

RL Fine Arts
Contemporary Art Project
Ebenezer Sunder Singh
Holy Smoke and other works

Exhibition: May 20 to June 30
Opening reception: Thursday May 20 6:00 to 8:30pm



RL Fine Arts is pleased to present an exhibition of new works by Ebenezer Sunder Singh, one of India's exciting contemporary painters and sculptors.

This exhibition titled 'Holy Smoke and other works' presents a group of portraits of famous creative 'artists', pictured with their personal accessory, a cigarette. The works show a variety of philosophers, writers, directors and artists, each of whom has personally influenced Ebenezer. The posture of each, defiantly smoking, seems to bond these 'supermen' together. Some of them return the viewer's gaze, others we only look upon. The act of smoking itself as a creative tool, a lifestyle and even, a process, is expressed in these works. All these artists are a source of intense creative energy and focus, each blazing a trail in their respective metiers. The addition of bulbs on the canvas in the Holy Smoke works are used as elements of composition and also, indirectly, as homage to the various personalities, much as one would light a bulb or a flame in commemoration.

Also included in the show is the artist's dazzling new work, 'Dance around the Golden Calf', which though seemingly disconnected from the theme of smoking, nevertheless, abounds with the spirit of creative energy that emanates from the colorful and ebullient portraits. This Dance conjures up the spirit of Matisse's famous 'Dance', and yet brings it into the present world, where possibly, the art world dances around the 'golden calf'.

Ebenezer's wonderfully loose technique and style of painting produces works where brilliant color and bold brushstrokes combine to produce paintings that resonate with energy and life force. For him painting is a cathartic process, a stream of consciousness, where the artwork is composed as it is composed, not planned and executed to a previous design. Ebenezer seizes the canvas and creates vibrant paintings that celebrate the art of 'painting' as much as they celebrate human energy and inspiration.

Ebenezer is a graduate of the Art Institute of Boston, Lesley University.

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Ebenezer Sunder Singh, Holy Smoke - Schnabel, 2009, 55 x 40 inches, mixed media on canvas



Ebenezer Sunder Singh, Hommage to Satyajitray, 2009, 40 x 55 inches, acrylic on canvas