



## A Return to Art

After a successful career in advertising, Philip D'Souza returns to his first and enduring love of art with his debut solo show Safari in Goa

Samira Sheth

With 'Safari', Philip D'Souza's first showing of paintings, drawings and digital works, the artist travels back in time, taking viewers through a "literal journey of discovery, one that has taken me from my roots back in Africa, through my susegad years in Goa, on through heady days in national advertising all around India, with photography, video production and design consulting," says Philip.

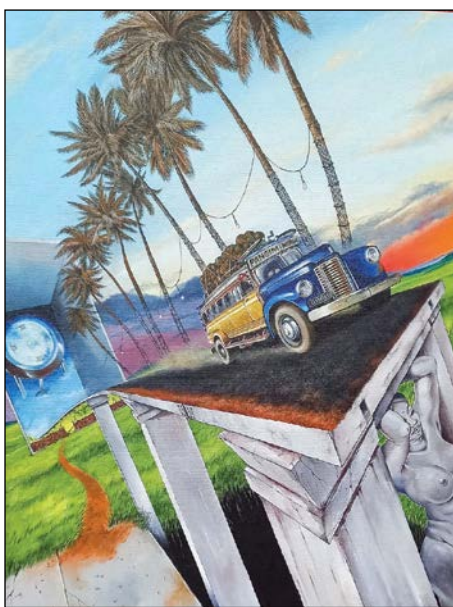
Life often gets in the way of making art and after graduating from the Goa College of Art, with much discouragement from his teacher towards his artistic ambition, the young Philip turned to making his career in commercial advertising. Exciting years followed with Philip working on many notable and memorable ad campaigns, mingling with celebrities and top models and endless travel to exotic shoot locales. And despite all the glamour, sheen and success of the ad world, he was drawn back to what excited him the most as a child—drawing.

"Safari is my personal journey – of being introspective, self-critical, expressive. It has helped shape my thinking, my world view. Safari is also my creative journey – from years working as creative director on high profile advertising accounts to waking up one day

and realizing my true happiness lay in simply putting pen to paper, paint on canvas," says the artist, who devotes his time to his two true passions – art and fishing.

Urged and encouraged to exhibit his body of work by his old friend, fellow Goa College of Art alumnus and noted artist Yolanda De Sousa, Philip finally debuted his solo showing at the Art Chamber in Calangute this February. Featuring imagery drawn from his early years in Africa and his native Goa, striking visuals are displayed in unusual ways, strung with fishing line or hung from fishing rods. And while he embarks on his personal journey of discovery, Philip also explores larger thematic concerns. Goa becomes the muse in most of his figurative artworks, suffused by a touch of surrealism and fantasy.

He laments the loss of Goa's natural beauty and tranquil charm in more than one painting. Titled 'Amchem Noxib' (Our Luck) the series looks at the problems that beset Goa with a clear yet artistic eye. In 'Highway to Nowhere,' a ubiquitous coconut tree lined road seems to extend into a rosy future but ends abruptly. In 'The Wishing Well,'



beautiful women, inspired by the full figured women of Renaissance art, pose with a plough, a basket of fish or earthen pots, lulling viewers into a state of enchantment with the pretty scene before them, only for them to realize the well i.e Goa has run dry. Allegories of lust, sin, greed, easy money, gambling with Goa's future are drawn out in paintings including 'Rose Tinted Memories,' 'River of Dreams' and 'Stained.'

The 'Out of Africa' series pulls disparate elements together. Philip juxtaposes imagery from the wild world and the powerful presence of nature with the endless greed of the man made one. Says the reticent, articulate artist, "I wanted to

portray the brutality behind beauty."

In his series of small format digital works titled 'Carnaval' the artist takes viewers on a bumpy ride around the gallery with both fantasy and humour, the works inspired by Danse Macabre or the dance with death allegory. While Philip's paintings and digital works reflect an alluring vitality, it is with his drawings, in pen and ink on paper, that the artist really comes into his own; sketching and shading scenes borne of his imagination, and executed in a style that is both hard hitting yet quietly poetic.

