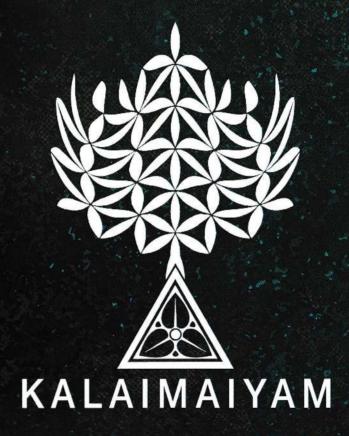
# INTERNATIONAL ART FESTIVAL



Meenatchi Gopal | Selin George 2019





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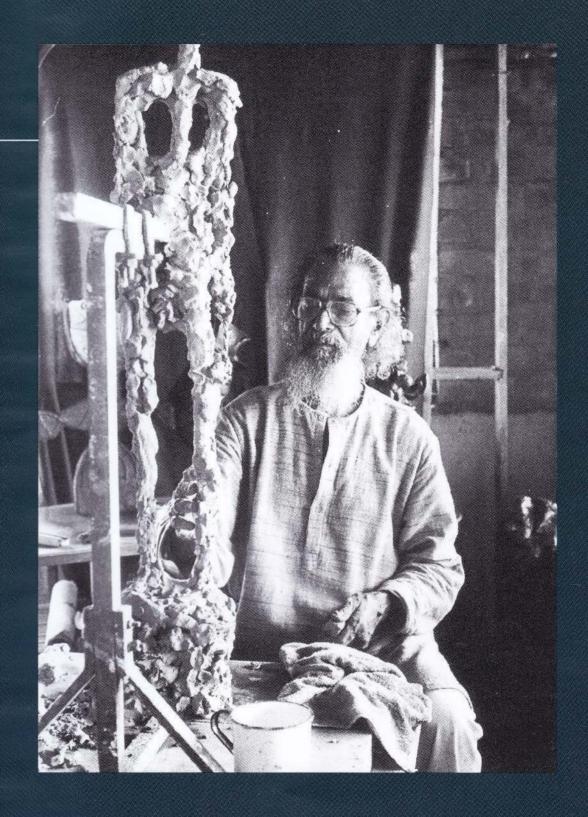


அன்பிலார் எல்லாம் தமக்குரியர் அன்புடையார் என்பும் உரியர் பிறர்க்கு

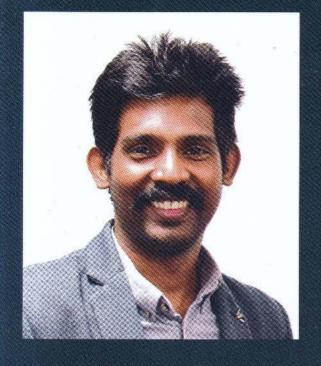
> - திருக்குறள் எண் 72, திருவள்ளுவர், கி.மு. ஆறாம் நூற்றாண்டு

The loveless to themselves belong alone; The loving men are others' to the very bone.

> - Thirukkural by Thiruvalluvar (600 B.C), Verse 72. Translation by G.U.Pope



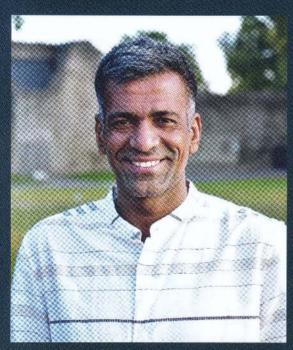
In Memory of Master Sculptor S. Dhanapal Centenary Year - (1919 - 2019)



Art makes life so meaningful to live. Creative art is the driving force of innovation and aesthetics. Art supports the logical brain to think and innovate. It helps decode the nature's best kept secrets that we pass it on to our next generation as knowledge and wisdom.

Kalaimaiyam which is an art collective - is one of those wisdom that was passed on to us by artist K.M.Gopal and his companions. It offers a communal learning atmosphere to recognise creative talents, appreciate it and broadcast it to the betterment of others. The knowledge that we accumulate in this process will be cherished and celebrated by our younger generations for many more years.

- Selin George, Secretary, Kalaimaiyam



"...medicine, law, business, engineering - these are noble pursuits and necessary to sustain life. But poetry, beauty, romance, love - these are what we stay alive for". These words beautifully summarise what art does to us.

Art adds beauty, grace, emotion, poignancy to the world. It is the ultimate nourishment of the soul. Creative arts, in any form, bring us closer not just to each other, but also to ourselves.

I am so glad to be associated with Kalaimaiyam and to contribute towards their wonderful goal of celebrating art!

- Aneesh Gupta, Treasurer, Kalaimaiyam



Kalaimaiyam provides a platform for young talents. It brings together art from diverse cultures for all to experience and to create more outstanding art, develop more early career artists and create more opportunities for our audiences from all backgrounds to have a meaningful and life-long engagement with the arts. The vision is for "arts from diverse cultures for all". By supporting Kalaimaiyam, you will be helping to put the arts, at the heart of education, inspiring young people to create, experience, and participate in high quality arts and culture. I wish Kalaimaiyam all the best in their endeavour in making art and culture accessible to everyone.

- Smita Salunke, Joint-Secretary, Kalaimaiyam

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# SOPHIE LESCOT CHAIR OF KALAIMAIYAM

It happened to me a very strange adventure almost 40 years ago. I went with a friend of mine to the little seaside art gallery (which was a hut back then) at Cholamandal Artists' Village in Chennai on a beautiful full moon night. After a glimpse of all the work displayed, I selected about 10 paintings with different signatures and put them on the ground to buy. On seeing my selection, the manager of that gallery just smiled and asked me to wait. After few minutes, he walked in with a man and told me that all my selection were from him. After a brief conversation with him, I got to know that the different signatures, which he used according to his inspiration at certain times of his art works. Since then, this man is living besides me and has become a companion of my life.

