# 148<sup>th</sup> International Convention

**31st DEC 2023 to 4th JAN 2024** 

"Exploring and Understanding UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCE"



#### THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

International Headquarters, Adyar, Chennai, India convention.ts-adyar.org

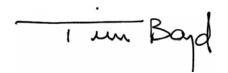


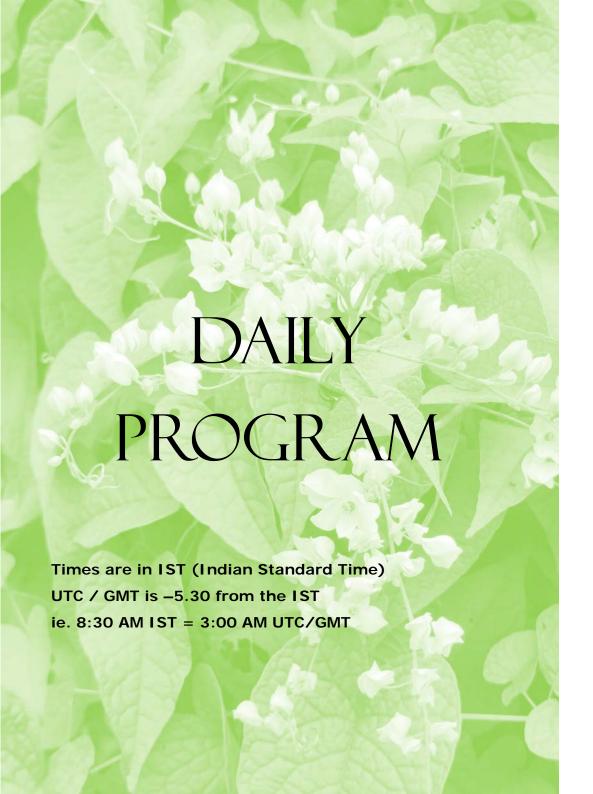
#### **CONVENTION THEME**

# **'Exploring and Understanding UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCE'**

### President's Message

There is a shared misconception that we seem to treasure: that there is a Universal Intelligence, and there is us; there is a Heaven and an Earth; a God and all the rest. The sooner we release ourselves from this conviction of separation the sooner both we and the Earth can heal.





# Saturday, 30 December

8.30 AM	GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE TSLibrary, Conf. Hall (For members of the General Council only)
3.00 PM	CANDLE CEREMONYHeadquarters Hall Order of the Round Table Delegates can watch the Ceremony and are requested to occupy seats by 2.45 PM
4.00 PM	Order of the Round Table, CouncilHeadquarters Hall (For members of the RT Council only)
5.00 PM	Inauguration of New Quadrangle and the Indian Canteen

Read from the Information Booklet about the coupons for Canteen

#### **INDIAN CANTEEN TIMINGS**

#### From 30 Dec Dinner to 5 Jan Lunch

05:30 am - 06:00 am Coffee & Tea\*

06:45 am – 08:00 am Breakfast

12:00 noon – 01:30 pm Lunch

04:15 pm - 04:45 pm\*\* Snacks

07:00 pm - 09:00 pm Dinner

\*On payment of Rs.10/- \*\*Except on 31st

#### **LEADBEATER CHAMBERS TIMINGS**

#### From 30 Dec Dinner to 5 Jan Lunch

07:00 am - 08:15 am Breakfast

12:00 noon – 01:30 pm Lunch

04:00 pm - 04:30 pm Snacks

06:15 pm – 07:30 pm Dinner

# Sunday, 31 December

6.00 AM Bharata Samaj Puja at Bharata Samaj Temple

Adyar Theatre

8.30 AM OPENING OF THE CONVENTION

Prayers of the Religions, Universal Prayer, Greetings, Invocation and opening by the International President,

