

GREETINGS FROM DAKSHINACHITRA

The winter break comes to an end and it's time for the harvest season. A visit to DakshinaChitra is the best way to relax after the stressful weeks during the Chennai floods. Treat yourself to a variety of artistic performances and don't miss out on the workshops. Read on to find out more..

BEGINNING WITH A BANG!

DECEMBER 30 TO JANUARY 3: MARGHAZI AND VILLAGE FESTIVAL

It's the month of Margazhi and what better way to celebrate it than through traditional programmes. The Mohanam Cultural Centre, Pondicherry, will enthral the audience by performing ancient folk dances of Tamil Nadu such as Silambattam, Karagatam, Kolattam, Kutchiattam, Thappattam and Thala Mela.



JANUARY 6 TO 10: SUGGI KUNITHA

Get to witness the traditional folk dance performance of Karnataka - Suggi Kunitha - typically staged during the harvest festival right here at DakshinaChitra. The dance contains no religious connotations. It's a group dance with music created by drums. The dance forms are Siddi, Damama and Nrithya.



JANUARY 13 TO 17: PONGAL FESTIVAL

'Pongalo Pongal!' - you guessed right. The harvest festival is here and we celebrate it with great pomp and show by creating the mood and colours of rural Tamil Nadu through folk dances like Myillattam, Poikal kudhirai and Karagam which will be performed by Thanjai. G. Raju and troupe.



JANUARY 20 TO 24: PANCHAVADYAM PERFORMANCE

When the notes of five instruments are played in unison, it is a melodious harmony. Panchavadhyam - temple art form that evolved in Kerala - is an orchestra of five instruments. Of the five, four (*Timila, Maddalam, Ilathalam and Idakka*) belong to the percussion category, while the fifth, *Kombu*, is a wind instrument. Come listen to these melodic tunes presented to you by P. Mukuntha Prasad of Karapuram Kala Kendram.



AND THE LIST CONTINUES... FESTIVALS & MORE!

We have many more festivals planned for you over the next three months. From food to nature, we've covered it all. You can look forward to the Food & Garden festival organised by the Friends of DakshinaChitra (January 16 & 17) and the DAM (Design, Art & Music) festival in February. There are also some fascinating nature and wildlife films by renowned filmmakers that will be screened in February and March. Contact us for more details.

JANUARY 27 TO 31: THAPPETA GULLU PERFORMANCE



History and culture will never cease to amuse and interest you in India. There is a story behind every song, dance and play which is captivating. Thappeta Gullu is one such devotional dance of Andhra Pradesh, popular in the districts of Srikakulam and Vishakhapatnam. During the ancient times, it was performed by cowherds and shepherds to amuse the rain goddess, Gangamma. Experience the vigor, rhythm and tempo of Thappeta Gullu through astounding performances by Saththiraju and troupe from Srihallamamba Tappetagullu Janpada Nrutya Kala Mandali, Andhra Pradesh.

Performance timings: 11.30 am, 12.30 pm, 3.30 pm and 4.30 pm.

FEBRUARY 13 TO 16: UTSAVAM

We welcome the New Year with all things traditional. Utsavam is a four-day immersion in classical music, dance and theatre, including folk theatre, of Tamilnadu. The symposium will see experts from each field share their knowledge on these ancient and vibrant art forms through interactive sessions. This will be followed by depictive dance and music performances in the evenings by some of the leading artists in the field. The programme will be held at different spaces within DakshinaChitra. For information on registration and programme schedule e-mail programsmcf1@gmail.com.

art beat

VARIJA GALLERY

JAN 9 - JAN 31:
An exhibition of paintings by Washington-based, Chennai artist Shanthi Chandrasekar on cosmic energy and cosmos



Shanthi Chandrasekar



Julie Wayne

FEB 6 - FEB 28: 'From Earth to Earth - Devotion and Terracotta Offerings in Tamil Nadu' - A photography exhibition on the Ayyanar Cult in Tamil Nadu, hosted by DakshinaChitra in collaboration with IGNSA SRC, Ministry of Culture. The display has been photographed and curated by Julie Wayne

