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Back from a workshop with tribal artists from Jharkhand, Italian artist Tarshito finds his romance with Indian art far from over

For a generation which knows no universally-endorsed definition of 'peace', translating the same into art usually stands the risk of running into clichés. It's almost delightful how Italian artist Tarshito skirts past the usual and the familiar, breaks across genres and comes up with an easy on rhetoric, high on style collection of banners and sculptors that promote world peace. The first thing that strikes one about Tarshito's creations is the variety of materials he uses and how he fuses disparate media without cluttering the final outcome, in a single work. And his penchant for mixed media has a lot to do with his tryst with India, he says.

Born Niccola Strippoli in Italy, a chance visit to India confronted his knowledge of art with the sheer variety of forms of expression that the country is home to. "After I was done with my degree in architecture, my parents found me deserving enough to go on a holiday at their expense," laughs Tarshito. He chose India, and rest might go down as history in his life and that of several art connoisseurs.