Launch of book of Radha Burnier, Group Photo

9.30 AM KEYNOTE "ADYAR EXTENSION"

TS REPORT worldwide in 2022-23

Tim Boyd, International President, TS Adyar

Library building

11.00 AM INAUGURATIONS AT LIBRARY BUILDING

- a) Art Exhibition: Sculptures and Paintings by Artist Hemalatha Senathipathi
- b) Surendra Narayan Archives Exhibitions:
  - ♦ The Spirit of Adyar—A Journey into the Past
  - ♦ Radha Burnier—a Multi-Faceted Leader

**Enquiry Office** 

11.45 AM Opening the stalls of OES and BMAD

OES = Olcott Education Society: Olcott School, Vocational Train-

ing Centre, and Social Welfare Centre

BMAD = Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary



# Sunday, 31 December

Blavatsky Bungalow

1.00 PM INDIAN SECTION COUNCIL MEETING — I

(For members of the Council only)

Headquarters building

1.30 PM INAUGURATIONS AT HQs

1. The Renaissance of Art in Adyar: Paintings of Florence

Ada Fuller

2. Blavatsky Museum: exhibition of historical items

Adyar Theatre

2.30 PM BESANT LECTURE

"Virtue"

M. M. Sundresh

Judge, Supreme Court of India

3.30 PM RECEPTION Note: Near Admin building

Adyar Theatre

4.30 PM NEW YEAR'S WORLD MUSIC CONCERT

Global Rhythms—Blueprint of a New World

Award winning Vocalists, Musicians, LEAP Boundary Breakers

Headquarters Hall

7.30 PM RITUAL OF THE MYSTIC STAR

Delegates can watch the Ceremony and are requested to

occupy seats by 7.25 PM



## Monday, 1 January

6.00 AM Bharata Samaj Puja at Bharata Samaj Temple
 6.00 AM Silent Walking Meditation, Ven. Ananda Olande
 *Gather before 6 AM at LBC* 6.00 AM Yoga and Pranayama, Vimal Chand
 *Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs*

#### Adyar Theatre

8.30 AM SYMPOSIUM ON "EXPLORING AND UNDERSTANDING"

"Understanding an Explorer's Mind"

Richard Sell, National President, TS in New Zealand

"The Science and the Art of Living" Isis de Resende, TS in Brazil

"Seeking and Knowing"
Gerard Brennan, President of Indo-Pacific Federation

#### 9.45 AM SHORT LECTURES

"Understanding Universal Intelligence"

Dr Deepa Padhi, International Vice-President

"Intelligence: The Foundation of All Life" Mr Stephen McDonald, *National President, TS in Australia* 

#### 11.00 AM INDIAN SECTION CONVENTION-I

"Inaugural Address"
Tim Boyd, International President

"State of The Indian Section Address" Pradeep Gohil, *President, Indian Section* 

### Monday, 1 January

1.00 PM TOS India Executive Committee

Note: at Headquarters Hall

(For TOS India Executive members only)

1.30 PM VISIT to Social Welfare Centre
Note: Adjacent to Main Gate
Cultural Activities by SWC and Vocational Training Centre

#### **WORKSHOPS 3.00 – 4.00 PM**

Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs

"Theosophical Education –The Inner Flowering"

Sonal Murali, *Director, Adyar Theosophical Academy* 

#### Headquarters Hall

"Chanting workshop"
Jaishree Kannan
Librarian, ALRC and Officer in Charge of the Surendra Narayan Archives

Blavatsky Bungalow downstairs

"An Exploration of the Seven Rays"

World Federation of Young Theosophists

#### Advar Theatre

5.00 PM THEOSOPHY-SCIENCE LECTURE
"Contemporary Science: Facts, Ideas, Questions"
Prof. Rajaram Nityananda
Professor of Physics, International Centre for Theoretical
Sciences, TIFR

7.30 PM THEOSOPHY BY ART (Choir & Skit)
BEAT, Bank Employees Art Troop, an awarded Choir
Skit by B.T.F., Bombay Theosophical Federation

# Tuesday, 2 January

6.00 AM Bharata Samaj Puja at Bharata Samaj Temple
 6.00 AM Silent Walking Meditation, Ven. Ananda Olande
 *Gather before 6 AM at LBC* 6.00 AM Yoga and Pranayama, Vimal Chand
 *Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs*