MAR 19 - MAY 30:
'Retrospective of Veerasanthanam' - An exhibition of drawings & paintings by Veerasanthanam including pieces from 1970 till now



Veerasanthanam

KADAMBARI GALLERY



Pandi Selvam

DEC 19 - JAN 20:
'Black Markings' - An exhibition of paintings by Pandi Selvam

JAN 23 - FEB 3:
An exhibition of works by Werner Dornik of Bindu Art School



Werner Dornik



Asheshi Joshi

FEB 5 - FEB 28:
An exhibition of paintings by Asheshi Joshi from Auroville

MAR 5 - MAR 30:
An exhibition of paintings by Kirusiya Rani



Kirusiya Rani



The Art camp held by DakshinaChitra in collaboration with Lalit Kala Akademi saw 12 regional artists participate, with each of them making two murals. The paintings have been added to the collection of the museum and the Akademi. The cover page is a picture of the mural painted by artist Naveen Kumar during the camp in September.

MARCH 23 TO 27: UGADI FESTIVAL



Celebrating the colourful traditions of Andhra Pradesh, is the five-day Ugadi Utsav at DakshinaChitra which will include the traditional Urumulu dance by Urumula Natya Kala Pradarshan, Andhra Pradesh. 'Urumulu' or thunder dance is a ceremonial dance form of Andhra. The performance is accompanied by a percussion instrument called Urumu which sounds like thunder when played.

HISTORY REVISITED: SESSIONS ON HERITAGE EDUCATION

Our sincere gratitude to Ms Shobita Punja, former Director, Heritage Education and Communication Service, INTACH, for her thought-provoking sessions on 'Heritage education.'

LEARNING FROM INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS

We thank Stephen Inglis, retired Director, Canadian Museum of Civilization for his sessions on 'Museum Management and Curatorial Practises' which provided valuable insights to our staff.

We also thank Stephen Eckerd, former Coordinator at Smithsonian Institution, for sharing his expertise in 'Art and Education'. The lectures further enhanced our knowledge on museum practices followed across the world.

LENDING A HELPING HAND

We would like to thank Mr. Muthukumar Erulappan, a software engineer for volunteering in our library during weekends.

A VISUAL TREAT ON WEEKENDS

DakshinaChitra will screen documentaries on contemporary art on Sundays between 3pm and 5pm at the Seminar hall in the Arts and Education building. Do come and watch them!

'RITHAMBARA' - MAHABARATHA IMMERSION

Between **February 8 and 13, 2016**, Rithambara invites leaders and professionals in various fields including social services, management and the arts to an experiential Learning Theatre programme, 'Mahabartha Immersion' conceptualised by Raghu Ananthanarayanan, who will be the programme director. The co-facilitators will be Vandana Menon and Naveen Vasudevan. The indigenous Koothu style has been chosen as one of the components and the facilitation partners are Kannappa Thambiran's Therukoothu group represented by Palani.

The objective of the programme is to investigate the hidden heroic potential in each of the participants while they wear the mask of the mythological heroes and play the archetypal drama, viewing themselves in the mirror of the emerging 'here and now replay' of what is called eternal motifs of life and of relationships with significant others. Interactive sessions will facilitate the transmission of the faculty's interpretation as well. These sessions will facilitate an appreciation of the Mahabaratha and tradition, in general.

For further details on registration, contact: naveen.rithambhara@gmail.com

ANCIENT TREASURES MAKE IT TO OUR COLLECTION

We thank Dr. Shankunthala Kanakaraj & Dr. Paul Kanakaraj for donating an ancient bronze idol of Siva and Parvathi. (see right)

MORE BOOKS TO READ!

Our library has a larger book collection now thanks to our generous donors. We are grateful to..

Vaishnavi Ramanathan for donating the book 'Karna's wife', Prema Srinivasan for donating the book 'Indian print making today', Gita Wolf, Tara Books for donating the book 'Between memory and museum: a dialogue with folk and tribal artists'.