All my selection were pieces of art from this man - Dr. K. M. Gopal, a humble, modest, fun, brilliant, noble, handsome, cheerful, clean, an absolute warrior and a spirit. No one could take him out of his way. We met every time I visited India, often on full moon nights accidentally. We didn't talk much. Sometimes, we stayed by each other for hours without uttering a word, at the same time with the feeling of a long conversation. Whenever I had a delicate question, he could answer months later in the middle of talking about other subjects. For him, it was very evident that I would catch it and I always did. A kind of secret society between two person. I never planned anything, but finally I ended up collecting a good number of his artworks. I am still and forever very proud of this collection. On top of all this, he gave me a family. It was his last wish to see his daughter Meenatchi becoming my daughter, my gift and it is what we did. Present with my adopted family here, I am extremely proud to chair Kalaimaiyam where his dream came through. Thanks, from the deep of my heart to Selin and Meenatchi for this achievement. Thanks to all of you for supporting this fabulous adventure.







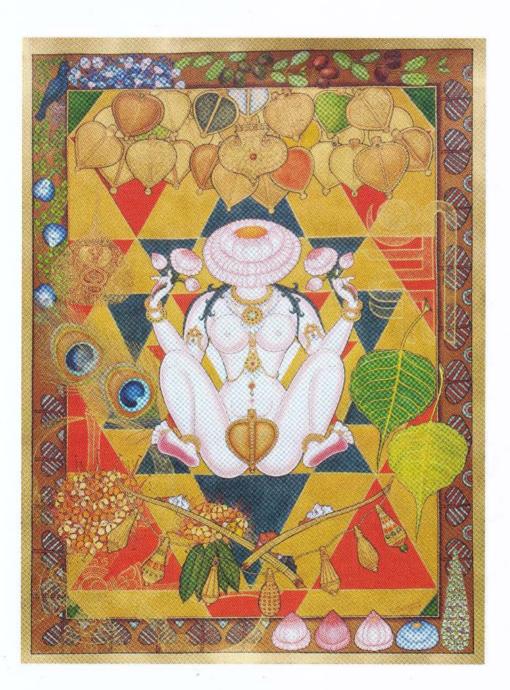
What a fantastic year 2019 is, which is also the 40th year since Kalaimaiyam's birth! I can't thank enough the time our volunteers have put to bring Kalaimaiyam this far. We have covered many significant events this year, from fundraising events to centenary celebration. Many new volunteers, new sponsors and new members and their interests helped kalaimaiyam to celebrate yet another year of an art festival in the Garden of England, Kent.

I am very happy to have our Tamil Nadu government to partner with us in celebrating the centenary celebration of the great master S. Dhanapal - former principal of Madras School of Arts and Crafts (Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai) at International Institute of Tamil Studies (உலகத் தமிழாராய்ச்சி நிறுவனம்), Chennai — Tamil Nadu. My heartfelt thanks to the Director Dr. K. Vijayaraghavan, and Dr. A. Manavalagan (ஆ.மனவழகன்), Associate Professor, Art and Cultural Studies for helping us with the right guidance, permission and support. A special thanks to our chief guest Mr. Balakrishnan IPS for his continuous support and inspiration. I extend my thanks to art director N. Raghavan, art director Thota Tharani, art historian Leela Ganapathy, Ravi Dhanapal, Mu. Harikrishnan, other senior artists, art enthusiasts, Shruthi TV, and other media professionals for being a part of this iconic event, even on their busy schedule.

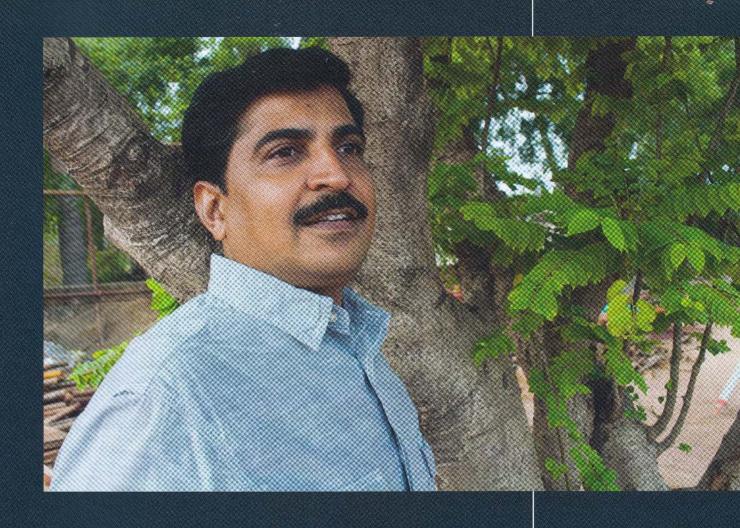
My humble thanks to my friends Sridevi, Sandeep Venkatesha, Jenny & Gareth, Tobias Van De Peer, Sridaran Ravikumar for always being with us at any time. Their help towards the fundraising food stall and Kalaimaiyam Food Festival were overwhelming. Our co-secretary Smita Salunke and her family stood with us all the time with many creative ideas and offered space in their Chaista to host our planning meetings. Treasurer of Kalaimaiyam, Aneesh Gupta and our executive member Anjali Gupta, Anitha M. Prasadh and Uma Senkathir have wholeheartedly supported Kalaimaiyam through every form possible, and my sincere thanks to them. Special thanks to Dr. Kanaga Dharshini for giving hand as and when needed all the way from Chennai. I also thank Mr. M. V. Vetri (works for Adavu - A school for Theru Koothu - an ancient form of theatre art) who came all the way from Pondicherry, and also the young talent Akshay Sreekrishna and his parents - who came all the way from Nagapattinam to attend the Dhanapal Centenary celebration.