Bharata Samaj Temple

8.30 AM DEVOTIONAL MEETING

Bharata Samaj Temple

Chandrika Mehta, TS in India

#### Adyar Theatre

10.15 AM PANEL ON "INTELLIGENCE AND HUMAN NEED"
Linda Oliveira, TS in Australia, Chairperson
Marcos de Resende, TS in Brazil
Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, TS in France
Chally Romero, TS in Philippines

#### 11.15 AM DISCUSSION GROUPS



## **Tuesday, 2 January**

1.00 PM INDIAN SECTION COUNCIL MEETING —II

Note: at Blavatsky Bungalow

(For members of the Council only)

1:30 PM Bharata Samaj Association, General Body meeting Bharata Samaj Temple

1:30 PM VISIT to Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA) at *Besant Gardens*'Wonderscape': An exhibition of ATA primary & middle

#### Adyar Theatre

3:15 PM INTERVIEW

Ven. Olande Ananda Thera

Venerable Buddhist Monk, Sri Lanka

Interviewed by Patrizia Calvi, TS in Italy

school student explorations

5.00 PM PANEL
THEOSOPHY AND ART: From Origin to Horizons"
Elif Kamisli, Exhibition Manager, Turkey
Anupama Gaur, Consultant Conservator, India
Erica Georgiades, Director of The School of the Wisdom,
Greece

7.30 PM EVENING PROGRAM – A PLAY

Crea-Shakthi presents "Universal Consciousness:

Life, Death & Everything in Between"

### Wednesday, 3 January

6.00 AM Bharata Samaj Puja at Bharata Samaj Temple
 6.00 AM Silent Walking Meditation, Ven. Ananda Olande Gather before 6 AM at LBC
 6.00 AM Yoga and Pranayama, Vimal Chand Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs

#### At Adyar Theatre

8.30 AM THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE (TOS)

Presentation by Nancy Secrest TOS International Secretary, USA / Resident at Adyar, India

**DANCE GROUP** 

Sri Arunodayam Home for Mentally Challenged Destitute Children

9.45 AM DIALOGUE

"THEOSOPHICAL WORK AND UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCE" Tim Boyd, *International President* Pedro Oliveira, *TS in Australia* 

#### 10.45 AM INDIAN SECTION CONVENTION II

"Illumination from Within"

Opening and closing remarks, Deepa Padhi as Chairperson

"Meaning of Illumination from Within", Vinay Patri

"How to get the Illumination from Within", Harsha S.S. Sonthi

"Advantages of having Illumination from within", Adi Keshav Shastri

"Difficulties in Getting Illumination from within", Mitalini Choudhury

"Consciousness as Source of Illumination", Harshvadan Sheth

# Wednesday, 3 January

1:00 PM TOS INDIA Annual General Body

Note: at Headquarters Hall

1.30 PM VISIT to Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School Besant Gardens, Cultural Activities by the students

WORKSHOPS 3.00 - 4.00 PM

Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs

"Education for Life: The Art of Living and Learning" Sonal Murali, *Director, Adyar Theosophical Academy* 

Headquarters Hall

"Chanting workshop"
Jaishree Kannan
Librarian, ALRC and Officer in Charge of the Surendra Narayan Archives

Blavatsky Bungalow downstairs

"Art as a Language of the Universal Intelligence" World Federation of Young Theosophists

#### At Adyar Theatre

5.00 PM PUBLIC LECTURE

"Remembering the Future Garden"

Joss Brooks

Veteran Australian Ecologist Pitchandikulam Forest, Auroville

7.30 PM CULTURAL EVENING

Artistic Sharing by the Delegates and Adyar Choir

Vinay Patri, Moderator, TS in India

# **Thursday, 4 January**

6.00 AM	Bharata Samaj Puja at Bharata Samaj Temple
6.00 AM	Silent Walking Meditation, Ven. Ananda Olande
	Gather before 6 AM at LBC
6.00 AM	Yoga and Pranayama, Vimal Chand
	Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs

