VIGNETTES • PASSAGES • PARABLES THE MADRAS MOVEMENT



Gallery Time & Space 55, Lavelle Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. e-mail: timeandspace55@gmail.com www.gallerytimeandspace.com

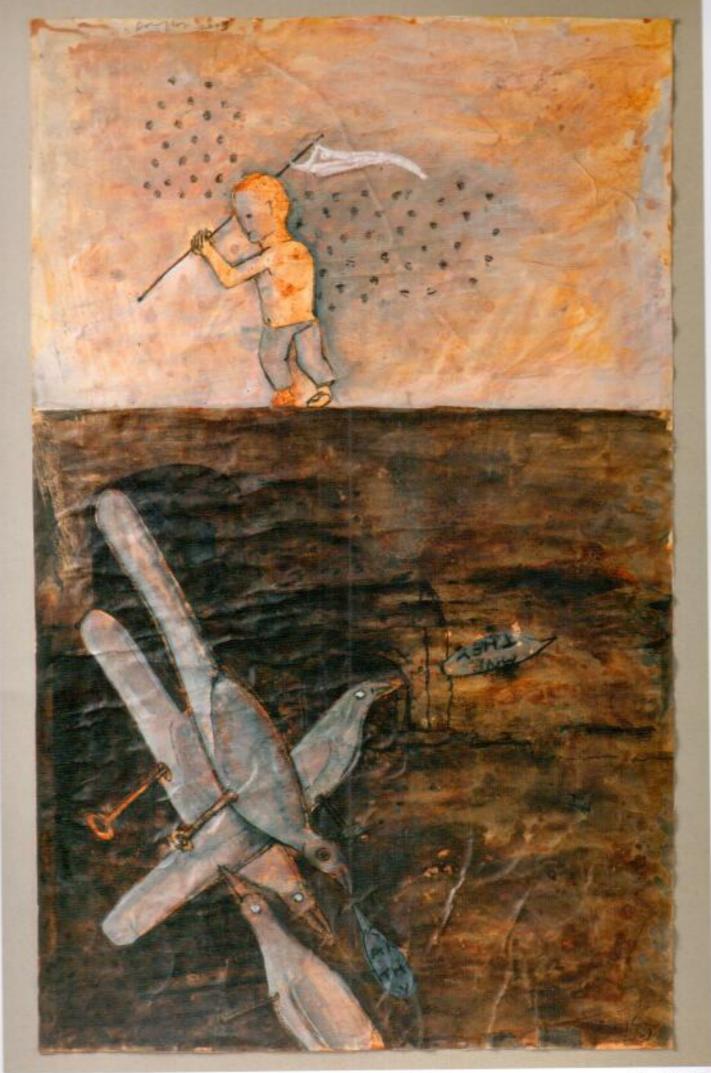
Douglas

"Douglas's figure is that of an unbearable being, one that would be grateful not to have been brought forth at all. The way he vouches for it is expressive of his extraordinary meekness and tenderness of spirit. His artistry, finely drawn as it was at this stage, was to the fore as to turn the picture surface into the fictional ground or recess which his vexed figure might stray into and haunt. When his figure first appeared in his student days, there was little he could do to give it a setting for lack of appropriate ground and over-all design. Such impediments have been worked through in recent years and his figure had been found in a variety of situations most of them, however, of a dark design."

Techniques for creating antinomies that the figure creates: figure and ground, inside and outside, space and mass, live and inert and so on, have been developed and reworked from time to time, including most recently in the expressionist revival. The issue apparently is one that stays open all the same, leaving it to the spirit of ones workmanship to effect some kind of the plastered finish of oils on canvas, worked instead with chalk and crayons on crumpled and muddied paper glued on cloth. He stuck to unobtrusive colour; grays browns and blacks which kept thickening and receding as he worked his pictures to a finish. These detours helped him to arrive at an uneasy middle ground, an odd state of undifferentiated being where it is night when it is day, where each part of the picture is outside as much as inside, where the figure, is as unresisting as the ground and possessively gone over and over again until the picture was exhausted and done. In that kind of a finish which Douglas is able to achieve in his late works his figure turns decidedly picturesque. It turns out in the end to be amazingly constant, only a great deal more pictorial than at the beginning when he thought he was no more than seeded and conceived to be.

