



DOTS, LINES, AND COLOURS
OF GOND ART

a solo exhibition by
Rajendra Kumar Shyam



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
70.5 x 45 Inches

MATI ART

Presents

**DOTS, LINES, AND COLOURS
OF GOND ART**

a solo exhibition by
Rajendra Kumar Shyam

Conceptualized by **Gaurav Kumar**




23RD MARCH - 18TH APRIL, 2022

MATI ART
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Hauz Khas Village, New Delhi-110016,

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Gond art is a well-known folk art of the Indian folk and tribal community, as well as one of our cultural heritage's pearls. We have included some pieces of Rajendra Kumar Shyam's art in this catalog, whose quiet and modest demeanour is inextricably linked to his bold and almost-well-balanced Gond painting style. Rajendra Kumar's Gond art represents a tangible vocabulary fueled by an archive impulse, as his canvases are filled with flawlessly symmetric, complex compositions that tell elaborate stories about Gond culture and depict images from rural life. His paintings are painted in earth tones or primary hues like red, green, yellow, and black, which have long been associated with the Gond community and have traditional meanings. These paintings are meant to be used not just for décor, but also for spiritual and religious beliefs.

These paintings are doodled on canvas in order to appease their gods or to stave off evil and disease. To create an astounding appeal, brilliant colours and gorgeous patterns of dots and lines are used in painting. Rajendra's Gond painting technique is captured in a patchwork of dashes and dots. The collage is made up of vibrant images of animals and plants, articulating folk art in black and white and a distinct colour. Colour, humour, detail, and ambiguity are abundant in this work of art. Rajendra's paintings and images have undergone theme experimentation and creativity, with combinations of plants, animals, birds, nature, folklore, and filling motifs such as the dash, dots, curves, and so on....

Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2020
70 x 73.7 Inches



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
67.3 x 43.3 Inches

The art begins with the creation of an outline and the filling in of black hues; once the art has dried, patterns are developed. The Tree of Life is a central topic in Gond art. Many themes demonstrate the relationship between the tree of life, animals, and other elements. The fable of the peacock with bad feet, for example, is commonly tied to a theme. The peacock, despite its gorgeous plumage, is only complete with its little, disproportionate feet, according to the story.

During a conversation with Rajendra, he informed me when Rajendra and his companions used to bring fuelwood to the forests as youngsters, they would gather the elderly folks in front of the fire and listen to stories all night. Rajendra's vivid and thrilling works of art now bring these experiences and enchanting stories to life. The art is passed down through the generations. Many stories concerning Gond legends and myths are included, including the classic love story of Jhitku Mitki, Gondwani (stories of Gond Kings), Ramyani (Ram Katha), and Pandwani (Pandava Katha), among others.

He began painting full-time in 2007 thanks to artist Shampa Shah, who encouraged him to pursue art as a career. He used to work as a labourer at the Indira Gandhi National Human Museum in Bhopal. He was still passionate about painting, and he used to paint after work in the evenings.

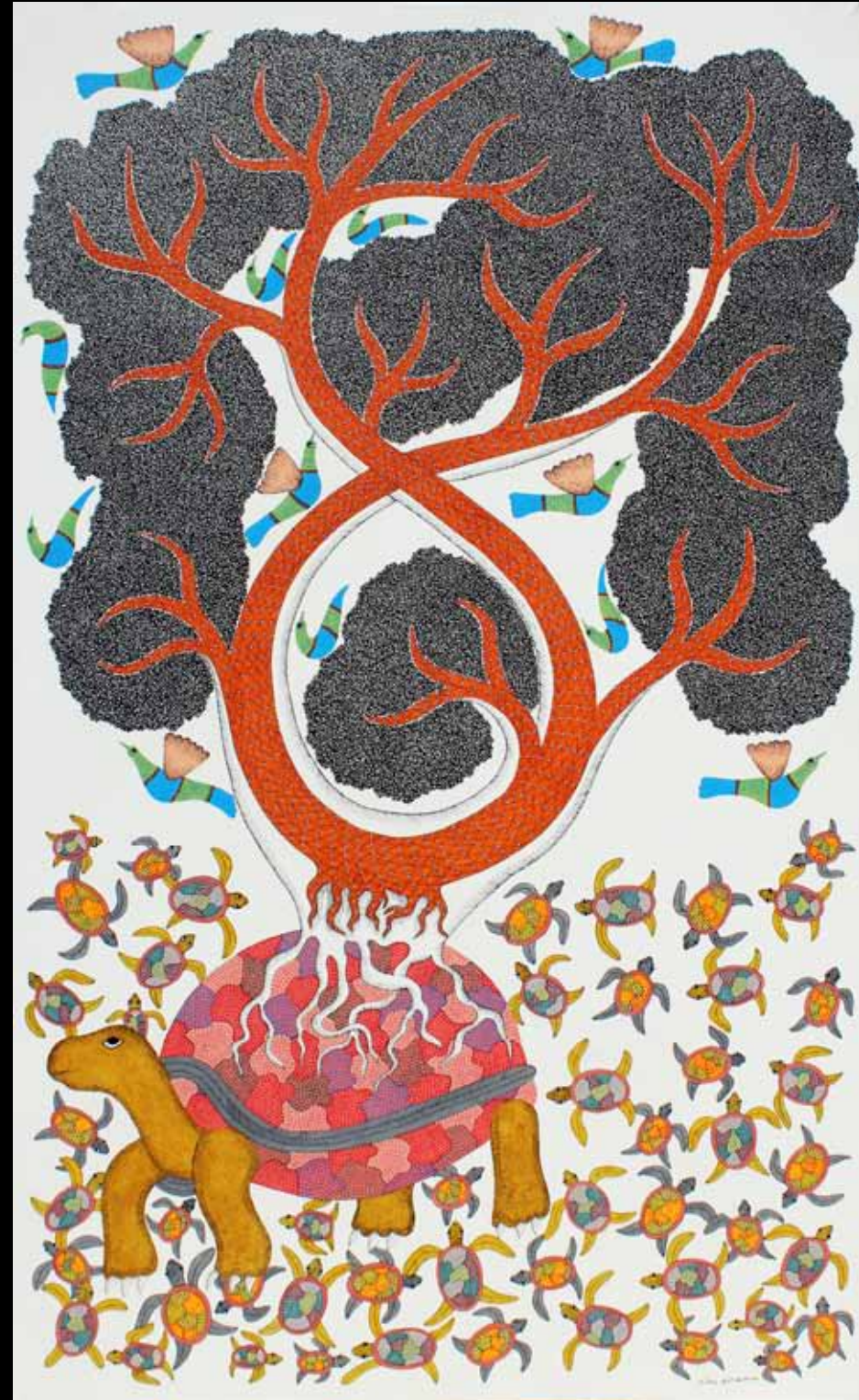
Rajendra Kumar Shyam worked in Bhopal under his uncle, famed Gond artist Jangarh Singh Shyam, where he adopted a contemporary approach by utilising manufactured acrylic colours and canvas/paper as the substrate, changing traditional folk art into contemporary folk art in India. There are several types of traditional art that contribute to the enrichment of our cultural heritage via diverse art forms.

