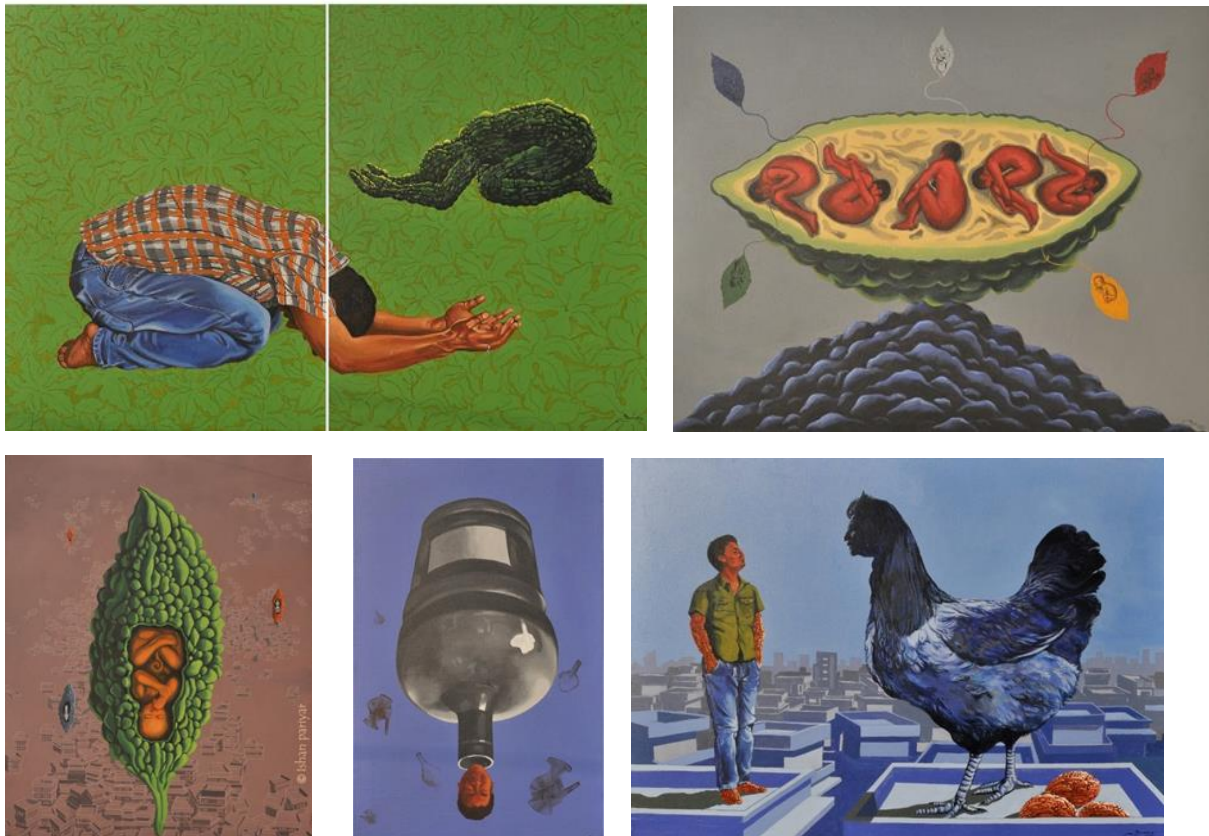


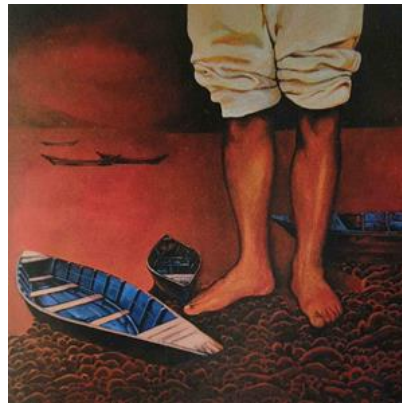
Concept of my paintings | Ishan Pariyar

My paintings are the representation of the feelings reflected in my mind. Which are depicted as symbols of direct and indirect experiences, experiences, and social environment of life. These pictures which I have explained by dividing into 3 stages.

