



Dhoomimal Art Centre
8A Connaught Place, Level I & II, Inner Circle, New Delhi-110 001
www.dhoomimalartcentre.com



Tribute to Picasso & Souza by Vikash Kalra



Oneness is not a principle. It is created by the union of several elements. In the human, as in all things, it is the union of opposites that constitutes oneness. Each individual is only one-half—or in fact one-third—since it is the spark of joy, voluptuousness, and experience of the divine state that constitutes the third element, humankind's *raison d'être*.

—Alain Daniélou



Tribute to
Picasso & Souza
by Vikash Kalra



Dhoomimal
ART CENTRE

I believe in the “complete interlocking of image and paint” so that each movement of the brush on the canvas alters the shape and connotation of the image.

My works are a result of unconscious choices and I tend not to have control of how the end result would look like. I feel paintings tend to be pointless if the paint itself were not eloquent. Francis Bacon said “I think of myself as a maker of images. The image matters more than the beauty of the paint ... I suppose

Being

This exhibition of paintings of Vikash Kalra, a self-taught artist, expresses the basic truth of being that transcends both geographic limits and stylistic constraints. His works evolve out of shards of actual elements of the environment that are then clothed in swathes of oil colour that come out of the mind of the artist, expressing moods and inner feelings that welled up in the act of creation of aesthetic objects from perceptions and experiences of living.

They are objects that reflect what catches the eye of the artist in a fleeting moment to be transformed by his or her hand feeding on a myriad of emotions. This then is orchestrated into a harmony that goes beyond the artist into an independent life of its own. Each work is an individual that claims its own space and traverses its own history that goes beyond the moment of creation, the artist and his environment. It now enters its own journey and set of relations that go beyond their creator into spaces that are peopled by those who confront these works and converse with them. They may well have emerged out of the being of the artist but then take on a life of their own.

A good work of art is one that is at ease in any environment as it is an object but also an aesthetic creation. Vikash Kalra's works in this series reflect this quality which is not something that has come out of a magician's hat. They reflect the chequered career of a news-paper vendor who became a pavement book-seller and a car salesman before being awakened to his inner aesthetic sensibility by looking into books on art that he came across when he was selling books. These allowed him to speak meaningfully with Pablo Picasso and F.N. Souza, and finally, to express himself in his own way as he does in this exhibition. This is what we mean by saying he is a self-taught artist. I would prefer to call him a self-propelled one, for his contacts with the environment and the expression of artists like Picasso and Souza have inspired him to speak in many languages at first and then in his own along his individual path of development. It is this second element that gives this exhibition the capacity of not only reflecting individual moments of creative effervescence but also a range of expressions that give the artist's string of words the shape of a language.

It is this maturity of range that reflects itself in the exhibition as a whole. Its character is the same as when Krishna shows all his aspects and forms in one sweep to give the doubtful Arjuna the confidence to commit himself to putting up a fight to the last for ensuring an end to injustice in the Bhagwat Gita. In the same way this exhibition of Vikash Kalra reflects a range of expression, a choice of colours and a variety of forms that give us the confidence that he has evolved a complete repertoire in a decade of experiments that he worked on after being inspired by the paintings of Picasso and Souza. Today he has achieved his own expression beyond their inspiration. This is an important step forward.

It is visible in his 'Head' series as well, where the influence of Souza has given place to an earthy brown with highlights that reflect other points of reference in our folk-lore like the image of a woman with a parrot so characteristic of our popular art. As a result, this exhibition reflects both a break from the influences of the past but also a capacity to rise above the limits of his own individual works and create a range that encompasses the exhibition as a whole, reflecting the style the artist evolves as the true expression of his being. This then in time will become both his identity and the road-map of his journey into the future. Every artist works towards this and when he succeeds it marks a memorable moment in his life as this exhibition does for Vikash Kalra.

Suneet Chopra
Art Critic, Writer.

LUST I | Oil on canvas | 91cm x 91cm (36" x 36") | 2013





LUST II

Oil on canvas
91cm x 61cm (36" x 24")
2013



LUST III | Oil on canvas | 101cm x 122cm (40" x 48") | 2013



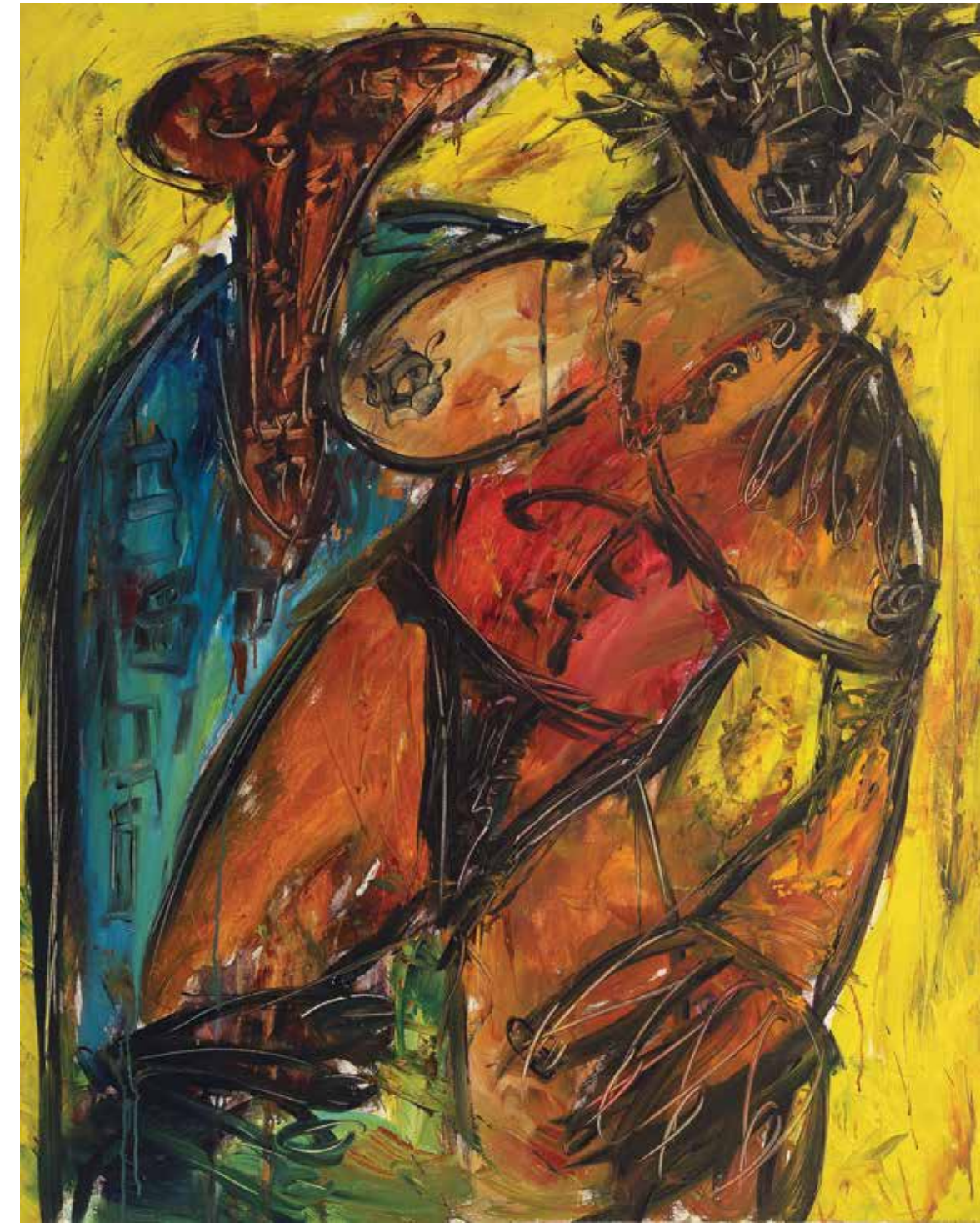
LUST IV | Oil on canvas | 122cm x 96cm (48" x 38") | 2013





