

PRESS RELEASE

Willesden Gallery

21 September - 02 October. 2021

FREEDOM'S FLIGHT

A powerful personal response to the COVID crisis in India

London based Indian artist Srabani Ghosh showcases her latest work 'Freedom's Flight' at Willesden Gallery to raise funds and awareness for the women of Navchetna (India) combating deadly shortages in essential support and supplies due to COVID. The exhibition, an ensemble of sculpture and large mixed media works on paper, will run from 21 September to 2nd October 2021. 'Freedom's Flight' is Ghosh's first exhibition since her sell-out shows of 2019, including London's Royal Academy.

"The recent and most deadly wave of COVID has spared no family in India, including my own," says Srabani Ghosh. "As an artist and daughter, supporting Navchetna through this show is my stand against the helplessness of being stranded thousands of miles away unable to be in the midst of my family and say goodbye to my father. I'm grateful to the Willesden Gallery for offering me the space to exhibit these very large works that have accompanied me through the pandemic and are dedicated to all those who have loved and lost."

With over 32 Million infected by COVID in India and rising, the official deaths (429K) are a fraction of reality. Navchetna is a network of 30,000 women, survivors of destitution, desertion and domestic brutality reaching out to remote interior villages in rural Maharashtra. Works from the show will be available for direct sales with a percentage of the proceeds going towards Navchetna's critical COVID relief efforts.

In working at scale with large ceramic and paper using traditional methods, Srabani often crosses boundaries of ethnicity and politics. Freedom's Flight is a recount of the pandemic through a woman's voice and includes warm stories of hope and friendship, despite its difficult context. The stories are both personal and global, individual stories that we all carry within us and can relate to in our shared living of the pandemic.

Dominique Perregaux, Ghosh's gallerist in Hong Kong and Tokyo, says of her work: "For an upcoming artist, Srabani Ghosh's work is impressively mature in its production and the concepts it conveys are sincere, original and enlightening. Following the paths of Constantin Brancusi, Stephan Balkenhol and Grayson Perry, Srabani Ghosh is reinventing and pushing the boundaries of a "centuries old classic" medium such as ceramics to create singular and inspiring contemporary pieces".

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