#### At Adyar Theatre

8.30 AM	QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
	Tim Boyd, Deepa Padhi, Pradeep Gohil, Douglas Keene

#### 9.45 AM SHORT LECTURES ON ADVAITA

"Universal Intelligence is to Know the Field and the Knower of the Field" — An Advaitic Perspective Based on Śrīmad Bhagavadgītā 13.2"

Dr Radha Raghunathan

Director of Adyar Library and Research Centre

"Advaita, self-Knowing and Universal Intelligence" Sri Sankara Bhagavadpada A Hindu teacher of Jnana Yoga and Commentator on the life-time work of Sri J. Krishnamurti



# Thursday, 4 January

12 noon	INDIAN SECTION COUNCIL MEETING — III Note: at Blavatsky Bungalow (For members of the Council only)
2 00 DN4	ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

# 2.00 PM ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS Headquarters Hall

#### At Adyar Theatre

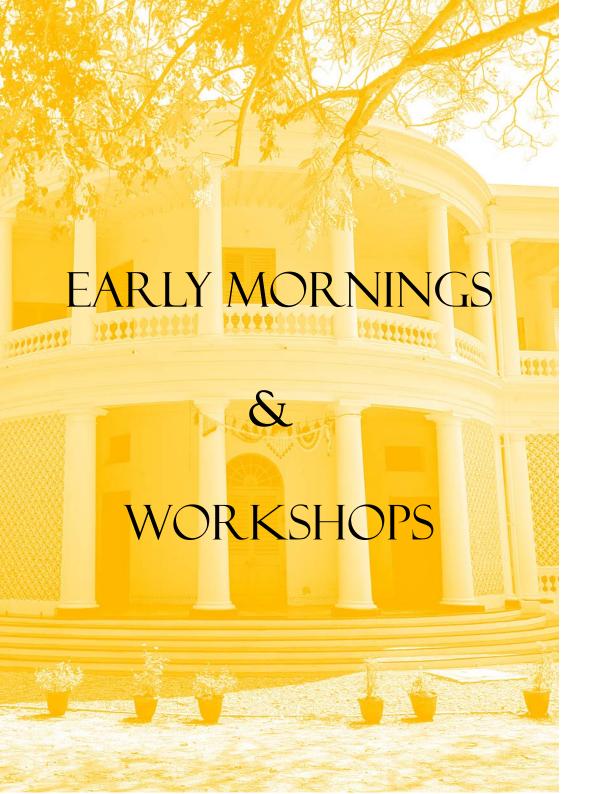
3.00 PM	PLENARY SESSION
	Reports from the workshops
	World Federation of Young Theosophists (WFYT)
	Propagation Project, including SOW

5.00 PM	PUBLIC LECTURE BY THE PRESIDENT
	"The Land and Us"
	Tim Boyd
	International President, TS Adyar

6.00 PM	CLOSING OF THE CONVENTION
	Tim Boyd, International President
	Vote of Thanks, Shikhar Agnihotri, Convention Officer

# **Thursday, 5 January**

6.00 AM	Bharata Samaj Puja at <i>Bharata Samaj Temple</i>
6.30 AM	Breakfast
12 noon	Lunch included in the package



#### **EARLY MORNING PRACTICES**

1, 2, 3 and 4 January 2024 6.00 AM

Three choices to wake you up for a brilliant day

6.00 AM Bharata Samaj Puja at Bharata Samaj Temple



6.00 AM
Silent Walking Meditation
Led by Ven. Ananda Olande Thera
Gather before 6 AM at LBC



6.00 AM
Yoga and Pranayama
Led by Vimal Chand with Elena Bessie assisting
Blavatsky Bungalow upstairs





# HEADQUARTERS HALL Jaishree Kannan

# 1 and 3 JANUARY (3-4 PM) "CHANTING WORKSHOP"

Delegates are requested to attend both the

sessions. The leader recommends the ancient Vedic way of learning chanting which is by complete listening. Hence there would not be any written material required nor does it require any stationery (paper, pen, pencil etc.) Let there be peace by chanting the Shanti Mantra.



