

# ART - Untouched by Hand

New media in every age became subject of enquiry and experimentation to satisfy the desire for expression and communication, thereby creating new genres of art and communication. Having fairly matured, the digital media, with its own set of tools, offers enormous possibility of experimental manipulation and creative expression.

Personally I do not care for semantics of art or its depiction. I would prefer its directness and how it hits me. Shall I pass by it without knowing its existence or pause, ponder and wonder? Shall I ignore it, or go near / around it to check out some detail, thereby acknowledge its presence. Art to my mind should seek acknowledgement and not approval.

I find 'art' is a prime source of inspiration for developing ideas for the future, and I take the opportunity to study it from inspirational perspective. I allow myself to indulge in artistic experimentation and expression whenever the inspiration possesses me.

Many years back I experimented with light – neon light to be precise. Neon light even now is just a commercial medium, as we see large neon advertisements and hoarding helping sell all kinds of products. It is an outdoor medium. I wanted to bring it inside – into a home, into an office, into a gallery and experimented to create 'sculpture in light'. This was exhibited\* at Jahangir Art Gallery and at Nehru Centre Art Gallery in Mumbai. Two of these sculptures were selected for exhibition at Art Triennial in Delhi.

Currently, I am experimenting with digital medium to see how a painting can take shape through this medium – not by drawing with digital brush and paint, but by manipulation of images captured digitally by a common gadget like mobile phone (in this case Samsung Galaxy Note I), through the picture edit tools of color saturation, brightness and contrast functions. I have got some interesting results, which I would like to share. I prefer to call it 'New Painting' because it uses the tools from 'New Media'

In these experiments with New Media, the starting point is a photograph. The end result is an abstract image quite different from the starting point, but having the same gene. The process is so absorbing and results amazing that it would inspire many a sensitive and young minds to try it out and create 'art'. It is easy. It does not need the hand skills & flair of an artist, other than a discerning eye.

In the same vein, I experimented to create 'virtual sculpture' and transform it into 3D object by 5-axis digital machining (a process used for shaping car bodies), contributing to the shape – a Mind and Machine process. The sculpture manifests without physically sculpting the material by hand. The process of creation is directly from 'mind to machine to artifact' (artifact means- physical or visual manifestation). The results are unique.

Some questions, of course arise: Can 'art' be 'untouched' by hand, without the need of human physical skill, created without use of human hands or physical intervention? Can it only be cerebral in nature? Can art be totally a mind activity, which includes perception & visual discrimination?

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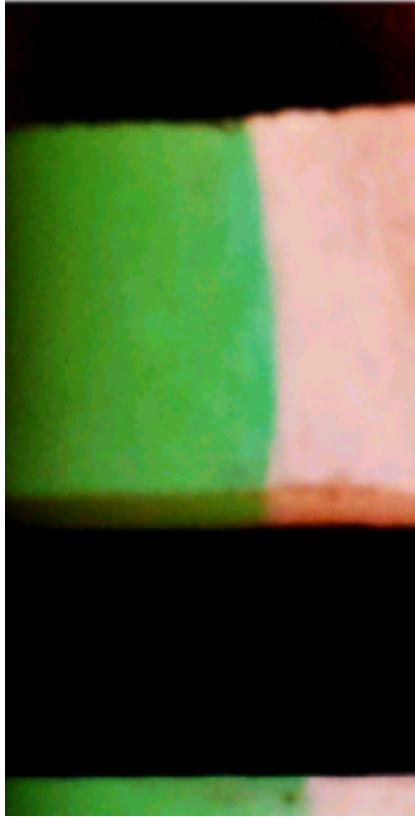
T: +91-22-25767822. F: +91-22-25767803 M: +91-9833687822

