



SKETCH: VALEZ SEDIQUI

DIEGO RIVERA

(December 8, 1886 – November 24, 1957)

Diego Rivera was the most visible figure in Mexican muralism, a large-scale public-art initiative that emerged in the 1920s in the wake of the Mexican Revolution. During the Mexican Revolution that began in 1910 Diego Rivera used his talents as a painter to fuel the movement with passion. Widely known for his Marxist leanings, Rivera, along with Marxism Revolutionary Che Guevara and a small band of contemporary figures, has become a countercultural symbol of 20th century, and created a legacy in paint that continue to inspire the imagination and mind.

“Never before had a woman put such agonising poetry on canvas as Frida did

If I ever loved a woman, the more I loved her, the more I wanted to hurt her. Frida was only the most obvious victim of this disgusting trait.

Every good composition is above all a work of abstraction. All good painters know this. But the painter cannot dispense with subjects altogether without his work suffering impoverishment.

I do not believe in God, yet I believe in Picasso.”

SOURCE: WIKIPEDIA AND BRAINY QUOTES

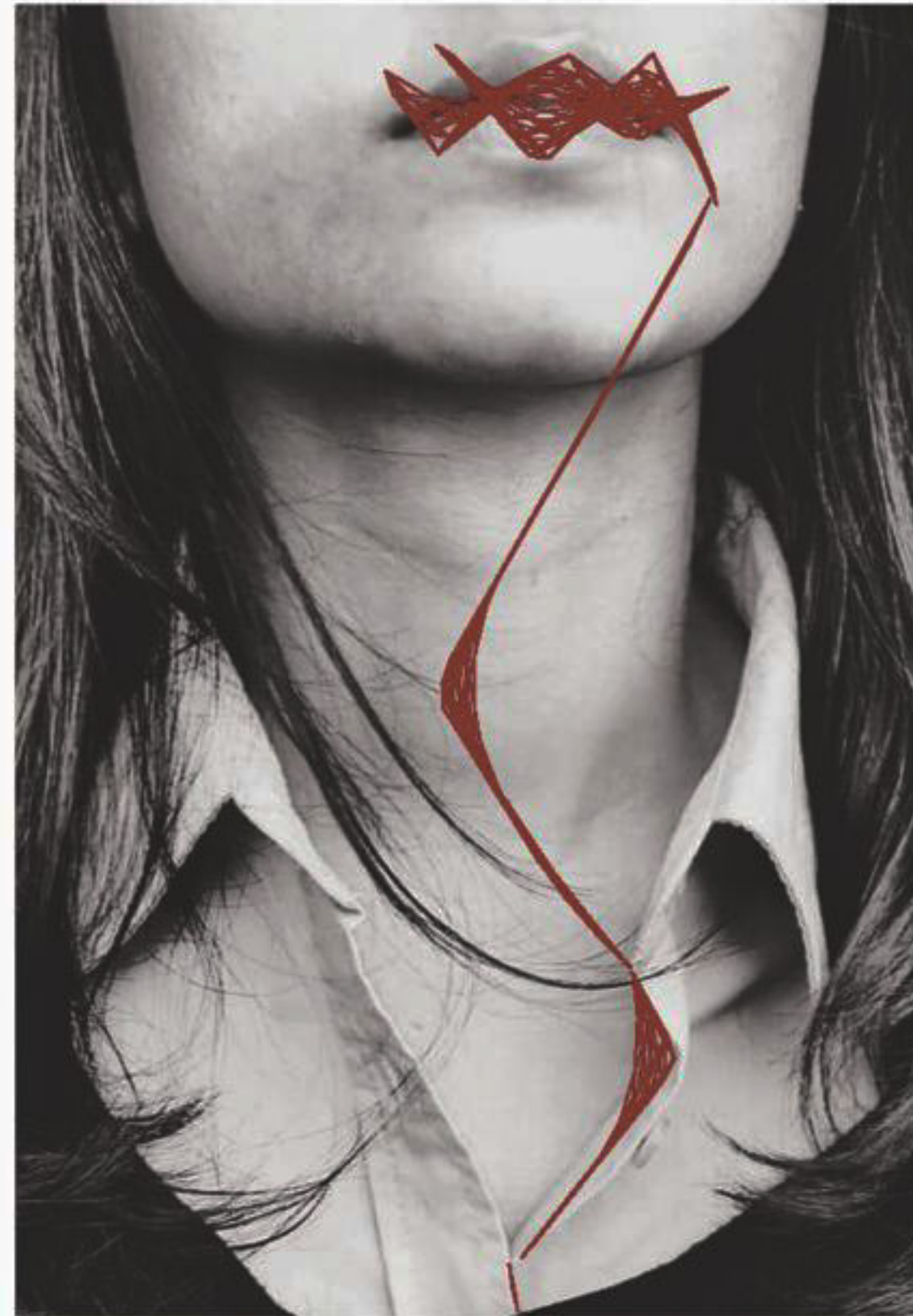


IMAGE: KAZI TAHSIN AGAZ APURBO

SEXIST JOKES ARE NOT FUNNY

These days breaking into a male dominated is not impossible, but staying in it is the real challenge. Gender biases and negative attitudes toward women make it difficult for us to break into male-dominated fields. And sometimes our fear of living up to gender stereotypes makes it difficult to see ourselves being successful where it seems like we don't belong. In my office, demeaning jokes involving women continue to get a free pass and my boss often tends to crack jokes which includes women as a hysterical comedy material. Women being treated as nothing more than sexual objects, women belonging in the kitchen, and generally being treated as inferior, are his favourite subjects to make joke on. Every time any of us protests, he would say, “This is not my joke. I am just passing on the information,” and continues to laugh even louder. Many of his jokes are directed to our personal lives. Conversations are strained in the sense that I'm not comfortable responding to comments made to/about me. Not only that the comments make me uncomfortable, but also I am not comfortable responding. So I finally talked to my other female colleagues and said, “This is more than just casual humour. Jokes like these demean the person or group they're directed towards every single time, and if you stay silent and choose not to denounce them you, too, are being passively sexist.” Last week we filed a complaint against him and he is being show-caused for his remarks. Oftentimes, the only place where women feel free to express themselves is in groups of other women, but I have decided to speak up for us. I'm not always successful at speaking up for myself, but when I do speak up, I never regret it. Women's voices are rarely exalted, which makes us feel like we're invisible.

Suraiya Huda
Farmgate, Dhaka

SPOTLIGHT



Cartoon People is a community that is testament to the adage that you can find your inner artist at any age. It has members from different age groups and professions- school students to corporate employees.

They are all quick-witted, slightly eccentric and passionate about art- be it doodling, sketching or cartooning.

But what made Syed Rashad Imam Tanmoy come up with a platform that is dedicated only to cartooning?

“Think about the reaction from your parents when you have the “I want to become a full time painter/cartoonist” discussion with them. In Bangladesh, we don't have any institutional backup for cartooning,” he says. “Most of us started our journey of cartooning and doodling on the back pages of our math notebooks, for which we would be chided at home

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A PLATFORM FOR CARTOON LOVERS

FAYEKA ZABEEN SIDDIQUA

PHOTOS: KAZI TAHSIN AGAZ APURBO