

STATE OF THE ART...

The city blossoms with a palette of vivid hues with Art Bengaluru that promises to showcase the brilliance of our arty minds

NAMITA GUPTA

DECCAN CHRONICLE

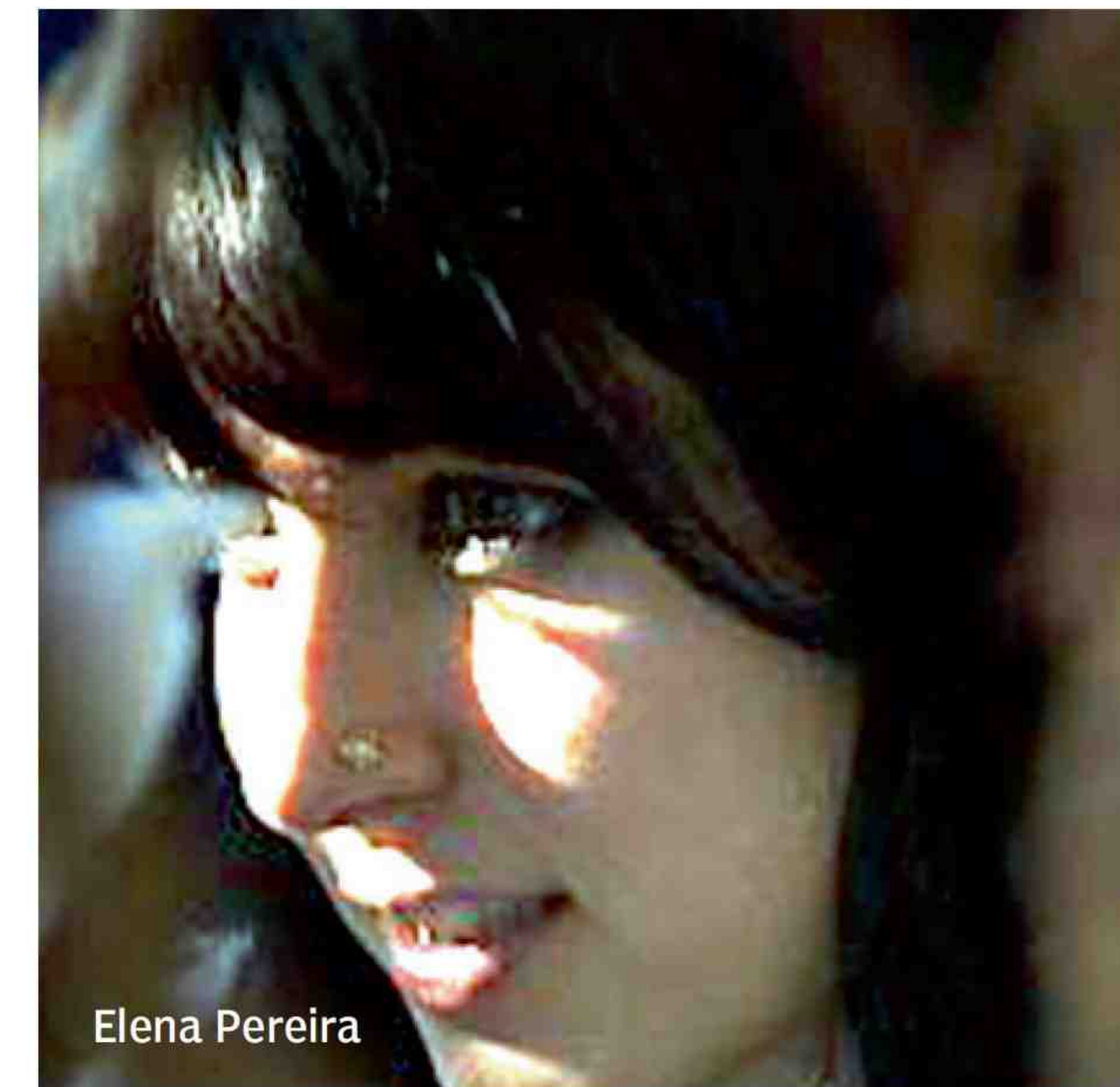
✓ Talk about being on the global art map, and Bengaluru is again going to get a feather in its cap. Art Bengaluru which is in its fourth edition will be a feast for the senses, especially for the art frat. The week-long extravaganza that begins today with an art installation by Padmashri awardee, Thota Tharrani's centre-piece on the theme *Reflections* will also see a fair share of artworks. Coloured canvases, an art conference and an art auction are on the anvil. Also look out for Elena Pereira, a promising conceptual artist from Netherlands.

ART IN THE CITY

'Art Bengaluru 2013 will see a splash of colour from over 100 international and national artists across 16 galleries. Step into the city's Collection Mall at the UB City and browse at artworks from galleries across India. Besides a mix of artworks, like wall art, fine art, illustrations, photographs and product designs, Elena's installations and sculptural forms stand out. Created from a multitude of materials from flowers to metal. Elena Pereira shares, "I try to draw a difference between the organic versus the so-called artificial manmade material through deconstructing existing artifacts and materials to create unusual objects from everyday materials. To me, an object needs more stages of imagination than a functional purpose."

WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR

Called *Berserk*, the art conference will boost art awareness among children. Berserk will shortlist 60 children from the shortlisted 15 schools in the city who encourage art in its multiple forms. Uzma Irfan, founder Sublime Galleria, who has conceptualised Art Bengaluru says, "We used to have kids contests, but this time it's going to be a concentrated three-day residential conference for 60 children at ECC Whitefield which will help them hone their skills in theatre, dance, music and visual arts. Mentors from various fields from Jagriti Theatre, Lourd Vijay's Dance Studio, Taaqademy and 3 Peel will guide the children.



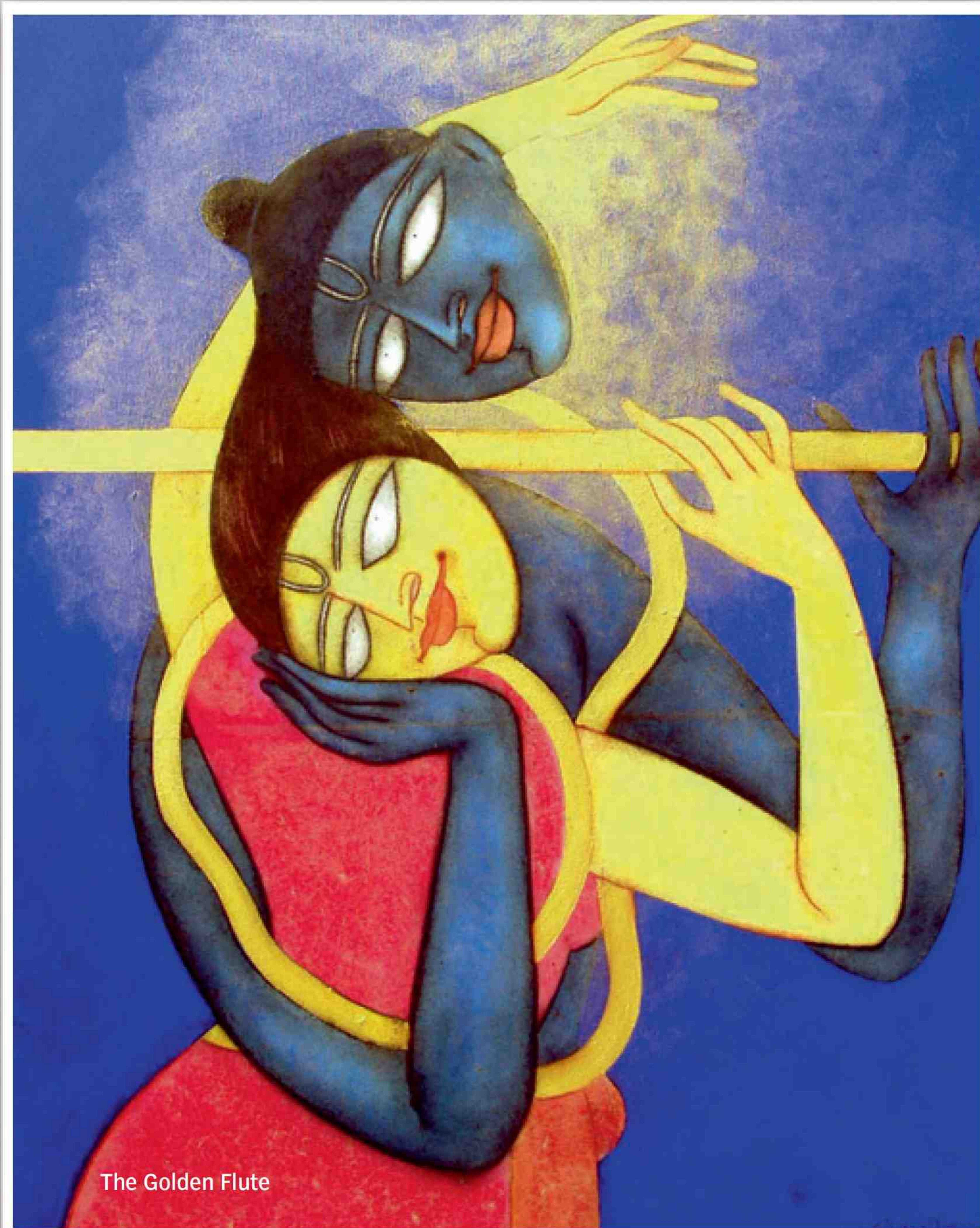
Elena Pereira

Some of these kids will be picked and further trained for excellence."

LUXURY ART AUCTION

A red carpet evening, this year's auction will feature Body Art dancers and a bevy of art going under the hammer. Raj Bagaria of Art Chutney feels this time the art auction has got bigger. "We have a mix of 135 well-known artists like Jamini Roy, Souza and Hussain to emerging artists, in the price range of a few thousands to a lakhs. Bengaluru has an audience that appreciates young artists. Money isn't the problem but the valuation is and we are trying to bridge the gap between artists and art lovers at the auction. The auction this year will be hosted by renowned London-based auctioneer, Bob Hayton on August 23." Adds Ramesh Ramanathan of Janaagraha, "It's a forum to bring a variety of stake holders and fresh talent together and part of the proceeds go to Janaagraha.

Art Bengaluru is on till August 23 at UB City.



The Golden Flute

