

প্রতিবিম্ব

The Essence of Bengalis

Pratibimba

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A Journey of an Artist

Born in 1954, artist Shukla Chowdhury is known for her spontaneous portrayal of her thoughts and imagination. Even when she was a two year old, mundane and insignificant objects and incidents captured her vivid imagination. The images from her childhood area constant source of inspiration for her.

Shukla's mother recognised her leanings towards art and encouraged her to pursue the creative field. As a young girl of five, Shukla found herself immersed in the creative world - art, music and dance. "I used to spend hours in absolute solitude drawing on the floor and on the walls. Everything around inspired me. I couldn't wait to capture them in my paintings," she says. The desire to acquire the fine nuances of art led her to pursue fine art at Shantiniketan, Vishva Bharati University. "At



art. Her style of painting can be described as Abstract expressionism - a painting movement in which the artist typically applies paint rapidly in an effort to show feelings and emotions. Although, Shukla prefers to call her style "independent and spontaneous." The artist has held various solo and group exhibitions in New Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai and is currently working on her next exhi-

However, what inspires her most is the irony of life. "As a woman, I've been through all extremes of emotional existence - from unattainable happiness to unimaginable sorrow, I feel that I'm capable of conquering all emotional constraints. I identify with the immortal Phoenix" expresses Shukla. Her Paintings are a riot of colours, exploring and emphasising the moods of nature and complexities of the human mind.