

TURNING 20: OF MEMORIES, MILESTONES & FELICITATIONS

It was an evening of nostalgia as members of the DakshinaChitra fraternity gathered for the 20th anniversary celebrations on January 4th. The chief guest was renowned actress Revathy. The founding members, major donors, folk performing artists, artisans and veteran staff members of the organisation were felicitated for their long standing contribution and support. This was followed by entertaining folk dance performances.



The evening was a mix of happy tears and loud laughter as many of them recollected their journey with DakshinaChitra. To them, it was a dream come true to see how the organisation has transformed over the years and carved a niche for itself in the minds of children and adults alike. The coming together of the Friends of DakshinaChitra (FOD), which has over 200 members today, has greatly helped in fulfilling our objective of taking art, craft and heritage to the public.

Educational workshops, folk dance performances and the ever-popular craft bazaar have put the spotlight on native crafts and performing arts. This has motivated many artisans to pursue their local art forms. As we turn 20, we look forward to creating an even wider appreciation of art, traditional craft and culture as we work to reach out to more visitors and communities.



A picture of the Lily pond in front of the Chettinad House at DakshinaChitra.

OUR GRATITUDE TO...

Our heartfelt gratitude to the following donors for their valuable donations to our collection:

Dr. R. Bhanumathi - More than 100 books and journals, lithograph prints, and a coconut with artistic carvings, among other artefacts.

Stephen Eckherd - Wooden blocks, metal blocks for textile printing and 25 Lithograph prints (Colour paper prints).

V. Anamika - Two paintings.

FOD TRIPS - A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

FOD (Friends of DakshinaChitra) organises a minimum of two trips a year - one in India and one outside. The Laos-Vietnam trip from February 19 to March 1 this year was enjoyed by all the participants. For enquiries about future trips, do sign up with FOD on our website: www.dakshinachitra.net.



DakshinaChitra
Murtukadu, East Coast Road,
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www.dakshinachitra.net

For further information, contact
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DakshinaChitra is open daily
from 10 am to 6 pm
Closed on Tuesdays.
Weekends : 10 am to 7 pm

DakshinaChitra is the project of
Madras Craft Foundation.

Design and Content :
The Phoenix Company

ON WEEKENDS
WE ARE OPEN
TILL 7 PM

Madras Craft Foundation
If undelivered, please return to

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NEWS AND EVENTS - APRIL TO JUNE, 2017

WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS

(Timings: 10:30 am to 5:30 pm)



◀◀ **Kalamkari**
(Figurative style)
April 8 & 9
Fee: Rs. 2,000/-
Resource person:
Vijaya kumar

▶▶ **Glass sculpting**
April 20 & 21
Fee: Rs. 2,000/-
Resource person:
Srinivasa Raghavan



◀◀ **Studio pottery**
May 3 - 10
Fee: Rs. 5,000/-
Resource person:
In-house



▶▶ **Terracotta Jewellery**
May 13, 14 & 20
Fee: Rs. 2,500/-
Resource person:
N. Kantha



◀◀ **Rajasthani Miniature painting on canvas**
May 19, 20 & 21
Fee: Rs. 2,500/-
Resource person: Madan Lal



▶▶ **Pattachitra - Palm leaf engraving**

June 17 & 18
Fee: Rs. 2,000/-
Resource person:
Prakash Kumar Maharana



CERAMIC WORKSHOPS

This summer, DakshinaChitra is the place to be. It's time to put on your creative hats and register for the various workshops planned for you by our Ceramic Centre.

