

Shourabh Mukherji

Curator Statement

The idea and concept of *Kendra* came about in discussions with the Executive Director and previous interactions with the members of the Board at The Center for Contemporary Art. The Center is focused on expanding art and culture across communities and invites emerging as well as established artists from the region. *Kendra* is an initiative for The Center to invite artists of all genres from the South Asian diaspora to participate and showcase their art and highlight the rich tradition of their native land through a contemporary art exhibition.

As the curator for this art exhibition at The Center, I reached out to artists who specialize in different art forms such as painting, sculpture, woodwork, handicrafts, fashion design and film making. The objective was to bring together both traditional and modern art of South Asia.

The response from the artists has been very encouraging. The Center received beautiful works of art from 31 artists. Each artist submitted their work based on the theme of *Kendra*. The selection process involved both the quality of the composition and the specificity of the artwork. There was also an emphasis on the artist's particular skill and genre to contribute to the larger body of artwork for the exhibition, making it eclectic and vibrant.

I am very thankful to The Center and all the participating artists for the encouragement.