

Herald Cafe

Exploring the Rebel Genius: *FN Souza*

'F N Souza - The Archetypal Artist' by Janeita Singh is a book that contains various essays on the life and work of F N Souza with stark images and commentary



Janeita Singh

the canvasses. She was not looking to decipher anything or looking hard for anything in his personal life. The canvasses were her main focus. All the images created a great deal of controversy especially during the British times with their Victorian mentality and how they maligned the Kama Sutra and labeled the devadasis as prostitutes which meant Indians had become ashamed of their own civilisation.

"India has six schools of philosophy which gives you a whole room to play with. You can be with a god or not or you begin your own journey and don't go to any god. Souza was agnostic and he said he did not believe in any god though he believed in Sankhya philosophy and tantra though born a Catholic. He took bits of all the religions and came up with his own cosmology and that gave him a lot of courage or clarity of what he saw around him. And he commented on that through his paintings and led people through different possibilities," explains Janeita.

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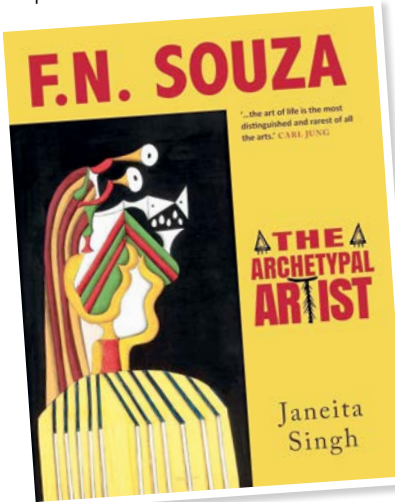
F N Souza is undoubtedly the greatest artist to emerge out of Goa and he still has the capacity to evoke very strong emotions. Janeita Singh, the author of the book, 'F N Souza - The Archetypal Artist' was very clear as to why she wrote the book on the man. She was going through a personal crisis and as she was looking at his work, she began to get more insights as she went on this self healing journey. She was also involved in Pallium psychology for over a decade. She began to see shadows in his work and then quickly came to believe that Souza's work is an exercise in shadow work of the collective human consciousness.

Everything that was suppressed and rejected is glorified, even if that gets a grotesque configuration. Since Souza was dealing with the interiority of the human psyche and pulling it out and showcasing it, that's why his art was so distorted and grotesque. When people look at his art, they see their psyche in that distorted mirror and that troubles them. It triggers them and it is an uneasy space.

Janeita said, "There was a social revolution in his work. He is envisioning liberated men and liberated women, a strong man and a strong woman. He has that courage and his art comes from his unconscious. He is not consciously saying that he will make the women all those primordial images and he is giving them shape and form. He is envisioning a society where there is an equal playing field where man and the woman enter into a relationship

which will be mutually beneficial and not one of transactions. It is based on friendship and that she was strong in her own right and they would come together."

F N Souza was an artist who was calling out the shadows, the hypocrisy and the bigotry of our day to day life as well as the institutions of state and religion. He was looking through all of that and his religious paintings are a powerful satire. Putting all this together was an experience, ideas for essays would pop up in her brain which she would write and would be published.



She was also travelling to small art towns in Europe and she would visit Picasso museum, Chagall museum and in her subconscious, the comparative study was still going on. When she wrote the essays she felt free but she still had these raging questions since she was going through a crisis and Souza was giving her answers through

DELVING INTO 'FN SOUZA - THE ARCHETYPAL ARTIST'

- The book celebrates his centenary with an analysis of his work
- The book shows how Souza belongs to everyone—especially in their deepest, darkest, most vulnerable moments—and yet, can't be owned by any
- He was a feminist even before the word became fashionable
- Souza extended the hypothesis and conflated it with the Sankhyas and Tantras
- Souza found his personal and creative freedom as an artist, frowned upon during his life, like every other maestro is in their times

It is important to remember that FN Souza was a post world war artist and thinkers and philosophers were thinking of the things that people do and why it was done. His head series, she said, documented the interiority of his psyche. The shadows highlighted the aggressiveness, ambition or whatever the individual had. He was pulling everything out of consciousness, throwing it away and filling it with amorphous forms.

Souza, towards the end of his life, almost had a maternal instinct for the coming generation. He was a patriarch with a very strong masculine psychology but he also had a very strong feminine core. This made him a very balanced human being and all those intuitions came from his feminine side. All this made him a very interesting individual and this book is a celebration of that complex man.