LUST V

Oil on canvas
152cm x122cm (60" x 48")
2013



LUST VI | Oil on canvas | 114cm x 114cm (45" x 45") | 2014





LUST VII
Oil on canvas
101cm x 101cm (40" x 40")
2016



LUST VIII
Oil on canvas
101cm x 101cm (40" x 40")
2016



UNTITLED

Ink on paper
33cm x 20cm (13" x 8")
2013

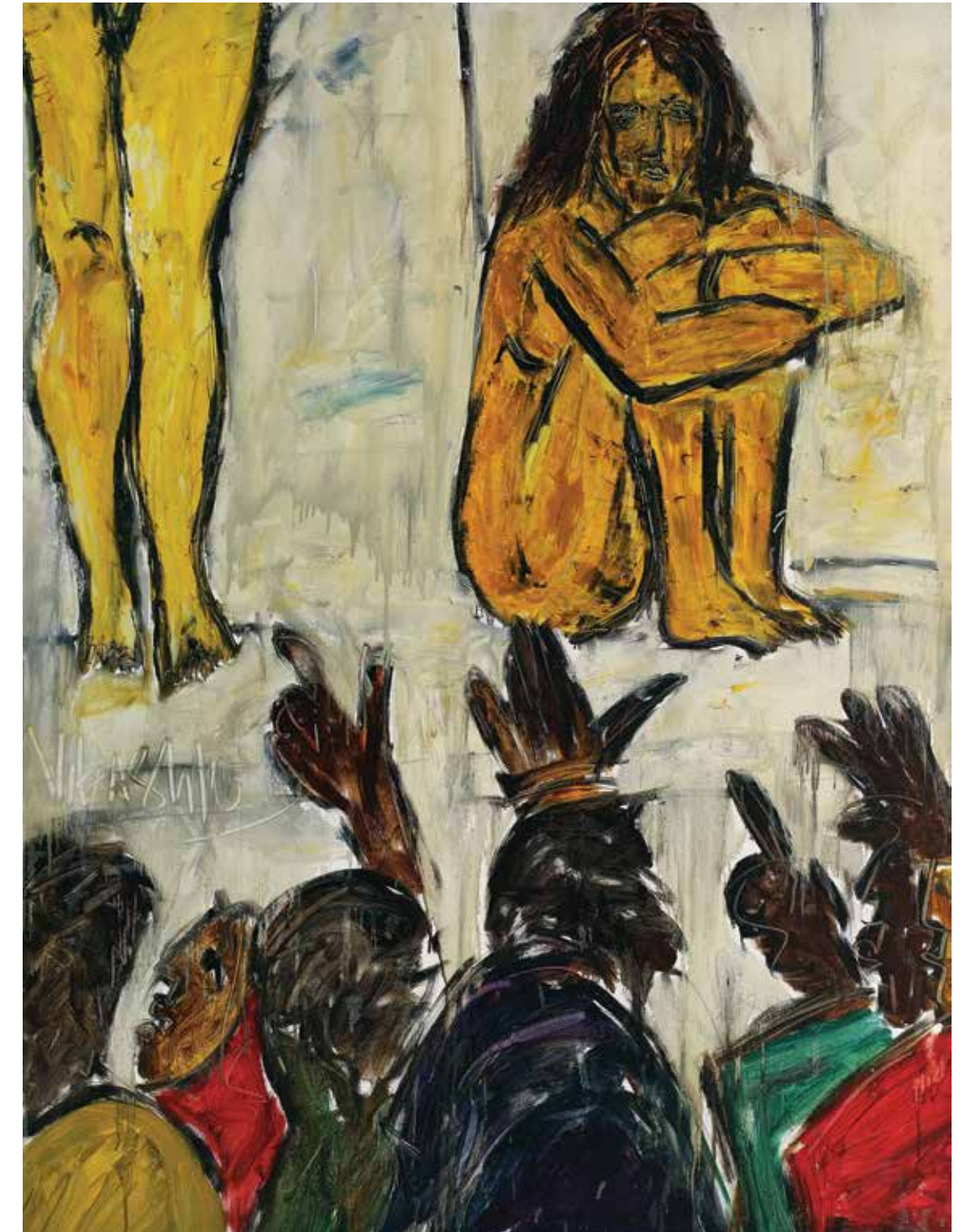
LUST IX

Oil on canvas
134cm x 96cm (53" x 38")
2016





LUST X
Oil on canvas
122cm x 91cm (48" x 36")
2016



LUST XI
Oil on canvas
152cm x 114cm (60" x 45")
2016

LUST XII | Oil on canvas | 122cm x 152cm (48" x 60") | 2013





LUST XIII

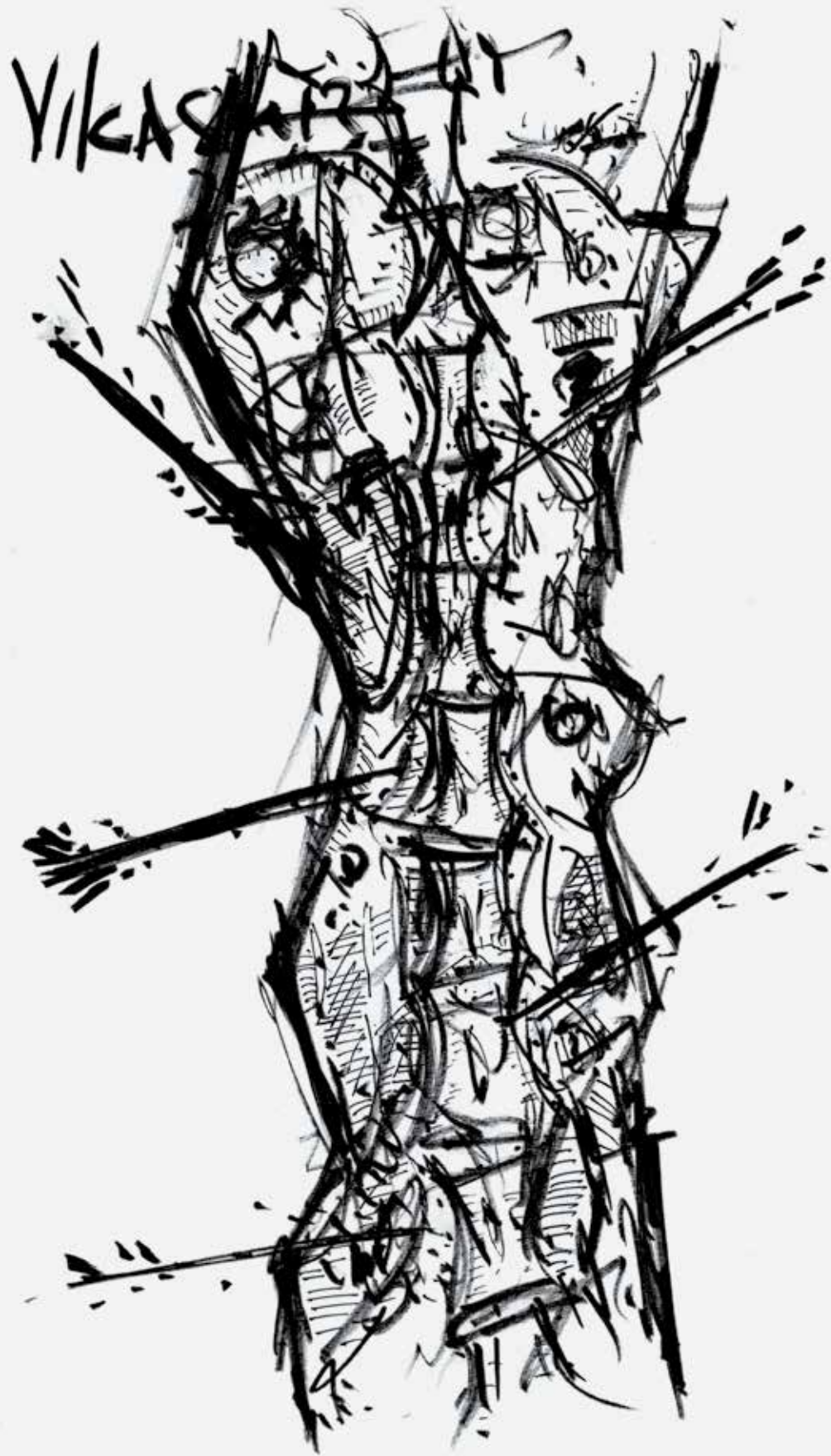
Oil on canvas
122cm x 182cm (48" x 72")
2014