**World Federation of Young Theosophists** 

#### **1 JANUARY (3-4 PM)**

#### "AN EXPLORATION OF THE SEVEN RAYS"

Esoteric Philosophy tells us that the universe is composed of seven distinct energies called in the Theosophical teachings as the seven rays. These rays serve as the building blocks of the universe in any particular place or time. In a similar manner human beings are also composed of these same seven rays. In esoteric psychology, each body or vehicle may be composed of a particular ray. As human beings, we are all composed of all seven rays but there will be one or two which will be most predominant.

By knowing which rays are most predominant we are able to know more about ourselves and our spiritual path. This workshop aims to explore this concept of the seven rays as it applies to our personalities. Helping us to know more about ourselves through our dominant rays.

#### **3 JANUARY (3-4 PM)**

#### "ART AS A LANGUAGE OF THE UNIVERSAL INTELLIGENCE"

At this Workshop we would like to invite you to explore and understand the Universal Intelligence through art and creativity. After a moment of inspiration where some poems of esoteric character will be offered to you accompanied by music and images of artwork, we will invite you to share poems (your own or those that inspire you) or to express your vision with brush and colors!



#### **WORKSHOPS AT 3-4 PM**

# BLAVATSKY BUNGALOW UPSTAIRS Sonal Murali



#### **1 JANUARY (3-4 PM)**

#### "THEOSOPHICAL EDUCATION—THE INNER FLOWERING

Theosophical education explores how to nurture the inner being and how to awaken the spark within.

A child is young only in body but may be wiser than adults around him/her, a being who is to be understood before being helped. Each child is an individual with his/her unique abilities in extraordinary ways and has come into this world to express that being in the best possible manner. We are unaware of the spiritual germ, the creative nebulae, within the child.

The theosophical approach to education is to see that the uniqueness of each child is celebrated, drawn out and given wings to express freely in myriad ways. In this session we will explore how theosophical education views the child and what inner flowering means.

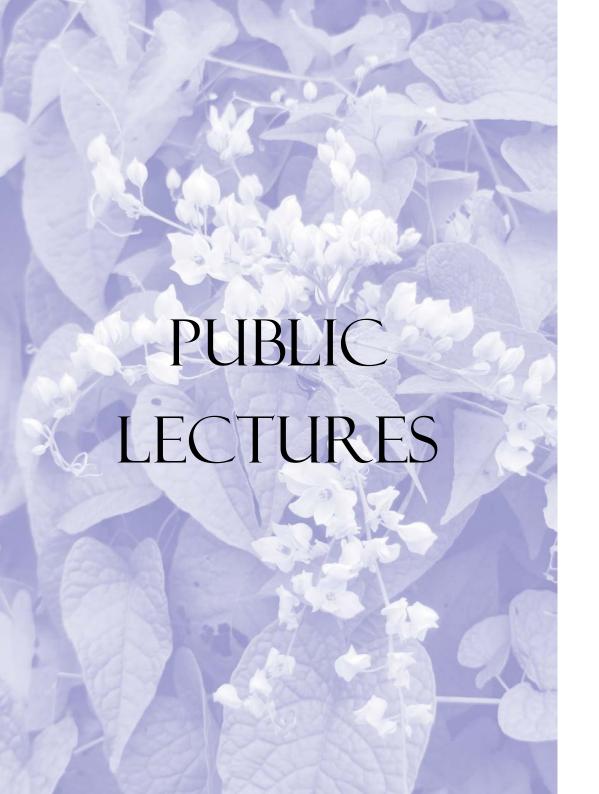
#### **3 JANUARY (3-4 PM)**

#### "EDUCATION FOR LIFE: THE ART OF LIVING AND LEARNING"

We are all students of life and the learning never ceases. It is an ongoing process. Children have their active subconscious mind which like a tree has the power to gather its food from the surrounding atmosphere. Every day the child is searching to understand something, to grasp a piece of life.