CHASING THE WHITE GHOST: DR SAVITA KERKAR'S ARCTIC EXPLORATIONS



STUDENTS OF ASSOLNA AWARDED FOR THEIR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

16th FEBRUARY 4.00 PM ONWARDS

Bullseye ENTERTAINMENT

SINO HOSPITALITY

The Great Cocktail Carnival

GOA 2025

FEATURING BOMBAY VIKINGS

NEERAJ SHRIDHAR

ALONG WITH RAAGAS 2 RICHES ALTITUDE ANSLEM

HOSTED BY FELIPE & JESSICA

GET TICKETS ONLY ON district BY ZOHATO

POWERED BY SUZUKI

CRAZY COCKTAILS EXPERIENCE ZONES DELICIOUS FOOD

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT COCKTAIL WORKSHOPS GAMES & MORE

INOX COURTYARD PANAJI - GOA

VENUE PARTNER: INOX COURTYARD

CONCEPT: BULLSEYE ENTERTAINMENT

DECORATION: AUDIO & LIGHTS

RADIO PARTNER: INDIGO MUSIC, Teef, Mobiles & Appliances

SWIPE RIGHT

Chappell Roan reflects on Pink Pony Club's sixth Anniversary



Six years ago today, Grammy award winner Chappell Roan created something truly special. "It was really puzzling since I had never crafted a song like that before. I honestly believe it was something spiritual; it had to be," Roan reflected on the process of writing 'Pink Pony Club', revealing that it took her two days to complete the song.



Indian actor and fitness entrepreneur, Sahil Khan, tied the knot with 22-year-old Milena at the iconic Burj Khalifa, Dubai

HISTORIC FACTS ABOUT SAINT UNVEILED

Tiatr: 'Goycho Saib'

Cast: Rupesh Jogle, Fr Ubaldio Fernandes, Risia Passanha, Siddhi Naik, Ansh Bandekar, Mayur Dhond, Joel Ribeiro, Hortencio Pereira, Valanca Pereira, Amberley Romao, Constancio Miranda, George Gonsalves, Ciana Rodrigues, Carool Tavares

Director: Michael Gracias

Band: Vitorino Araujo (first trumpet), Chagas Fernandes (second trumpet), Roy Menezes (saxophone), Mario Rodrigues (bass), Xavier de Moira (drums)

Stage/Lights: Anthony de Ambaji, John Marques

Pio Esteves

The curtains unfold to a scene wherein plans are afloat to send Fr Francis Xavier (Rupesh Jogle) from Portugal to India. Fr Francis Xavier encounters Ignatius de Loyola (Fr Ubaldio Fernandes) and the latter motivates the former to go ahead with his mission, trusting God. On arrival in India, Fr Francis Xavier meets Vicar General, (Michael Gracias), who in turn introduces him to bishop (Ansh Bandekar). Having heard much

about this saintly priest, the bishop grants permission to Fr Francis Xavier to carry out his missionary works.

Now, apart from the countless miracles performed by Fr Francis Xavier, there's a pregnant woman Esmeralda (Siddhi Naik) going through much labour during the last stage of pregnancy. Her husband Luis (Joel Ribeiro) pleads with Fr Xavier to do the needful. On the other hand, in the same house there's witchery 'ghaddi' being performed by an enchanter (Mayur Dhond).



Fr Xavier steps in and informs that there cannot be worship of two gods. The priest intercedes to God and Esmeralda enjoys a safe delivery. The boy child is baptized as Francis and the guardians also turn to Christianity. The sorcerer is taken by surprise and returns with his wife to be

baptized by Fr Xavier.

There are encounters by Fr Xavier with the king and queen of Travancore (Michael Gracias/Dr Risia Passanha) and the king of Jafnapatam (George Gonsalves). Fr Xavier also visits the Sam Lazar Hospital and his interaction with the leprosy patient. What

transverse between them is worth the watch on the stage. The concluding scene wherein the body of the saint was to be transported to Portugal at the orders of the authorities, but it was destined to be kept in Goa.

Tiatr Review 'GOYCHO SAIB'

Rupesh Jogle stands out as St Francis Xavier in his acts and dialogue delivery. There are fine performances by all the artistes (new faces) on stage. Each of them has given their best in every act, with some even taking up double role.

Tiatr 'Goycho Saib' is a well-researched and historic plot, with many incidents in the life of St Francis Xavier revealing many truths that helps the viewers to reflect and understand the in-depth life and

missionary works of the saint.

For some lighter moments, there's comedy by BP (Hortencio Pereira), Jakin (Valanca Pereira) and Cynthia (Amberley Romao), which has no connection to the main scenes, except for one scene on slavery. And when it is a presentation of a saint where comedy is not interwoven, were comic scenes required?

In the section of songs, there's Carool Fernandes, Valanca Pereira, Joel Ribeiro and George Gonsalves rendering the opening song, followed by solos by Fr Ubaldio Fernandes, Joel Ribeiro, George Gonsalves and Renecia Rodrigues. There are other songs in the form of duo, duets, trio and a quartet. Quartet 'Uth Goykara' by Carool, Valanca, Renecia and Amberley speaks about upcoming projects in Goa and the need for awareness.

The stage sets are Anthony de Ambaji and the lights have been handled by John Marques.