as 24 different characters. The curtains will be drawn by the play, 'Kahani Teri Meri.'

7pm, Jan 8-26, Kamani Auditorium, For details: www.facebook.com/FTSshows. Call: 987379887



TANSEN AND BAIJU BAWRA LIVE AGAIN

A rare, enchanting glimpse into traditional art forms can be experienced at the Swami Haridas-Tansen Sangeet-Nritya Mahotsav. The mahotsav is an attempt to keep alive and spread our musical heritage through a cultural renaissance and resuscitation of the musical ethos by holding a festival of music, dance and vocal recitals (Dhrupads) in Delhi. The classical style exemplified by the two great musical geniuses of India, Tansen and Baiju Bawra, both disciples of the saint-musician Swami Haridas, will be re-enacted to engage and appeal to a younger audience.

6.30 pm, Jan 9-11, Shankar Lal Hall, Modern School, Barakhamba Road. Call: 9891306373