An Educator's role is an interface for child to explore the inner and the outer spaces. Like life itself, education is not an isolated process instead it is a collaborative journey. In a holistic approach, both the teacher and the student are learners. They are equals, there is no hierarchy there and no psychological authority. Rabindranath Tagore said that the primary objective of education is to enable the preservation of the perfect symphony between one's life and the world outside.

School is not preparation for life. School is life itself. In this session we will explore how school can be the place to learn the art of living and learning.



#### 31.12.2023, 2:30 PM



BESANT LECTURE

"VIRTUE"

Justice M. M. Sundresh

Judge, Supreme Court of India

#### 1.1.2024, 5:00 PM



THEOSOPHY-SCIENCE LECTURE

"CONTEMPORARY SCIENCE:
FACTS, IDEAS, QUESTIONS"

Prof. Rajaram Nityananda

Professor of Physics,
International Centre for Theoretical Science

#### 3.1.2024, 5:00 PM



PUBLIC LECTURE

"REMEMBERING THE FUTURE

GARDEN"

Joss Brooks

Veteran Australian Ecologist,

Pitchandikulam Forest, Auroville

#### 4.1.2024, 5:00 PM



"THE LAND AND US"

Tim Boyd

International President,
Theosophical Society, Adyar

# CULTURAL PROGRAMS



Award winning vocalists

Sachin Shankor Mannath Vidushi Vishruthi Girish Anirudh

Ikshika Sarode

#### **Accompanying musicians**

Jai Ganesh (electronic keyboard) Radhakrishnan (electronic percussion)

Parthasarathy (percussion)

#### & LEAP Boundary Breakers

Artistic Director—Srinivas Krishnan





# 2<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2024 at 7:30 PM Adyar Theatre

Crea-Shakthi presents

# "UNIVERSAL CONSCIOUSNESS: LIFE, DEATH & EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN"







As glaciers melt at an accelerated rate, a water molecule unfrozen after 4000 years goes on a journey around the world trying to revisit an old friend – a 4000 year old tree. Will it successfully reach the tree and find its friend alive?

#### **BIRTH**

Water and Seed meet for the first time, 4000 years ago, the life of a tree taking birth at their union. They spend many weeks together, unlocking the ancient powers of nature and creating life in a desert.

They part as the water molecule evaporates and rises to the sky, hoping to meet again when the water comes back down, though the sapling might well be a full grown tree by then.

Humans are expanding territory.

Woolly Mammoth has just gone extinct.

The water molecule gets trapped in a glacier and freezes in position.

#### REBIRTH/ AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

4000 years have passed. The tree grows old and weak. Trees around it have long gone, but its strong roots still retain some water...and some hope. Humans have wreaked havoc on the environment.

The water molecule unfreezes and learns of what all has happened over the last 4000 years from its friends in the river and the sea.

#### LAST OF MY KIND

The land is unrecognizable. The map of the world has changed drastically from the time the water molecule has last travelled around it. The water molecule visits critically endangered animals and asks what it can do for them. They ask for only one thing — a flood to wipe humans away and provide a fresh start.

#### WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE

Floods ravage countries all over the world, damage human property and provide lands with groundwater and search for the ancient tree. The water molecules unite to find the ancient tree in its final stages of life.

#### KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, LIFE & DEATH

The friends reunite and exchange their stories and wisdom. Life goes out. Life goes on.

#### 1st January 2024 at 7:30 PM, ADYAR THEATRE

# BEAT CHOIR & SKIT BY B.T.F.

BEAT, Bank Employees Art Troop, an awarded choir B.T.F., Bombay Theosophical Federation

**7.30 PM BEAT CHOIR**: 17 women, 10 men, 1 teacher with 3 musicians will entertain us by the following songs of various languages.

Rasika Priya (not a song),

Spanish (Voy a reir),

English (Que sera),

English (Let there be peace),

Tamil (Thirukural),

Hindi (Yeh waqt ki awaaz),

Bengali (Baulo Baulo).