**New Painting 1**

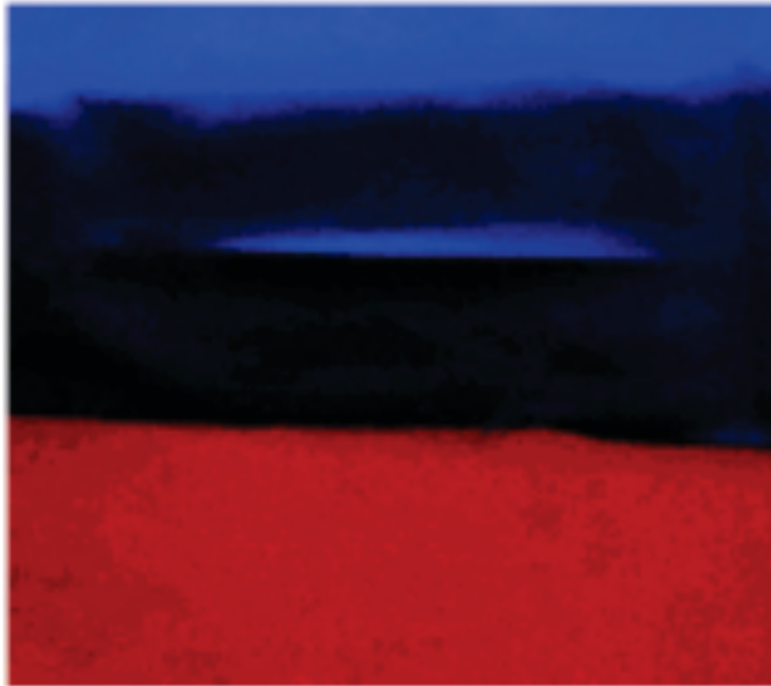
*Collection: Sunil K. USA (42"x42")*



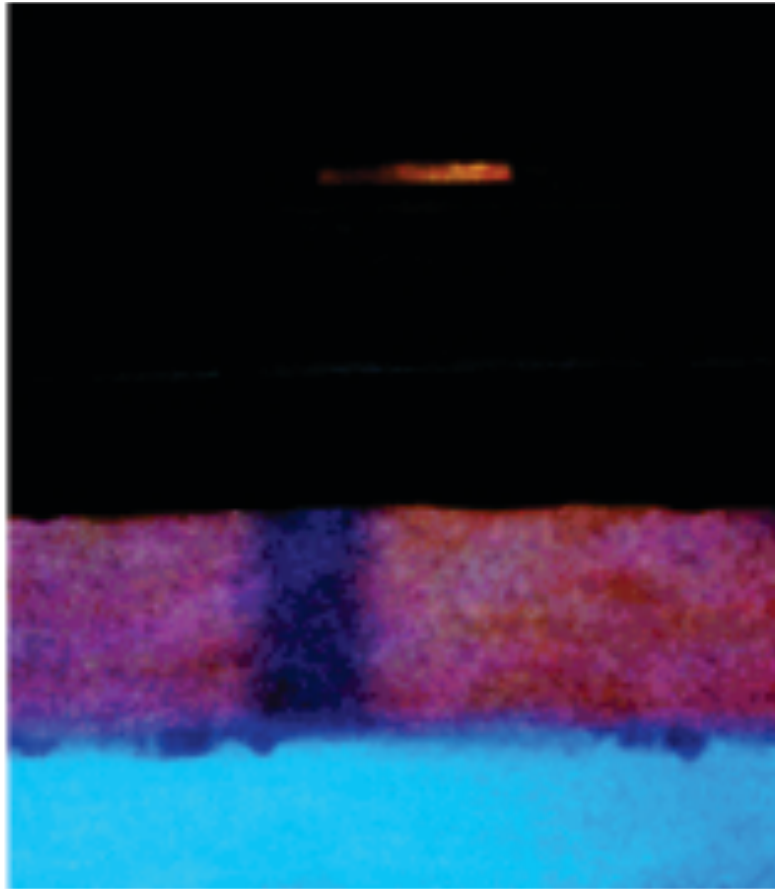
New Painting 2 & 3



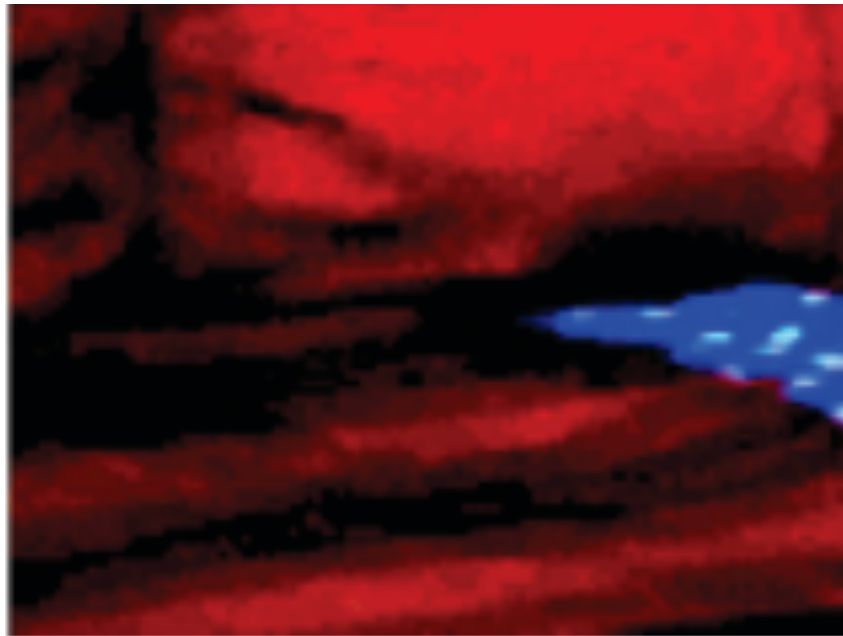
**New Painting 4**



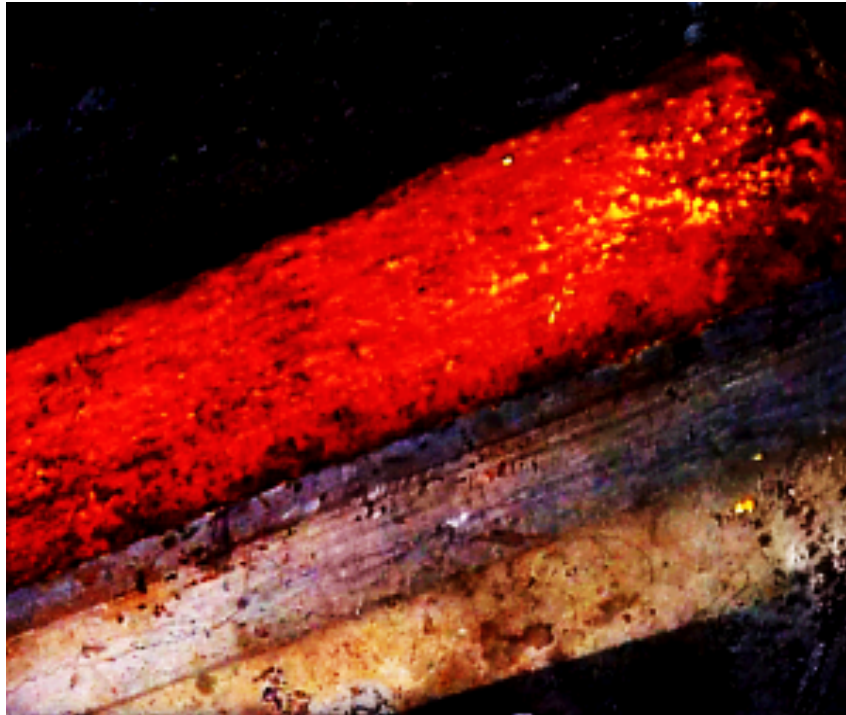
New Painting 5



New Painting 6



New Painting 7



## New Media - Digital Sculpture 1





## New Media - Digital Sculpture 1 & 2



## New Media - Digital Sculpture 3



## New Media - Digital Sculpture 4



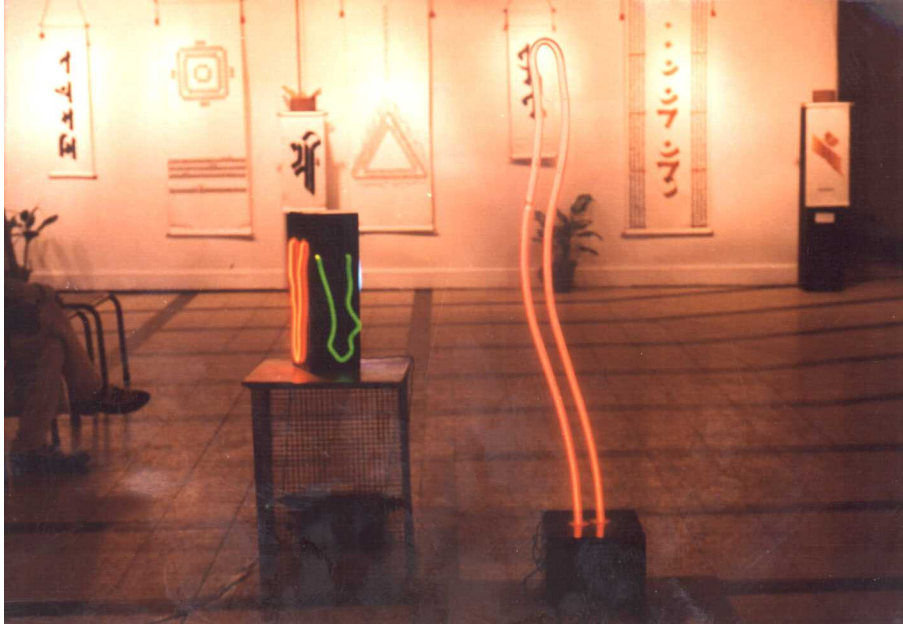
## Neon Light Sculpture

### \*Exhibitions:

Art Exhibition - "Sculpture in Light" held at Jehangir Art Gallery, Bombay. July 1993

Art Exhibition - "Sculpture in Light" held at Nehru Centre, Bombay. August 1993

**VIII Triennale India, 1994** - Invited to participate and display 2 selected works 'Sculpture in Light' (BLUE FLAME & FIRE LINE) in this prestigious international exhibition. February 1994



*Fire Line* - Sculpture in the permanent exhibition at Lalit Kala Akademi (National Academy of Fine Art, New Delhi)

