

**Lalit Kala Akademi**

Press Release

**59<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition of Arts inaugurated by *Hon'ble Minister of Culture* Dr. Mahesh Sharma**

The Lalit Kala Akademi's National Exhibition of Art is held every year to exhibit the works of brilliance and to give appreciation and recognition to outstanding artists. The 59th National Exhibition of Art was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Culture Dr Mahesh Sharma. The exhibition covers art works from extensive series of mediums like paintings, sculptures, graphics, photographs, drawings, installation and multimedia. The Exhibition opened before a large audience of art practitioners, artists, art collectors, art lovers and critics from all over the country. ***The catalogue for the 59<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition of Art was also been released by Hon'ble Minister of Culture Dr Mahesh Sharma.***

Speaking on the occasion ***Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of Culture*** said “**The 59<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition of Art is a platform for young, upcoming, known and famous artists to display their talent and creativity. It is a portal where the entire country can view various mediums of art by innumerable artists.**” He also said “**A person who does physical toil is a labourer, a person who utilizes his brain to work can be an engineer but it is only artists who works with all their heart. Let us help all these artists to get a platform to display their art and creativity.**”

The inauguration ceremony was graced by eminent persons like Adwaita Gadanayak(DG, NGMA), Vijay Kumar, Katerine Kumar, Pravesh Khanna, Mukul Pawar, Gogi Saroj Pal, Ananda Moy Bannerji, Amit Dutt(Awardee) to name a few.

*“Contemporary art is reaching out to a larger audience and globally evolving. The artworks highlight the signature style of each artist, depicting the current cultural and global influences on Indian art, thus creating a deeper interest in art today. The works of the 59th NEA are shining examples of quality and innovation.”* As said by **Administrator, Lalit Kala Akademi Sh. C. S. Krishna Setty.**

The Akademi had received 3644 entries submitted by 1433 artists throughout the country. The selection jury unanimously selected 172 exhibits in different disciplines by 171 artists for the National exhibition. Out of 172 exhibits, the jury selected 15 National Academy Awardees for the 59<sup>th</sup> National Exhibition of Art.