



The essence of nature

I saw a picture the other day. It was just a picture of a simple green shrub; but there, in the centre, glowing like a jewel, was one perfect coral pink heart-shaped leaf.

I know that, with the passing of the days into autumn, the whole plant will become a mass of red/pink/salmon colours, with tiny ruby-coloured fruit, but that first leaf, for me, symbolised the whole of nature and the miracle of growth and change.

So often, we see beauty, but pass it by without letting it touch us. A whisper of a bud on a rose bush, the first tiny fruit on a mango tree, or the first plump, red cushion on a banana plant go unnoticed.

It is in the nature of things that we value the harvest; the fruit of our labour, the lushness of mature rice fields, the massed richness of a full blossom, or the heaviness of fruit on the bough, but we fail to appreciate the beginning of all things.

We are infinitely practical in our lives, as we are in viewing nature, thinking of the future harvests for ourselves and our children. Planning forward for happiness, success, fame, and fortune. Our lives are spent in a race for the golden apple of our individual dreams, a race that never ends, because there is no end to desire and wanting.

For all of us, hope, aspirations, and striving are both necessary and right; but in those dreams and aspirations for our ultimate goals, we forget the nature of the cycles, and the natural order of things. Things must bloom, grow, and thrive, but in the end, the blossom must fall; the fruit must wither, and things must age and end, as all things do, except for time itself.

But there is always time. At the end of

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every bloom and harvest, there is a time of rest, a time of reflection and tranquility, when we can look forward to more quiet days and reflect on days past.

There is charm in the pursuit of the golden apples of life, but sometimes, we need to slow down, stop, look, and actually observe.

There is beauty in the rain, peace in the forests, and dreams in the stars. For me, the ultimate beauty is in the beginning of all things. It is the beauty in the bud that makes my heart sing.

NEWS FLASH

Affordable Autumn: First Edition

As part of the effort to make art mainstream, beginning 18 October, 2019 Galleri Kaya promises 'Affordable Autumn' — a new series of exhibitions designed to target young professionals who love art, but mistakenly consider possession of artworks beyond their means.

Predominantly featuring various forms of printmaking techniques, along with a number of vibrant watercolours, the 'First Edition' of 'Affordable Autumn' also wishes to serve as a melting pot of old generation of artists and the young; art connoisseurs and art lovers.

Museum galleries offer a chance to whet our appetite, commercial ventures like 'Affordable Autumn' give visitors a similar

experience with an additional option to seek the pleasure of ownership of an artwork. The group exhibition will feature works by Murtaja Baseer, Jamal Ahmed, Rokeya Sultana, Shishir Bhattacharjee, Mohammad Iqbal, Abul Barq Alvi, and Anisuzzaman to name a few. Among the long list of more than 50 names, there are also a range of Indian artists — Jogen Chowdhury to K G Subramanyan.

Notable works by some of these esteemed painters fetch high prices, but what this exhibition hopes to achieve is to increase art appreciation amongst young professionals; it is an effort to encourage the youth to visit exhibitions and engage in a conversation with the artist through the artworks. And all along this, Galleri Kaya's Affordable Autumn makes it possible for people even with a modest budget, a realistic chance to make a purchase. The price range of artworks that will be featured in this group exhibition is between Tk 4000 and Tk 71000. This thought alone is something to savour!

To help ensure that the purchase is safe, along with the publicity brochure, Galleri Kaya also provides certificates, which can add value to the investment. Galleri Kaya has, for the last 16 years, introduced many 'firsts' in the trade of art and wishes to continue with same vigour as it has done so far.

It is expected that we shall see Second Edition too, sometime next year.

'Affordable Autumn' will be inaugurated on Friday, 18 October, 2019 at Galleri Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Utara, Dhaka. It is open to visitors everyday, between 11 AM and 7:30 PM, until 2 November, 2019.

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