I would like to thank Trish Fairchild of Rochester and West Kent Art Society for being one of our Jury for this year's fellowship awards, and "Colony - A Community of Artists" for their wholehearted support for Kalaimaiyam.

My special thanks to my dearest God Mother Sophie Lescot and art director N. Raghavan Uncle for mentoring, guiding and being a huge support.



The Pipal Leaf
22 in x 30 in
Watercolour, poster gold & white, on paper, 2015



## Balaji Srinivasan kmf

Balaji Srinivasan (b.1968), has a great passion for Indian traditional paintings. His paintings are very detailed, vivid, which comes out of depth research, interpretation of ancient Indian inscriptions and literature. His knowledge is tremendous in multiple art forms and their evolutions over time.

He did an observation-based photo documentary by visiting temples, such as Pallava Art in Kanchipuram Kailasanatha temple, Panamalai Talagiriswarar temple, Vijayanagar paintings in Hampi Virupaksha temple and Lepakshi Veerabhadra temple. He also spent 3 years in visual documentation of Indian traditional theatre and performance art such as Kaliattam rituals and performances of Pachaikali Pavalakali festival in Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

He trained many students in classical paintings viz. Thanjavur Painting, Nathadwara Painting, Painting tradition of Kerala, Pattachithra of Orissa, Thangka paintings of the Buddhists and Hindus, and spearheaded a critically acclaimed "Innerflow" group show, that has been exhibited in various parts of India.



## Elizabeth Akehurst kmf

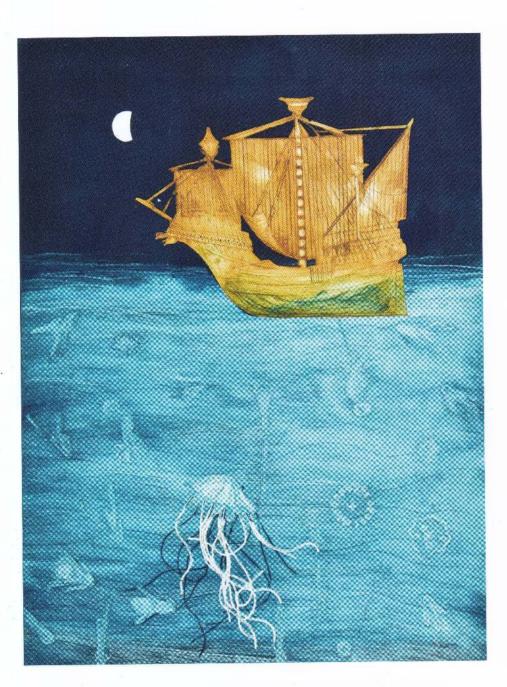
Elizabeth Akehurst graduated with a first-class degree in mathematics from the University of Kent and continued postgraduate studies at King's, Cambridge and Newcastle. However, a strong interest in painters and paintings has always formed an integral part of her life.

After a short career in full-time teaching, having a family allowed her the opportunity to paint. Elizabeth began exhibiting regularly in the early 1990s. She taught art for a number of years and acted as Medway Coordinator for the South East Open Studios before setting aside these commitments to concentrate solely on her paintings. She exhibits regularly at Lilford Gallery, Canterbury and has exhibited at other galleries across South and East England, Shropshire and Edinburgh. She has been represented at art fairs in London, Paris, Amsterdam, Dublin, Glasgow, and Edinburgh.

Her work is in the collections of the University of Kent, Canterbury and Medway Council and in private collections both in England and abroad.



In the Studio - I 60 cm x 70 cm Oil on Canvas



Flemish Galleon, Hydra, Waning Moon and Evening Star 31 cm x 46 cm Drypoint Etching, 2019



## Jane Furst kmf

Jane Furst is a Painter/Printmaker, born in South Africa but spent most of her adult life in London and later moved to Kent. She is a printed textile design graduate from the Royal College of Art in London. She has been practicing art for fifty years. She was also a visiting Art lecturer/ teacher in a number of art colleges in London including St Martins and Middlesex University for 34 years.

Jane had many exhibitions of her Botanical, 'Seed Pod' paintings which included venues such as the Barbican, London and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. Her interest is frequently inspired by 'Natural Form'.

Her recent printmaking centres on sailing ships from the past. This work comes out of the fact that she now lives in Rochester near the river Medway and is conscious of the tides, the sea nearby and the Maritime history. As a child, she did many sea voyages back and forth to England from South Africa. Thus, she has experience of what it feels like to be at sea. Her work may also be a memory of this, says Jane.