Stand before this array of diverse images that compel attention and look closely for nothing is as it seems; a skilful artist is responding to the times he finds himself in with intensity, moving beyond merely decorative banal beauty with a powerfully original first exhibition.

'Safari' is on view at Art Chamber, Calangute until the end of February.



## An inimitable piece of art at Varca

The San Thome Museum Back in Time at Varca which opened in 2014 by curator Thomas Antonio da Costa is a unique museum of antiques that also highlights technical evolution over the years. Now, the curator himself has created a beautiful



etc with approximately 2,155 metal items. These metal pieces bring together a lenticular artwork that offers two perspectives—one side resembling God and the other revealing a younger face of Jesus the Son," explains Thomas. After two years of waiting, Thomas

portrait, a two-in-one art of the Father and Son at the museum.

Inspired by John 14:5-7, "Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'" Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.' Thomas was able to create this unique portrait. "This is the first time in the world that piece has been created with a two-in-one sculpture of Father and Son. This piece of art is made of nuts and bolts, screws and rivets to make the sculpture resemble the Father and Son," says Thomas.

An electrical engineer by profession, Thomas started the project in 2022 and it was completed by 2023. "The piece is made out of nuts, bolts, screws, spring washers, plain washers, Allen bolts, needle nails, horseshoe magnets, tower bolts,

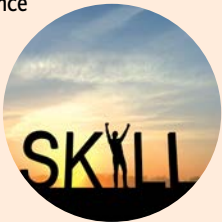
revealed his art at the perfect moment. It was finally unveiled on his father, Artur Da Costa's 100th birth anniversary and blessed by his brother, Fr Ligorinho Da Costa, Dean of Benaum Deanery. Among the many items on display at the museum, this masterpiece now takes centrestage.



### International Conference on Life Skills Education

The 10th International Conference on Life Skills Education (ICLSE 2025) will be organized by the Indian Association of Life Skills Education (IALSE), Chennai, in collaboration with Nirmala Institute of Education, Goa. The conference will explore the theme, 'Life Skills Integrated Learning and Living: Pathways for a Sustainable Future.' Resource persons will highlight the significance of life skills education in shaping a sustainable future. The all-encompassing international conference includes a pre-conference workshop, satellite workshops, Teen Talks, NGO Conclave, Think Tank, Focus Group Discussion and much more under one banner. The inaugural ceremony will take place on February 27, at 9 am at Raj Bhavan, Panjim, in the presence of Governor of Goa PS Sreedharan Pillai. A pre-conference workshop will be held on February 26, at Nirmala Institute of Education, Panjim, on 'Integration of Life Skills across Curricula,' aimed at educators, curriculum developers, and policymakers. One of the conference's primary objectives is to align with the National Education Policy (NEP), which views life skills as crucial competencies that should be actively developed in students. Under the banner of 'Teen Talks,' selected high school students have been invited to speak at the conference on selected life skill topics.

**Venue:** Nirmala Institute of Education, Panjim  
**Date:** February 27 to March 1  
**Time:** 9 am onwards



## First-Ever Baattachem Fest celebrated in Chinchinim

The village of Chinchinim came alive with the vibrant Baattachem Fest, a unique celebration of Goa's agricultural traditions and rich cultural heritage was curated by Festakar Marius Fernandes and hosted by Adv Agnelo Furtado. The festival began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by guests, including Agnelo and Elaine Furtado, Dean Suresh Kunkalikar, Miguel Braganza, Prakash Kamat, Fr Victor Ferrao, Alexyz and Marius.

Baattachem Fest welcomed attendees from across Goa, including Corlim, Panjim, Mapusa, Divar, Nuvem, Navelim and other parts of Goa, reinforcing its spirit of inclusivity. The festival was compered and coordinated by festakar team members, Prakash Kamat, Dr Gwendolyn de Ornelas and Dominic D'Souza. The stage was artistically decorated by Marcos D'Mello with natural farm tools and locally coordinated by Rozario Rebello.

