

DC MUSEUM TALKS

The DakshinaChitra Museum will be hosting free monthly talks by experts from different fields. The talk on October 21st will be at Inko Centre at 6p.m. The talks in November and December will be held online on Zoom at 7p.m. Below is the schedule for the talks.

Date	Subject	Speaker
Oct. 21	Car-Temples and Temple Cars of South India	Srishti Sankaranarayanan
Nov. 27	Re-imagining a museum	Aditi Nayar-Zacharias & Surajit Sarkar
Dec. 21	Films as Research	Dr. Steve Putnam Hughes

SOLAR PANELS INSTALLED AT DAKSHINACHITRA



The CSR wing of Muthoot Finance has given us a big grant which will enable the Museum premises to be largely powered by solar energy. They have installed a 50KWp solar system in the museum and the solar panels are mounted on the roofs of the Chettinad House and Ilkal House. This support from Muthoot Finance will enable us to fulfil one of our major SDG goals and we are deeply thankful to them for this huge support. The solar systems will be officially commissioned and launched late in September or early October after all processes are completed and the Muthoot Group shares a convenient date. The same will be mentioned on our website and social media pages.

THE MUSEUMS' VOICE : ONLINE COURSE BY Dr. STEPHEN INGLIS

This project-oriented online course (on Zoom) in exhibition development will center on museum and gallery curatorial practices. In a stage-by-stage approach in a seminar format the course has workshops, guest interventions, discussions and participant presentations. Dr. Stephen Inglis, who heads the course, teaches Indian Art History and Curation and Museum Studies at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. The course begins on October 18, 2024, and will be on Fridays and Saturdays from 7:30p.m. to 8:45p.m. IST. For further details and registration, kindly e-mail us at mcfindia@gmail.com.

CALL FOR DONATIONS

Our cultural programmes are also possible through your support. Donations can be made to the Madras Craft Foundation via NEFT. For bank details and more information, contact Ms. Lalitha Krishnan at 9677190587 or lalithakrishnan.mcfdak@gmail.com.

OUR GRATITUDE TO...

Our special thanks to Mobis India Foundation, Muthoot Finance, Ford Motor Company and Cholamandalam Investment & Finance Co.Ltd. for their support to our projects through their CSR initiatives. Our sincere thanks to Seagull Foundation for the Arts, Kolkata, for loaning the original drawings of K.G.Subramanyan for the exhibition in Varija Gallery. We express our gratitude towards Avtar Kaur Johal and A. S. Panneerselvan for their support for our exhibitions in Varija Gallery and to Meena Naru and Nalini S. Acharya for their donations to the Kodava House and the Children's Heritage Quiz. We also thank Rohini, Rekha Vijayshankar, Ahamed Bi, J. Lalita, Vinod Gopalakrishnan, Sharath Nambiar, Geetha Rao and Geeta Vasudevan for their donations to our library and museum collection.



DakshinaChitra is a plastic-free zone.

DakshinaChitra
Muttukadu, East Coast Road,
Chengalpet district,
Tamil Nadu - 603 112
Tel: 2747 2603
www.dakshinachitra.net

For further information, contact
David Prasad M at +91-9952894859

DakshinaChitra is open daily
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed on Tuesdays.
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 PM

Madras Craft Foundation
If undelivered, please return to

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6 Urur Olcott Road
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Chennai - 600 090
Tel: 2491 8943 / 2446 2435
Email: dakmcf@gmail.com



27 years and counting...



NEWS & EVENTS - OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 2024

Workshops for Adults

Date	Workshop	Resource Person	Fee
Oct. 4 & 5	Anubhav... a kathak workshop	Swati Potulwar	Rs. 3000/-
Nov. 23	Scagliola plaster - A marbling technique with lime and gypsum	Krithika Venkatesh	Rs. 1500/-
Dec.7	Carpentry - Design a garden stool	Karunakaran	Rs. 2500/-
Dec.21	Traditional Lime plaster Techniques	Krithika Venkatesh	Rs. 1000/-



Carpentry



Scagliola plaster



Kathak workshop

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN TERRACOTTA WHEEL POTTERY

This special certificate course in Terracotta Wheel Pottery is designed to provide students in - depth knowledge and skill to evolve as a successful artist in this field. The fee for the programme is Rs. 8000/- for 10 classes. For registration and further details, kindly contact Lakshmi at +91- 9841777779.