HEAD I, II, III, IV

Oil on canvas
71cm x 56cm (28" x 22")
2015



UNTITLED

Ink on paper
33cm x 20cm (13" x 8")
2013

HEAD V
Oil on canvas
122cm x 122cm (48" x 48")
2013

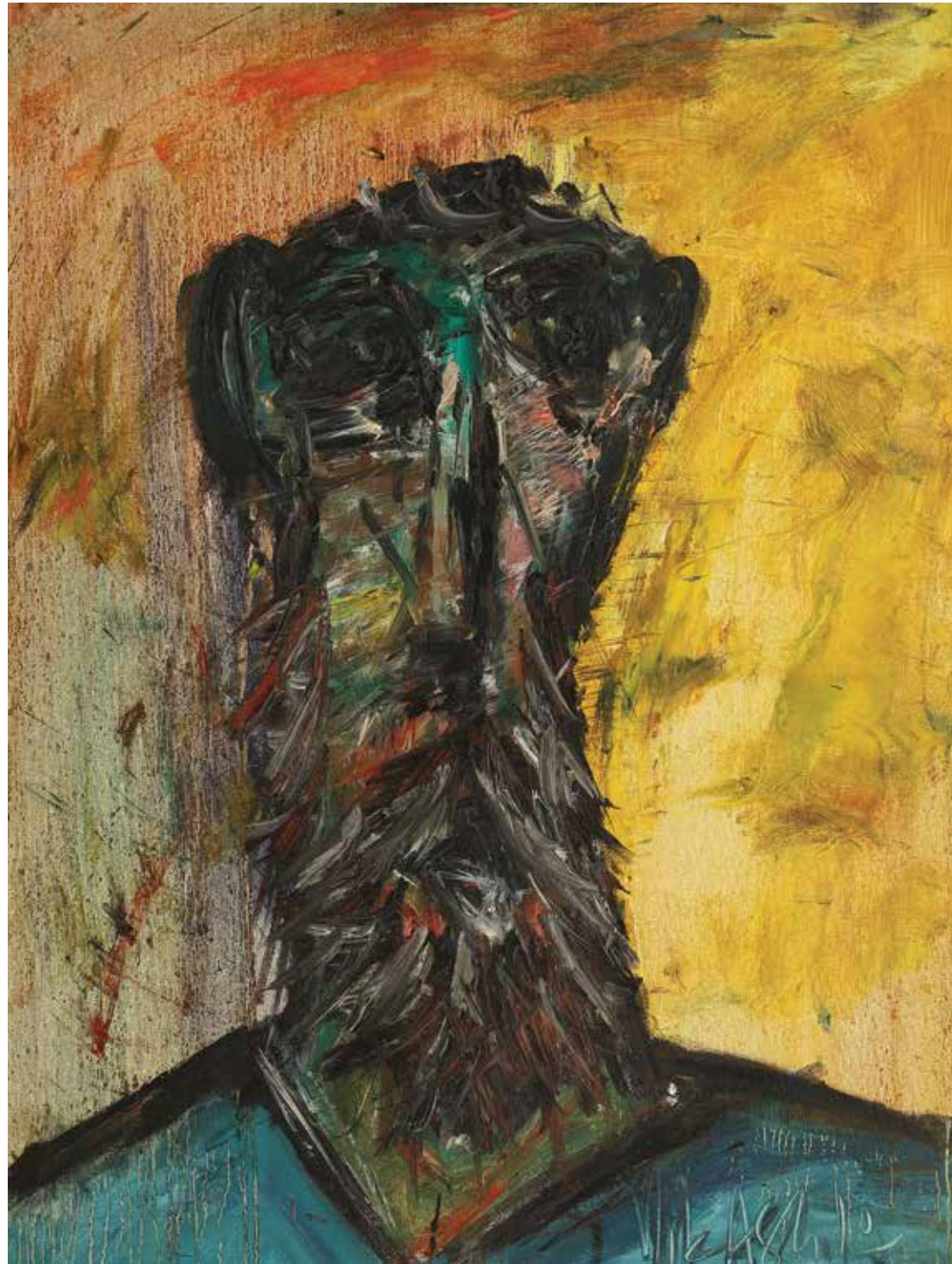




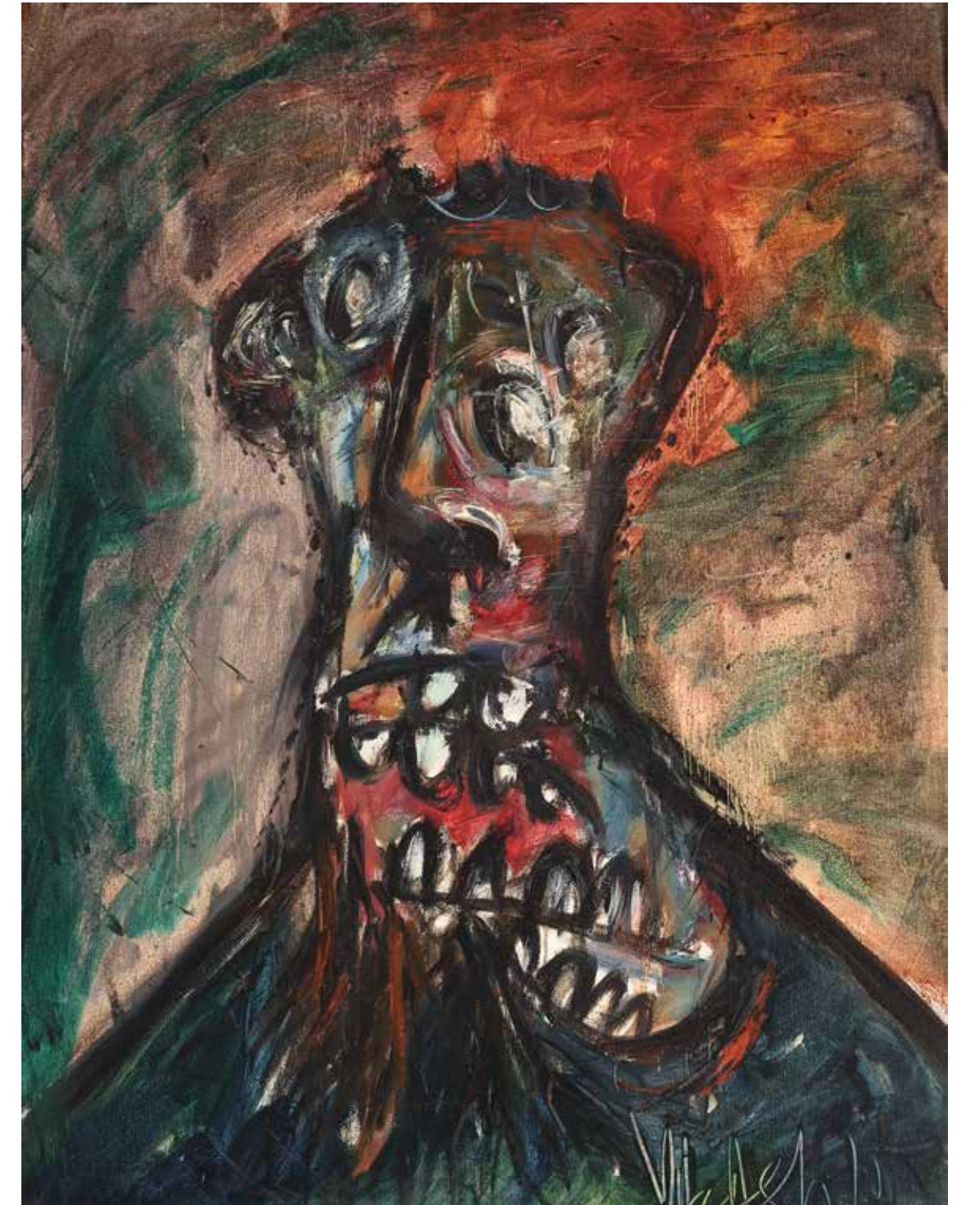
HEAD VI
Oil on canvas
76cm x 76cm (30" x 30")
2016