Ceramic Wall Mural (for adults): April 15, 16 & 23

Participants will learn about the nature of clay and other basic details. They can create their own designs on single or multiple piece murals.
Fee: Rs. 3,500/-



Ceramic Miniature Animal Figurines: May 13, 14 & 21 (for kids)



A unique workshop where children will work with clay and make miniature animal and bird figurines.
Fee: Rs. 3,000/-

Ceramic Platter (for adults) : June 24, 25 & July 2

In this workshop for adults, participants will work on clay and make a ceramic platter, a type of serving dish with a flat base that is also used in home decor.
Fee: Rs. 3,500/-



Note: In the above workshops, during the first two days the participants will work on clay and on the last day they will glaze the objects. For further details, contact Potrarasan: +91 - 9840672154

WORKSHOPS for children

(The fee for each workshop is inclusive of material and transportation only. Timings: 10.30 am to 4.30 pm; Age group: 8 to 14 years). For further details, contact Lakshmi: +91- 9841777779.



◀◀ **Terracotta Mask-making**
April 22
Fee: Rs. 800/-
Resource person:
In-house

▶▶ **Activity Camp**
May 6
Fee: Rs. 800/-
Resource person:
Prabhu



◀◀ **Stencil making & T-shirt printing**
May 20
Fee: Rs. 800/-
Resource person:
Prabhu

▶▶ **Paper craft**
June 3
Fee: Rs. 800/-
Resource person:
Vignesh



GREETINGS FROM DAKSHINACHITRA

When summer's here, you know it's time to pack your bags and head to DakshinaChitra. As we turn 20, we promise you an eventful year ahead. Young or old, student or working professional, there's something to suit all your tastes. You can watch a puppet show, try your hand at pottery, visit the ceramic centre and even enjoy a folk dance performance on weekends. There are interesting exhibitions and a variety of workshops planned as well. Read on to find out more...

APRIL 23: GRANDPARENTS' DAY CELEBRATION



Summer vacation is the best time to play a game with grandpa and listen to grandma's stories. DakshinaChitra is organising its

annual programme which will see the little ones bond with their grandparents over a series of interesting activities. Apart from traditional games, there will be kolam drawing and storytelling.

You can also enjoy watching the folk dances of Tamil Nadu, puppet show, kai & killi josiym and portrait & caricature-drawing on this day. There is no entry fee on this day for grandparents who come along with their grandchildren. So, block these dates in your diary and be there to have fun family times.

For details about the various programmes planned for the 20th anniversary, log on to our page on Facebook : **DakshinaChitra Chennai Muttukadu** or our website: www.dakshinachitra.net. You can also send us your feedback at dakmcf@gmail.com

JUNE 24 & 25: GRAMIYA MAKKAL THIRUNAL



A host of competitions and programmes have been organised for the residents of the villages surrounding DakshinaChitra. While men will compete in a tough Kabaddi competition, women will showcase their skills in a kolam drawing event. The little ones will be in a league of their own as they participate in a sack race, top spinning competition, lemon and spoon race. The families can also witness a performance of Tamil nadu folk dances and enjoy a puppet show. There will be a variety of food stalls offering some of our local favourites like tender coconut water, ice cola, sweet corn, butter milk & Panagam. Come join us in the fun!

MAY 18: MUSEUM DAY CELEBRATIONS

This museum day learn how the past will be preserved in the future as we discuss our subject, **'Museums of the future'**. There will be a talk by Sharath Nambiar, Deputy Director of DakshinaChitra. There will also be a photo exhibition by Desikan Krishnan, a heritage & documentation photographer, on **'Kanchi - Its Heritage, History, People and Culture'** from May 10 - 30. A documentary on **'A journey with Desikan Krishnan through his lens'** will be screened at the Varija Gallery in DakshinaChitra.



So join us as we explore the past in the present and discuss how to conserve it in the future. Entry will be free for all visitors on this day.

INTERNSHIP IN MUSEUM & ARTS MANAGEMENT

If you're an art enthusiast looking for a hands-on experience in museum management, then this internship is meant for you. Graduates can apply for our Museum & Arts Management programme, an 11-month course commencing on July 26 and concluding in June 2018. There will be no classes in May. Interns will receive a monthly stipend of Rs. 10,000/- and an internship diploma at the end of the course.

