

Mumbai's second Art Expo in September

With several more participants this year, it raises expectation levels

Jigna P

jigna.padhiar@hindustantimes.com

After the Delhi Art Summit that ended recently, the second edition of Art Expo will begin in Mumbai in September. The three-day affair will be held at the Nehru Centre and will begin on September 25.. and continue till September 27.

"Art had been reduced to just buying but things seem to be changing now. An

increasing number of people want to first understand what it is about before investing in it," says art dealer Vikram Sethi, the organiser of the fair and owner of ICIA gallery in Colaba.

Last year, the first Art Expo attracted several galleries from across the country. This year it will have international participants, including modern masters and well-known contemporary artists as well as upcom-

ing talent, who will display some of their best works.

A meeting ground for art dealers, galleries, artists and prospective buyers, the fair aims to pep up the art market in India. A series of talks and panel discussions are on the agenda, including a keynote by Kay Saatchi (Saatchi Gallery) on how to spot talent.

Alka Pande will talk about the aesthetics of eroticism in a discussion with lawyer

Satish Manshinde. Other speakers include Judith Greer, Kirsty Ogg, Ranjit Hoskote, Jitish Kallat, Sharan Apparao, Bose Krishnamachari and Anjolie Ela Memon.

"The art market is shaken up presently. With every economic slowdown, established artists and galleries become redundant and new talents come up," explains Sethi, adding that he sees the fair as a place for people to connect.

He expects over 10,000 visitors. "In India, there



FOR MORE INFO

The Art Expo 2009 will be held on September 25, 26 and 27, at Nehru Center, Worli. Time: 11am to 7 pm.

are barely 5000 buyers. But we're not discriminating between buyers and onlookers. The idea is to just bring people back to art."

Earlier, it was scheduled for February but was rescheduled because of the terrorist attack. Today, with



Artwork by F N Souza

six discussion sessions and several more participants, Art Expo 2 raises expectation levels.