WINNERS OF THE CHILDREN'S HERITAGE QUIZ

The Children's Heritage Quiz held in August this year was a massive success. The event saw 128 teams comprising 384 students from different city schools participate in the competition. The quiz was for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. Students of PSBB Senior Sec. School, K.K. Nagar, won the first prize. The team from PSBB Sen. Sec. School, T.Nagar, won the second prize and students of San Academy, Pallikaranai, came third.



Art Beat

The schedule for our upcoming exhibitions is given below. Any further updates, announcements and changes with respect to the schedule will be posted on our website & social media handles.

VARIJA GALLERY

SEPT. 7 - DEC. 1 :
Tale of Three Cities - Beijing, Oxford and New York
An exhibition of 180 drawings by eminent artist and Padma Vibhushan awardee K.G.Subramanyan, held as part of his birth centenary celebrations. The **Cover Page Art** this time features one of his artworks



K.G.Subramanyan

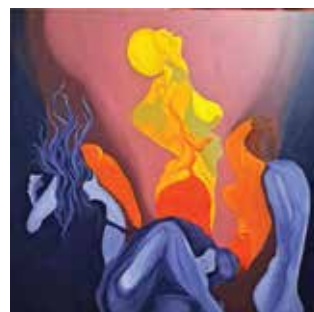
DEC. 14 - MAR. 31 : RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION BY Rm. PALANIAPPAN

This exhibition celebrates the works of Rm. Palaniappan, a renowned Indian artist known for his innovative approach to art. It showcases his journey from traditional printmaking to abstract painting, exploring themes of time, space and motion. The exhibition aims to provide an engaging experience for visitors, highlighting Palaniappan's unique style and contribution to contemporary art. His art will be on display in the **Varija and Kadambari galleries** of DakshinaChitra and in two houses on the campus.



KADAMBARI GALLERY

OCT. 12 - 20 :
Crafted Echoes : The Art of Preservation and Continuity
An exhibition of art pieces by a group of young artists exploring how craftsmanship bridges the past and present, preserving cultural memory, ecological wisdom, and social awareness



KADAMBARI GALLERY

OCT. 25 - NOV. 10 :
I Love to Draw... Love to Paint
An exhibition of multi-media artworks by Rugmini



Rugmini

NOV. 15 - NOV. 24 :
"Expression" : Journey of an Artist
An exhibition of artworks by self-taught artist Ram Rangarajan

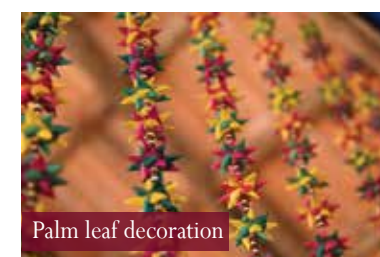


Ram Rangarajan

WALK-IN WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Any further updates, announcements and changes regarding the schedule will be posted on our website & social media handles. For registration and queries, contact Lakshmi: +91- 9841777779. Timings: 10: 30a.m. to 12: 30p.m.

Day/Date	Workshop	Resource Person	Fee
Oct. 26	Origami	In-house	Rs. 300/-
Nov. 9	Palm leaf decoration	In-house	Rs. 300/-
Dec. 21	T-shirt printing	In-house	Rs. 500/-



Palm leaf decoration



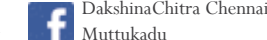
Origami

YOU CAN ALSO FIND US ON

Instagram



Facebook



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GREETINGS FROM DAKSHINACHITRA

An exciting quarter awaits us as we begin October with Dussehra celebrations including a folk dance performance from Karnataka. The newly re-constructed Kodava House and the exhibition in it will also be inaugurated on October 23rd. Our exhibition line-up features an ongoing exhibition of 180 drawings by artist K.G.Subramanyan and a Retrospective exhibition by artist Rm. Palaniappan which will begin in December, among others. For World Heritage Week, we will be hosting a special workshop for children. We will also be having our 27th anniversary celebrations in December. Read on to know more...

Kindly note that fresh updates, announcements and changes to the current schedule of events will be posted on our website and social media handles. Kindly contact Dravid Prasad M at +91-9952894859 for any queries.