HEAD VII
Oil on canvas
76cm x 76cm (30" x 30")
2016

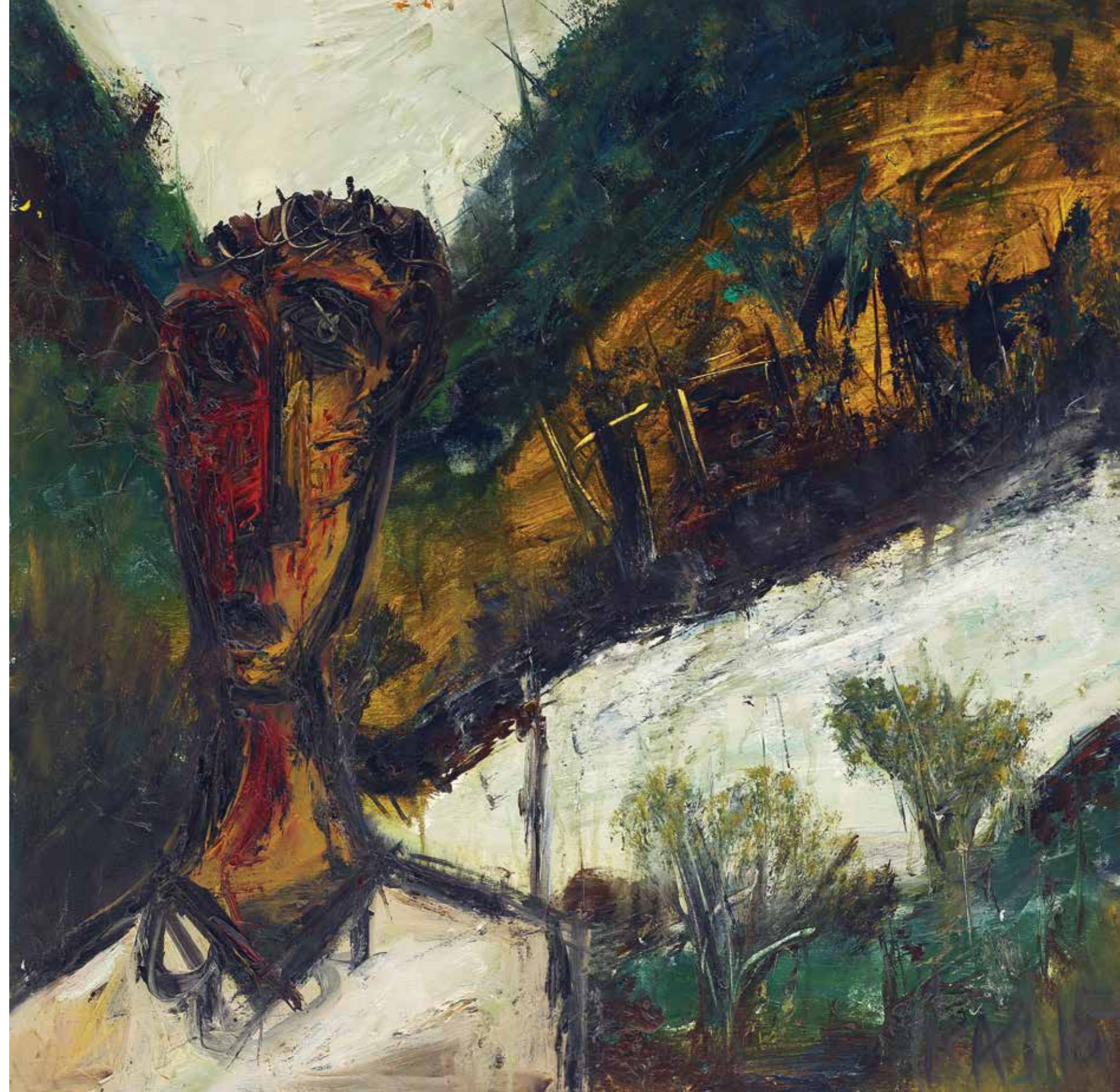


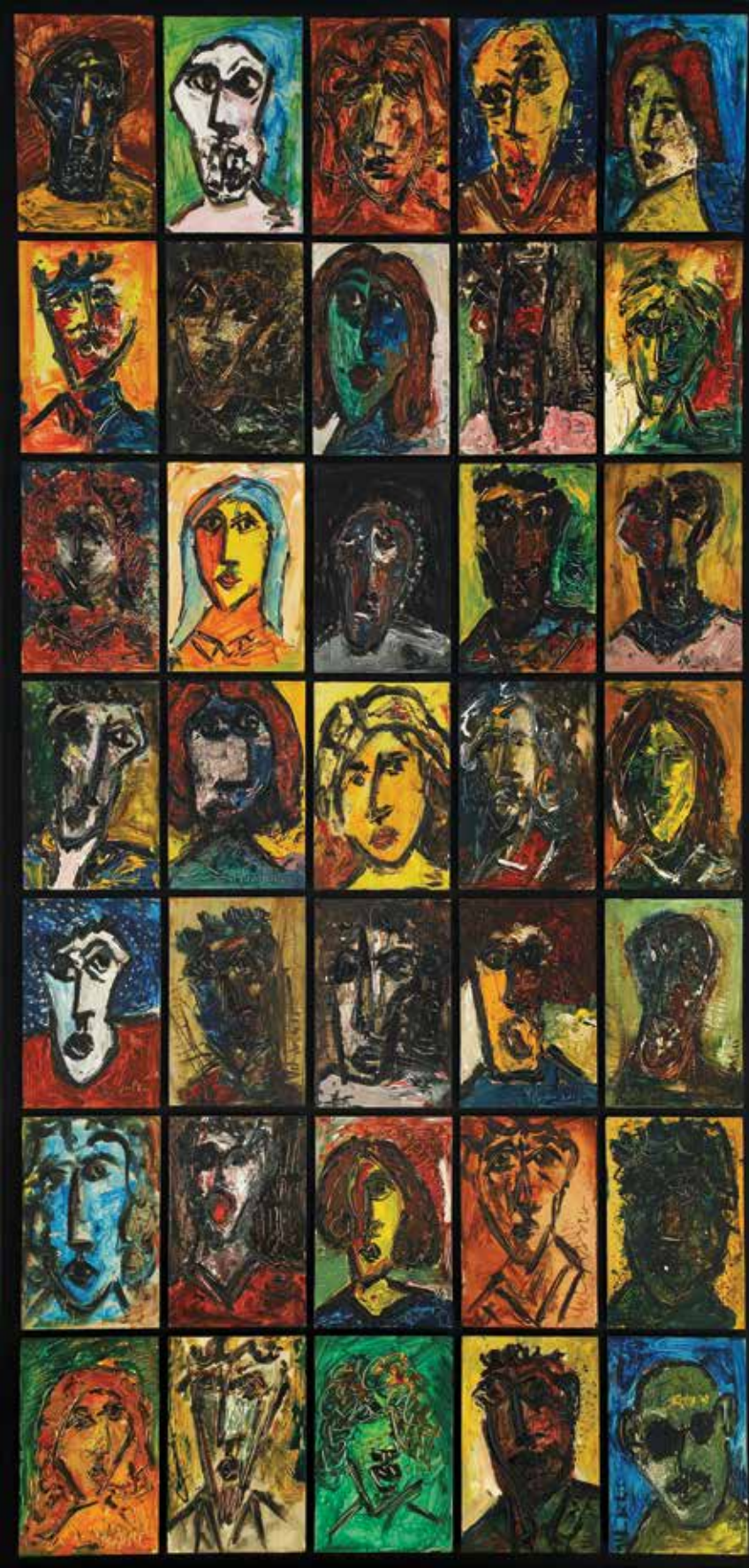
HEAD VIII
Oil on canvas
96cm x 71cm (38" x 28")
2016



