

**India Today** 29 January, 2012

## DAY 4 OF INDIA ART FAIR: HIGHLIGHTS

By Olina Banerji

Delhi's crash course in high culture and art appreciation continued well into the fourth day of the [India Art Fair](#). If things may have been a bit dull post-lunch on Friday, the fair made up in numbers on Saturday as phone camera wielding students and enthusiasts crowded the more popular stalls, posing with paintings and installations that caught their fancy, or were just plain bizarre.

### **The Medium is the Message**

The experimentation with medium and message is a stunt that most contemporary artists have pulled successfully, and it has often become the basis of their popularity. Such experimental art was in full display at the Fair, with everything from human hair, to tea-cups and three dimensional effects (3D) being used to express 'novel' ideas. Evolving from one dimensional classics in oil and enamel to creating 3D effects of holograms, triographs and images that never stay still, the medium itself becomes a symbol for transience and impermanence.

Ranbir Kaleka's work, displayed at Volte Gallery, was a mixed media masterpiece in which candles drawn on canvas were lit by a projector on the opposite wall, as was Tushar Joag's 3D visual representation of his famous road trip from Bombay to Shanghai on his bike 'Rocinante'. At the Karen Woodbury Gallery, Sam Jinks' 'hyperreal' structures, that use resin, silicone and human hair, and have an uncanny bearing to real human bodies, also pulled in an impressive crowd that wanted pictures next to the pieta images. "There has been a lot of interest in Jinks' work," said Karen Woodbury, owner of the gallery, before rushing off to exchange business cards with Kiran Nadar, who was found admiring 'Small Things', the cast of a baby positioned between two unsettling, green frogs.