



WHERE
SILENCE IS A
POEM

A SOLO BY SANGEETA GUPTA

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presents

WHERE SILENCE IS A POEM

A solo show by

SANGEETA GUPTA

19 November - 15 December, 2016

Art Konsult
3-A, Ground Floor
Hauz Khas Village, New Delhi-110016



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The last decade has created new destinations in art forms. What began as spiritual/ tantric art underwent transitional alteration. Tantra and its symbols inspired a whole genre of abstraction in the Indian art scene. The sheer elements of Hindu mysticism are hidden within Sangeeta's work. These symbols are juxtaposed and woven together to evolve into new forms and content which have elicited by their wider appreciation and acceptability world over.

Sangeeta works with her soul, pours out her all onto her canvases, like a flow of poetry. It is no ordinary art, rhythmic like the flow of a river, rhythmic like the motion of planets in a star system. A music lies embedded in the definitive strokes of myriad colours. An abstraction that arises from patterns and from blurred memories. These patterns are retrieved and worked upon with great intricacy and patience. In some works we observe a sudden impatience, after having finished the canvas Sangeeta stains the work with freely flowing colour, as if creating a new space or energy, breaking the monotony of the uniformity of the repetitive.

Looking at her work one can almost visualise the artist bent over her canvas, deep in a trance as she creates a work, it is like a meditative process, repetition of form or line spiralling like a mantra being chanted over and again. The depth and multiplicity of emotion adds many dimensions to her two dimensional canvas. There is chaos and the chaos has been tamed like the complexities of a metropolitan space are put away in orderly bundles of buildings with offices and apartments. In the civilisation today we see complexities orderly aligned in neat beautiful spaces.

The arts, it has been said are civilization's armour, her weapons and shield against all the pitfalls of life. Indian wisdom has always extolled art as a key to the salvation of ultimate release. Indian art is believe to reflect varieties of "taste" (Rasa) and state of mind (bhava).

The creative journey of Sangeeta Gupta's art has been through various transitions over the decade, and has acquired a holistic quality. A unity of varied forms and experiences that has blossomed into a spiritual dance of cosmic revelation. In essence Sangeeta's work has been on a path of creative yoga relentlessly in pursuit of siddhi. Her work is an important addition to the contribution India has made to the world of abstract art.

Siddhartha Tagore
November, 2016
New Delhi



**GENTLE GESTURE,
FLOWING LINE, SILKEN MOVEMENT**

Designs, yes: But of pure rhythmic movement: the thrust and sweep of lines, spreading as if from an energizing spiral core in endless permutations and combinations. Each perfectly organized in relation to the other. Sheer beauty of movement expressed in terms of poise, grace, and elan vital. The artist as though giving fullest expression to her effortlessly mutating forms. Technique? To a ballet of the heart's needle. The points and punctuations on the picture plane now dripping, now rising into free flight; now gravitating then galvanizing around a centre.

The work is not a copy of life; no mirror held up to the outward appearances that so often mask the inward distress. Rather, the art form has cut through to the vitality beneath and interpenetrates, enchanting, ravishing colour combinations.

Ecstasy and uplift, the euphoric dance performed by the artist's brush; the material of her "choreography" not the actually moving figures of dancers, with all their range of gestures. No, her dancers are gesturing lines and the colours of her painting, and by which she also touches the heart.

And so, the artist is seen pressing on beyond the boundaries of the visible into the realm of energy hid in our minds. Her lines, shapes and colours are thereby certainly charged with spiritualized sensations.