HEAD IX
Oil on canvas
96cm x 71cm (38" x 28")
2016

LANDSCAPE I | Oil on canvas | 86cm x 86cm (34" x 34") | 2015



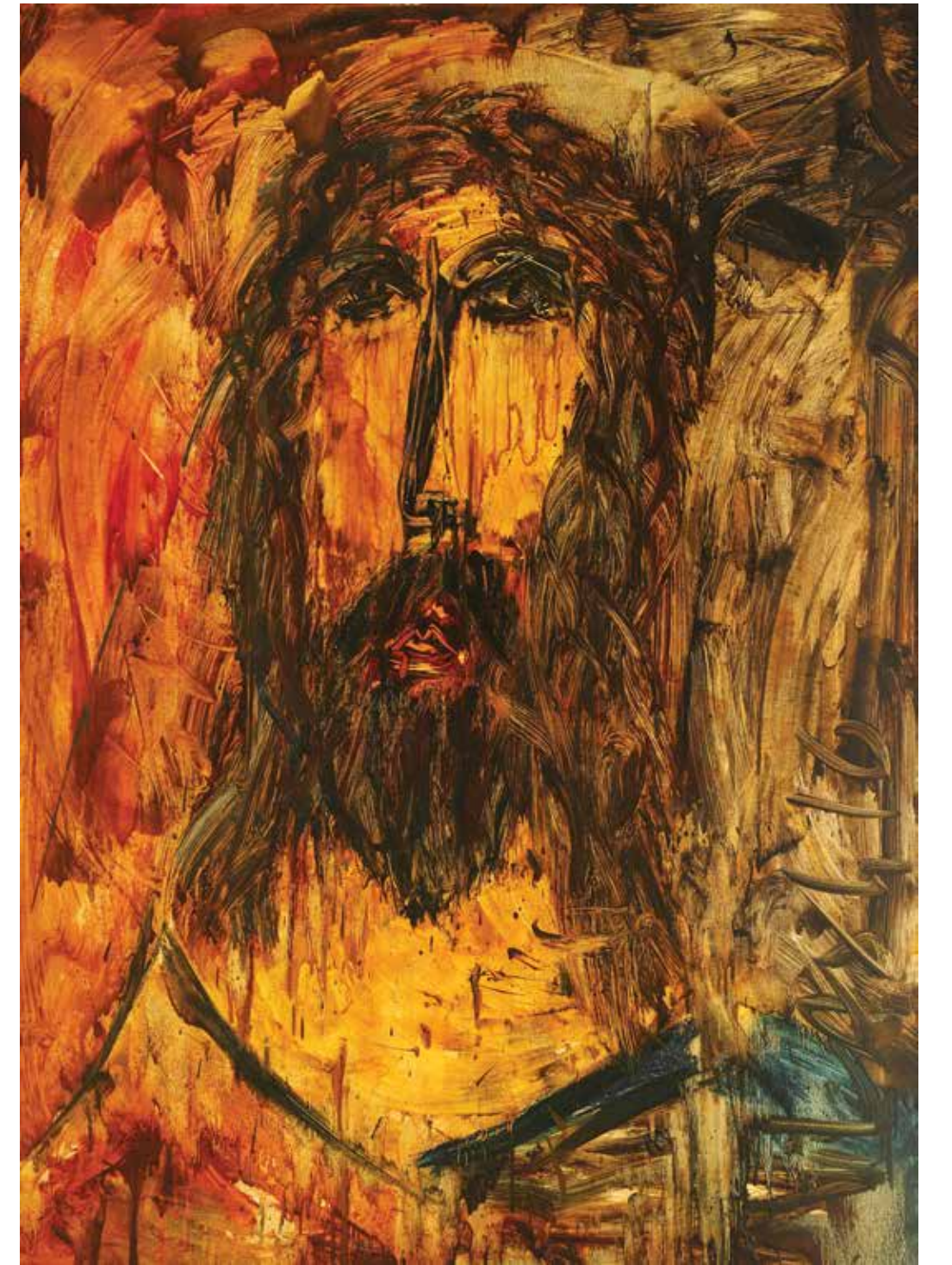


EXPRESSIONS

Acrylic on board
223cm x 111cm (88" x 44")
(11.5" x 7.5" 35 works)
2015

CHRIST

Oil on canvas
152cm x 109cm (60" x 43")
2016





HEAD X

Acrylic on canvas
152cm x 109cm (60" x 43")
2016



HEAD XI

Oil on canvas
121cm x 61cm (48" x 24")
2014

LANDSCAPE II | Oil on canvas | 61cm x 91cm (24" x 36") | 2016



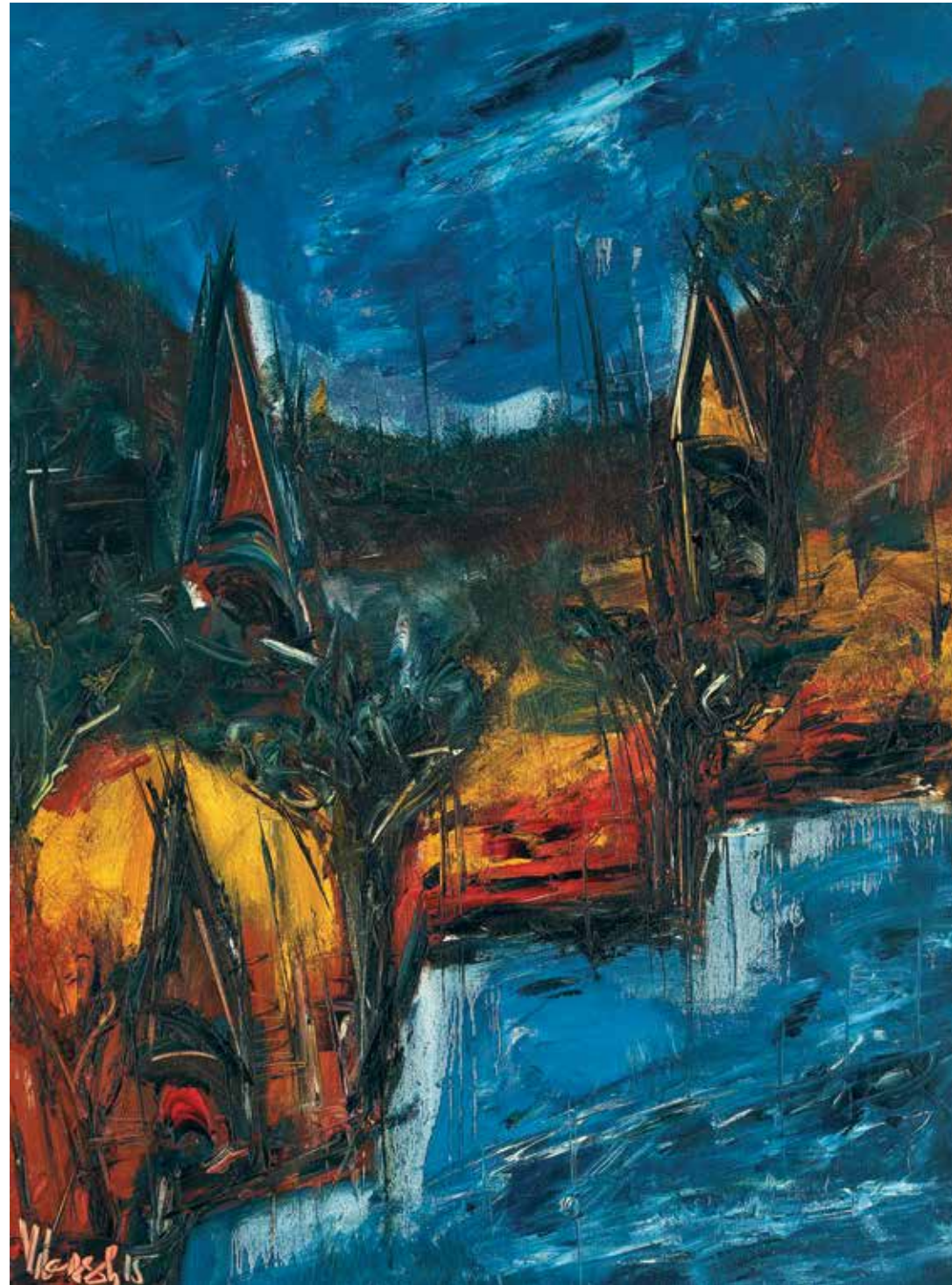
LOBBYIST | Oil on canvas | 152cm x 198cm (60" x 78") | 2016





LANDSCAPE III

Oil on canvas
50cm x 122cm (20" x 48")
2013



LANDSCAPE IV

Oil on canvas
96cm x 71cm (38" x 28")
2015



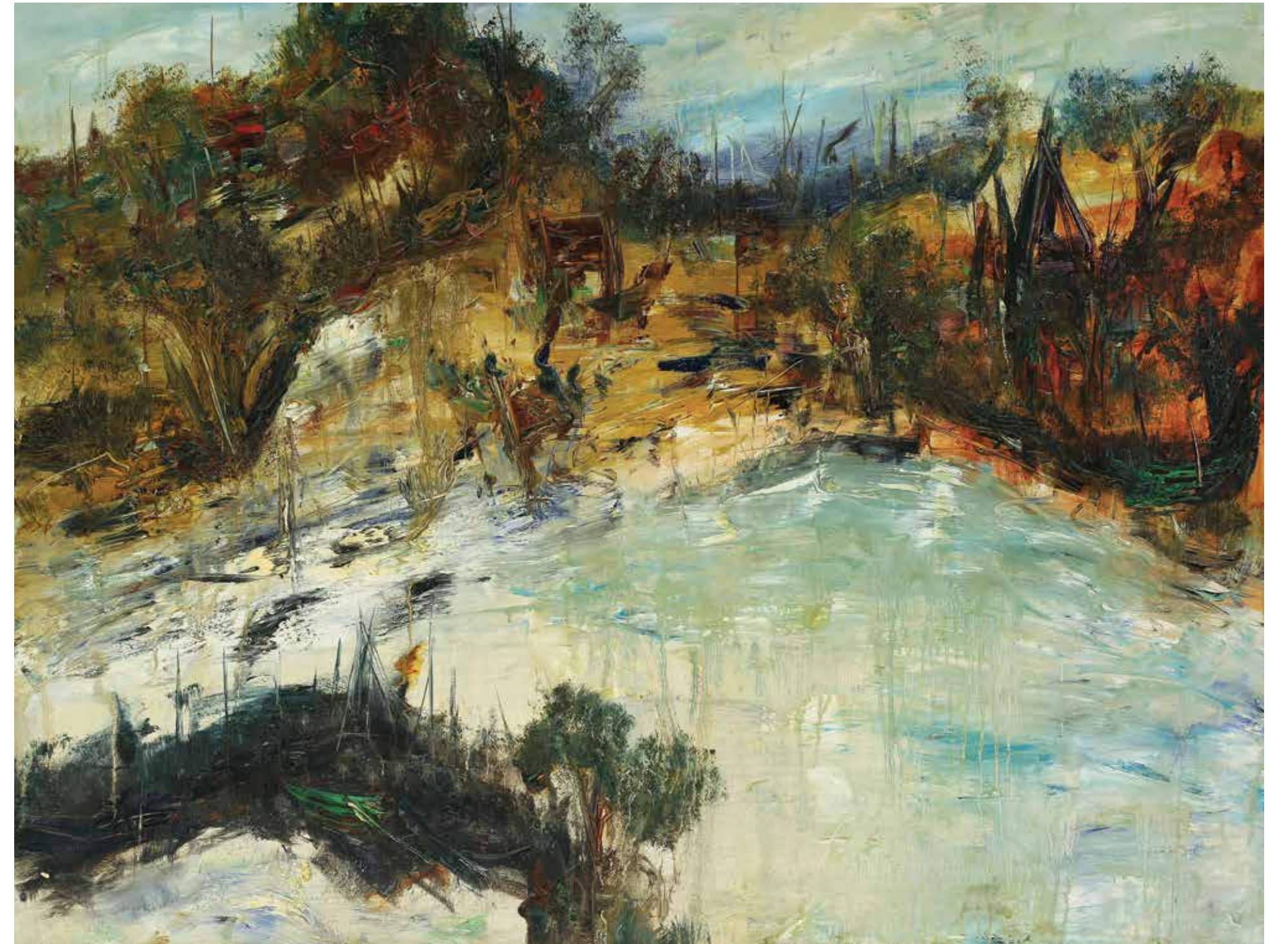
LANDSCAPE V

Oil on canvas
96cm x 71cm (38" x 28")
2015



LANDSCAPE VI

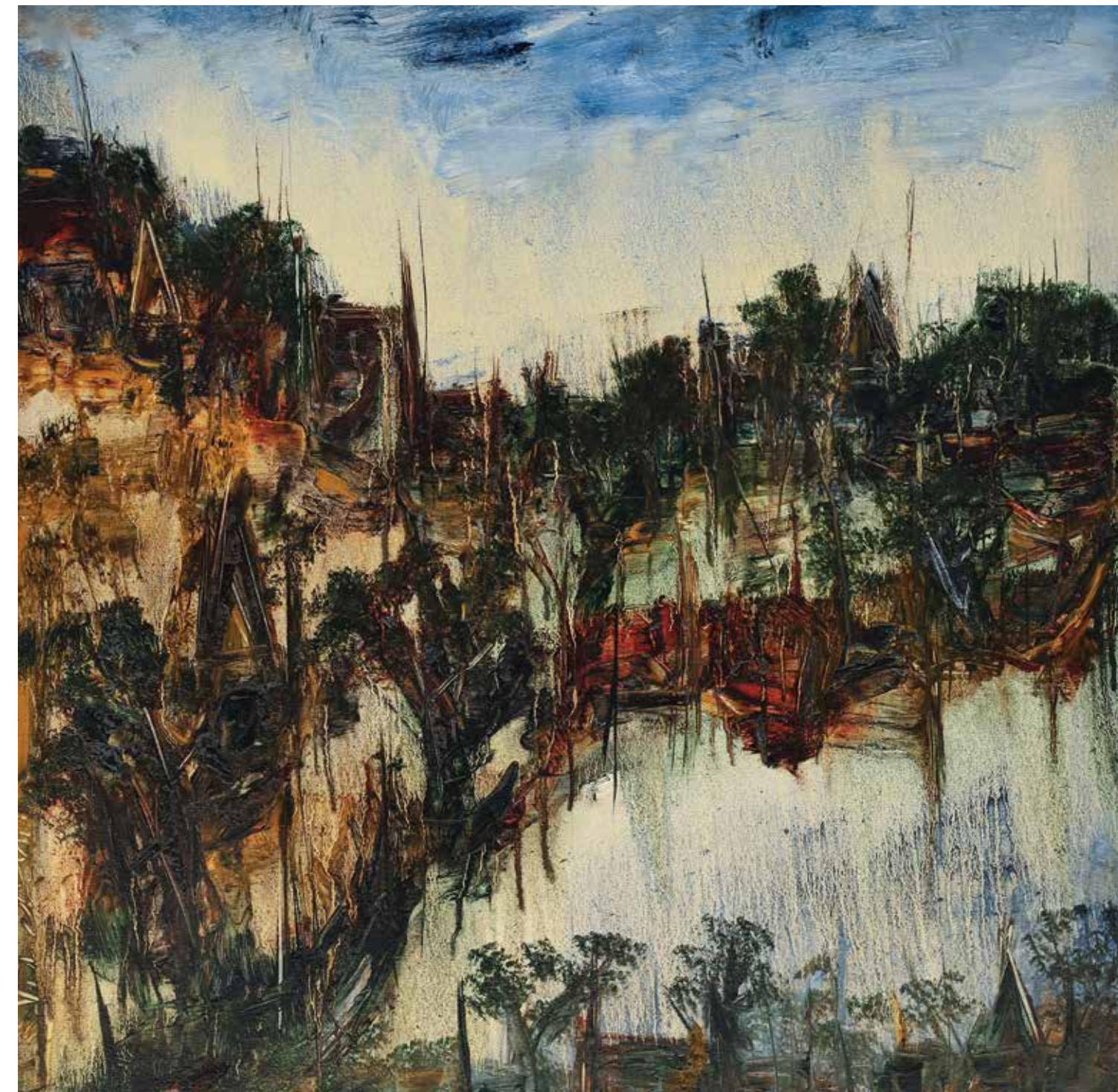
Oil on canvas
91cm x 122cm (36" x 48")
2015