This art is not merely decorative but is an integral component of Gond tribal life. It is a contemplation of their cultural environment, and as such, it is strongly related to its other parts, such as dance, theatre, and music, as well as their daily life. The Gond people have a nearly 1400-year history, and they are one of India's largest tribes, with strongholds in Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha.

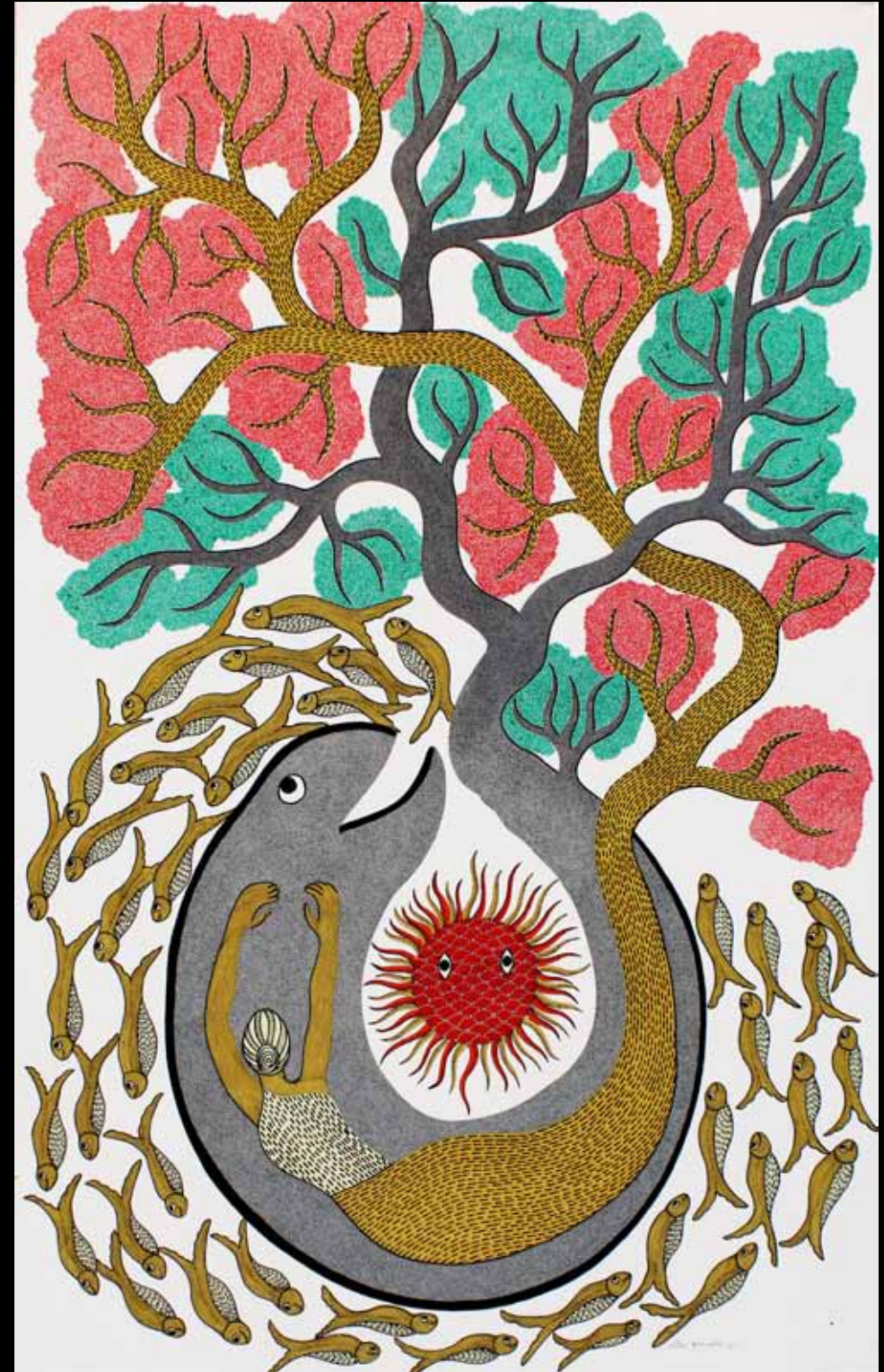
Gaurav Kumar

Art Historian

March 2022, New Delhi



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2020
69.5 x 42.3 Inches



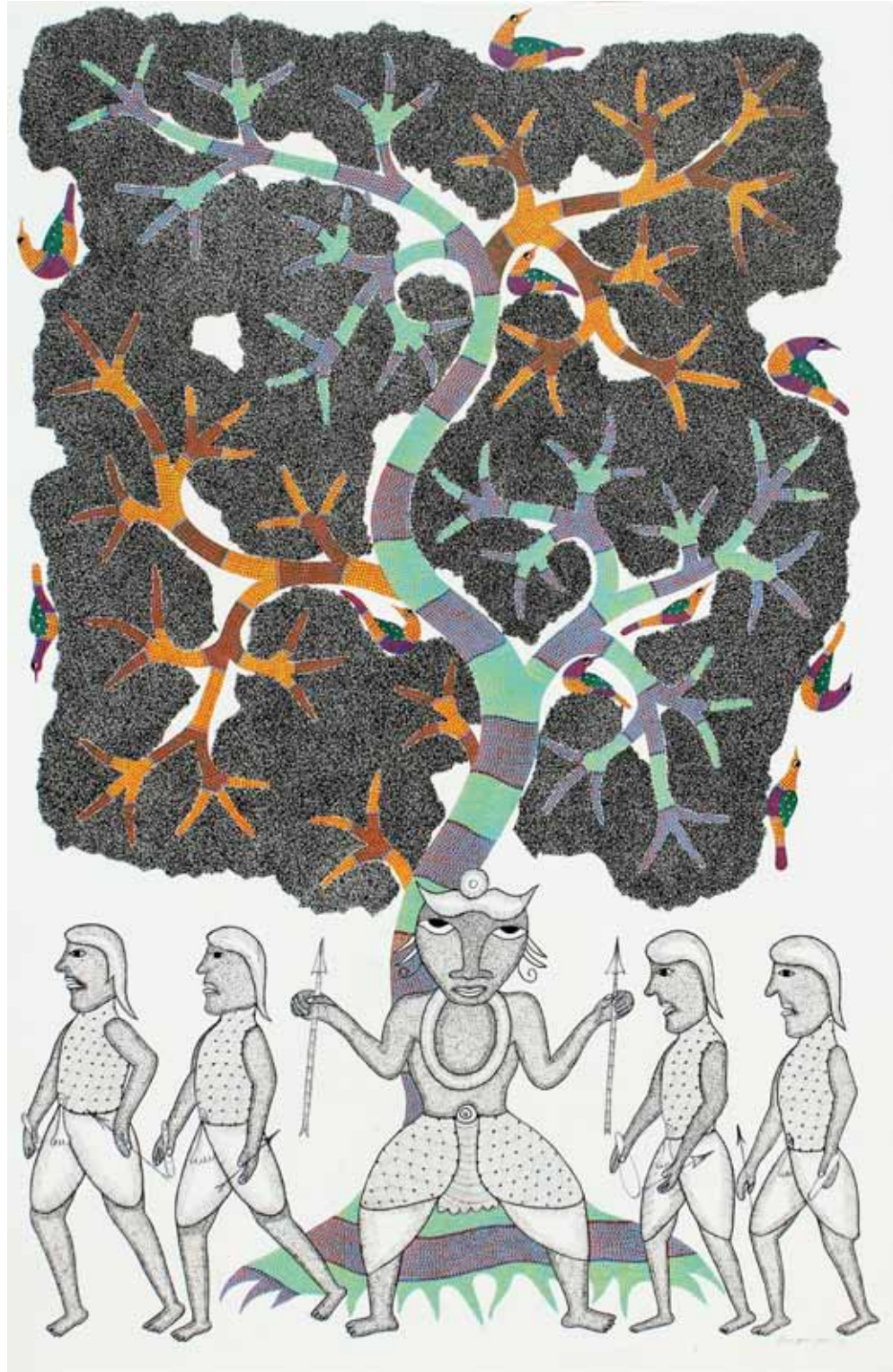
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Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2020
67 x 42 Inches



