

Based in Chennai, India, Pravin Kannanur is a multidisciplinary artist, working predominantly in the visual arts, theatre and contemporary dance. His work as a visual artist, from 1989, is a marker for the way he relates to the world.

Each painting enacts the world as a dynamic interaction between the artist, his material and his environment. Pravin's abstract explorations claim the expressionist gesture to transform fields of colour. Through the emerging relationship between undertones and overtones, the geometric and the fluid, the viscous and the dilute, mark making and erasure, the viewer is invited to dialogue with the elements of light, line, colour, texture and space and to enter into an embodied engagement through sight, memory and imagination.

In his current restricted series working with automotive paints on aluminium sheets, the artist draws from his sensorial intrigue from being immersed in a sea of automotive colours on his way to and from the studio. Autorickshaws, cars, shop front boards, trucks all brightly coloured and lettered with messages that blur as you pass.

Art is a transformational engagement with the world and Pravin brings the play of his art into the broader social sphere. His installations and engagement with public art also take him into the arena of interactive work and collaborative creations.

Pravin was awarded the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres, in 2022, by the Ministry of Culture, Government of France, in recognition of his contribution to the arts and culture.

### **Concise list of Exhibitions**

- 2022 « Myriad Nuances: An Indian Dimension », Online Group Exhibition, curated by Dr. Ashrafi S. Bhagat, Co-presented by K-Art and InKo Centre
- « Emerging Worlds », Group Exhibition, curated by Jitha Karthikeyan, VST Grandeur, Chennai
- « Prakriti Shakti », Group Exhibition, curated by Saran Apparao, Apparao Galleries, Chennai
- « Within / Without », Group Exhibition, curated by Jitha Karthikeyan, SPR Origine, Chennai
- 2021 « Lokame Taravadu/ The World is One Family », Group Exhibition, Kochi Biennale Foundation, curated by Bose Krishnamachari, Allepey
- « CORE: Nova » a solo exhibition of paintings at Varija Gallery, Dakshinachitra, Chennai, curated by Gita Hudson.
- 2019 Busan International Art Fair, presented by K-Art, Bexco, Busan
- « CORE » a solo exhibition of paintings at The Gallery@InKo Centre.
- 2018 « CORE » a solo exhibition of paintings at the Jehangir Art Gallery, Khala Goda, Mumbai.
- 2017 « Interruption » by Basement 21 at the Cardiff Dance Festival; art interventions at The Atrium of Cardiff University and at the Cardiff Market.

- 2014 « Pause/Play », Art Interrupting Institution, by Basement21 at Goethe Institut, Chennai.
- 2012 Mural at Studio Safdar, Public Art Project, Shadhikampur, New Delhi for their public art project.
- 2012 «Haram Me» a solo art installation, at the Alliance Française of Madras, presented by The India Collective.
- 2011 «Tranceport» a solo exhibition of paintings presented by The India Collective: at the India Habitat Centre, Visual Arts Gallery, New Delhi, curated by Ranvir Shah and Dr Alka Pande;  
at the Amethyst, Chennai, curated by Ranvir Shah;  
and at Chitra Kala Parishath, curated by Ranvir Shah, Bengaluru.
- 2009 « Between the Lines », Group Exhibition, Lalit Kala Akademi, Chennai, conceived by S.Michael Irudayaraj.
- 2003 Solo exhibition of paintings, Alliance Française of Madras, Chennai.
- 1995 « Les Diagonales à Royaumont » Group exhibition, Abbaye de Royaumont, Asnières- sur - Oise, France.