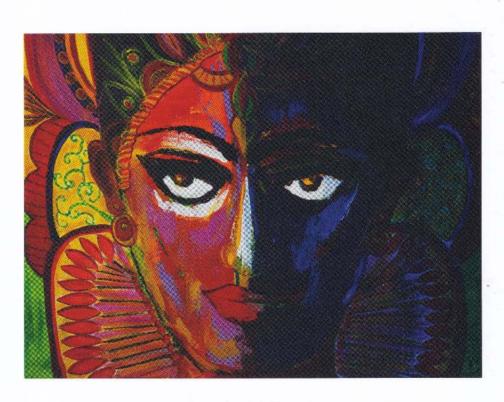


## Kalki Subramaniam kmf

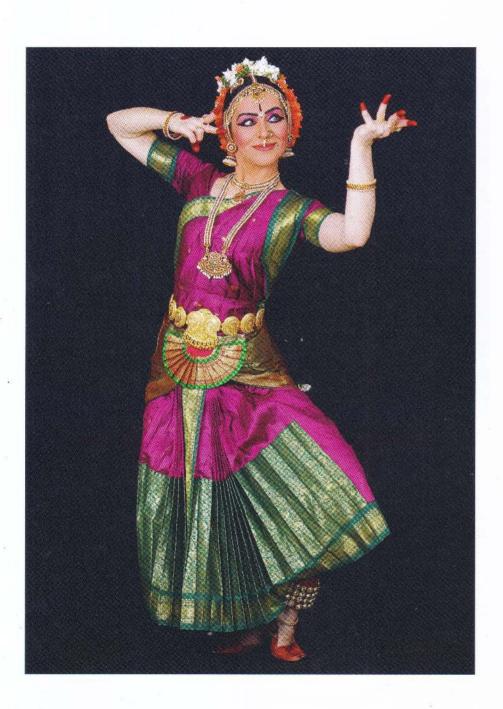
Kalki Subramaniam is an artist, transgender rights activist, actor and writer. She forays into art, films, literature and activism as a champion of transgender's rights in India. Born in Pollachi, a small town in Tamil Nadu, she is now known as an international activist and artist who uses art to speak up and stand up for the social justice of transgenders in India and around the world.

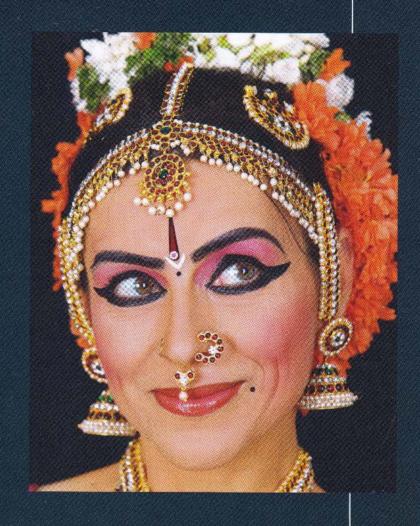
Kalki uses variety of fluorescent colours in her acrylic and watercolour paintings. She does pop art cubism and abstract artworks. She has exhibited her artworks in Canada, USA, Germany and Netherlands. In 2016, she was nominated for the Women of Worth award under the arts category by NDTV, a prime television channel in India. She has received numerous awards for her activism for the rights of transgenders.

Founder of the Sahodari Foundation which works for the social, political and economic empowerment of the transgenders in India. Kalki uses art as a powerful weapon to address the issues of the transgenders to the public and the media.



Exotica - The Rainbow Queen 76 cm x 50 cm Acrylic on Canvas, 2016





## Katya Tosheva kmf

**BULGARIA** 

Katya Tosheva is an Indian classical dancer based in Bulgaria. Inspired by the culture and traditions of India, she fell in love with the Indian classical dance, and had to quit her engineering job to pursue her passion. She is a regular visitor to India to improve her skills in Bharatanatyam, Odissi and Kathak.

Katya had participated in hundreds of dancing projects, festivals and cultural events on prestigious stages in Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece, France and India. Bulgarian High Commission of India invited her to perform during the Indian Presidential visit to Bulgaria. Katya lives with her husband Rosen who is a tabla player and a huge supporter of her dancing passion.

Katya runs a dance school "Kaya Dance School" in Sofia, Bulgaria that teaches Indian classical dance. She has been covered in many Indian and international media including Indian national television "Doordarshan" and BBC. She is also a talented Henna artist.

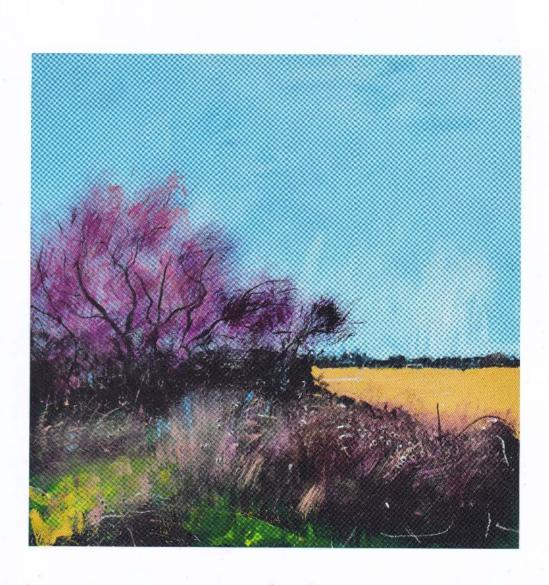


## Peter Reeds kmf

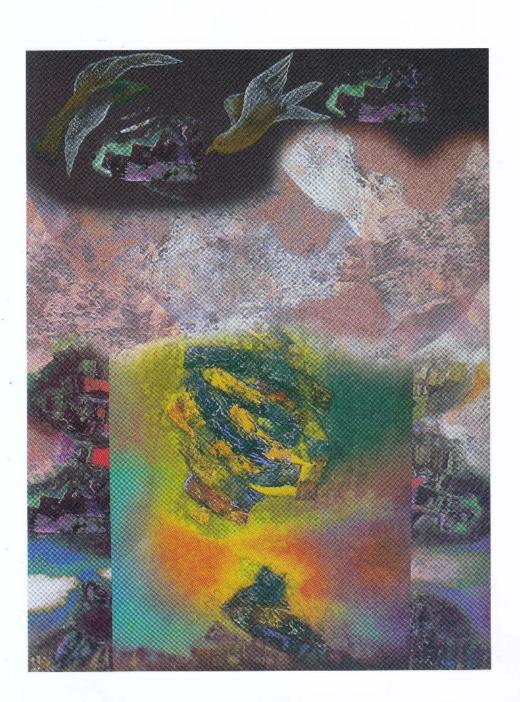
Peter is originally from South London and he relocated to Kent with his parents and enrolled at Medway College of Art from 1964 -1968. Right after his art collage, he had become a professional portrait painter due to his passion on different kind of people. Later he moved to Port of London Authority for office job. During this time, Peter participated in Tilbury Dock's centennial celebrations, and did a mural which is still seen in the Booking Hall. Peter also joined the Territorial Army in the 1970's.

