

Child's play on canvas



Some of the children who are showcasing their work pose for a picture

More than 60 children are currently exhibiting their astonishingly mature artwork in the city. We speak to a few of them

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What do you expect of an eight or twelve-year-old – busy playing, having fun? But then there are few city kids, who used their free time to create little masterpieces, which now are now a part of an exhibition called *Retrospective* at Sublime Galleria, till May 11. They prove that no matter how young an artist maybe, his/her talent is not a picayune deal. Art pieces by over 60 kids are on display in a myriad splash of colours.

The exhibition is a culmination of Berserk, a workshop of various forms of art. It was the brainchild of Uzma Irfan and Ruchika Motwani of 3peel, an art community for kids. “The three-day workshop exposed the kids to different forms of visual art techniques, illustration styles, mediums and more. In a gist, they pretty much lived the life of an artist for that duration,” explains Ruchika. Veda Bansal, a seventh standard student of NPS HSR Layout and a basketball player has always had a flair for art. “But the workshop opened my eyes to Cubism,

an avant-garde art movement introduced by George Braque and Pablo Picasso,” says the little artist, whose modern interpretation of Krishna and Radha, and a lady playing the guitar is up for sale. Nidhi Shetty, a 14-year-old student of Baldwin Girl’s High School loves dancing and her passion for the same has transcended onto the canvas as well. “I painted a peacock and a dancer, with a rainbow in the background. It’s a mélange of hobbies,” she reveals and adds that her parents have been bragging about her to everyone. “It is a little embarrassing you know,” she says sheepishly.

Most of the little Picassos haven’t really had any formal training barring the workshop. Artists aren’t born as adults and that is why we wanted to scout for young talent and nurture them. We have been working with them closely for a year and in time, hope to spread Beserk’s wings across borders as well,” adds

Uzma. Every child has their own source of inspiration that lures them into the realms of the art world. While for Raghav Rangan, a fifth grader of NAFL, it was the love for colours, animals and birds, for Aditi Krishna, a 12-year-old from NPS Indiranagar, it was the exposure to paintings by her

cousin. “I saw some of my sister’s works and was very taken up by it,” says the keyboardist who adores Adele and Taylor Swift.

It is also interesting to note that these kids are so clear and focused in their minds that they have already figured what they want to do with their lives and their hobby. “My choice of career is quite contrasting, I

would either want to be scientist or an interior designer but will never give up on painting,” says Anusha Kumar, a student of Inventure Academy who has found her style in abstract artwork.

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— NIDHI SHETTY, ARTIST