One of the festival's most engaging features was the Balçaoacheo Gozali, a platform where Miguel Braganza, Professor Carmelito Andrade, Jovito Lopes and Fr George Quadros shared their knowledge and experiences. Visitors were transported back in time with demonstrations of



traditional fishing net making, Goan bread preparation, and local delicacy cooking, offering a nostalgic glimpse into Goa's way of life. A spectacular Kottiecho Nach (coconut shell dance), conceptualized by Dr Gwendolyn de Ornelas, captivated the audience, while live musical performances by Oluw and Zagor performance by Santos Rebello, Valentino Baretto and others filled the air with the melodies of classic Konkani songs, celebrating Goa's vibrant music heritage.

The festival was also a feast for



the senses, showcasing Goa's rich culinary and artisanal traditions. Attendees explored stunning displays of Goan bread, fresh produce, fruits, and traditional percussion instruments. Interactive workshops on local delicacies such as bread by local baker Elvina Lacerda and koylooreo by Leticia Furtado provided an immersive experience, fostering a sense of belonging and cultural pride.

As festival director Marius Fernandes nears his 100th community festival milestone, he was honoured with a commemorative Memento presented by host Adv Agnelo Furtado. Baattachem Fest 2025 left a lasting legacy with a profound impact on all who attended, standing as a testament to Goa's agricultural roots, cultural richness, inclusivity and commitment to sustainability.

## Herald Gaming Console

### Dilbert



### Garfield



### Wizard of id



### crossword 4778

#### ACROSS

1- Polite address; 5- Skin of the upper part of the head; 10- \_\_\_ (razor brand); 14- "East of Eden" director Kazan; 15- Eagle's home; 16- Bank (on); 17- Bereft; 18- Mix dough; 19- French summers; 20- Short essays; 22- Cut across; 24- It's a wrap; 25- Magnetic induction units; 26- Lucy's husband; 28- Visionaries; 32- Cause of ruin; 35- North Pole aide; 37- Simpler; 38- PC panic button; 39- \_\_\_ once; 41- PBS benefactor; 42- Destroy hearing; 45- Coffee maker; 46- Ohio nine; 47- Burn with water; 48- Must've been something \_\_\_; 50- Black Sea port; 54- With \_\_\_ of thousands!; 58- Each person; 61- Remove; 62- Actress Moore; 63- Saline; 65- \_\_\_ all-time high; 66- Part of the eye; 67- Cara or Castle; 68- As to; 69- Fruit-filled pie; 70- Bird homes; 71- Sail support;

#### DOWN

1-Thaws; 2- Luau greeting; 3- Broadcaster; 4- Created by humans; 5- Fifth Avenue retailer; 6- 100 yrs; 7- Narrow mountain ridge; 8- Perjurers; 9- Foot-operated lever; 10- Locks; 11- Nerve network; 12- A Baldwin brother; 13- Fluid-filled sac; 21- U-turn from WSW; 23- American space agency; 25- Cash drawer; 27- Playwright O'Casey; 29- \_\_\_ kleine Nachtmusik; 30- Vibrating component of a

### solution 4777

woodwind instrument; 31- Sp. ladies; 32- Places to sleep; 33- Just \_\_\_; 34- Final Four org.; 36- Sick "season"; 37- Sicilian spouter; 40- "Tosca" tune; 43- Retailer of flowers; 44- Water swirl; 46- To recover; 49- \_\_\_ kwon do; 51- Red fluorescent dye; 52- It's a trap; 53- Tennis's Monica; 55- Big name in insurance; 56- Constellation components; 57- Article of faith; 58- Revise; 59- Aloe \_\_\_; 60- Bahrain bigwig; 61- Changes color; 64- Blasting stuff;

### sudoku 4778

		1		6	3					4
			6							
2	5					9				3
		9	8	7	4		3			
		7			2	1	8	9		
6			2						1	8
						4				
7				1	4		5			

#### Instructions for Sudoku

9 x 9 letter: To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes

#### solution 4777

2	1	8	6	9	7	3	4	5
9	5	7	1	3	4	8	6	2
6	4	3	2	5	8	1	7	9
4	2	1	3	7	6	9	5	8
8	7	6	4	2	9	6	1	3
3	9	6	8	1	5	7	2	4
7	3	2	9	4	1	5	8	6
5	8	9	7	6	2	4	3	1
1	6	4	5	8	3	2	9	7