Two songs for reserve – Hindi (kisi ki muskurahaton), Tamil (Bhoomi)

**8.15 PM B.T.F. SKIT**: After the Choir we will be entertained by skits presented by members from Bombay. They also have been awarded.



VISITS TO Social Welfare Centre, Adyar Theosophical Academy, Olcott Memoriel Higher Secondary School









#### Open During the Convention daily 1.30 - 3.00 /4.00 PM

#### **ADYAR LIBRARY**

**CONFERENCE HALL** 

♦ Art Exhibition by Hemalatha Senathipathi Sculptures, Paintings, Metal Repousse Reliefs

SURENDRA NARAYAN ARCHIVES

- > The Spirit of Adyar: A Journey into the Past
- ♦ Radha Burnier—a Multi-Faceted Leader

DISPLAY ROOM
Old manuscripts and rare & old books

#### **HEADQUARTERS BUILDING**

BESIDE THE MUSEUM

♦ The Renaissance of Art in Adyar Paintings of Florence Ada Fuller

**BLAVATSKY MUSEUM** 

Exhibition of historical items

#### **ENQUIRY OFFICE**

OES = Olcott Education Society
BMAD = Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary
TPH = Theosophical Publishing House, Note: at Kasi Vilas



# ADYAR LIBRRAY BUILDING CONFERENCE HALL Arranged by the School of the Wisdom

#### **EXHIBITION**

#### **ARTIST S. HEMALATHA**

Chennai, India

S. HEMALATHA, Chennai based Sculptor and Painter was trained under the guidance of her father Eminent Artist M. Senathipathi of the erstwhile Madras Art Movement, Cholamandal Artists' Village, Chennai. An artistic career spanning over three decades, dedicatedly working in the medium of metal in the form of Sculptures and repousse reliefs. Her recent suite of works constitutes of metal sculptures in medium size and miniature formats, metal repousse reliefs and paintings. She delicately drawn peacocks with enamel on welded copper, and a variety of playful Ganesha sculptures with splashes of riotous color in enamel. Common themes run across the metal works, from the mythological to abstract renderings of animal and bird forms, evocative human figures as well as masks inspired by African tribal Art. She had executed many sculptures in many sizes, for corporate galleries, private art connoisseurs and worldwide. She received:

1991 GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU STATE AWARD 2019 GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU STATE AWARD





#### **SCULPTURES**

I desire to bring SCULPTURES into reality an object which expresses our dreams, aspirations and which is a part of ourselves. I merely in my own way continuing this tradition of Frontal & Three-dimension Sculptures. I delicately drawn peacocks with enamel on welded copper, and a variety of playful Ganesa sculptures with splashes of riotous color in enamel. Common themes run across the metal works, from the mythological to abstract renderings of animal and bird forms, evocative human figures as well as masks inspired by African tribal Art. I draw my inspiration from concepts found in nature, birds and various elements in Hindu mythology. It is my passion to create sculptures in a contemporary mode. It's my zeal to bring out historical significance in each piece and to contextualize ideas from classical narratives within the framework of my personal experience and understanding. It is for the beholder to judge whether I have indeed created a body of work which is both impressive in its presentation and significant in the message that I seek to convey.

#### **PAINTINGS**

My Paintings are an extension of my visual vocabulary and repertoire from my sculptures. The composition is dense with intense flowing curvilinear lines that create an effect of ceaseless dynamism and movement. The manifest energy is kinetic with fluid forms as its saliency. The colours are equally brilliant and dissonant, yet result in creating effervescent visual effects. My paintings reveal an inherent restlessness that is curbed in my sculptural forms but manifest unduly in my painted canvases. I have created the Painting in different angles like shapes of thoughts, appearance, images, structures, tele shapes with great feelings, sentiments and Mythological Series. I have not only exposed the Texture on the topic of Humanity but also have created the images in a different style by new materials in a different angle and have proven my ability.

