

The Age

MUMBAI

THURSDAY 20 APRIL 2006

City

WORKSHOP: The S.P. Jain Institute of Management and Research announces a free workshop on the "Start your own Business Programme", on April 22 in Andheri (W). Contact: 26237454

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Flight of fantasy takes off

OUR CORRESPONDENT |
MUMBAI

Artist Shukla Chowdhury is in the spotlight with her exhibition of paintings titled "The Flight Of The Phoenix" currently on at the Nehru Centre, Worli.

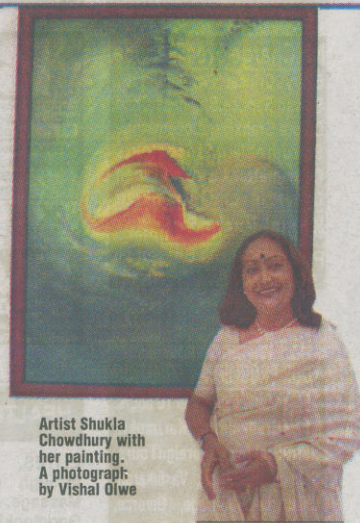
Originally from Kolkata, the artist recently came to Mumbai to share her enthusiasm for paintings. She admits, "Right from my childhood, I have fantasised about painting. I had a deep interest for learning the art of painting that nobody at such a young age could possibly have." She says that nature inspires her to work. "Basically, I am a very happy

person and love to paint only emotions depicting happiness. Hence, you will find all my paintings are very vibrant and colourful. Nature has been my constant source of inspiration. It provides us with so many things and teaches us to share. Never does it demand anything in spite of giving so much. Moreover, nature is so colourful and full of life that I always have many new ideas to paint," the artist says.

Shukla's paintings are semi abstract in nature. She does not believe in limiting herself to a particular idea, and when she paints, she lets her imagination run wild. The artist believes in the policy of living life to the

fullest. "One must never stop in life and lose heart. Keep moving, that is the *mantra* to life," she adds.

About her paintings, Shukla says, "It is actually very difficult for someone to understand my paintings and perceive them. This is the advantage of abstract art. Abstract paintings attract the attention of people, but the best part is that everybody has a different opinion about it." She explains, "The reason why the exhibition is called *The Flight Of the Phoenix* is because the phoenix is a bird that has no limit." Shukla wishes, "To keep flying and soaring. I believe that the sky is the limit."



Artist Shukla Chowdhury with her painting. A photograph by Vishal Olwe