

## **Sultana Hasan – Personal Statement**

I am an artist living in Bangalore. My early years in North Africa by the shores of the blue Mediterranean with a backdrop of the Sahara have stayed in my memory. As a student in Paris, my artistic formation was in graphic arts and painting at the Beaux Arts, from where I graduated. I was greatly influenced by my international renowned professors and also by exposure to the works of past and contemporary masters. Paris, where art is visible everywhere, further nurtured a sense of freedom, beauty and harmony. Working in India I am attracted to the explosion of colours. Fabrics, patterns and prints often found their way into my works. I draw inspiration from the people on the streets, market vendors, and construction workers particularly women workers that I find strong, resilient, and graceful despite the hardships they endure. This is a subject to which I return time and again, as though in some ways it represents a certain spirit of India and the burden of its cities. My interest in portraiture has led to a series on “faces”. Of late, my themes revolve around nature, landscapes, the environment and its exploitation.

I use different techniques, mixing acrylic paint and fabrics layered with collage. I also work with charcoal, pastel, watercolour, pen and ink drawings and mono-printing to achieve different effects. My experience in printmaking at the Museum School of Fine Arts, Boston has greatly nourished my work.

Through art I try to express my feeling of the world around me, both in its harmony and its contradictions. I enjoy experimentation - it has always been more about the journey, an artistic adventure and a sense of self-discovery along the way.

I have exhibited in India and abroad and my works are in various private collections.