

INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN FOLK ART AND CRAFT: MADHUBANI PAINTING

WORKSHOP BY AMBIKA DEVI

<u>REGISTRATION:</u> <u>HTTPS://ZOOM.US/WEBINAR/REGISTER/WN_U67</u> <u>WWGNFTY-X2SULGUBWLG</u>

DATE: 10 DECEMBER 2020 TIME: 4:00 PM - 5:30PM DURATION: 90 MINS NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 40

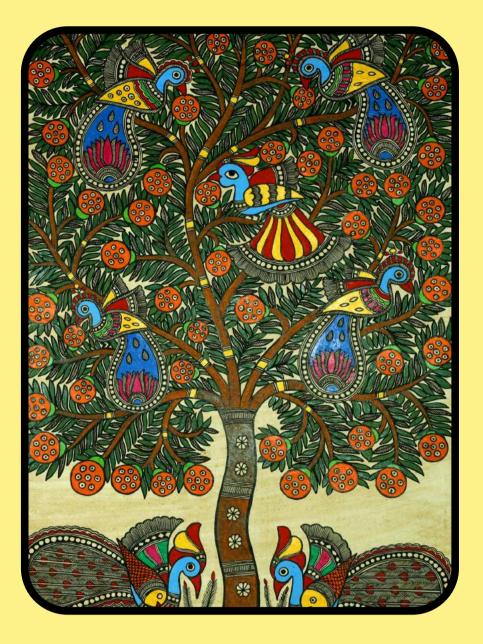
STRUCTURE

First 5 mins – Introduction Next 10 mins – Listening to the tales of Madhubani Painting Next 45 mins – Co-creation with the artist Last 15 mins – Wrap-up and showcasing the created

artwork

The workshop will be conducted over Zoom. Kindly ensure you have access to Zoom on your device.

The workshop will be conducted through translanguaging in Hindi and English (what is widely understood as "Hinglish"). If you would like an ISL interpreter, please write to us at prerna@serendipityarts.org



The workshop has limited seating. If you are not able to attend the workshop due to some reason, please inform us via email at prerna@serendipityarts.org.

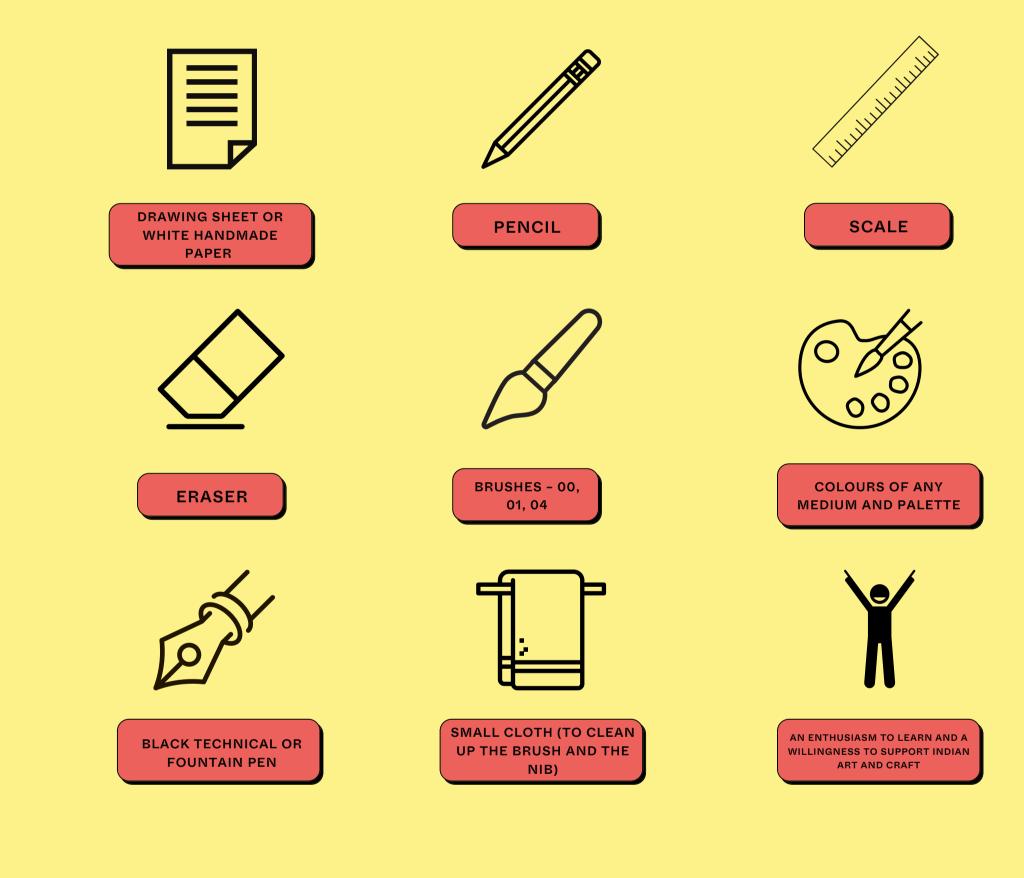
WHO SHOULD SIGN UP?