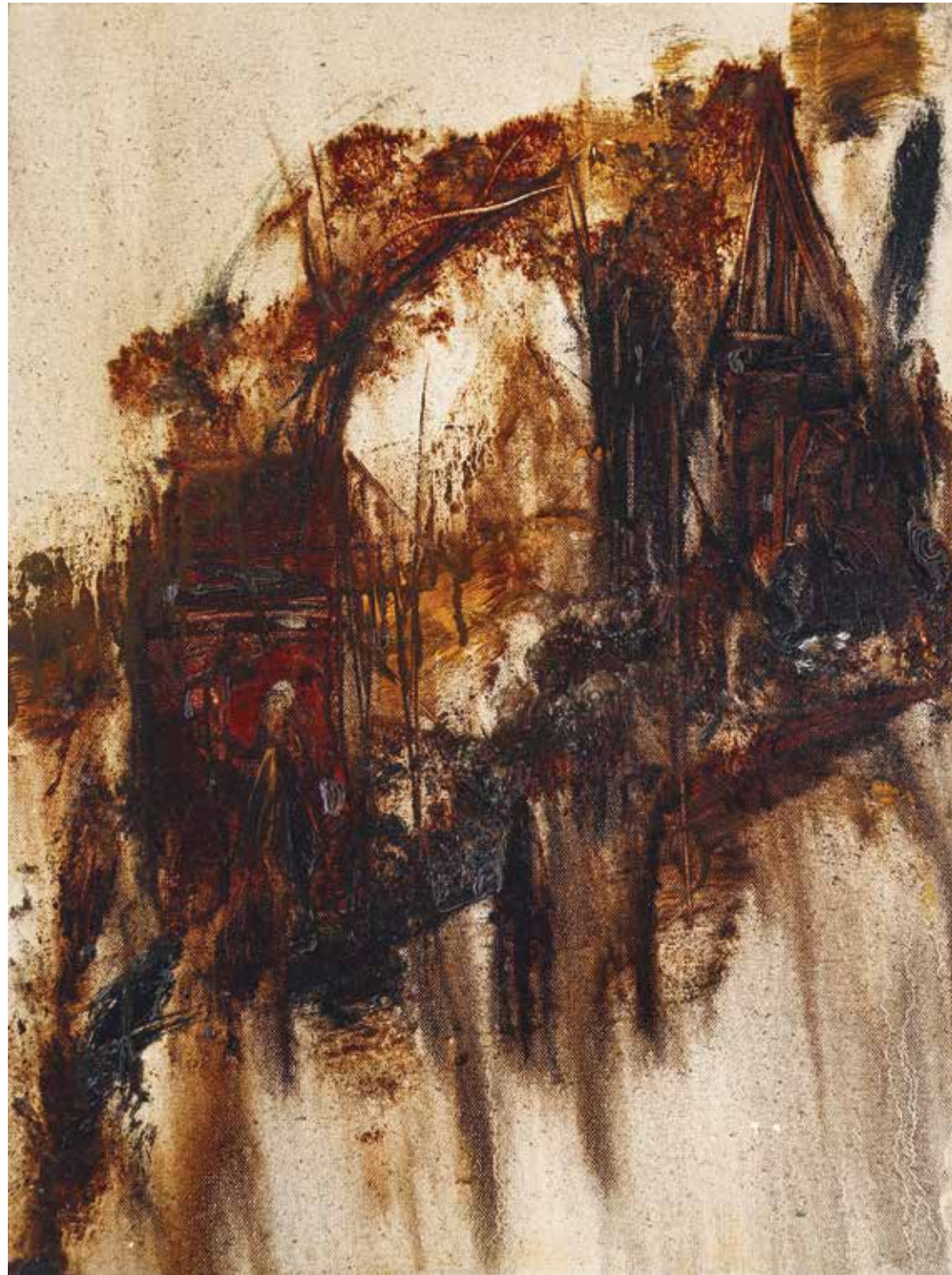
LANDSCAPE VII

Oil on canvas
61cm x 123cm (24" x 48")
2015



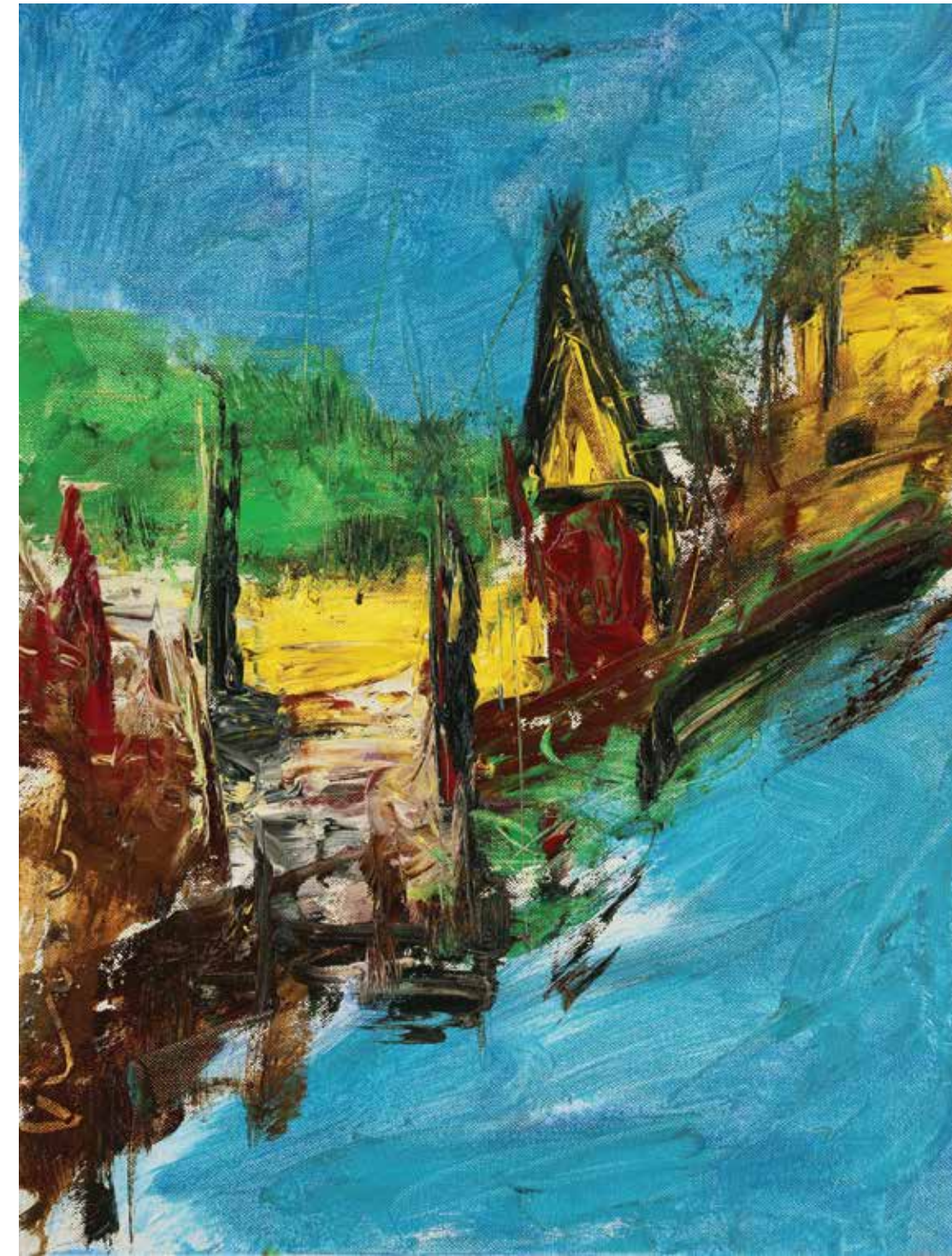
LANDSCAPE VIII

Oil on canvas
91cm x 91cm (36" x 36")
2015



LANDSCAPE IX

Oil on canvas
61cm x 46cm (24" x 18")
2015



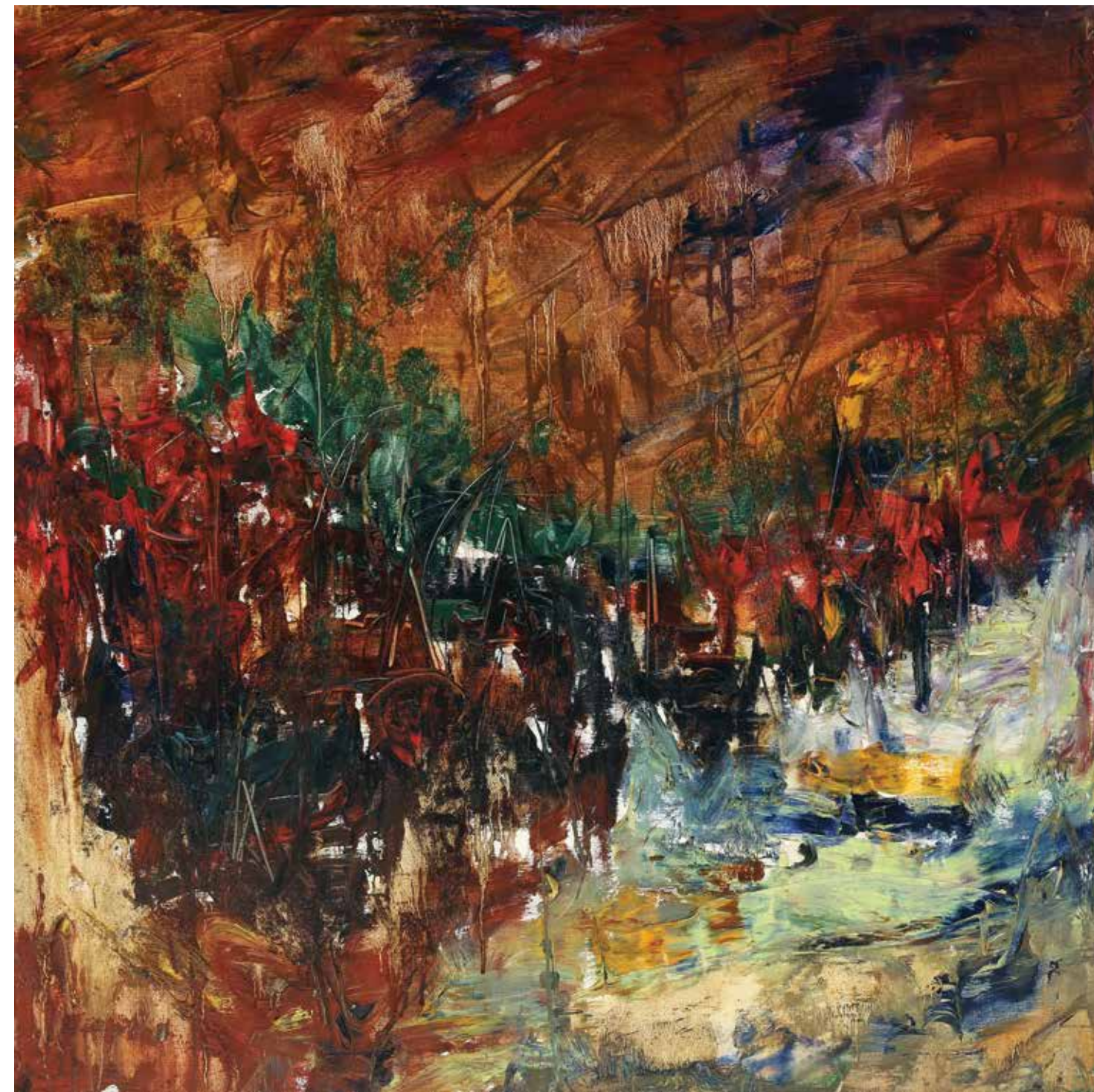
LANDSCAPE X

Oil on canvas
61cm x 46cm (24" x 18")
2015



LANDSCAPE XI

Oil on canvas
101cm x 101cm (40" x 40")
2015



LANDSCAPE XII

Oil on canvas
101cm x 101cm (40" x 40")
2015



LANDSCAPE XIII, XIV, XV, XVI

Oil on canvas
61cm x 61cm (24" x 24")
2015



LANDSCAPE XVII

Oil on canvas
91cm x 304cm (36" x 120")
2015



Vikash Kalra's work is dynamic, vibrant and showcases his commitment to a lifelong process of innovation. He creates passionate art, which is truly