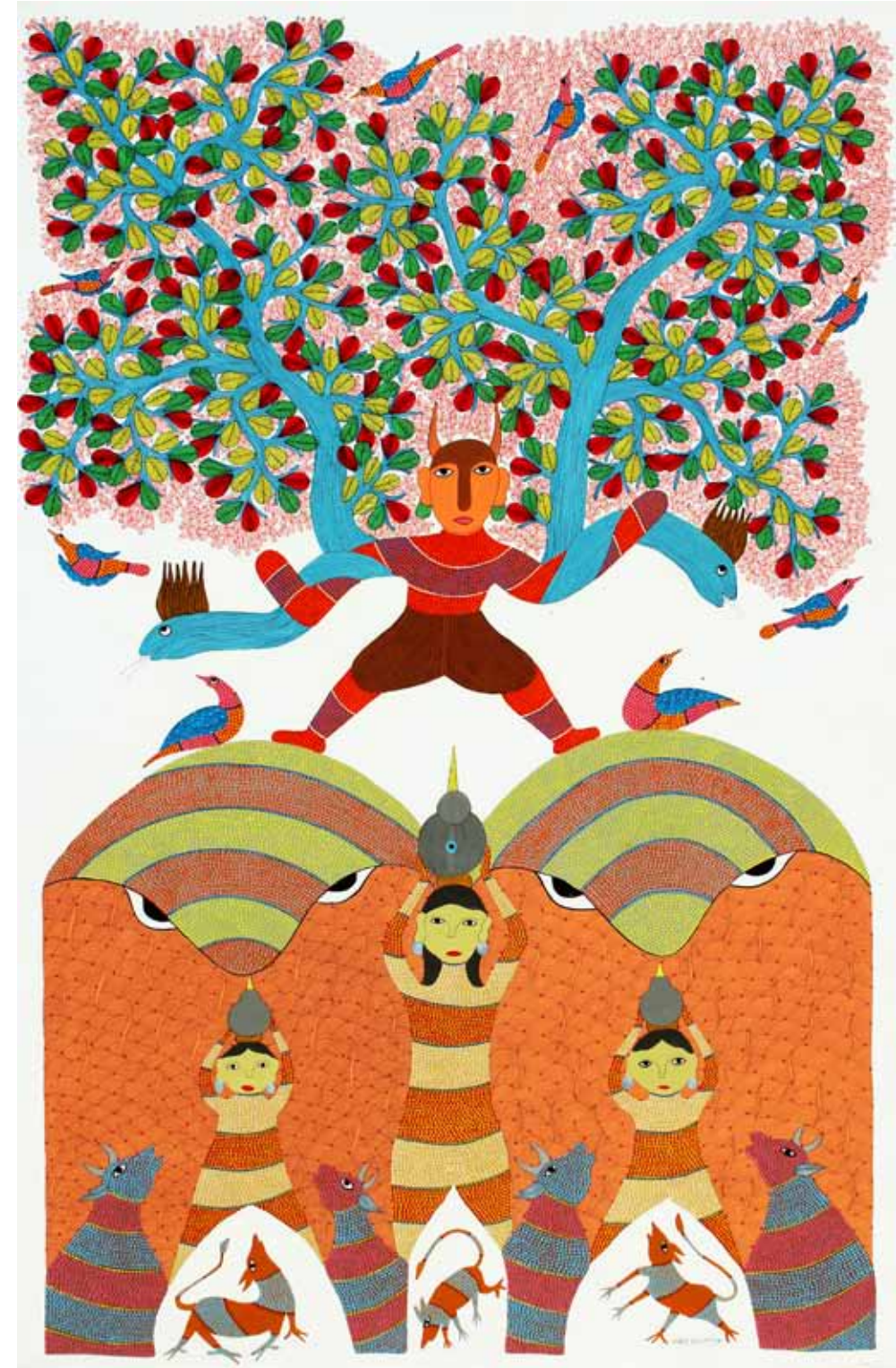
Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2020
69 x 44 Inches