He inspires every little thing around him from places to people. He is actively involved in community, environmental and heritage projects, both as an artist and a campaigner.

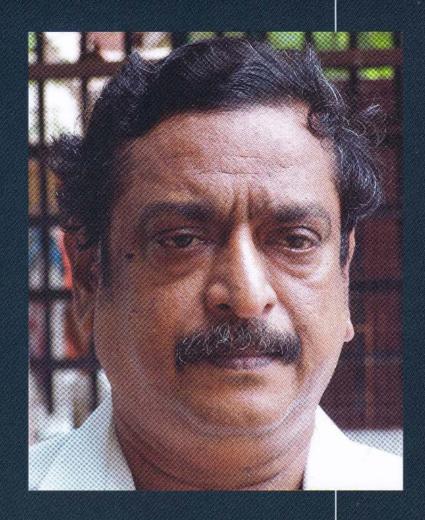
He is also a founding member of "Colony - The Artists' Community" and a strong supporter of the thriving Rochester and Chatham artistic / creative community. Apart from one-to-one tuition workshops, Peter has also given his time to run painting workshops for young adults with behavioural problems.



Hoo Marshes Yellow 80 cm x 80 cm Acrylic on Canvas, 2013



Mystic World 36 in x 48 in Mixed Media on Canvas, 2018



## Ravi Dhanapal kmf

Ravi Dhanapal (b.1956) is a Diploma and Post-Diploma holder in painting from Madras School of Arts and Crafts (now Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai) in 1978 and 1979. His paintings portray a visual imagery of a mystical landscape. Ravi often accompanies crows in his paintings, wherein one can feel the curiosity and a sense of caution in their eyes. His mystic world resembles a telescopic capture of an imaginary world in canvas defined by colours and characters.

He was offered two scholarships: one in 1975 - 1976 by Victoria Technical Institute — Chennai and the other in 1977 - 1978 by Tamil Nadu State Lalit Kala Akademi. He was awarded the Senior fellowship in 2000-2002 by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Ravi Dhanapal has held more than 50 exhibitions across all parts of India in leading art galleries and participated various art camps. Ravi is also the son of the eminent artist & sculptor S.Dhanapal.



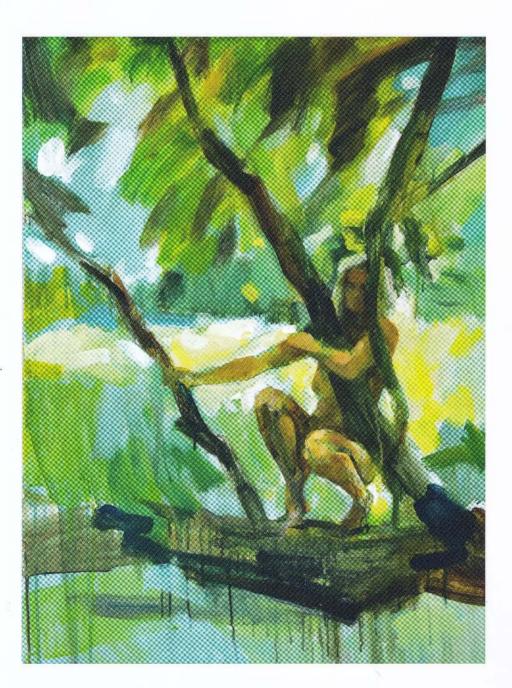
## Sarah Lankester kmf

Sarah Lankester's artistic background began in the applied arts of wood carving. In the 1980's she worked for an antique restoration company and later she became a freelancer. At the same time, she completed few large commissions for Canterbury Council and Medway Council. In 2010, she began a teaching career and was a sessional tutor on the Access Course and the Extended Diploma Course at the University for the Creative Arts (UCA). Since 2016, she has run various outreach projects for the university. Sarah also run her own art and design classes at Beach Creative and Pettman House in Herne Bay, Kent.

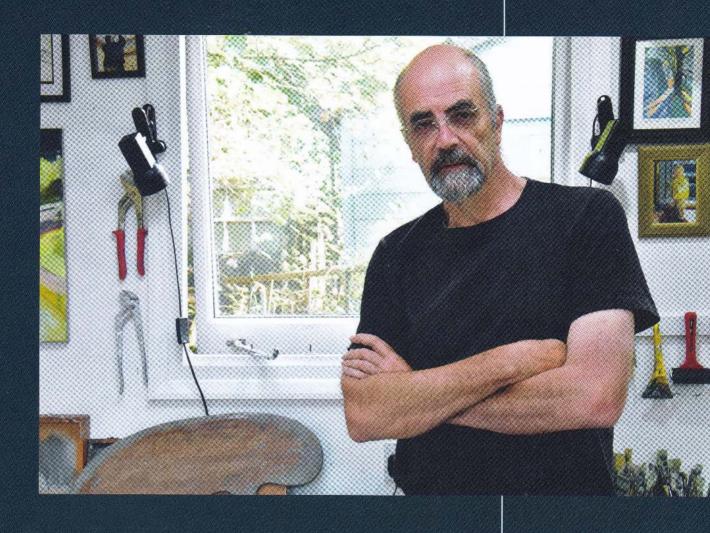
Sarah has always been beguiled by the beauty of drawing and this has always underpinned her own practice. She is also an exhibiting artist. Her work involves carving, woodblock printing, drawing and textile design.



