

TAPESTRIES & CARPETS

Surbhhi has always had a romantic affection for textiles, especially found fabrics and old clothes, for their texture, their softness, the unseen threads, the hidden seams, the painstaking craftsmanship and their quiet lived history. She views it as a “living-breathing material”, a very self-assured, distinctive material and yet one that is amenable and versatile.

Her first use of textile was in 2016 when she collaborated with a tribal artist to turn a 100-year quilt into the Tree of Life table. She has since used textiles and fabrics in different works, notably in Mamman (After Louise) (2021) and the Water Dragon Table (2021). Following a quilting course in London at City Lit, she has adopted the material more seriously and worked upon a whole series of tapestries or wall sculptures/installations as she likes to think of them.

Surbhhi is intrigued by the primitivism of the fabric and raw fibre, the so-called naïveté of patchwork, embroidery and quilting, traditionally associated with the Indian housewife and inherently feminine, personal, hand made, even domestic. Mixing these with the mass produced, factory bought clothes and fabrics, makes for an interesting juxtaposition. She uses old clothes mainly those of her childrens', the most precious memory of their childhood to her. The works in some sense immortalise the clothes and their childhood, recontextualising them forever. However, presenting them in a public context, is a great dichotomy for Surbhhi who is otherwise intensely protective of her children and their privacy.

The ever contentious in-between space, between private-public, high art-craft, old-new, factory bought-handmade, quietly pushing an open ended narrative is where Surbhhi thrives.



Tiger under the Silver Moon

*Found fabric, textile, paint on canvas hung on
repurposed bamboo*

48 in x 60 in

122 cm X 152 cm

Unique





Into the Jar of Hope

Fabric, Cotton, Ikkat, poly-fill, found clothes, beads, reflective silver fabric
 175.26 cm X 122 cm
 Unique



Neelambar is a utopian plea for peace and oneness, the oneness of the sky despite our moving geographical lines and religious sentiments, the oneness of all-faiths based on truth, kindness and good deeds. It evokes something familiar and something lost, a feeling of fleeting nostalgia and a lived memory.

I am Shiva
I am Peace
I am Destruction
I am Rebirth
I am you
I am She
-

Surbhhi K. Modi

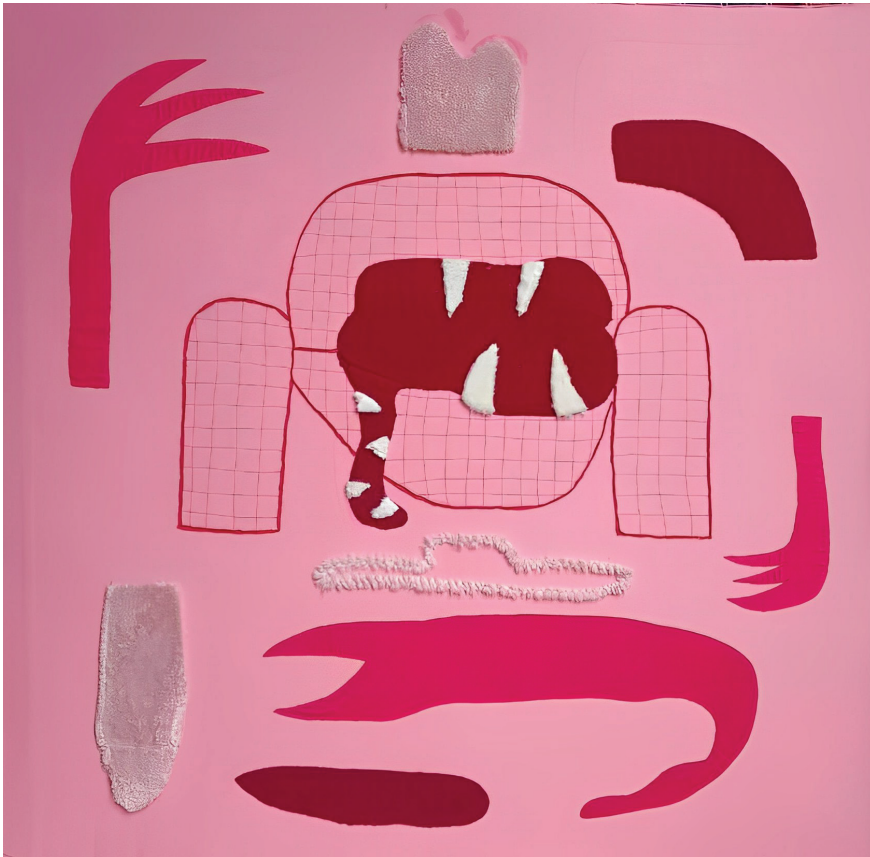


Neelambar

Found Fabrics, textile, threads

56 inches X 62 inches

2024



Sofa in Serengenti

Found Fabric on a loom with thread

67 inches X 62 inches

2023



In the Shadows of the Beast

Found Fabrics, textiles, threads, wooden frame, chalk, poly fill

42 inches X 55 inches

2023



Into the Jar of Hope

*Fabric, Cotton, Ikkat, poly fill, found
clothes, Beads, Reflective silver fabric*
72 x 48 in
2023



Arboreum Terrarium

*Fabric, Linen, Ikkat, Poly-fills, found
clothes, Beads, Reflective silver fabric*
59 x 41.7 in
2023



Jars of Silence

*Fabric, Digitally printed cambric cotton,
found clothes, Beads, Reflective silver fabric*
56 x 66 in
2023



Money Plant Tapestry

Fabric, Cotton, Ikkat, Poly-fills, Surbhhi's children's old clothes, Threads, Beads, Rope, Chalk

81.8 x 47.2 in

2023