OCT. 2 - 6 : DUSSEHRA CELEBRATIONS

The Dussehra celebrations this year will feature a **Veerabhadra** folk performance, a ritualistic art form from Karnataka. Centered on Veerabhadra, a fierce incarnation of Lord Shiva, this performance is traditionally held during temple festivals and religious ceremonies. The dancers don colorful costumes and bold face paint and wield swords and tridents, symbolizing the deity's strength. Accompanied by the *dolu* and *damarukam*, the performers energetically depict the story of Veerabhadra's creation by Shiva to avenge the insult to his consort, Sati. The performance is also believed to invoke divine protection and blessings for the community. The event will also showcase the Kinnal craft from Koppal, Karnataka.



NOV. 9 : CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



For Children's Day, there will be an enchanting **musical performance** by a young band from Tatva School. This will be the band's first public performance. The band, under the guidance of acclaimed vocalist and composer Vedanth Bharadwaj, will perform a selection of harmony songs from the five southern states of India, each rendered in its regional language. Don't miss out on this wonderful experience!

OCT. 23 : KODAVA HOUSE & EXHIBITION INAUGURATION



Our long search for an Ainmane from Coorg bore fruit finally in 2022. We acquired and dismantled this lovely old house from 1852. It belonged to the **Kodira** family of **Kadanga Village, Virajpet, Coorg** district and was transported to DakshinaChitra in early 2023.

The reconstruction began in June 2023 and is now complete. The house looks imposing and magnificent in the Karnataka section in DakshinaChitra. The exhibition in this house, **The Bold and Beautiful Kodavas**, will tell the story of the Kodavas, their customs and rich and unique history.



The house and the exhibition in the house is fully funded and supported by the **CSR Wing of Hyundai Motors - Mobis India Foundation**. We thank the Managing Director and his CSR team in enabling the wonderful addition of this heritage house to the DakshinaChitra Museum and for their keen interest and invaluable support to preserving and promoting South Indian Culture.

We are excited to **inaugurate the house and exhibition on October 23rd, 2024**, at 11:30a.m. in the presence of the Hyundai Team and Mobis India Foundation, and many representatives from the Kodava community from Coorg and Chennai.

We still require some traditional ritual objects and articles from the Kodava community to display in the exhibition and request interested individuals to approach us in this regard. Kindly mail us at mclibdk@gmail.com and madrascraft@gmail.com if you wish to donate for the display exhibition or contact Indu Mohan at +91-9841421149 or Lalitha Krishnan at +91- 9677190587.

Details of the inauguration will be posted soon on our social media platforms.

NOV. 23 : WORLD HERITAGE WEEK

DakshinaChitra is organizing an exciting workshop for children for World Heritage Week. The **Digging into the Past: Kids Archaeology Workshop** will be conducted on November 23. Designed for children aged 7-12 years, this 2-3 hour interactive session seeks to introduce young learners to the fascinating world of archaeology. Through engaging presentations, hands-on excavation simulations and creative projects, participants will explore ancient civilizations from Egypt, Greece, and the Mayans of Mexico. They will use tools like trowels and brushes to "excavate" artefacts, analyze them, and create their own stories. The workshop promotes interactive learning with puzzles, quizzes and artefact creation. Each participant will be given a certificate. The workshop aims to foster curiosity about history and preservation among young minds.

DEC. 14 : DAKSHINACHITRA ANNIVERSARY

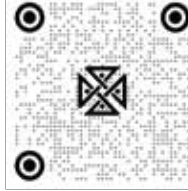


Celebrate DakshinaChitra's 27th anniversary in true DakshinaChitra style with engaging folk performances and a variety of activities, including contributions from alumni who have built successful careers in their creative and cultural fields. The event

will also honour those who have played pivotal roles in our development and celebrate the different talents that have emerged from our programmes. This milestone is a testament to the progress and impact we've achieved over the years. Our anniversary festivities will also highlight how DakshinaChitra has become a vital platform for addressing sensitive issues and showcasing the arts as solutions to societal challenges. The complete schedule of activities and special events planned for our anniversary will be announced on our website and social media handles.

Stay updated on our programme schedules

Scan the QR code on the right with your smartphone camera to view the complete programme schedule for this quarter. Updates, announcements and specific details can be found on this link. For queries, kindly contact, Dravid Prasad M at +91-9952894859



CONSERVATOR'S CORNER

The Conservator's Corner features notes from our in-house conservator on how to restore artefacts. It also includes tips to preserve artefacts at home.

CONDITION REPORT

The object is a terracotta Golu doll of Lord Ganesha with his consorts and two attendants standing. The doll's paint is chipped off in various areas and the colours have faded over time.