humanistic. He experiments with styles and continues to reinvent himself. His work is reminiscent of the words of Picasso "Whenever I wanted to say something, I said it the way I believed I should."

The subjects covered in Vikash's paintings comprise of still life, landscape and nudes. He expresses his ideas with bold strokes, which are at times violent, and at other times overtly sexual.

Komal Sibal - art aficionado

UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013



UNTITLED

Ink on paper
33cm x 20cm (13" x 8")
2013

UNTITLED

Ink on paper
20cm x 33cm (8" x 13")
2013



UNTITLED

Ink on paper
20cm x 33cm (8" x 13")
2013



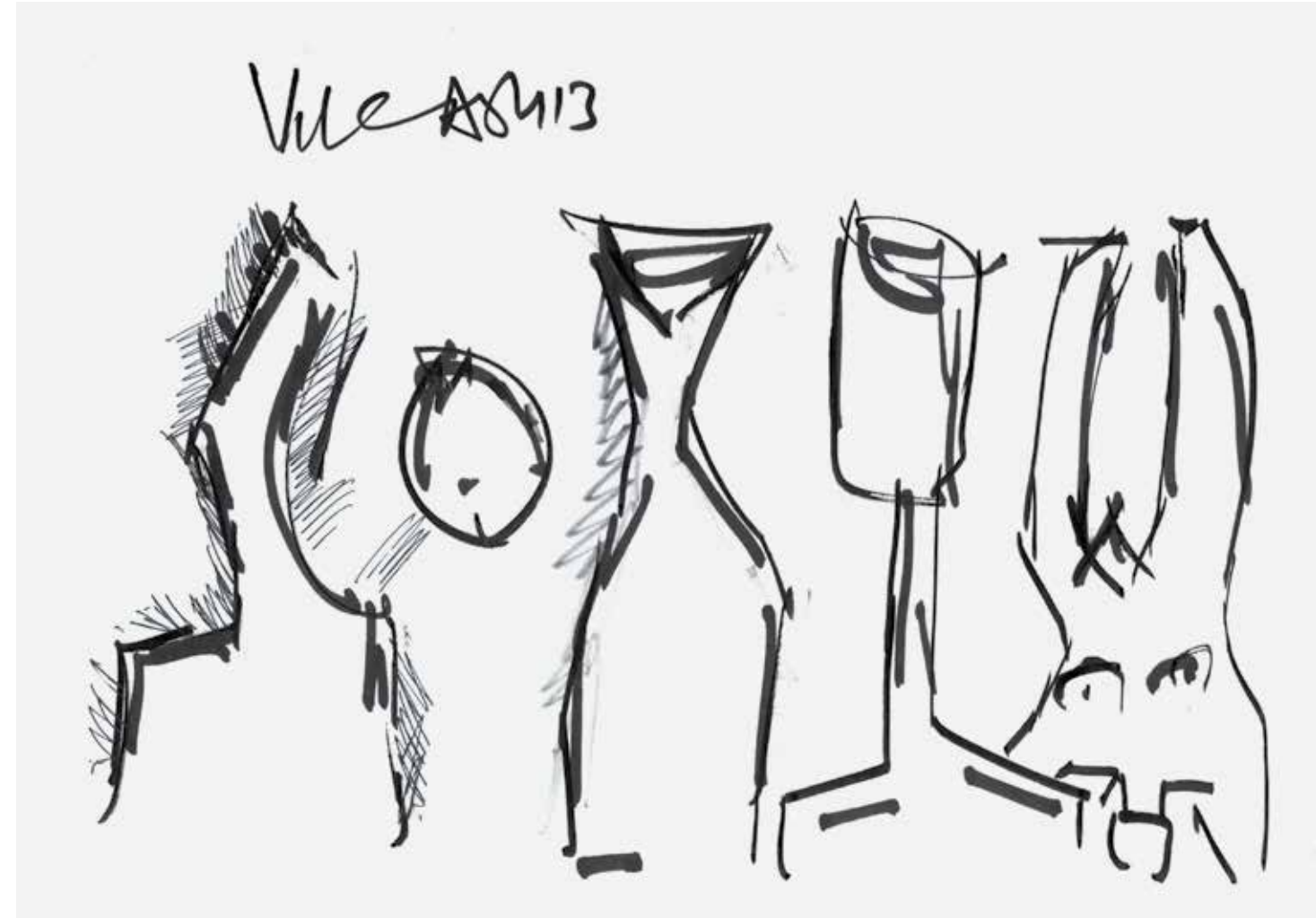
UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
40cm x 29cm (16" x 11.5")
2013