Keshav Maik
Poet and art critic,
December 2010,
New Delhi, India



Swirling- I
Acrylic on Canvas, 2006
127 x 102 cms



Swirling-II
Acrylic on Canvas, 2006
127 x 102 cms



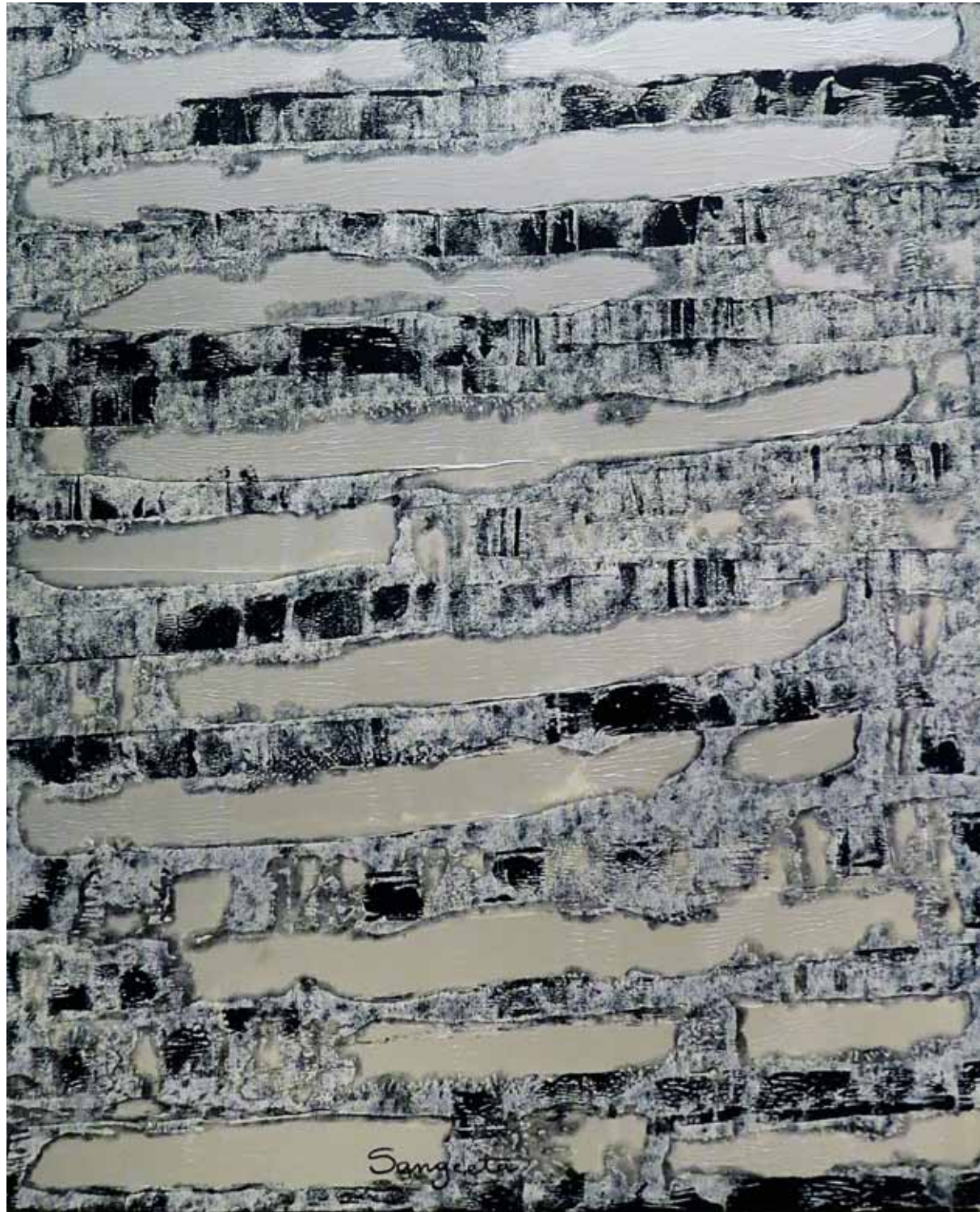
WORK-OUT OF A FAITH

The purpose of art is to celebrate the world we all have in common. In these times, through the absence of shared convictions, and the concomitant accumulation of catastrophes, the chances of finding the joy of hope has become increasingly rare. At moments, the otherwise bustling metropolitan space appearing as a kind of cruel joke; and which only by dint of taking things lightly are we able to endure. But self-induced euphoria wear off soon enough. The chimeras of almost insoluble problems loom up once again. Apparently there is too little on which we can genuinely rejoice. Yet, right on such a scenario arrive the truer of the artists, reminding us of what we habitually forget: the duty to impose order upon endemic chaos.

I felt the foregoing preamble right, even as I brought to mind the persona of Sangeeta Gupta, as much as her art. From what I have known of her, and her work, she quickly brings home to the observer her undeniable commitment to life. Yes she has the necessary madness, of a creative passion and so without neglecting her obligations to the family – I mean the human family (often, in her case made up of underdogs). It is such zeal as energizes her anima, and that same intensity is brought to bear upon her new compositions with force. They breathe life, and are entirely the result of felt experiencing of her surroundings. Here, then, is a sign of health in a climate of narcissism. To pursue an intense and independent life of the mind within the parameters of the overall community means precisely that.

