

COSMOPOLITAN

OCTOBER 2019 \$15

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OF HOT
SEX**

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23rd
BIRTHDAY!**

**The
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List**

Everything
You Need for
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Reboot

**STEAL
AUTUMN'S
PRETTIEST
MAKE-UP
LOOKS**

**Janhvi
Kapoor**

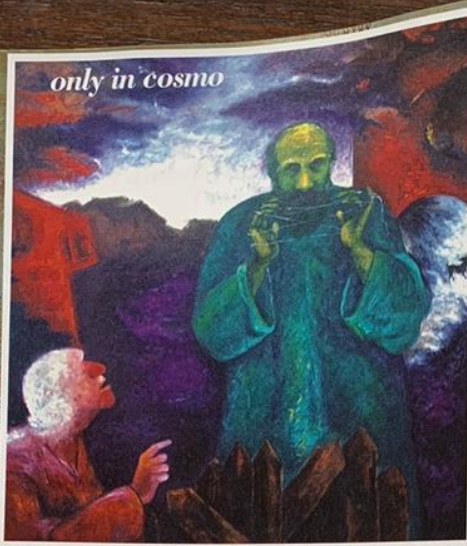
This Might Just Be
Her Most Candid
Interview, Yet!



The ART ISSUE

CELEBRATING THE MOST CREATIVE MINDS IN ART, FILM,
FASHION, BEAUTY, MUSIC, AND MORE...

only in cosmo



Veer Munshi Human Rights

"I migrated from Kashmir to Delhi in 1990 due to the political disquiet there. Since then, I've tried to use art to reflect my anguish at the situation in my home state and to make a statement on human rights rather than politics. I constantly seek to highlight the turmoil that comes with separation from my heritage and to bring to the fore the increasingly narrow space that exists for culture and art in the state. I primarily work with my personal experience, which comes from the different interactions I keep having with the people back in Kashmir. It helps me understand different points of view, too, which also reflect in my work. Lately, I have started engaging other artists to be part of my projects, especially those who were born in conflict zones or had to flee because of the state of affairs there. I also collaborate with the local craftsmen to promote indigenous work through art exhibitions, dialogue, performances, and more. It's important to be an artist-activist—to see beyond and express the social reality through art, and also to engage with this reality physically, and be able to contribute with logical solutions to problems."

Tarini Sethi Sexuality

"I am a storyteller. And the story, being in image form, is always open to interpretation. My work constantly revolves around the idea of 'utopia' and a world where we can live free and equally, without judgement from others and our self. These are over-the-top imagined worlds, where creatures and people of all kinds thrive together. This exaggerated and fantastical universe manifests itself in many ways. Anthropomorphic creatures crowd the corners of the pages, while masks and architectural forms keep things in place. Transgender women hold vases holding birds, while these birds turn into snakes and flowers. The idea of breaking the huge stigma behind the nude body is an important catalyst for my work. India has a long history of erotic art that has been documented and preserved for subsequent generations, so we, Indians, don't lose touch of where we come from. Unfortunately, erotic art is now seen as pornography, and thus, immoral and depraved. There is such a coercive and desperate censorship, that most Indians are taught not to express themselves with their bodies. My work aims to start a dialogue about sex, identity, censorship, sensuality, sexuality, and societal constraints in an open and humorous way."



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A R T F O R A C A U S E

Eight Indian artists who use the brush to make powerful pieces works. They address pressing issues and raise awareness, one beautiful artwork at a time.

By Humra Afroz Khan

Seema Kohli *Feminine Energy*

"A lot of my work leans towards the transformational energies of the 'feminine'. When patriarchy was at its peak, our rootedness to Earth diverged towards ownership, and wars over lands, waters, and skies. The first abuse of the 'feminine' took place when we forgot that the planet we live on was a living feminine entity, and abused it, causing countless environmental hazards. Assaults on the Earth in the form of mining, pollution of water and air continue to happen. And this inappropriate treatment occurs at the physical form of the female, too. It's entered our society through our homes, and spread farther out. It happens when you're young, and leaves you scarred for life—a bomb that tears through your mind, and leaves a crater you can never crawl out of. But the most insidious part of the crime starts later. Shock turns to guilt. Guilt to anger. Anger turns to tears. And soon, all that's left is the shame of knowing that it happened to you. Finally, the reconciliation with the abuse. But should women still have to face it? Has nothing changed? These are the questions that trouble me, at both micro and macro levels. We come from one single womb, share the same single space...how can we despair that?"