Galleries as Agents of Creativity: Celebrating Cymroza @50

For immediate release

Through their functions of curation, appraisal and reappraisal of artistic trends, art galleries have long inspired creative responses and confrontations that have enriched the broader culture. They catalyze the rediscoveries or recontextualizations of well-known or forgotten artists, and the discoveries of exciting new ones. They are welcoming spaces for art lovers who may or may not be art buyers, and also venues for interaction for the wider art community.

During the pandemic and multiple lockdowns, galleries went into hibernation. The art world went virtual with online viewings, even online walkthroughs and robust online sales. And yet, as the lockdown restrictions have eased up, a record number of visitors have thronged the galleries, attending openings and walkthroughs with enthusiasm. How do physical art galleries place themselves in this landscape? Are art galleries resisting or adapting to the digital wave in particular and to the post-pandemic age in general, and how? Have the realities of the art market changed?

Cymroza Art Gallery, Pundole Art Gallery, Chatterjee & Lal, TARQ, Godrej Archives and **Avid Learning** present **Galleries as Agents of Creativity: Celebrating Cymroza @50**

Join us for a panel discussion with *Gallerist and Co-Founder, Chatterjee and Lal*, **Mortimer Chatterjee,** *Art Historian & Ph.D. in Ancient Indian Culture, Founder, Cymroza Art Gallery*, **Dr. Pheroza J. Godrej**, *Gallerist and Owner, Pundole's,* **Dadiba Pundole** in conversation with *Founder, TARQ,* **Hena Kapadia**, The discussion will be launched with a keynote by *Poet, Cultural Theorist and Curator of The Cymroza Chronicles and Mapping the Lost Spectrum, part of Cymroza @50*, **Ranjit Hoskote.**

This discussion marks a joyous occasion – the Cymroza Art Gallery, founded by Dr. Pheroza J. Godrej, is currently celebrating its golden jubilee year. A group of three exhibitions – at Cymroza, Chatterjee and Lal, and Pundole's – are offering art lovers a sustained glimpse into the various currents that Cymroza channelled into the art market, conserving much art from oblivion and shaping many artistic careers.

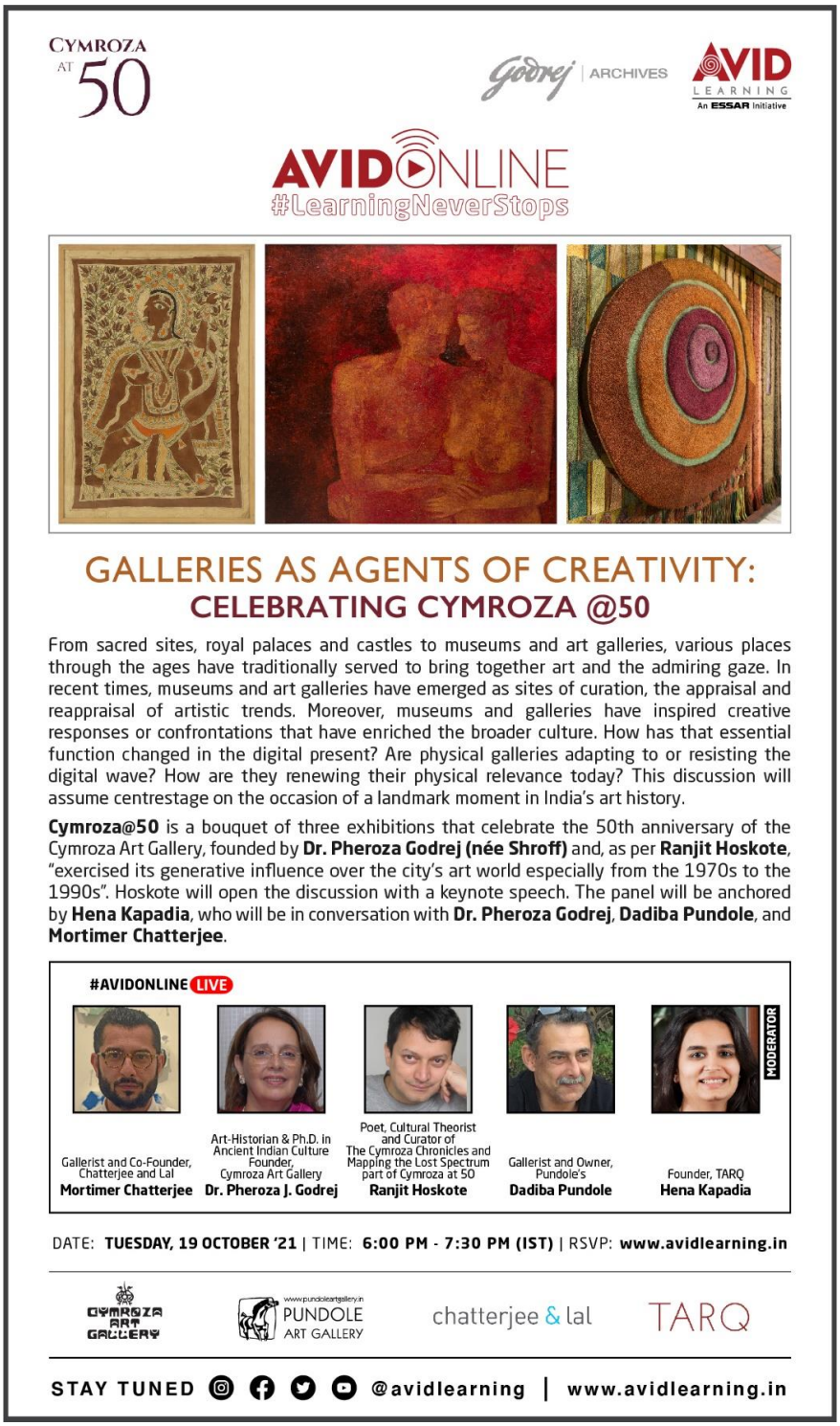
Cymroza's golden jubilee serves as an occasion for Avid Learning to broach a larger discussion about the role of the art gallery today.

