

Uninhibited Expressions

Bold colours and passionate strokes characterise freelance artist, Shukla Chowdhury's latest exhibition

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It must be wonderful to have a doting husband and a loving daughter overlooking each and every aspect of your work. Even before freelance artist, Shukla Chowdhury, makes an appearance at Academy of Fine Arts, where her second Kolkata exhibition is being held, her husband and daughter lovingly discuss her work. "She completed her Bachelors in Fine Arts from



brations of nature's beauty. Where bold strokes of green, red, yellow and other primary colours blend with each other to create rough and smooth rocks, silver rays of the moon, the golden aura of the dusk and lilac meadows. "Nature and its beauty is embedded in each of my frames. I want to celebrate life through these canvases. When I'm working on a piece, I surrender myself to the process. I don't think of the technique, I just feel," states Chowdhury.



(Top) Shukla Chowdhury; some of the paintings on display at the gallery

Shantiniketan and then stood first in University of Pune. Yet, she abandoned her promising career in art to make a wonderful home for us," beams Abhijit Chowdhury, Shukla's husband.

"My mother has always lived with her art and over the past decade her preoccupation with the vastness of nature's beauty and life has intensified. This collection, *The Search of the Phoenix*, is a result of that very preoccupation," claims Ushamrita Chowdhury, Shukla's daughter.

Indeed, Shukla's overwhelmingly large canvases seem to be passionate cele-

The simplicity of her technique has impressed a number of established artists. "Recently, a senior artist sampled my work and stated that he would never attempt the 'splatter' effect that I have so generously employed in some of my painting, because he is afraid of the outcome," says Chowdhury.

It's probably this very uninhibited approach towards her craft, which makes Shukla Chowdhury's canvases stand out.

The exhibition is on at the Academy of Fine Arts (North Hall) till October 17