The programme provides you hands-on experience in the field. It will focus on collection management, archiving, arts in education programming, event management administration and operations, hospitality and conservation. The objective is to equip the intern to understand the demands and operations of a museum and acquire the skills required for this purpose - from administration, education and archiving to programming, curating and finance.

The last day for submitting the application is June 1. Interested students are requested to apply at the earliest as there are limited seats available. Please visit our website: www.dakshinachitra.net for more details.

UTSAVAM 2017: A BIG HIT!

The 2nd edition of Utsavam, held on February 11 & 12, was a huge success. Keeping in line with its formative goal, Utsavam was a unique immersion into the classical music and dance of South India and provided insights into their unifying spirit. It was inaugurated by Sri. R. Chellappan, Managing Director of Swelect Energy System, our event partner this year. We would also like to thank Mr. M. Mahadevan of Oriental Cuisines Pvt. Ltd. for his support.



art beat

VARIJA GALLERY

APR 15 - MAY 10:

An exhibition of **metal sculptures** by Saravanan and **paintings** by Juergen Puetz



MAY 13 - MAY 30:

'Anant Varnaakram', an expression of colours - An exhibition of artworks by Loganathan

JUNE 3 - JUNE 30:
'Heavenly bodies' - A photography exhibition by Sathyajit



KADAMBARI GALLERY



JUNE 17 - JUNE 30:
'Science of Insight' - An exhibition of paintings by Rajesh R.V.

EXHIBITION ON KALAMKARI IN THE CHETTINAD HOUSE

In March, DakshinaChitra organised a seminar on, **'Kalamkari: Yesterday and Today. What are the challenges?'**. There were presentations by senior scholars and exponents from the field. There was also a sale of Kalamkari products by the craftsmen at DakshinaChitra from March 9 - 12.



A permanent exhibition of beautifully handcrafted Kalamkari pieces in the Chettinad house at DakshinaChitra was inaugurated on March 10. Be sure to visit it to know more about this native art and the process behind producing the fabric. You can also check out the newly installed exhibitions in the two small rooms of the Chettinad house. One holds a contemporary installation by N. Ramachandran and V. Anamika and the other a typical Chettiar furnished room.

Our sincere thanks to Cholamandalam Investments and Finance Limited for providing the CSR Funding for this project.

COVER DESIGN ART

The picture on the cover page is of a contemporary Kalamkari piece by Niranjan of Kalahasti that will be on display as part of the permanent exhibition at the Chettinad House.

MASTERING BEAD CRAFT ONE STRING AT A TIME

Strings, colourful beads and vegetable dyes best describe 46-year-old Govindaswamy's work space. The bead craft artist of DakshinaChitra has been following his passion from his school days. He fondly recalls how he would go for his training classes in Saidapet after school and spend half a day there. He's been with DakshinaChitra since 1997 and has catered to its ever-growing market since then.

Govindaswamy specialises in making jewellery out of Tulsi wooden beads which are coloured using vegetable dyes and sometimes,



fabric paint. He explains that there are only a couple of other craftsmen in the country who are familiar with the process of adding colour to the beads. Every year, he makes two trips to a village in Mathura to handpick the beads after a thorough quality check.

In the past, his products have been exported to many countries in Europe, with customised designs. He undertakes bulk orders as well.

Govindaswamy, among many other craftsmen and artists, was felicitated for his long standing association with and contribution to DakshinaChitra. He hopes that in the future many more visitors will visit his stall and buy some of his vibrant pieces of jewellery.

So, if you're looking for some traditional and fashionable bracelets, necklaces and earrings then do drop by Govindaswamy's stall!

KADAMBARI GALLERY



APR 8 - APR 30

'Dusky women from South' - An exhibition of artworks by Vignesh

MAY 13 - MAY 30:

'Efflorescent Impressions, Emergent Perceptions' An exhibition of artworks by Vishwajyoti