Keshav Maik
Poet and art critic,
December 2010,
New Delhi, India

Swirling-III
Acrylic on Canvas, 2006
127 x 102 cms



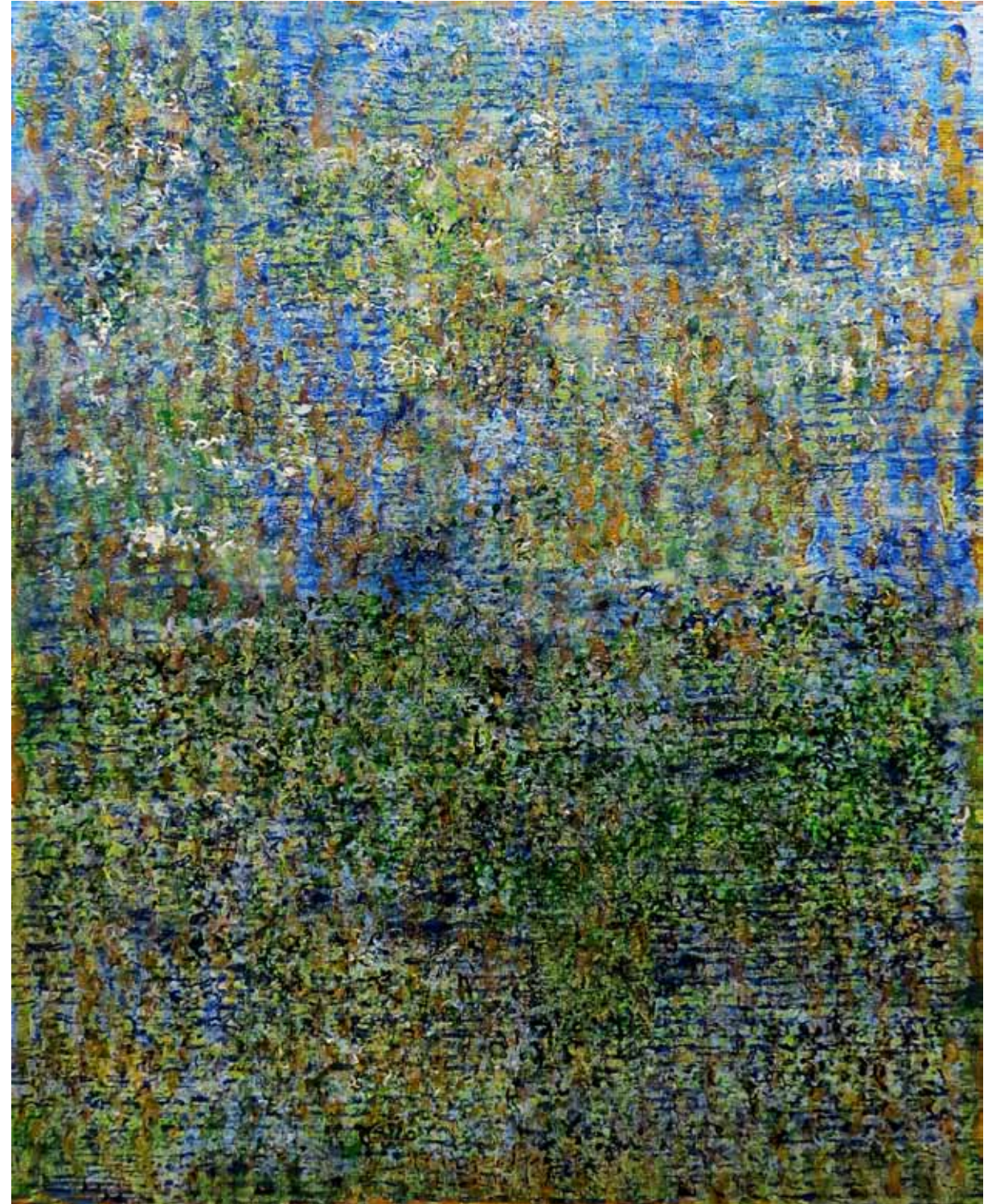
Swirling-IV
Acrylic on Canvas, 2006
127 x 102 cms



Swirling-V
Acrylic on Canvas, 2006
127 x 102 cms



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-I
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
102 x 127 cms



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-II
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
127 x 102 cms

WHERE SILENCE IS A POEM

To my inner self and elsewhere, nature is a phenomenon that creates and destroys time and space without a halt. Writing poetry is also my means of knowing nothingness. My perceptions sometimes bring about amazing personal revelations. As a painter too I have been composing shades of colours that dissolve nature into forms and formlessness and subsequently enter the region of nothingness. One may not be endowed with the knowledge of how to go beyond this experience.