Cloth of Nails - 1 46 cm x 154 cm Woodblock Print on Dyed Cloth, 2017



She 60 cm x 80 cm Acrylic on Canvas, 2019



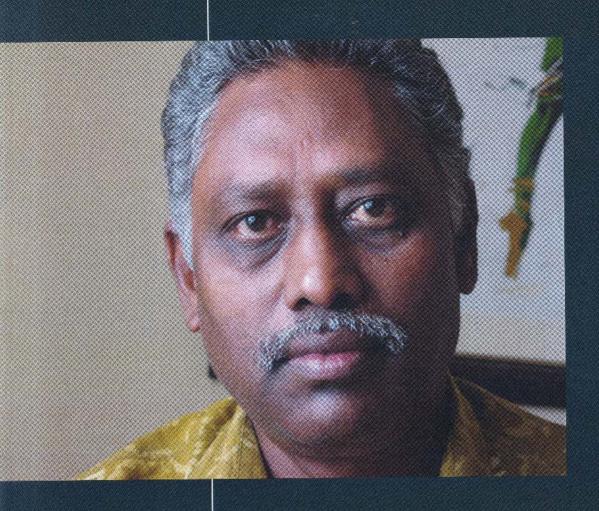
### Simon Mills kmf

**ENGLAND** 

Having studied at St. Albans School of Art and the Central School of Art in the early 1970's, Simon worked as a freelance artist, painting murals and worked as a Fine Art Photographer for Sotheby's in the 1980's and then restored frescoes in Tuscany and Umbria.

Simon painted portraits in the early 1990's, including one of Lionel, Lord Sackville and several for television such as Gary Lineker as Scrooge for a Walkers Crisps advert and Jim Broadbent as Lord Longford. Parallelly, he started painting theatre scenery and worked in the West End, for film and television. Simon was Senior Scenic Artist for the Royal Opera House where he worked among Franco Zeffirelli, David Hockney and Ken Adam (best known for his sets for the James Bond films).

Simon had many successful solo and group shows in many leading art galleries. Simon's artworks are hanging in Restoration House, Cooling Castle, The No.1 Smithery in the Historic Dockyard and numerous private houses in Medway. Simon is also the founder of "Colony - The Artists' Community" based in Medway.

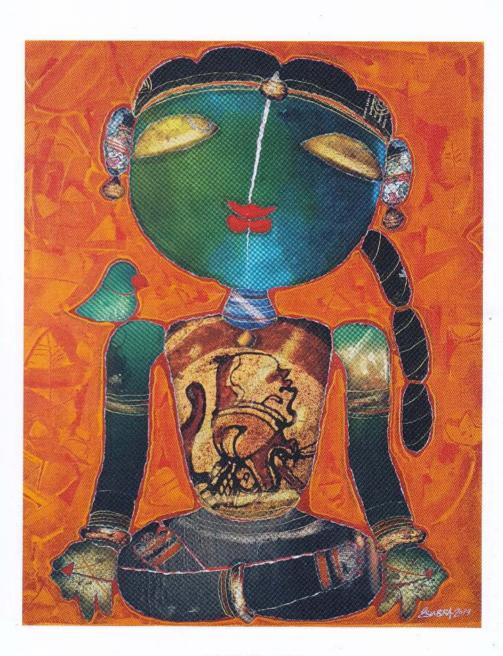


## Subramanian Gopalsamy kmf

Born in Thandavankulam, Tamil Nadu, artist Subramanian Gopalsamy was graduated from the Government College of Arts & Crafts, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu in 1974. Widely known for his unique mixed-media works, Subramanian uses the medium of collage, and layers it along with acrylic paint and ink, washes in brilliant hues, to create striking artworks that moves the audience. Recently he express them in bronze sculptures as well.

The inspiration for Subramanian's work, in his own words, is "the innocence and divine beauty in a child's face, and the power of Indian mythology". With his portrayal of child-like Buddha, Krishna, Ganesha and Hanuman, he seeks to spark, a sense of joy in his audience. Many of his works depict blissful young girls, inspired by his own daughter, Surya, who he lost to cancer at a young age. Surya means sun, and for Subra, as the artist is fondly called, his daughter shines on through his artworks.

In an artistic career spanning over 25 years, artist Subramanian has received numerous awards and honours. He lives and works in Bangalore, Karnataka.



Meditating Girl 40 cm x 50 cm Mixed Media, 2019

### KALAIMAIYAM (2018 - 2019) - RECAP

#### **CHATHAM FARMER'S MARKET FOOD STALL**

2019 of Kalaimaiyam started with a fund-raising food stall on Jan 5th at the farmer's market of Chatham Pentagon Shopping Centre. This idea was suggested by our joint secretary Mrs. Smita Salunke and supported by Chaista. The day went well with a stall supported by Sridevi and Sandeep, who also sponsored a part of the menu. With the combined support of Sandeep, Sridevi, Smita, Yogesh, and their kids, we raised £65 for Kalaimaiyam.

#### KALAIMAIYAM FOOD FESTIVAL

We organised a fundraising event "Kalaimaiyam Food Festival" at West Faversham Community Centre on 20th April 2019, and around 50 guests took part and supported us. Special thanks to our strong supporters Sandeep Venkatesha who sponsored the homemade Dum Biryani and Jenny who sponsored the delicious home baked lemon cake. Both were top selling items of the event. We also had a jewellery stall to support the event by Uma. The guests enjoyed the food and the event was very successful. We raised £150 in this event.