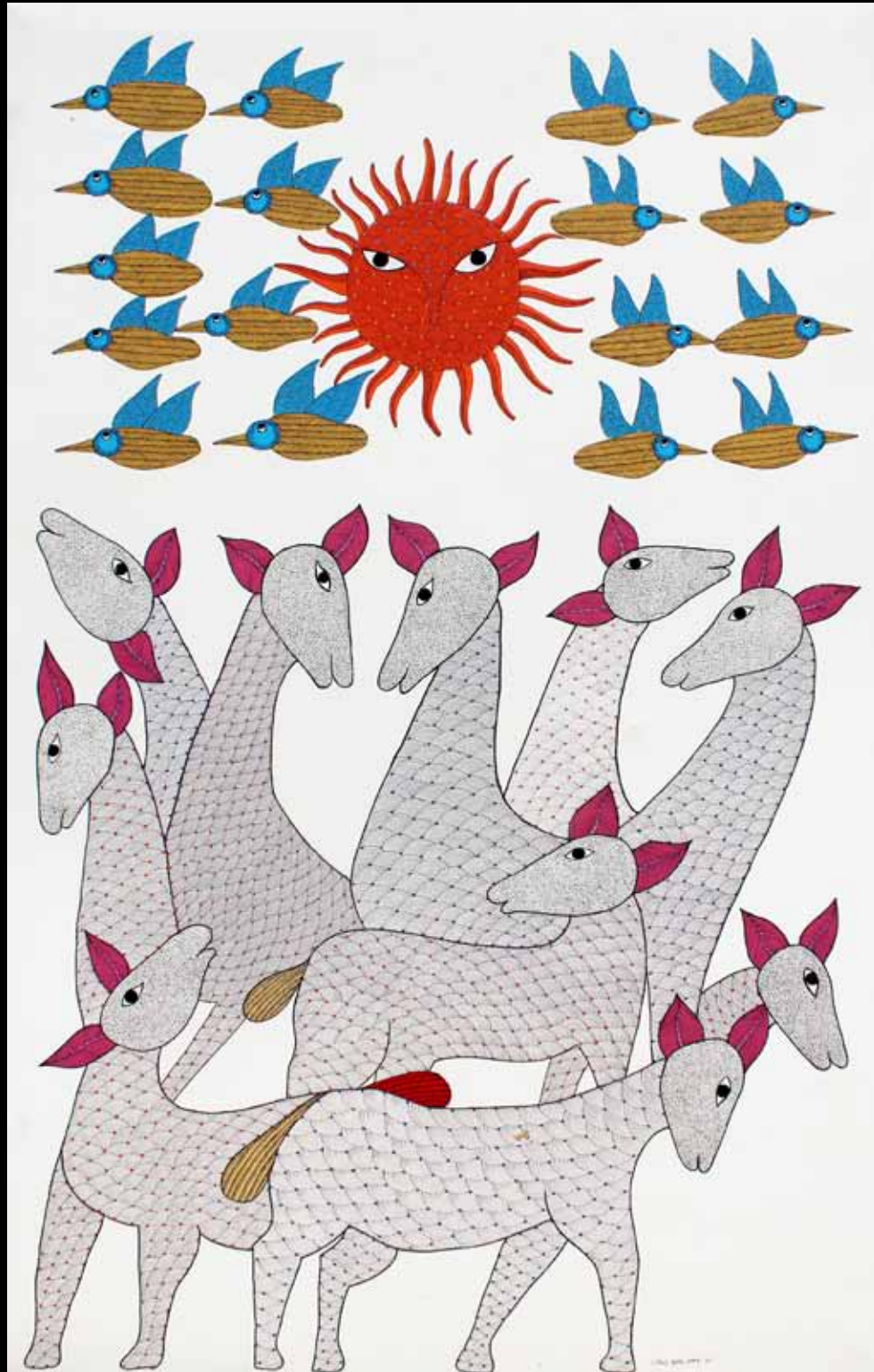
Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
69 x 42.3 Inches



