

“Another word for sky is painting”

‘Sky’, has been a continuous form of curiosity ever since his childhood. An incessant obsession into sky gazing - running along with the sky, had been childhood play. The impermanent sky, which is momentarily moving and has the nature and the principle of ‘change’, engages, stabilizes and encourages possibilities like the limitless sky itself. This infinity gives rise to extreme possibilities and the same possibilities are felt in Pramodbabu's work. Observation of the movement of clouds in the sky, their ever-changing shape, rhythm, grace and the work made from the contemplation on it, for him it is like an ultimate form, a boundless field. There are many works born from such serpentine lines, deconstruction of forms, and expanses.

The sky has fluidity, eternal vitality, consciousness and is always alive. There is a principle in it. Pramodbabu studied the natural and philosophical beliefs in it through his observations and gave dimension to his work. He did not paint clouds in the shape of clouds, but was inspired to find and paint new shapes. There is a subtle difference in how we see the celestial structures. Through this journey which is internal and external, he explored not only the visual style but also the temperament and philosophy. After working with this idea for about 10 years, the next stage of his compositions and studies is impermanence and nihilism, where the sky became empty and the anityavad (the impermanence) that Buddha spoke of, becomes his truth. He began to feel that the empty sky expanding the emptiness onto his canvas.

The blue Sky, alludes to expanse, transience, freedom and ‘change’.

“The chemistry of painting is nurtured in the vision. It responds only to inner needs and never to external demands and it's possible only with commitment to self. The Difference between making a painting and painting a painting is visual experience, a result of contemplation of the artist.” – Prabhakar Kolte, abstract artist, Mumbai, 2021.

The National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai presents - 'Open Mind, Pramod Shivarayan Ramteke: A Retrospective'. The exhibition is on display from 20th September to 20th November, 2021 at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai, India.

Prabhakar Kamble

Curator and Artist

Mumbai

2021



Image 1 First meeting with President | 1999

Image 2 President K. R. Narayanan viewing his portrait painted by Pramodbabu at President Palace | 1999



The Folk Revolution | Oil on Canvas | 33" x 45" | 2002