UNTITLED

Ink on paper
20cm x 33cm (8" x 13")
2013



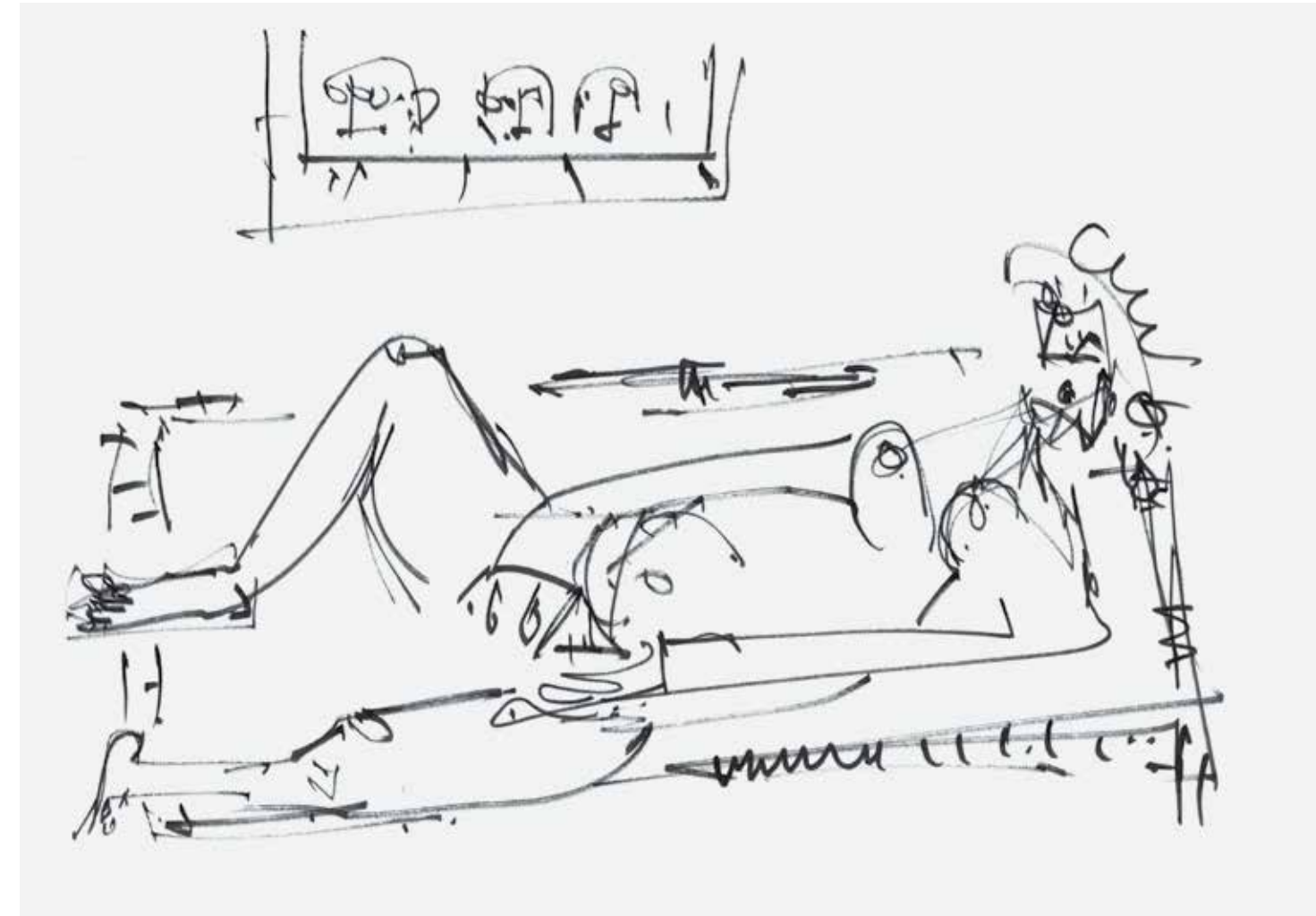
UNTITLED

Ink on paper
20cm x 33cm (8" x 13")
2013



UNTITLED

Ink on paper
20cm x 33cm (8" x 13")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
40cm x 29cm (16" x 11.5")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
40cm x 29cm (16" x 11.5")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013



UNTITLED

Pen & ink on paper
29cm x 40cm (11.5" x 16")
2013





Vikash Kalra

Born: 27th July 1973, New Delhi
A Self Taught Artist

EXHIBITIONS

2016

Tribute to Picasso & Souza by Vikash – Solo show – August – Dhoomimal Art Centre.
AP'PRAA (LIMITLESS) – Public Art (Installation) 26 Sculptures – VR Bengaluru & VR Surat, Whitefield Art Collective & Art Chutney – February and April.

2015

Aparajita (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao) – Group Show – Voluntary Health Association of India – Visual Art Gallery, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
Tales from the Soul Marrow – Solo Show – April – Art Indus, New Delhi.
JOURNEYS – Solo show – January – Indian Art Fair, New Delhi – by Art 18|21, UK. The Gandhi Group show – January – Indian Art Fair, New Delhi – by Art Indus, New Delhi.

2014

Solo show in Indian Art Festival, 27th - 30th Nov 2014. Nehru Centre, Worli Mumbai.
THE ALCHEMIST - a monographic exhibition – Solo show – August 2014, Art and Aesthetic, Lado Sarai, New Delhi.
Four Walls – Exhibition of India's contemporary art – Taj Westend, Bangalore from 4th -13th April 2014, with Artchutney.
Group show at Art and Aesthetic "A Tribute to MASTERS & MASTERPIECES - History Revisited", 29th Jan - 28th Feb.
Group Show, Gallerie Nvya, The Winter Tale 2013.
Sunday, December 15, 2013 to Monday, February 03, 2014.
Group show in DHOOMIMAL ART CENTRE January.

2013

Solo Show in Indian Art Festival, 19-22 Dec. Nehru Centre, Bombay.
Group Show, Artchutney, Coimbatore on 23rd - 24th November, 2013.
Group Show, Voice on Art, "Centurion 2013" 9th Nov to 15th Nov, at Visual Art Gallery, IHC, New Delhi.
Group Show, Gallerie Nvya, 9th Anniversary Show "NAVA" Friday, September 06, 2013 to Thursday, November 07
Group Show, Art Chutney " Varicolored " The Taj West End, Bangalore. 14th July.
Group Show, Gallerie Nvya, New Delhi, May 15, 2013 to July 27, 2013.
Angels of History, Solo Show, Art Konsult, Visual Art Gallery, IHC, New Delhi.
Revelations-I, The Pune Art Gallery, Pune.
Modern & Contemporary Indian Art Auction, Art Chutney, Bangalore.
India Art Fair 2013, Art Konsult, New Delhi.

2012

Art Bull, Autumn Auction.
Group Show, Art Bull, Lado Sarai, New Delhi.
United Art Fair, New Delhi.
Group Show, Surya Hotel, New Delhi.
Into The Void, Solo Show, Art Konsult.
India Art Fair 2012, Art Konsult.
Group Show, Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.
The Dramatics of Diverse Interpretations/Perspectives, Group Show, Art Konsult.
Group Show, Arts of The Earth, Open Palm Court, IHC.
Short Film, Obsessions, The World of Vikash Kalra by Vinod Bhardwaj previewed at Art Film Festival, NGMA, New Delhi (Youtube link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM2a64YWdEY).
Short Film on Vikash Kalra, Dreams on Canvas previewed on Doordarshan (Youtube link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=8wBeDTFeCfc).

2011

Group Show, Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.
Group Show, Arts of The Earth, Open Palm Court, IHC.
Autumn Auction, Artbull, New Delhi.
Museum Collection-3, Group Show, Art Konsult, Visual Art Gallery, IHC, New Delhi.
50.25.10 (50 Works, 25 Artist, 10 States) The Art Corridor, The Taj, by Art Chutney, Bangalore.
Solo Show – Nostalgia/Memory, Visual Art Gallery, IHC & Art Konsult, New Delhi.
Group Show, The Taj, Art Chutney, Bangalore.

2010

Solo Show - The Artist The Man-IV, Open Palm Court, IHC, New Delhi.

2009

Group Show, Marangar Fort, Rajasthan.
Vivid Hues, Epicentre, Gurgaon & IHC, New Delhi.
Solo Show - The Artist The Man-III, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
Group Show, Rooh - The Journey Within, VAG, IHC, New Delhi.
Line of Control, Online Show with www.rangartgallery.com

2008

Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.
Palm Court, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
Travancore Art Gallery, New Delhi.
Solo - The Artist The Man-II, VAG, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
Chehare (Faces) Online Show with www.rangartgallery.com

2007

60 Years of Independence, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
Group Show, VAG, IHC, New Delhi.
Solo Show The Artist The Man, Palm Court, IHC, New Delhi.
Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.
Lakhotia Art Gallery, New Delhi.
Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi.

2006

Triveni Gallery, New Delhi.
Visual Art Gallery, IHC, New Delhi.
Palm Court, IHC, New Delhi.
Solo Show - Chehare (Faces) Rang Art Gallery, Delhi.

2005

Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.
Triveni Gallery, New Delhi.
Open Palm Court, IHC, New Delhi.

COLLECTION

Many art connoisseur in India and abroad.



Dhoomimal
ART CENTRE

8A Connaught Place, Level I & II,
Inner Circle, New Delhi-110 001
T. +91 11 2332 4492, 2371 3025, 4151 6172
E. info@dhoomimalartcentre.com
W. www.dhoomimalartcentre.com

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Cover: Untitled, Oil on canvas, 36 x 36 inches, 2013
Back Cover: Untitled, Oil on canvas, 60 x 50 inches, 2012

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