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
69 x 45 Inches



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2020
70 x 44.3 Inches



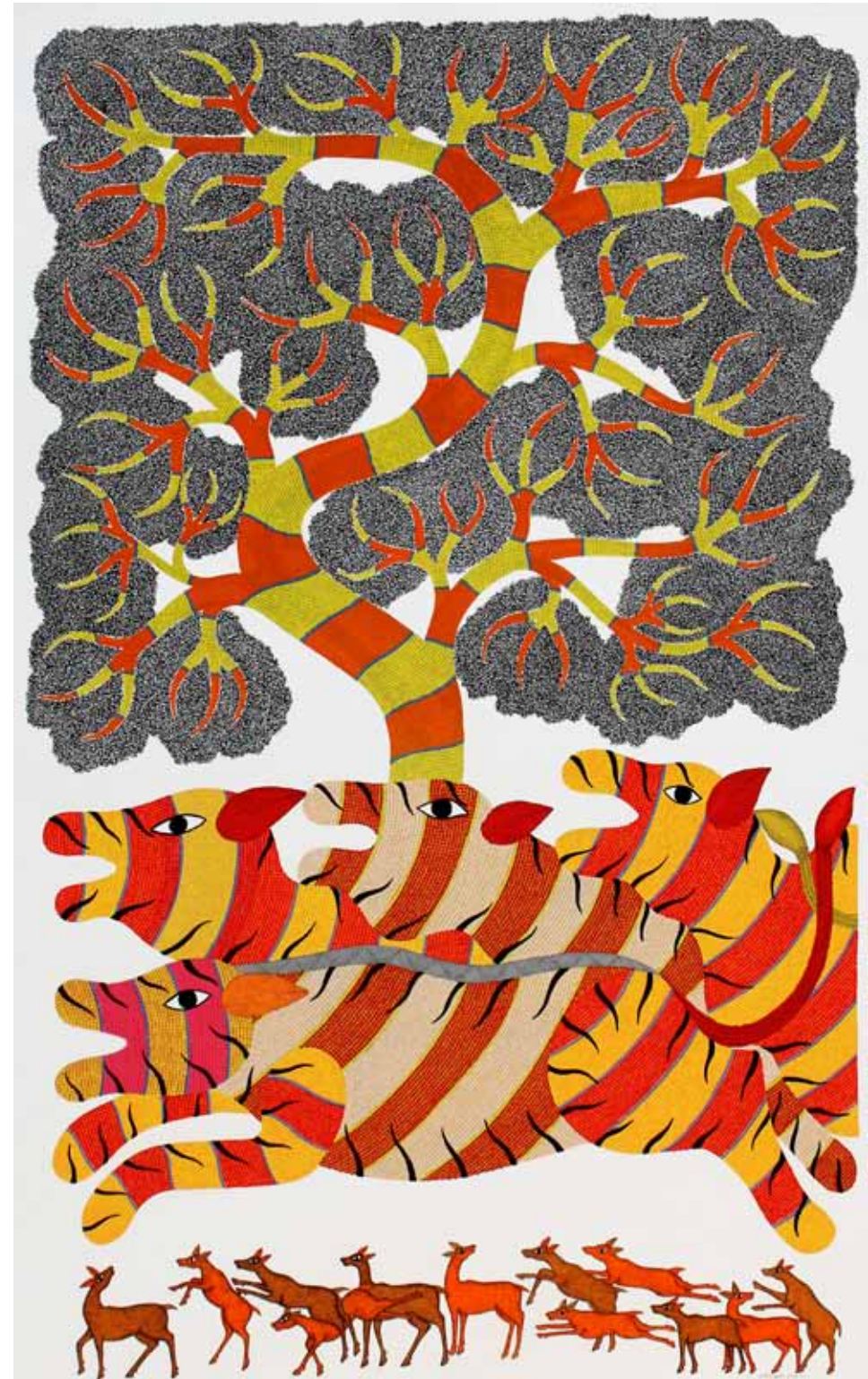
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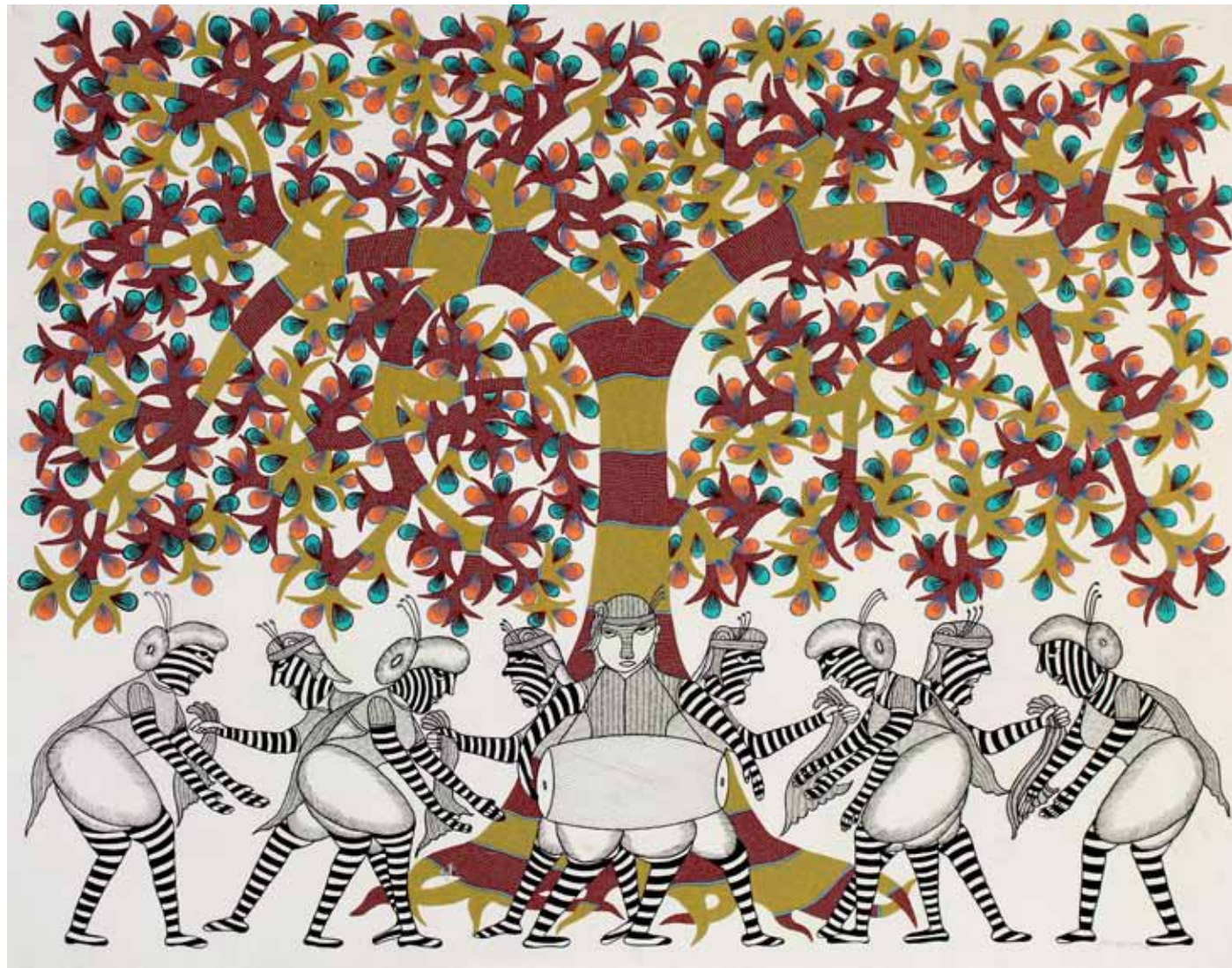
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Acrylic on Canvas
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70 x 44Inches



Untitled
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Acrylic on Canvas
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70 x 43.7 Inches