- Students and hobbyists willing to explore new forms of Indian art and craft
- People already practicing art and looking to expand their knowledge
- People interested in exploring new forms of indigenous art
- Parents and interior designers

MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED:

WHAT YOU CAN LEARN:

- The historical and cultural significance of the art form
- The inspiration behind the forms, symbols and patterns
- Traditional materials that were used by Madhubani artists
- The tools and materials used by the artists
- Knowledge of how to make a Madhubani painting
- A good understanding of colour, value and composition
- Insight into the life of a Madhubani artist
- Explore all the surfaces on which this artform be created
- Draw with fingers, twigs, brushes, nib-pens, matchsticks, and natural dyes



ABOUT MADHUBANI:

(Courtesy: Craft Revival Trust)

The Himalayan foothills of Mithila is home to the Madhubani painting style. Traditionally, on festive and religious occasions and during social celebrations, the women of Mithila decorate their homes and courtyards with images that are vibrant, colourful and deeply religious. The subjects of these paintings were Gods and Goddesses, mythology and nature. The women use rich earthy colours—red, yellow, indigo and blue—in their lyrical paintings. These were intended for shrines and in the khovar, the innermost chamber meant for the bride and bridegroom.

The women passed on this traditional art form to their daughters over generations which is still thriving. During a severe drought in the 1960s in the otherwise fertile region of Mithila, the people of Mithila were forced to look at something other than agriculture as a source of income. They got the women of Mithila to execute their art on paper and cloth and today Madhubani is one of the most popular works of folk art across the world. The themes and techniques used for the painting are still the same. The canvas has changed from walls and floors to cloth and paper and papier-mâché. On auspicious occasions and at festivals, marriages and births, women paint aripan and dhuli chitras or dust paintings on the mud floors of their huts. Geometrical and highly stylised, these paintings are open astrological charts, a storehouse of the wisdom of the ages. Folk paintings are done by a community of tribesmen called chitrakars, in the Santhal Parganas. They paint scrolls in the traditional manner, depicting stories and moral lessons. They carry the scroll paintings from one Santhal village to another and sing and narrate stories.

ABOUT THE ARTIST: AMBIKA DEVI

Carrying on an artistic tradition passed down from mother to daughter, Ambika Devi learned the craft of Madhubani painting from her mother at the age of 12. In 2009, Ambika Devi received the National Award from the Govt. of India, and has since participated in several exhibitions, workshops and training programmes in various schools and colleges across India and the world.

Ambika paints figures from mythological stories and other traditional themes. People in Mithila are close to nature and this is what she depicts in her paintings. Simple themes like nature, animals, birds and our surroundings remain the main theme of all her Madhubani art. She also depicts Hindu gods and goddesses like Lord Rama, Sita Swambar, Radha, Krishna, and Raas Leela. Devi says, "Painting is my bread and butter but, more than anything else, it is my passion!"



Ambika Devi will be accompanied by her son Rahul during the workshop. He is currently working with an IT company in Ghaziabad, but is learning this traditional art form from his mother who is also his guru.