OUR GRATITUDE TO...

Indumathi Mohan for donating prints of gods and goddesses to our museum.

Usha Seshayan for donating a set of Palankuzhi, the traditional game from Tamil Nadu.

Jamuna Rajan for donating a religious book holder from Turkey.

Anne Morrell for donating a 70-year-old Toda shawl.

Manoharan, Thiagarajan, Gopi Krishna, Thryambaka, Catherine Lenoir, Murali Nagapuzha, S.A.V. Elayabharathi and S.A.V. Elayaraja and Sunil Vaka for donating contemporary paintings.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AT DAKSHINACHITRA

Madras Craft Foundation offers special internships for graduates at DakshinaChitra in 2016. Summer internships are available for undergraduates. For further details and enquiries about the internship, please call - +91 - 9841287605.



DakshinaChitra
Muttukadu, East Coast Road
Tamil Nadu - 603 118
Tel: 2747 2603 / 2747 2783
www.dakshinachitra.net

For further information, contact
Saroja: +91 - 9841436149

DakshinaChitra is open daily
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed on Tuesday.
Weekends : 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

DakshinaChitra is the project of
Madras Craft Foundation.

Design and Content :
The Phoenix Company

ON WEEKENDS
WE ARE OPEN
TILL 7 P.M.

Madras Craft Foundation

If undelivered, please return to

Madras Craft Foundation
G3 Madhuram Flats
6 Urur Olcott Road
Besant Nagar
Chennai - 600 090
Tel: 2491 8943 / 2446 2435
Email: dakmcf@gmail.com



NEWS AND EVENTS - JANUARY TO MARCH, 2016

CERAMIC MINIATURE MURAL-MAKING WORKSHOP



If you are looking for some hands-on experience with ceramic miniature mural-making, then we have it all planned for you. DakshinaChitra in collaboration with

Forum Art Gallery is organising a two-day workshop on this craft which will include glazing and firing.

The workshop will be at the **Forum Gallery, Adyar** (No. 57, 5th Street, Padmanabha Nagar, Adyar) on **January 23** from 10.30 am to 5.30 pm, and the glazing and firing will be at the **Ceramic Studio, DakshinaChitra** on **January 30** from 10.30 am to 5.00pm.



Book these dates in your diary and come try your hand at this traditional craft. From techniques to intricate designs, our experts will guide you through the process.



WORKSHOPS (Timings: 10.30am to 5.30pm)	DATE	FEE
Rajasthani miniature painting on canvas..	January 9th & 10th	Rs. 2000
Kalamkari	January 23rd & 24th	Rs. 2000
Certificate course on wheel pottery..... (4 days a week - 15 classes)	February 3rd to 26th	Rs. 5000
Chinese abstract flower vase making.....	February 20th & 27th	Rs. 2000
Madhubani painting on canvas	March 12th & 13th	Rs. 2000

Rajasthani miniature painting on canvas



Madhubani painting on canvas



Wheel pottery



Kalamkari



WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

(The fee for each workshop is inclusive of material and transportation only. Timings: 10.30am to 4.30pm)



Origami
February 6
Age: 8 - 14 yrs
Fee: Rs. 600

Stencil making,
T-shirt painting
March 5
Age: 8 - 14 yrs
Fee: Rs. 800



VASANTA VIZHA - CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

January 20
to
March 10

After the winter lull, the fun begins! The two-month long festival for school children visiting DakshinaChitra as part of their excursion will include special programmes like folk dances, puppet shows, bullock cart rides, craft workshops, guided tours, games and much more. Don't miss out on it!

CERTIFICATE COURSE ON FOLK DANCE OF TAMIL NADU

The three-month course consists of different folk forms - Thappattam, Silambattam & Oyilattam. Participants will be awarded certificates from DakshinaChitra upon completion of the course.

Fee: Rs. 3500
Weekends, Time: 2pm to 5pm
Duration: January to March 2016