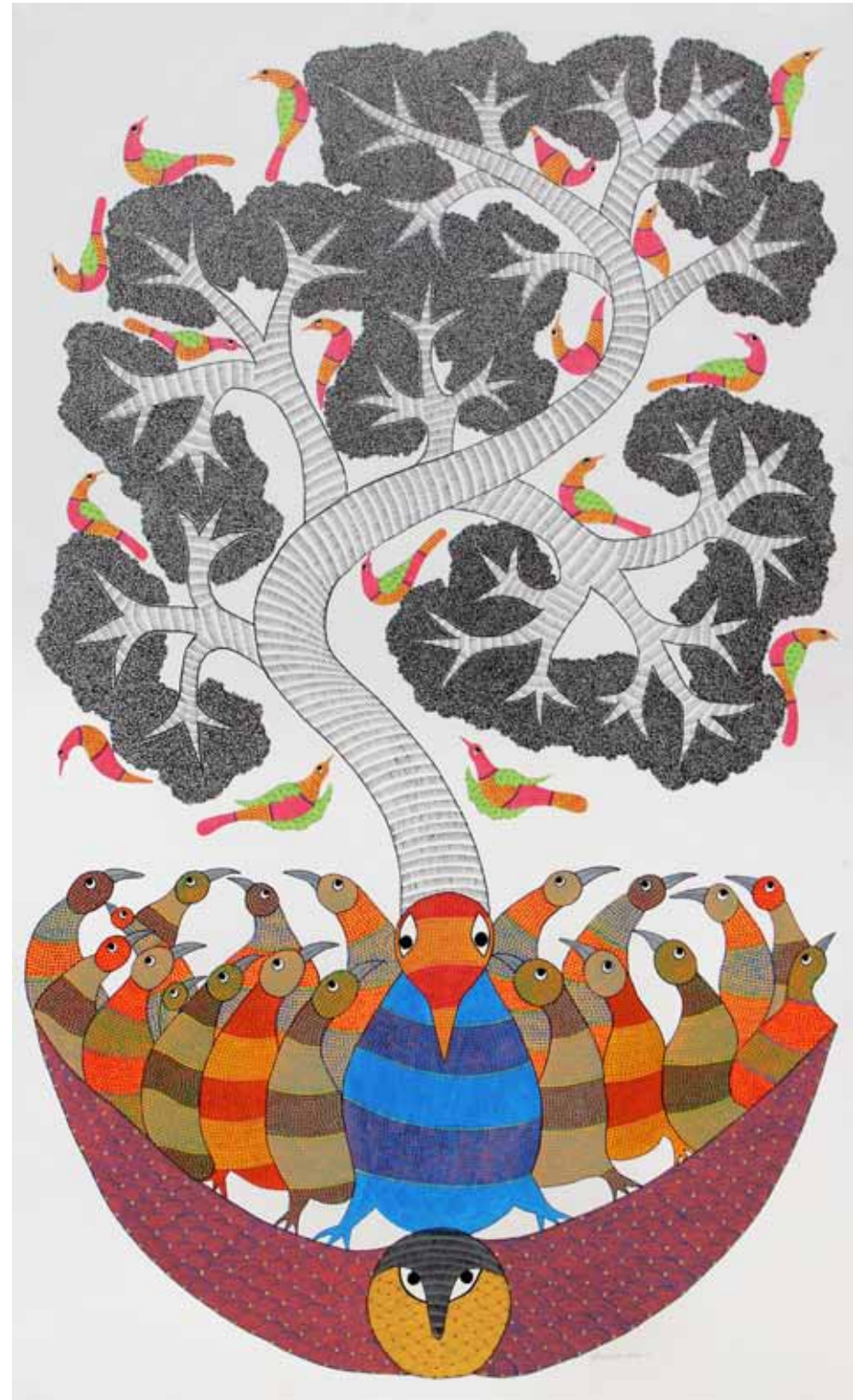
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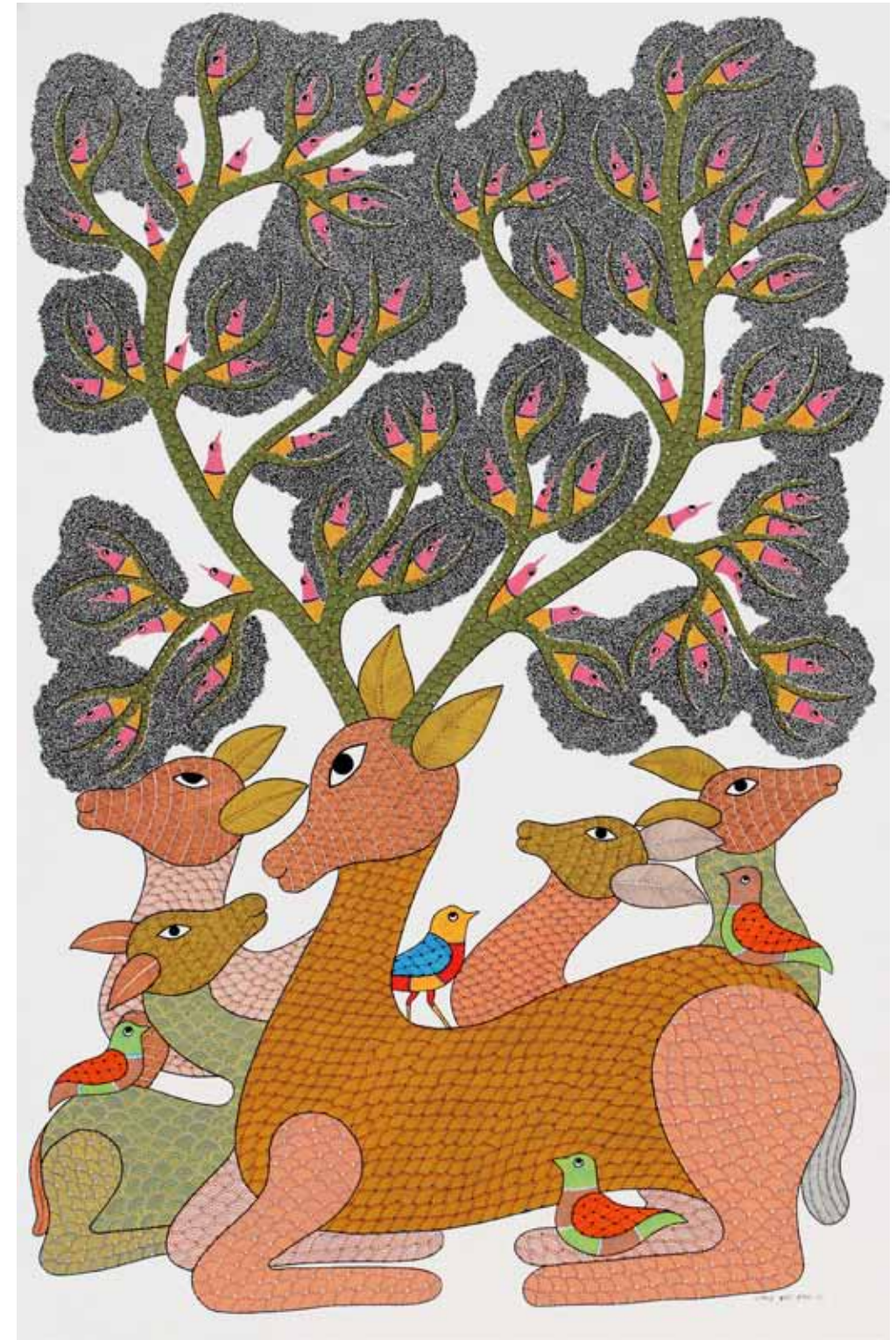
Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
54 x 69 Inches



