



Heavenly Pieces

OLAF VAN CLEEF

Thursday 18th • Monday 22nd

December 2014



gallery-g

Art
Corridor

TAJ
WEST END
BANGALORE



Gitanjali Maini,
gallery g and
 Somnath Mukherjee,
 General Manager
 The Taj West End,
 invite you to preview
 Heavenly Pieces,
 a collection of paintings
 by Olaf Van Cleef
 7.30 pm Thursday
 18th December 2014
 at the Art Corridor,
 Taj West End,
 25 Race Course Road,
 over wine and cheese.
 Frank Fassbender, CEO
 Van Cleef Hall, Puducherry,
 will introduce the collection
 and talk about Olaf's work.
 The show runs till Monday
 22nd December 2014.

All paintings by Olaf Van Cleef.
 For more visit
www.olafvancleef.org





Olaf Van Cleef's life is as colourful and romantically detailed as his work. A deep-rooted India connection can perhaps be traced back to his mother who spent her honeymoon in this country and who often stayed at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in Mumbai, the Taj West End's storied sister hotel.

Olaf himself first came here with her when he was 14 and has returned again and again. He now lives between Paris and Puducherry.

Scion of the venerable, renowned Van Cleef family and a consultant at Cartier since 1982, his lineage and calling resonate in

his paintings: meticulous and expressive of his attachments to what is now his second home, India, its iconography and trends.

He paints gods and goddesses, as much to be found in a puja room as on an easel. They're are carefully delineated and shaded, finished with materials, a mix of the fabulous and the throwaway: from Swarovskis to chocolate foil.

As you'll see in the 50 paintings in this show, the Hindu pantheon isn't his only preoccupation though. He handily cross-references religion, epics and everyday imagery to acknowledge heritage in a very modern way.

His style of painting is based on abstract pointillism and tachisme, (from the French *tache* for stain); the latter he developed from finger-painting, characterised by spontaneous, calligraphic lines. His pointillism technique consists of over-dabbing watercoloured dots with white ones. Each painting takes about 150 to 200 hours.



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Maini Sadan, 38 Lavelle Rd, 7th Cross,
Bangalore 560 001.

Ph: +91 80 2221 9275, 4095 7559

gitanjalimaini@gmail.com

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