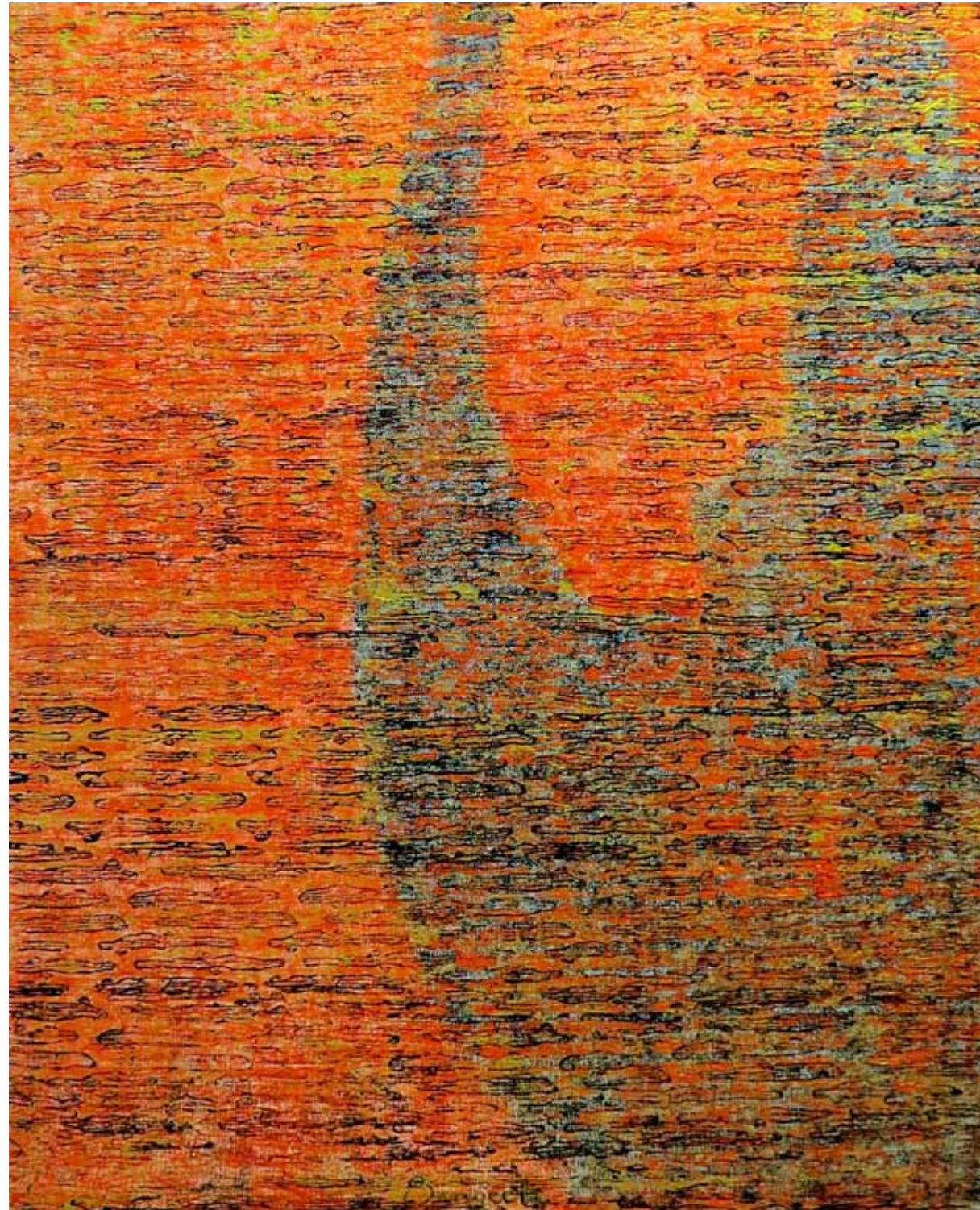
It begins suddenly at an empty space, generates energy, goes on clubbing with opposite forces and finally passes beyond time. I have attempted to identify space at every nook and corner of the landscape, discovering and rediscovering the infinite existence of nothingness. My urge to conceive the truth of our time drives me sometimes to probe the elusive realms of human existence.

