

Naina Dalal: An artistic voyage

Kharita

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ABSTRACT: The research paper will examine the artistic journey of Naina Dalal. Being a female artist she portrayed a situation of women through her emotions on her canvas. Because of the social constructed rules women always seen house maker. A woman has an unavoidable duty to do domestic work at home. Naina Dalal is a strong female who manage the both equally. She actively continues her artistic journey and did remarkable work. Being a mother of two daughters and a house maker she balanced very well. She made her imagery through her house window and she expresses her emotions as well. Basically Naina Dalal is a painter and printmaker both. My research paper will focus on her printmaking journey.

KEYWORDS: Artistic, Emotions, Woman, Printmaking, Lithography, Etching, Remarkable.

I. INTRODUCTION

Naina Dalal born in 1935. She started her career as a painter and later on she learnt lithography from London. She is a printmaker and painter both. In the printmaking technique she worked with the method of collagraphy, lithography etching and linocut. She completed her master's degree in the painting specialization from faculty of fine arts Baroda. She is earliest women artist who completed her seven year master degree in creative painting during 1952-1959. Naina Dalal is a senior most women artist based on Baroda. She married with her fellow artist Ratan Parimoo.



Ratan Parimoo received a commonwealth scholarship in 1960 and they both left India and went to London. Naina Dalal learnt lithography their and Ratan Parimoo selected art history.



Lithographs, 1968.



lithograph, 1964

Naina Dalal has been one of the most regular printmaker in Gujarat. And in the whole country she is the first women who learnt printmaking in London, for the last year having studied lithography in England during 1960 – 1963. Totally her experiences as a printmaker have as a new phase in her painting as well. After learning the printmaking techniques she started to understand better tonal values. It was a great change in her painting approach and she adopted some new colour values. During 1970s and 1980s she concentrated on etching and collagraphy medium. Here she evolved a recognizable quality which has been a characteristic ethos and imagery. The women’s angle is getting hold of importance in her work. There are some reasons to mould herself towards the feminine because of the protective mother, dedicate or helpless in front juxtaposed amidst unsympathetic services, have become persistence imageries. The younger teacher of print making in Baroda, Rini Dhumal, also is note worthy as a painter. Having been a student of a hayter’s studio in Paris, her intaglio works in colour have a painterly freedom in outlines, brush work and textures, in essentially figurative compositions. But Naina Dalal is noteworthy as a print maker.



“Mother and child” woodcut, 1994

They return to Baroda and Naina Dalal continues her artistic journey as a painter and printmaker with the household duties, along with the mother of two daughters. She is very strong women and well knowledgeable in the printmaking techniques. She nicely expressed and objectified her emotions through the printmaking media. Naina Dalal did not worked with any institutions but she made her own well equipped studio at her home. She has a printing press also at her home studio. She turned herself towards printmaking from the kitchen activities and did outstanding work, and back to household responsibilities. Kitchen to studio and studio to kitchen became a routine duty for her. Naina Dalal work subject reflects the social victims. Naina Dalal is a feminist artist. She is highly influenced by German expressionist and the symbolist artist. Kathe Kollwitz is her favourite artist; she likes her working style and her work. Kathe Kollwitz influenced to Naina Dalal greatly and became a model for her Jagdish Shivpuri said about approach of Naina Dalal work that distortion of forms is very unique which make her work remarkable. Feminist element commonly can be seen in her work. After see her art work anyone can say that she is a silent feminist artist. She depicts Karuna Rasa nicely in her composition. She has done many solo shows in India and abroad.



Collagraph, 1979.



“Maa Mujhe Jine Do” Etching and Aquatint, 2006

Primarily she chosen lithography but later she worked with the etching process. She use human figure in her composition, most of the time woman figure. She use woman figure as a emotional vehicle of pain. Almost constitute a genre women protagonist, she used female figure as strength and courage. She never uses women as a decorative part of body. Her composition is based on ordinary woman strength because women are a pillar of strength for their family. Without women life boat will be rudderless. Naina Dalal said me in an interview that when my kids sleep at night then I work in my studio at night. Day time is very busy for me, so I utilise night time to continue my artistic journey. I really enjoy the etching medium process. I play with acid temperament. I am very comfortable to depict my emotions through the

print making medium. My work is totally around women. I also participated in an exhibition titled “12 women artist in India” which was held at America.

II. CONCLUSION

At the last and the first most important thing come to notice that women has a primary responsibility to take care of her family. For this there is no solution for the women. Time goes parallel for living motherhood and building career. There are less number of women’s who can balance both and continue her journey parallel. Naina Dalal is very strong women and continues her artistic journey absolutely. Women who are not good in family responsibilities that counted as a careless woman. It is very clear that Naina Dalal is good at both. Sense of composition as well as the technically perfection are very good in the Naina Dalal’s artwork.

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