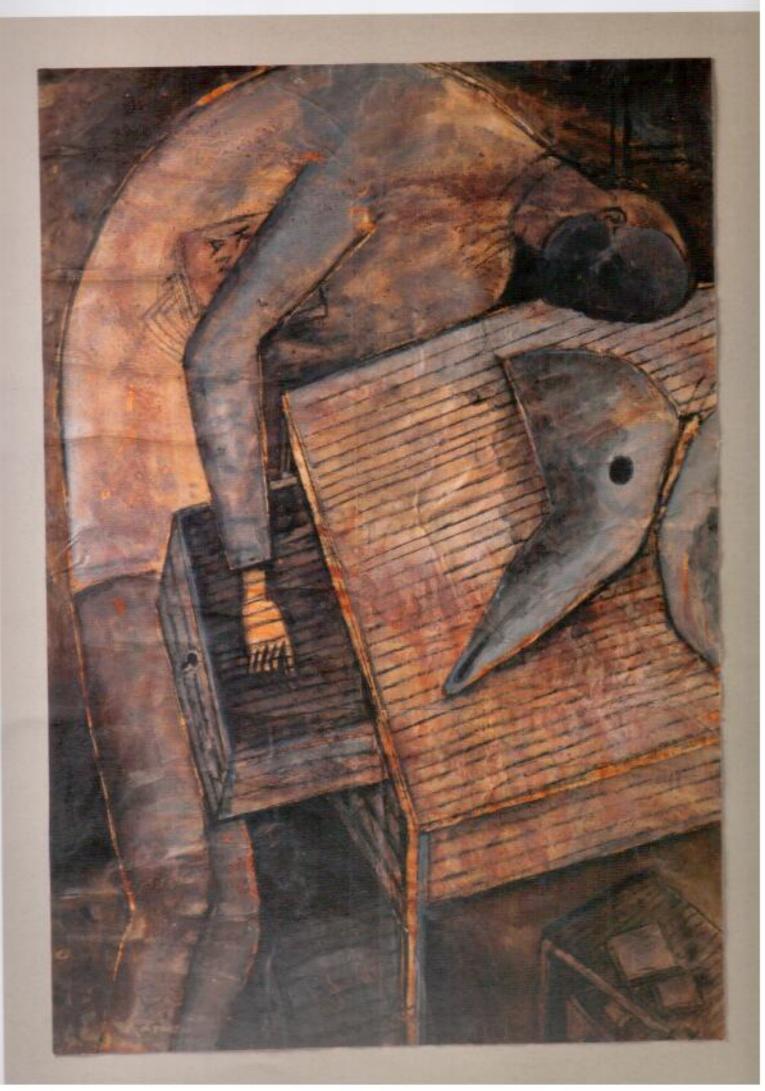
- Josef James

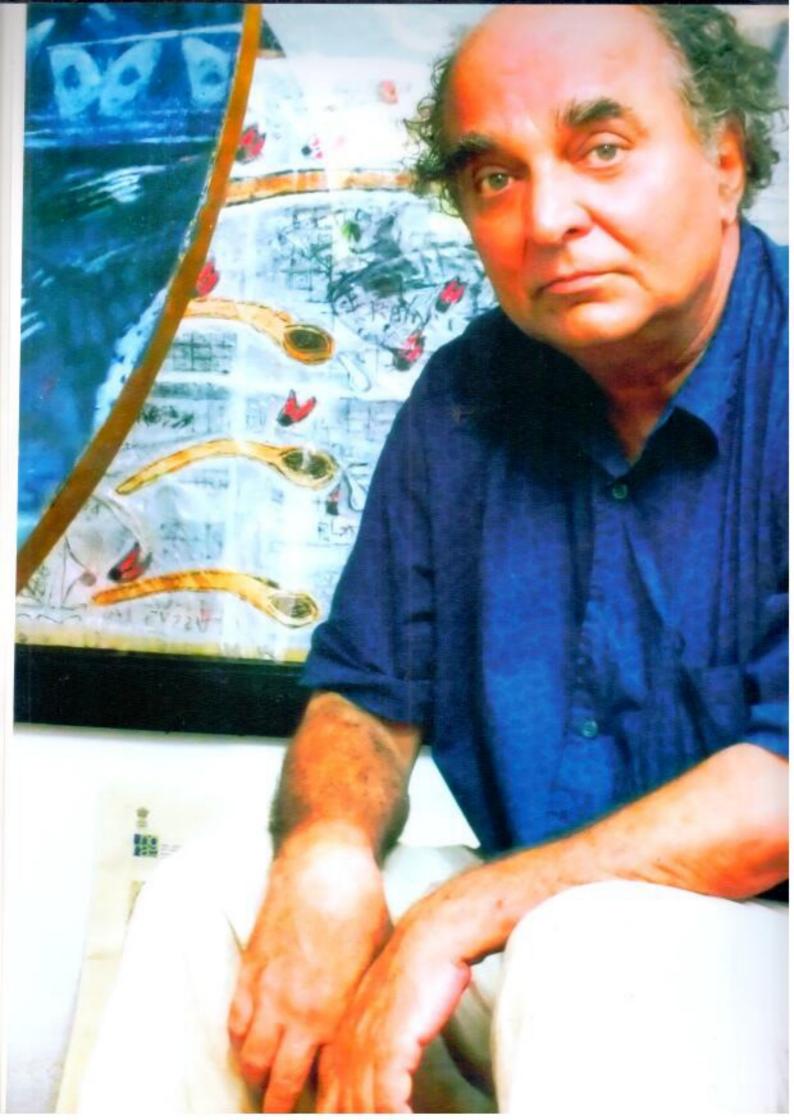






POET & BUTTERFLY - I Mixed Media on Wood Size : 4' Diameter





C. DOUGLAS

Born 1951, Kerala

1971 - 76 - Diploma in Fine Arts, Govt. College of Arts and Crafts, Madras.

SOLO SHOWS

1982 - Gallery Am Horwath Haus – Murnau, Germany

1983 - Bayerishes Verines Bank, Garmish

1986 - European Patent Office Gallery, Munich

1992 - Sakshi Gallery, Madras - Bombay

1993 - Schoo's Gallery, Amsterdam

1996 - Sakshi Gallery, Bangalore, Madras & Bombay

2006 - Ashwitha Gallery, Madras 2006 - Akar Prakar, Calcutta - Jehangir Gallery, Mumbai

2012 - Focus Art Gallery, Madras

GROUP SHOWS

View from the Edge – Sakshi Gallery, Artists who went over the Boundaries, Netherlands

Water Colour, A Wide Spectrum Gallery Chemould, Mumbai

1996 - Looking Glass Self - Lakeeran Gallery, Bombay

Indian Art Since Post Independence – Vadehra Art Gallery, New Delhi

1997 - Rediscovering Roots, Lima, 1998-Cryptograms - Lakceran Gallery, Mumbai

Embarkations, Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai

2000 - Intersection - Guild Gallery, Mumbai

Sites of Recurrance, Dakshanachitra, Chennai and Boras Museum, Sweden

2012 - Tactile - Latitude - 28, New Delhi

AWARDS

1980, 1990 - L.K.A. Madras, Bharat Bhavan Biennale Award, Bhopal

1991-93 - Government of India – Cultural Fellowship.

1992 - National Award for Painting, EKA, New Delhi

1994-96 - Cultural Fellowship, Government of India, New Delhi.

Invitation to work in Ceramics, UNESCO-Aschberg, Bursary for Visual Arts, European

Ceramics Centre, Netherlands; Charles Wallace Trust Award, UK.