



Italian Embassy Cultural Centre  
&  
Shield Art Initiative

present

## Returning to the earth

Ecology and Urbane

Curated by  
Zero Gravity Collective

Curatorial Associate  
Priyanka Bhardwaj

Preview

**August 8<sup>th</sup> 2018** | 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm

On view till 31st Aug 2018 | 11.00 am-6.00 pm

Andrea Caretto and Raffaella Spagna | D Priyanka  
Gabiella Ciancimino | Muskaan Singh | Samir Mohanty  
Suchismita Mohanty Ram | Tapan Moharana

**A performance by Murari Jha at 7.00pm**

RSVP

+91 7982343664 / +91 9999673012  
shieldartinitiative@gmail.com

Venue

Italian Embassy Cultural Centre  
50-E, Chandragupta Marg (entry from Nyaya Marg)  
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi- 110021



Shield Art Initiative and Italian Embassy Cultural Centre is pleased to showcase the exhibition; 'Returning to the earth: Ecology and Urbane' a group show of 8 artists from India and Italy who propose different perspectives of their perception of nature and new kinds of awareness vis-à-vis our relationship with the ecosystem. They represent nature as a material and subject matter to highlight the environmental concerns.

Human population is on rise hence the increase in consumption of our natural resources and other biologically productive areas of this planet, we call home. Industrial and technological expansions are triggering extreme environmental changes often resulting in mutations, diseases and pollutants. The overall damage of our earth from global warming, ozone depletion, acid rain, genetic engineering and toxic waste threatens our survival and way of life. The earth struggles to adapt to the forced conditions and faces many challenges.

Being confronted with the limits of our planet's resources, it is time to extend the domain of urban planning from discourses on sustainability of urban form to account for all the land upon which urban populations actually depend. The artists included in this exhibition embrace a culture of ecology and a sense of responsibility for shielding the environment. With urban areas becoming our primary habitat, it becomes a major task to investigate whether a sustainable relationship can be established between cities

and the planet. The art works in the exhibition appear as a methodological approach with which the artists are establishing a dialogue or responding to the current ecology of our planet, the crisis and challenges.

To thrive in the age of climate change, we must be informed, resourceful and resilient. Vision, imagination and creative breakthroughs, all are crucial for the emergence of sustainability.

The participating artists have been chosen carefully who works within the context of Ecology and Environment and have explored the subject given, by producing some thought provoking and interrogating art works that putting an attempt to generate an awareness of the concurrent processes of ruination and productive activity and to explore the relationship between nature and the urban environment. The works range from basic medium of paintings and drawings to sculptural installation, photography, video art and performance.

An exhibition conceptualized and curated by Zero Gravity, a curatorial collective.

**Zero Gravity** is a curatorial collective initiated by Pranamita B and Vikash Nand Kumar which works with the idea of creating an interactive, informal and intimate dialogue with various art practitioners and explore the possibilities of curatorial practices.

**Shield Art Initiative:** *Shield Art Initiative is a registered charitable trust based in New Delhi, primarily dedicated to nurture and promote artistic excellence and a to create a platform for the artists to share their artistic inspiration, passion and creativity and connect with fellow artists, curators, writers and art lovers. It works within the field of contemporary art to address critical social and environmental issues.*

**Italian Embassy Cultural Centre:**

*The Italian Cultural Centre in New Delhi, an official institution of the Republic of Italy, is actively involved in spreading the understanding of Italian traditions and culture in India through the organization of varied cultural events, with a view to facilitate the circulation of ideas, of the arts and sciences.*