#### **METAL REPOUSSE RELIEFS**

Metal repousse reliefs mark the highpoint of my artistic career. The meticulous details, surface textures and clean and precise forms stand testimony to my perfection of skills in this medium as well as to my visualization. The works evoke a sensuous feel because of my extensive use of curvilinear elements that simultaneously provoke dynamism of movement. The oxidization of the metal result in black highlights that further enriches the metal surface. In the repousse reliefs the spatial manipulation is limited, which in its judicious placement provides focus to the subject manner — Ganesha with Gopies, Krishna, kalinganadha, Hanuman, Shiva, Peacock, Christ etc.



# THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE



#### **EXHIBITION**

# **RADHA BURNIER**

A MULTI-FACETED LEADER

Mrs Radha Burnier was the seventh and longest serving International President of the Theosophical Society. She had a brilliant academic education having obtained a Master's Degree in Sanskrit and in Arts. She was also the first to graduate in Bharata Natyam from Kalakshetra, an institution founded by her aunt, Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundale. In 1984, she was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters by the Nagarjuna University for her "distinguished contribution to the advancement of learning and promotion of human values".

Radhaji, as she was affectionately known, was the Assistant Director of the Adyar Library and Research Centre (ALRC) from 1954 to 1959. She went on to become its Director and was also the Editor of Brahmavidya - the prestigious research journal brought out by the ALRC. She held these posts until 1980, when she was elected as the International President of the Theosophical Society. She translated Hathayogapradipika and the dance chapter of the Sangitaratnakara and other works.

We, at the Adyar Library and Research Centre, deem it an honour and a privilege to present a small exhibition to remember, celebrate, and honour our former Director, Smt. Radha Burnier, on her birth centenary, as well as on her 10th death anniversary.

# ADYAR LIBRARY BUILDING SURENDRA NARAYAN ARCHIVES

#### **EXHIBITION**



# THE SPIRIT OF ADYAR

# A Journey into the Past

At Adyar there is a timeless beauty which the eye cannot see and mere words cannot capture, but which takes possession of the soul. Brooding over Adyar is a Presence, breathing benediction and peace...

Accompany us on a journey into the distant past, shrouded in the mists of time, when our great Founders, Mme Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and Colonel Henry Steel Olcott, came to Adyar in 1882 for the first time and chose it to be the centre of the Theosophical world, not merely because of its physical beauty, but for its magnetism and spiritual atmosphere.

# HEADQUARTERS BUILDING ADYAR CONSERVATION LABORATORY

#### **EXHIBITION**

# THE RENAISSANCE OF ART AT ADYAR Paintings of Florence Ada Fuller

Florence Ada Fuller (b. 1867, South Africa; d. 1946, Australia) was a distinguished portraiture and landscape painter. She studied at Melbourne's National Gallery School in 1883 and 1888 and with her uncle Robert Dowling, the renowned portrait painter, between 1884 and 1886. In 1889, she won the prize for best portrait painted by an artist under 25 at the Victorian Artists Society. During the 1890s, Fuller exhibited at the Manchester Art Gallery (UK), the Royal Academy and Royal Institute of Oil Painters (UK), and the Paris Salon (FR). She joined the Theosophical Society in Perth in 1905. Following Annie Besant's visit to her studio in 1908, she moved to International Headquarters in Adyar between 1909 and 1911, where she painted the portraits of the theosophist leaders. The exhibition brings together eight of her works from this period after being restored during The Adyar Art Conservation Project.

> Portrait of Dr Annie Besant by Florence Ada Fuller





#### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

O Hidden Life, vibrant in every atom;
O Hidden Light, shining in every creature;
O Hidden Love, embracing all in Oneness;
May all who feel themselves as one with Thee,
Know they are therefore one with every other.

#### MISSION

Mission of the Theosophical Society is to serve humanity by cultivating an ever-deepening understanding and realization of the Ageless Wisdom, spiritual selftransformation, and the unity of all life.



website: https://convention.ts-adyar.org/



#### The Theosophical Society

International Headquarters, Adyar, Chennai - 600 020, India. website: https://www.ts-adyar.org/