

Piramal Museum of Art opens its new exhibition 'Pages of a Mind, Raja Ravi Varma: Life and Expressions'

Mumbai, 26 February 2016: Piramal Museum of Art unveiled an exhibition displaying the works of celebrated artist and painter, Raja Ravi Varma at a brunch hosted earlier this week by Ajay and Dr. Swati Piramal. The brunch was attended by several of Mumbai's elite such as Dr. Cyrus Poonawalla, Uday and Pallavi Kotak, Kamal and Niranjan Hirandanani amongst others on occasion of the museum introducing its new show titled *Pages of a Mind, Raja Ravi Varma: Life and Expressions*. It brings together artwork from a variety of time periods in Ravi Varma's life and from different parts of the country that he visited in search of patronage and inspiration.

Praised as one of the greatest painters in the history of Indian art, Raja Ravi Varma can be considered as the starting point for Modern Indian Art. Largely self-taught, the artist is well known for his paintings depicting the fusion of European techniques with the sensibility and sophistication of Indian traditions and characteristics.

Ravi Varma is most notable for making affordable lithographs of his paintings which greatly contributed to his reach and influence as an artist and public figure. In tune with the taste of the public, Varma's oleographs were also produced at the Raja Ravi Varma Fine Art Lithographic Press in Bombay.

Till date Ravi Varma, through his paintings, oleographs and his numerous followers in the field of fine art, popular art and cinema continues to hold sway over the imagination of the Indian public, making him an ideal subject for Piramal Museum of Art's show on the artist.

Speaking about the new exhibit, **Dr. Swati Piramal, Vice Chairperson, Piramal Enterprises Ltd. said**, "Each of Raja Ravi Varma works is magnificent. To see so many beautiful portraits in one place, each of which give you a sense of a timeless legacy of India's rich tapestry and heritage is a wonderful experience. We are grateful for so many collectors to loan us their works many of which have not been seen in public before."

'Pages of a Mind, Raja Ravi Varma: Life and Expressions' is on display till 30th April 2016 at the Piramal Museum of Art. It showcases over 120 pieces of artwork, 28 paintings of Ravi Varma and his family members borrowed from significant collections across the country, about 60 prints, postcards and advertisements inspired by Ravi Varma, 16 Ravi Varma inspired porcelains and rare albumin prints of Ravi Varma's paintings. The exhibit has been curated by Vaishnavi Ramanathan and Farah Siddiqui.

Also speaking on the occasion, **Ashvin Rajagopalan, Director, Piramal Museum of Art said**, "This exhibition of Raja Ravi Varma's works is a detailed study and understanding of one of the most significant artists in India. He is responsible for transforming visual vocabulary and what we perceived as (the process of) painting in India. As India is a vast country with diverse visual heritage, the knowledge base for art is yet to attain its full

Quick Facts

Open till: 30th
April 2016

Timing for weekdays: 3
PM to 9 PM

Timing for weekends: 10
AM to 10 PM

Address:

Piramal Tower,
B-Wing, Ground
Floor, Peninsula
Corporate Park,
GK Marg, Lower
Parel, Mumbai

potential. Hence, it is important for museums to work in collaboration with one another and for exchange of ideas and art works.”

About Piramal Art Foundation:

The Piramal Art Foundation was founded in 2014 by the Piramal family. The aim of this foundation is to preserve the artistic heritage of modern & contemporary Indian art. The foundation will undertake the collection, preservation and documentation of artworks for public display as well as for research and education.

For media enquiries, please contact:

PIRAMAL ENTERPRISES	PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSULTANT
Akansha Pradhan / Paroma Bhattacharya Corporate Communications, Piramal Group Contact: +91 22 3351 4082 / 4083 akansha.pradhan@piramal.com / paroma.bhattacharya@piramal.com	Kritika Bharadwaj/ Danika Dsouza/Sumati Chaudhary MSLGROUP Mobile: +91 9833394436/9833583779/9820918609 kritika.bharadwaj@mslgroup.com / danika.dsouza@mslgroup.com / sumati.chaudhary@mslgroup.com