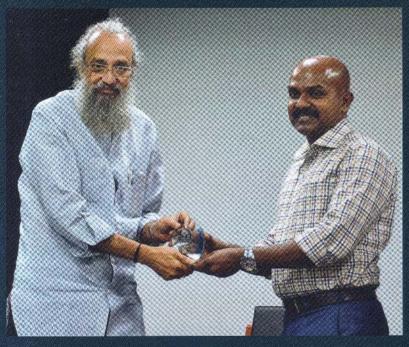
















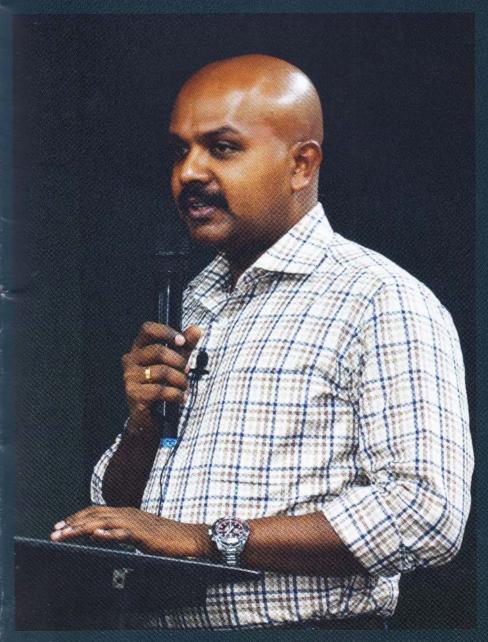




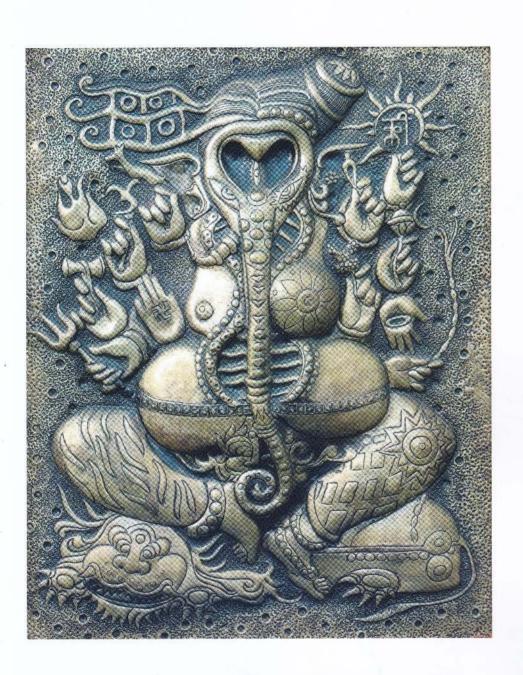
### KALAIMAIYAM (2018 - 2019) - RECAP

#### S.DHANAPAL - CENTENARY CELEBRATION

What a great privilege for us to celebrate the legendary Indian Sculptor and former Principal of Madras School of Arts and Crafts, S. Dhanapal's centenary birth celebration together with the Tamil Nadu Government. The celebration took place on May 25th, 2019 at the International Institute of Tamil Studies, Chennai. The venue was offered by the centre's Director Dr.K. Vijayaraghavan, with the coordination and guidance of Dr. A. Manavalagan, Associate Professor, Art and Cultural Studies division of the institute. With the keynote address by Dr. A. Manavalagan and the chief guest address by Mr. Balakrishnan IPS, Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Tamil Nadu Railway, the event was attended by senior artists, art directors, art enthusiasts, scholars, social activists, media professionals and many more. Art historian and former art teacher Mrs. Leela Ganapathy recollected her memories of S. Dhanapal and shared with everyone. Kalaimaiyam founding treasurer Art Director N. Raghavan, Kalaimaiyam founding committee members Thota Tharani, Leela Ganapathy, and Kalaimaiyam art fellowship award winners Mu.Harikrishnan were also honoured at the event.



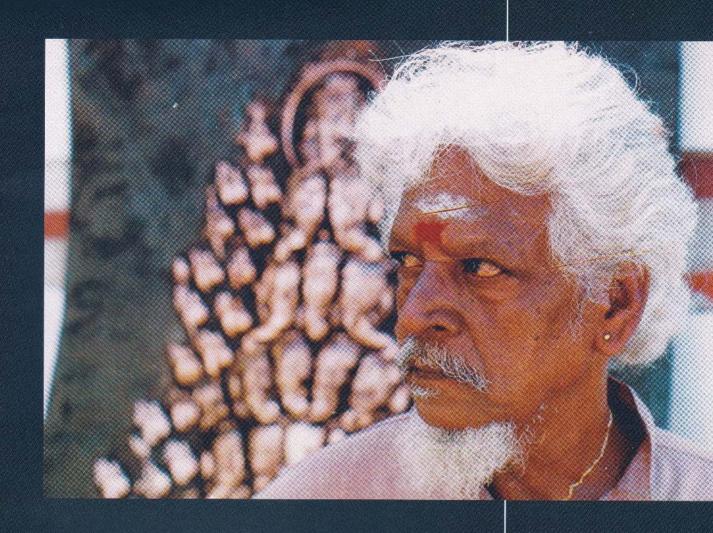




Ardha Ganeshwari 47 cm x 61 cm Oxidised Copper Relief, 1979

Collection from National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Bengaluru

Ardha Ganeshwari is the first ever form of Ganesha in half male and half female form created by Dr. K. M. Gopal, based on the inspiration of Shiva-Sakthi in Ardhanareeswarar form which is again a half male and a half female form.



### DR. K. M. GOPAL - THE FOUNDER

Dr. K. M. Gopal (b. October 21, 1928) is a national award winning Indian Contemporary artist and Sculptor. Born to a spice trading family in Salem, Tamil Nadu, Gopal refused to attend schools at the age of 10, and followed the footsteps of a mute, who draws Lord Anjaneya on empty walls. Gopal mostly stayed alone and drew in his notebook. Worried of his behaviour, his parents sent him to Chennai for art studies at Madras School of Arts and Crafts which was the oldest art institution in India.