TREATMENT REPORT



The object was first cleaned with ethanol. Next, the portions where the paint was chipped off were filled with white putty and flattened with sandpaper. The idol was then retouched with acrylic paints.

MOPLAH HOUSE GOES GREEN



The Moplah House now has its own open well and a traditional bathing room in the rear side from where one can draw water from the open well directly into the bathroom. A rainwater harvesting system has been installed outside the

house which collects and filters all the rainwater and recharges the sump which irrigates the kitchen garden and the water table too. A Grey Water Recycling System has been installed in the bathroom. More systems have been installed here including a Food Waste Composting Unit and a Leaf Litter Composting Unit. Several other units will be added soon.

DEC. 16 : CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

At DakshinaChitra, we put an eco-friendly spin on the conventional Secret Santa game as we play 'Green Secret Santa', an event where visitors are encouraged to bring and exchange plants as gifts. There will also be a performance of popular Christmas carols by a choir from Madras Christian College in the evening.



DEC. 25 - 29 : KERALA VILLAGE FESTIVAL



The festival will feature Muchilott Bhagavathy Theyyam, a revered native ritualistic dance form. It is a vivid manifestation of the Goddess Muchilott Bhagavathy, showcased through elaborate costumes, dramatic makeup, and vibrant dance. Performed in sacred groves, temples, and homes, the dance is accompanied by traditional percussion instruments like the chenda and elathalam. The ritual represents a profound act of devotion, blurring the lines between the divine and the ephemeral. Attendees will experience an immersive expression of faith and communal identity, reflecting the deep-rooted spiritual and cultural traditions of Kerala.

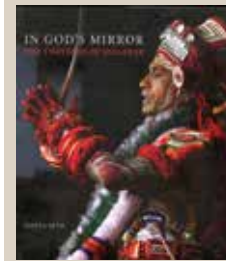
OBJECT OF THE MONTH

Udukkai (or Dudi) (image on the right) is an hourglass-shaped instrument with ancient roots. The body of the Dudi is approximately 15cms long, with a diameter of 16cms on either side. The instrument is made from a single block of hollowed-out wood. The Vellum (thin layer of animal skin) is stretched across the flat drum heads, slightly curved at the ends. A little string loosely links two sides of the body through a wooden hoop. The sounds of Dudi on both sides can be differentiated as "male and female" sounds. Bolak-Aat, the Kodava traditional dance, is performed by Kodava males in front of an oil lamp in an open field to mark celebrations. The Dudi provides the rhythm for the dance. The Dudi is extensively used during Kodava weddings, festivals and even funerals. Check it out during your next visit to the museum!



BOOK OF THE MONTH

The DakshinaChitra Library has a rich collection of books on various subjects including art, craft, textiles, anthropology, theatre, architecture, history and more. We invite you to come view this vast repository of books during your visit. We will also be highlighting a book recommendation to keep you clued in on the 'Must-read' titles in our collection.



The book, **In God's Mirror - The Theyyams of Malabar**, by Pepita Seth is a testament to Seth's journey of uncovering the hidden layers of the 2000-year-old ritualistic practice of Theyyam. Unique to the Malabar region, Theyyam is an ancient form of worship where men don elaborate costumes and intricate make-up that, during possession, embody particular deities. Theyyam is said to be a corruption of the word 'daivam' which simply means God, remarks Seth. "While the process is an internal one that obliterates the practitioner's human persona, on an external level his face is transformed by intricate make-up and his body fantastically costumed," she says. The book takes the reader through an in-depth explanation of the landscape of this practice - from the deities, shrines or places of worship, practitioners, training, cultural stories to the various communities associated with the same. It is also filled with artistic photographs taken by the author that portray the mystical nature of the region, taking the viewer on a visual journey. We are thankful to Gita Rao for donating this book to our Library.

LOOKING BACK : FOLKLORE ROUND TABLE

The Folklore Round Table on the "Challenges in Folklore Research in Tamil Nadu" was held on September 10. It was inaugurated by Vijaya Thayanban, Secretary of Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram. The event highlighted the evolution of folklore in response to social and political changes in the 20th and 21st century. It stressed the importance of viewing folklore as adaptive and reflective of both historical and contemporary practices while recognizing the limitations of singular interpretations. With 10 experts and 50 participants, the event served as a foundation for developing how cultural institutions like DakshinaChitra, alongside government policies and academic institutions, can address these challenges and strengthen research and education in this sector.