When: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Date : Tuesday, 19th October, 2021

RSVP: www.avidlearning.in

Press Email: Ayeshah Dadachanji on ayeshah.avid@gmail.com



About the Speakers :

Dr. Pheroza J. Godrej is an art-historian and a Ph.D. in Ancient Indian Culture. She founded the Cymroza Art Gallery and authored various publications and curated highly acclaimed exhibitions for leading National and International Museums. She is Chairperson of the Museum Society of Mumbai; former President of the National Society of the Friends of the Trees for 17 years, President Emeritus since 2016. Dr. Godrej is on the Executive Board of the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology (ATREE) and the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation; Director of Asia Society India Chapter; and a Trustee of Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum and the Sea Cadet Corp India.

Pheroza is on the Board of the Oxford India Centre for Sustainable Development International Advisory Council. She is an ardent promoter of the Cornelia Sorabji Programme, and supports the Cornelia Sorabji Scholarship at Somerville College, Oxford. She is a Member of the Advisory Council for the JCB

Prize for Literature, and a fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers & Commerce (RSA), U.K. The Asiatic Society of Mumbai conferred her with the Society's Honorary Fellowship for her outstanding contribution in the field of art and culture. Dr. Godrej is the Chairperson of the Godrej Archives Council.

Dadiba Pundole owns one of Mumbai's oldest commercial art spaces – Pundole Gallery. Pundole is one of Mumbai's oldest galleries, which his father Kali Pundole set up. He began his career as a gallerist in 1980. He is recognised in the field for his in-depth knowledge on the Indian Modernists including Vasudev S. Gaitonde, Akbar Padamsee, S.H. Raza, Ram Kumar, M.F. Husain and F.N. Souza. Pundole Art Gallery began representing these artists in the 1960s. Dadiba was a consultant at Sotheby's for their Modern Indian Art sales from 2005 to 2010. Dadiba has taken Pundole to new spaces and new places; and has transformed the gallery into a very successful auction house

Mortimer Chatterjee received his MA in the History of Indian Art and Architecture from SOAS, London, and co-founded Chatterjee & Lal with his wife, Tara Lal, in 2003. Based in Mumbai's Colaba art district, the gallery is focused on contemporary art and historical material. In 2010, Chatterjee co-authored a publication on the art collection of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), along with curating an exhibition of that collection at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai. He is currently editing a major publication on modern and contemporary art from the Indian subcontinent, due to be published in 2022.

Ranjit Hoskote is a poet, cultural theorist and curator. His seven collections of poetry include Vanishing Acts, Central Time, Jonahwhale and Hunchprose. Hoskote curated India's first-ever national pavilion at the Venice Biennale (2011) and was co-curator of the 7th Gwangju Biennale. His curatorial projects include retrospectives of such major artists as Jehangir Sabavala, Sakti Burman, Mehlli Gobhai and Atul Dodiya within the National Gallery of Modern Art system (Mumbai and Delhi), and a retrospective of M F Husain at the Mathaf Museum, Doha. He has received the Sahitya Akademi Golden Jubilee Award, the Sahitya Akademi Translation Award and the S.H. Raza Literature Award.

Hena Kapadia is founder and gallery director of TARQ, a contemporary art gallery in Mumbai. At TARQ, she is focused on exhibiting and engaging with art that is both process driven and thought provoking. A key interest of her practice is to maintain close relationships with both artists and patrons, and to encourage thoughtful acquisitions of art. Apart from TARQ's regular shows, the gallery is also committed to building an educational structure that enables the art community to grow through discussion, debate and dialogue across a variety of fields.

About the Partners:

Cymroza Art Gallery

Website: https://www.cymroza.com/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/cymrozaartgallery/

Instagram : @cymroza50

Twitter : https://twitter.com/hashtag/Cymroza?src=hash

Pundole Art Gallery

Website: https://www.pundoleartgallery.in/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Pundoles/

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/pundoles/?hl=en

Twitter: https://twitter.com/pundoles?lang=en

Chatterjee & Lal

Website: https://chatterjeeandlal.com/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/chatterjeeandlal/about/?ref=page_internal

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/chatterjeeandlal/?hl=en

Twitter: https://twitter.com/candlgallery?lang=en

TARQ

Website: https://www.tarq.in/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tarqmumbai/

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/tarqmumbai/

Twitter : https://twitter.com/tarqtweets

Godrej Archives

Website: https://archives.godrej.com/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GodrejArchives/

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/godrej.archives/?hl=en

Twitter: https://twitter.com/godrejarchives?lang=en

Avid Learning

Website: http://www.avidlearning.in

Twitter: https://twitter.com/AvidLearning

Instagram: @avidlearning

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/avidlearning/

#LearningNeverStops!