In the first phase, there are pictures created from 2012 to 2013 in the "Better than Bitter" series. In this series, I have tried to address the truth of life, bitter feelings, enjoyment, and freedom with the pictures I have drawn under different titles. In the title The Evolution of Mankind, I have tried to show humanity that is trying to be born on the ground of society and the environment. In the picture, there are various figures as a reflection of the society developed in the womb of a bitter gourd. The title image of Quest of truth has a human figure in search of truth and justice and in the background, there is a figure of a bitter gourd filled with bitter gourd leaves which represents the web of society. Overall, the pictures in this series show the bitter reality of the Nepalese environment.



The pictures of the second phase, titled The Ethos of Surrounding, contain pictures created from 2014 to 2015. I have presented aspects of life symbolically in these pictures. In this series, water, boats, watercourses, mountains, and surroundings are used as metaphors. Although water is a sincere gift of nature, I have tried to show the real side of life floating on the surface of caste discrimination and the conspiracy made in the form of religion. I have taken the boat as a symbol of freedom. Various elements are trying to control it as a visible and invisible force.



The paintings of the third phase are in the series titled Reminiscences, there are paintings composed from 2016 to 2019. Even in this series of paintings, I have used water boats and statues of God in a more sophisticated way. Although the mentality of Nepali society is more forward toward the progressive path, these pictures are drawn in an environment where the remnants of cultural corruption have not yet been left behind. These pictures reflect the past which is hindered by the rules made by the pompous human beings in the society, even though the image of God is taken as worship. In these paintings, water is depicted as a wave in the shape of a butterfly.

About the series titled “Reminiscences”

Reminiscences is a series of my artworks that I started working on in 2015. This is a continuation of my previous series, which I started in 2012. At first, I painted the water boat as just a representational object. I started by drawing pictures of Phewa Lake, Pokhara, and boats in the surroundings, my beloved hometown. At that time, I was able to observe closely and draw pictures of the boat from my point of view. In 2012 I painted Avalokitesvara or an avatar of Buddha. From this, the origin of an idea began. I painted this particular idea on a large canvas. I had created a sculpture of the deity in the middle of the boat, walking in the green water that embodies the texture of the bitter melon. I use the shape of a bitter melon in my paintings in different contexts, its organic shape, texture, and its bitter taste which shows the bittersweet truth and reality of life.

I found life to be an infinite journey where we embrace the beliefs that ultimately lead us to commit to those closest to us. This is how we believe we move forward. I believe that the current state of the

world and the moment is the result of an infinite time that has been floating in the universe since the beginning. The evolution of the world, the metamorphosis of organisms, and the evolution of man are the results of countless centuries that have been brought to a meaningful turn by the struggle of our unknown ancestors. We are the total of known and unknown time and space. However, we are also left to remind the future. The existence of faith and belief in supernatural beings began with human consciousness. These beliefs guide us to realize our own beliefs that arise from this consciousness. Our faith has guided us in many ways. As I have seen the truth, life carries burdens that we fail to express. This burden is inevitably attached to us, silently pulling us into certain favorable and unfavorable situations that ultimately make us aware of our existence.

In my paintings, the boat flies and sometimes floats on the water. For me, the boat is the story of a soul or a human being finding his way to the spiritual world and it is a metaphor. Symbolically I use goddesses, gods, and ancient sculptures as they represent the search for equality and dignity. According to religion, mythology creates space for norms and laws that separate our reality from the 'truth' of God and Goddess. In ancient times, Gods were depicted as great powers, but today the power of the gods and goddesses has been transformed into artifacts and is still worshiped by many. According to the old belief, Gods lived anywhere, but now this is the age of anthropology and technology. God is invisible today and is an abstract idea.

Religious monuments are witnesses of different times and eras. The moments we breathe are memories for the future. No material things last forever. However, it is the fact that the artifacts and monuments made by our forefathers are still collected which makes us feel proud of the skills our forefathers possessed. The eternal and invisible power of the divine is imprinted on our psyche thus inspiring us to preserve these ancient monuments and beliefs. We fight the war in the name of discrimination and humanity. The choices are all ours and I always believe that if the ancient philosophies are understood, they always lead us to the right path. To me, art is a means of understanding the divine and finding harmony in life.

