Of Tears, Toil and Passion

FAYZA HAQ



Cat and Butterfly



Kingfisher



Protest

According to Hironmoy Chandan the artist is at first influenced by his academic training. An artist then tries to bring a lot of his emotions and feelings in his work. No one can limit his imagination. His experience and his teachers, along with the books on art that he has studied has all contributed to his work. At times, it is to get out of the pain of existence that he paints.

His works often evoke the vibrancy of folk motifs painted in bold colours and precise lines, exuding a sense of joy and excitement. His black and white sketches meanwhile, have a darkness about them, there is movement as well as a hint of violence.

"I am also influenced by the paintings I've seen in books, films and galleries. At times an artist paints so as to get out of the rut of existence. At times he wants to forget the sweat, toil and harness of his existence. At times some good feelings are involved, such as love, affection, peace and harmony of domestic bliss. If only evil and the wrongdoing comes to my mind. I cannot exist. I need some measure of tranquillity to survive."

Asked to give his opinion of the artists in the past—like Van Gogh, Matisse, Leonardo da Vinci, Michel Angelo—their decoration of the Sistine Chapel and Pablo Picasso with his well-known "Guernica", Hironmoy says, "the painters succumbed to the patrons. They did not have complete freedom in their painting. Often one feels that the painter has departed from his vision and goal in order to please the patron, who was backing him up financially. In case of artists like Van Gogh, their feelings were so forceful, that one can feel the frustration in the disc of the sun and the waving Cyprus trees.

How does he feel about Picasso needing the inspiration of so many women to complete his work? "It is his personal matter," says Hironmoy. "Whatever inspired him—good or evil—at least it egged him on to paint in a new manner and added joie de vivre in his work. I feel that his desire to bring in the peaceful vision of the contented young woman always haunted him. We hear that the Russian ballet dancer whom he was smitten with who was much younger than him, but who married him was the closest in physical appear-