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
57 x 69 Inches



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2020
70 x 43.3 inches



Untitled
Rajendra Kumar Shyam
Acrylic on Canvas
2019
69 x 44.3 Inches



Rajendra Kumar Shyam
(Born in 1982, Patangarh, Dist-Dindori, Madhya Pradesh, India)

Camps, Workshops, and Exhibitions

1. Art camp focused on Amarkantak Tribal Rupamkar Kala participated from 20th May 2000 to 29th May 2000.
2. Participated in the painting camp organized by Lok Kala Parisad on the occasion of Republic Day at Rabindra Bhawan from 26th January 200 to 31st January 2006.
3. Participated in the painting exhibition at Bharat Bhawan Bhopal on the death anniversary of Late Shri Jangarh Singh Shyam.
4. Participated in the Gond Kalam Chitra exhibition held in New Delhi from 5th September 2006 to 21st September 2006.
5. Participated in the painting camp centered on tribal freedom struggle organized by Swaraj Bhawan Bhopal from January 5th, 2007, to January 11th, 2007.
6. There was active participation from 16th November 2007 to 30th November 2007 in the artist's camp organized by Indira Gandhi National Human Museum, Bhopa on Narmada Valley in Amarkantak.
7. Participated in Animation Workshop for Tribal Artists from 7th July 2008 to 23rd July 2008 at Indira

Gandhi National Center for the Arts Tribal Art Trust New Delhi.

8. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Sangrahalaya Bhopa actively participated in Narmada Har Chitra Shivir in Amarkantak from 1st January 2009 to 15th January 2009.

9. Participated in Gond Painters Camp Chitra Shivir by Kerala Lalit Kala Academi from 22nd March 2009 to 1st April 2009.

10. Participated in Primary Colors Chitra Camp by Kerala Lalit Kala Academi from 15th April 2009 to 9th April 2009.

11. Participated in National Handicrafts and Handlooms Museum (Craft Museum) New Delhi from 1st October 2009 to 30th October 2009.

12. Participated in National Handicrafts and Handlooms New Delhi 1st March 2014 to 31st March 2014.

13. Participated in Painting Workshop organized by Lalit Kala Academi New Delhi from 2nd April 2014 to 12th April 2014 at Cochin (Kerala).

14. Participated in National Culture Festival New Delhi organized by Lalit Kala Academi from 30th October 2015 to 9th November 2015.

15. Participated in Folk Painting Workshop by Earthygoods Foundation and Asian Paints in New Delhi from 13th July 2016 to 15th July 2016.

16. Participated in National Culture Festival New Delhi IGNCA organized by North Central Zone Cultural Center Allahabad from 6th October 2016 to 14th October 2016.

17. Participated in Traditional Gond Painting Workshop I.T.M. Vadodara from 13th December 2016 to 24th December 2016.

18. Participated in Painting Workshop National Tribal and North Art Conference by Lalit Kala Academi National Institute of Arts New Delhi from 28th March 2017 to 3rd April 2017.

19. Full participation in National Tribal Art Camp 2017 by Delhi Public School, Srinagar.

20. International Art Camp Orisa organized by the Shri Shri university from 25th January 2018 to 3rd February 2018.

21. Participated in 10 days workshop in Accounting Chitra Camp 2021 organized by Bharat Bhawan Bhopal.



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