

The Telegraph

calcutta, india

Sunday, February 8, 2009

Mirror, method, migration



Bose Pacia's current exhibition Analytical Engine curated by Heidi Fichtner focuses on intriguing and sophisticated art work created by harnessing both painstakingly traditional as well as cutting edge technology at a time when any technology becomes obsolete in 12 months.

Kiran Subbaiah's "computer virus" demonstrates how what we consider the frontiers of art and our concept of aesthetics are being challenged all the time in this age, when, as they say, one can be certain of impermanence alone.

Abhishek Hazra's video work may be new media but it looks surprisingly low-tech. It reminds one of Walt Disney Studios abandoning computer technology in favour of hand-drawn cartoons. The human touch never becomes dated. Asim Waqif's bamboo-and-rope construct with the Saraswati image ensconced in its midst may have required a great degree of skill to put up, but it won't cut much ice in a city where "experiments" with divinities defy good taste and logic.

Navin Thomas's use of momo-pots as amplifiers may be an innovative idea, but will viewers be willing to read the concept note to discover what he has up his sleeves?