



Canvas from Belgium

ART

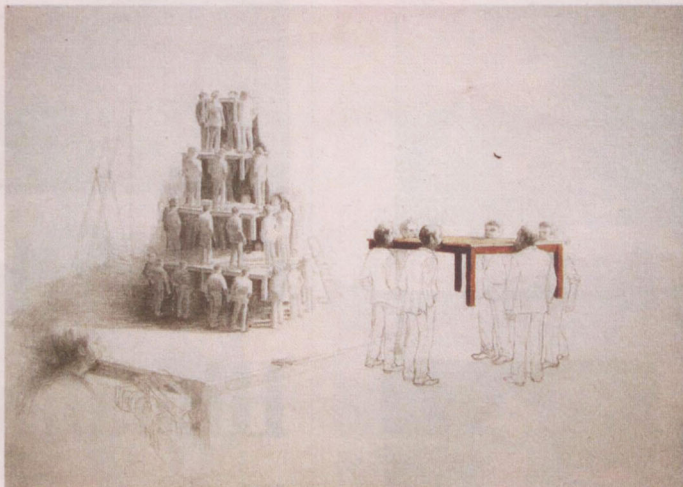
Here's your chance to appreciate unique art by four Belgian artists under a cultural and artistic exchange programme

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To explore the language, art and each other's world, Yasmine Geukens and Marie-Paule De Vil of the gallery, Geukens & De Vil in Antwerp and Abhay Maskara of Gallery Maskara in Mumbai, undertook an exchange programme between the two galleries. This has resulted in an exhibition, showcasing works of four Belgian artists in the city.

The show titled, Are The Limits of My Language The Limits of My



A drawing by Ruben Bellinkx with pencil, ink and watercolour on paper, titled *The Table Meeting*

Works, has on display, artworks created by upcoming Belgian artists such as Ruben Bellinkx, Peter De Meyer, Gideon Kiefer and Sofie Muller.

"I went to Brussels two years ago and had a chance to meet Yasmine Geukens and Marie-Paule De Vil. We spoke of putting our thoughts forward and decided to work around something exciting. So we brought down contemporary art from their country to India and vice-versa. There was great enthusiasm between this thought and hence we made it happen," says Maskara.

Next step, Antwerp

While Belgian artists have come down to the country this time around, October next year will see works by young Indian artists at the Antwerp gallery under the exchange programme. That show will be part of the official programme of Europolia, a major international arts festival held every two years to celebrate one invited country's cultural heritage; the 24th biennial Europolia will bring India to Belgium.

"For the second leg of this programme, we will take Indian

artists to Belgium. We already have a shortlist, which is almost finalised," informs Maskara.

Myriad shades and inspirations

The Belgian artists might belong to the same country and culture, but have diverse inspirations and approach to art.

While Bellinkx draws his inspiration for his artworks from the close environment in which he lives with its everyday utensils, furniture and objects, Meyer examines (found) objects to place them in an unexpected context in order to subtly deconstruct and transform them. With (often extremely) minimal interventions he tries to produce a maximal effect.

As far as Kiefer is concerned, his work is mostly about the relativity of freedom and the tragedy of powerlessness and Muller is a sculptor who prefers to work with traditional media such as bronze.

TILL December 29, 6.30pm to 9.30pm
AT Gallery Maskara, 6/7, Third Pasta Lane, Colaba.
CALL 22023056



A video installation, titled *Barbara* by artist Sofie Muller. The installation questions the limits of communication, religion and sexuality



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- Abhay Maskara, gallerist