Gopal completed his diploma in 1951, and became the best student of Debi Prasad Roy Choudhury, who was the Principal at that time. Gopal started his career working on the sets of Gemini and Revathi film studios including films such as Chandralekha. At the same time, Gopal learned Tabla and started playing for Lalitha, Padmini, Ragini, and Vaijayanthy Mala. Gopal is a very close friend of the legendary comedy film actor Chandrababu.

Being a non-believer, his career took a big change in 1957 and lead him to a spiritual path. His depth research about Lord Ganesha brought him a honorary doctorate in "Ganapathyam", and Gopal produced breath-taking contemporary Ganesha sculptures in metal-relief. His works are widely exhibited across the world. Gopal died on March 12, 2000 in Salem. Gopal is the founding member of Cholamandal Artists' Village (Chennai), and the recipient of "Kalaichemmal" (aka Art Maestro) award from the Tamil Nadu Government.



### **ABOUT KALAIMAIYAM**

Kalaimaiyam is an art collective founded in 1979 by India's eminent artist and sculptor Dr. K. M. Gopal, together with some of the best creative brains of that time. Kaviarasu aka the "King of Poets" Kannadhasan and the world renowned temple architect Padma Bhushan V. Ganapathy Sthapathi, ace film art directors N.Raghavan, Thota Tharani, and music director Mellisai Mannar (aka "The King of Light Music") M. S. Viswanathan along with India's gifted contemporary artists who transformed the art scene of India for more than five decades and also the founding pillars of Madras Art Movement D. Venkatapathy, Sculptor G. Chandrasekaran (former Principal of Government College of Fine Arts, Chennai), M. S. Devasahayam, S. P. Jayakar, art historian Leela Ganapathy, K. C. Murugesan, Writer, Poet and Art Critic B. G. Rajendran (aka Indran), and Sculptor S. G. Vidyashankar Sthapathi are those creative brains who backed up the collective as the founding committee members.

A land was surveyed (1980-81) in East Coast Road, Chennai for Kalaimaiyam Artists' Village, and a proposal was sent to the Tamil Nadu Government to allocate the land for further developments. After two years of rigorous follow-up, Gopal has dropped the idea of Kalaimaiyam after the Government's decision not to back up the project. Later the same land was allocated to Madras Craft Foundation (MCF) by the Tamil Nadu government and that paved the way for DakshinaChitra.

Kalaimaiyam started functioning again from 2016 based in the UK.

President

K. M. Gopal D F.A

Vice-Presidents

V. Ganapathy Sthapathi Kavingar Kannadhasan

General Secretary

Gandhi Kannadhasan B.A. B.L.

Joint Secretaries

D. Boopathi

D. Venkatapathy D.F.A.

Treasurer

N. Raghavan

Committee Members

Anthony Pichai

Cathy Spagnoli

G. Chandrasekaran p.F.A.

M. S. Devasahayam D.F.A.

S. P. Jayakar D.F.A.

S. Javaraman D.F.A

T. Kovendan

Leela Ganapathy B. A. (Fine Arts)

K. C. Murugesan D.F.A.

B. G. Rajendran B.Com.

T. R. Sadagopan D.F.A.

Thota Tharani D.F.A.

S. G. Vidyashankar Sthapathi

M. S. Viswanathan (Music Director)

Registered Office: 12. Hensmen Road. Theagaraya Nagar. Madras-600 017.

### KALAIMAIYAM

- An experiment in Symbiosis -

Kalaimaiyam is born out of a necessity to sustain, promote and propagate the ethnic and traditional arts of this region and to stimulate new perceptions, new idioms and to seek new horizons.

Kalaimaiyam aims to form a new movement incorporating all disciplines in the field of art. Here the writer and the poet, the dancer and the musician, the painter and the sculptor will live together in a unique atmosphere and through this symbiotic experiment will strive towards a new vision.

Kalaimaiyam will create a self contained village in the traditional style, with the following facilities:-

STUDIOS for metal relief, metal sculpture wood work, clay modelling, ceramics, batik and kalamkari

GALLERIES to exhibit paintings, graphics and drawings, metal and stone sculptures, batik and kalamkari.

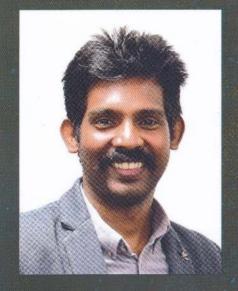
A SCHOOL where an art oriented education will be imparted to children

MUSEUMS to house works of ancient folk art and crafts, contemporary works in art and literature.

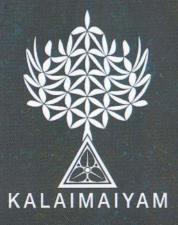
LIBRARY and ARCHIVES of art related works.



Meenatchi Gopal is currently the President of Kalaimaiyam. She is also the founder of Gochi Academy of Creative Arts. She is a member of Rochester and West Kent Art Society, Kent. She obtained her Diploma in Fine Arts from the University for the Creative Arts (UCA), Canterbury. She also holds B.A. in English Literature. Meenatchi is also a trained Hindustani vocalist. Her diverse interests include cooking, gardening and photography.



Selin George is a Software Engineer by profession, and an art enthusiast. He is currently the Secretary of Kalaimaiyam. His interests include "the history of Madras Art Movement", Photography and Tamil Literature. He is actively campaigning to reinstate Tamil Studies at SOAS, University of London. Selin holds a Master of Engineering (M.E) from P.S.G. Tech, Coimbatore.



Kalaimaiyam - An Art Collective
United Kingdom
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