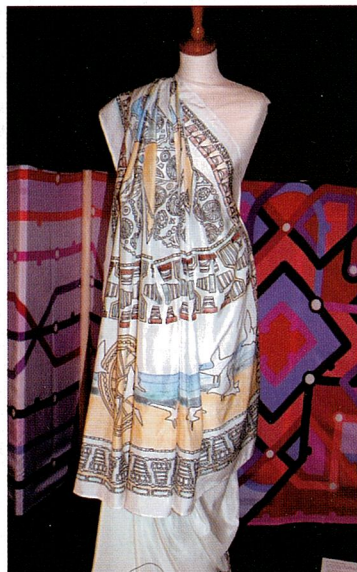


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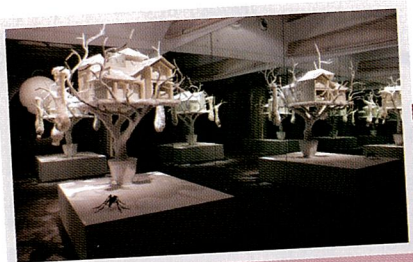


WRAP STARS

The story of the sari unfolds here...

Every woman's favourite garment, the sari is now having its say – and going on a national tour with it!

The British Sari Story is a part of a Lottery-funded project created by Bridging Arts to celebrate British Asian heritage. 'This exhibition is about patterns – and the way patterns tell stories,' says Bridging Arts director, Susan Roberts. 'The traditional saris on display are exquisitely patterned with the peacocks and mango



MUST SEE :: Passage to India showcase a selection of important painting and sculptures by a new generation of artists from putting an Indian spin on contemporary conceptual art. Initial Access, Four Ashes, Wolverhampton. www.initialaccess.co.uk

trees of south Asia. But there are also contemporary saris whose quirky designs are the result of winners who took part in a national competition for a British Asian sari pattern, run last year to mark the 60th anniversary of Indian independence.

'We asked competitors to create patterns reflecting the hopes, dreams and reality of British Asian life today and they've come up with some wonderful ideas, ranging from a London tube map sari to a Yorkshire sari covered with raindrops and snowflakes.'

Mumbai-born illustrator, Nilesh Mistry has won the top prize with his *Sari for Harrow*. The sari portrays Harrow's coat of arms and depicts the posh and the 'real' Harrow – including a Somali woman in a burka, a hoodie with a mobile phone, a Gujarati housewife and a Polish builder.

Following from the success of the previous competition, Bridging Arts is running a competition for a British Bridal Sari. Instead of designs for an everyday sari, competitors are being asked to submit a swatch of fabric with embroidery, beading or embellishment that might adorn their dream wedding sari.

The finalists will join the British Sari Story exhibition tour and be announced at Charnwood Museum in Loughborough, when the show opens there later this year.

• For tour dates and information on the British Sari Story and competition eligibility, log on to bridging-arts.com



ART IDEA

Isn't time art was made more accessible to all?

Interested in Indian art but not sure where to find them in the UK? Put off by galleries for being too stuffy? We've found just the thing for you.

The Noble Sage is the UK's only gallery specialising in South Asian Contemporary Art. Since opening in 2006, it's held 8 major exhibitions and promotes modern art produced by artists living in the sub continent, who are as steeped in Indian culture as those producing traditional pieces.

The beautifully lit space hosts Indian film nights, book readings, artist interviews and painting workshops and has managed to inhabit the serious art world, while being seen by young Asians as a chic venue for arty social events.

• **The Noble Sage Art Gallery**
2A Fortis Green, London N2 9EL
Tel: 020 8883 7303
www.thenoblesage.com