My works on canvas like my poetry talk of the past-of the primal and the historic-of Time's own future. Some of my paintings, therefore, float into non-stop fantasies dispersed all around. The volatile acts of earth and nature arrest my fancy and lead me to the nucleus of my body and soul drawing me to a unique experience that possibly cannot be expressed through mere words.

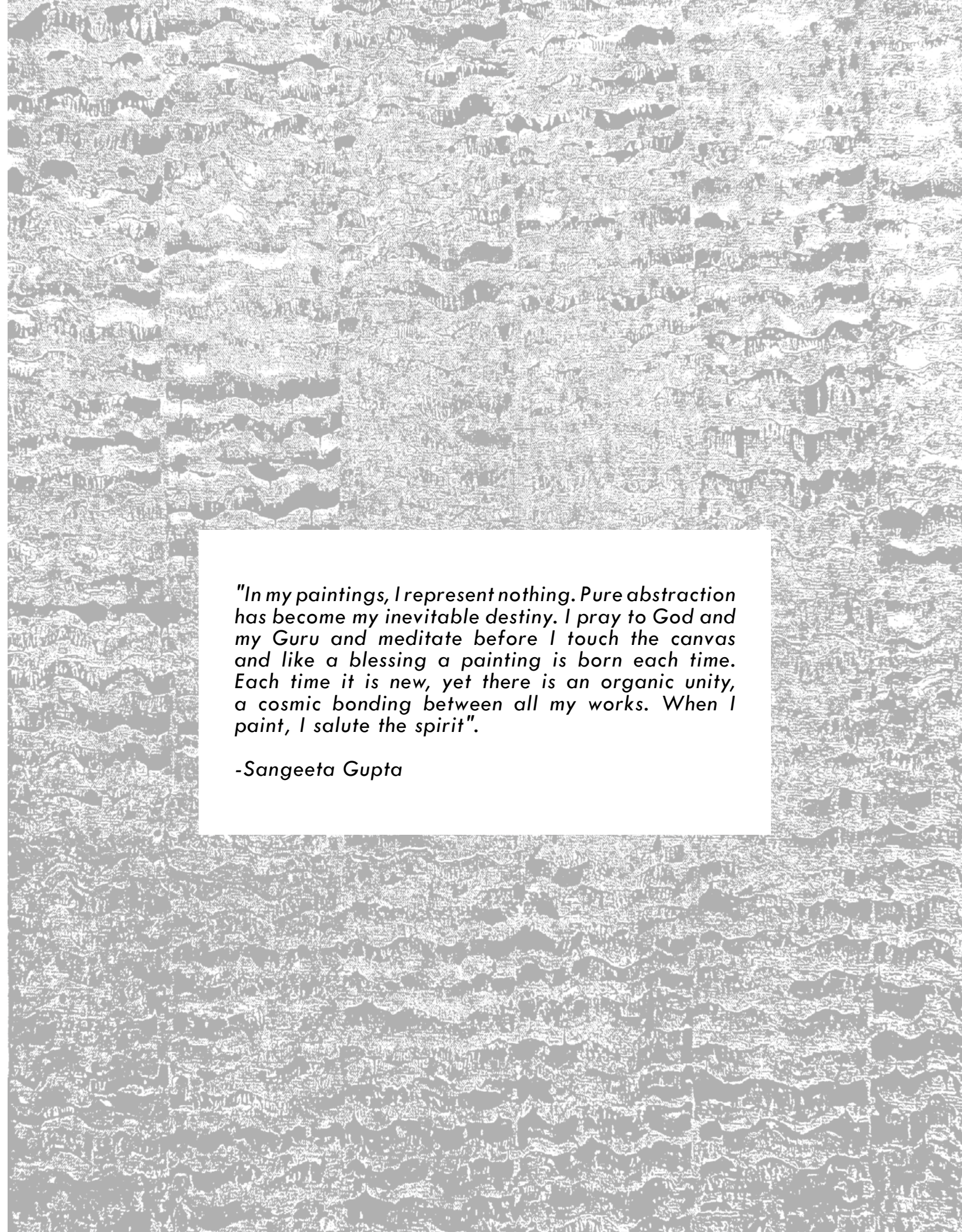
Sangeeta Gupta



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-III
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
102 x 127 cms

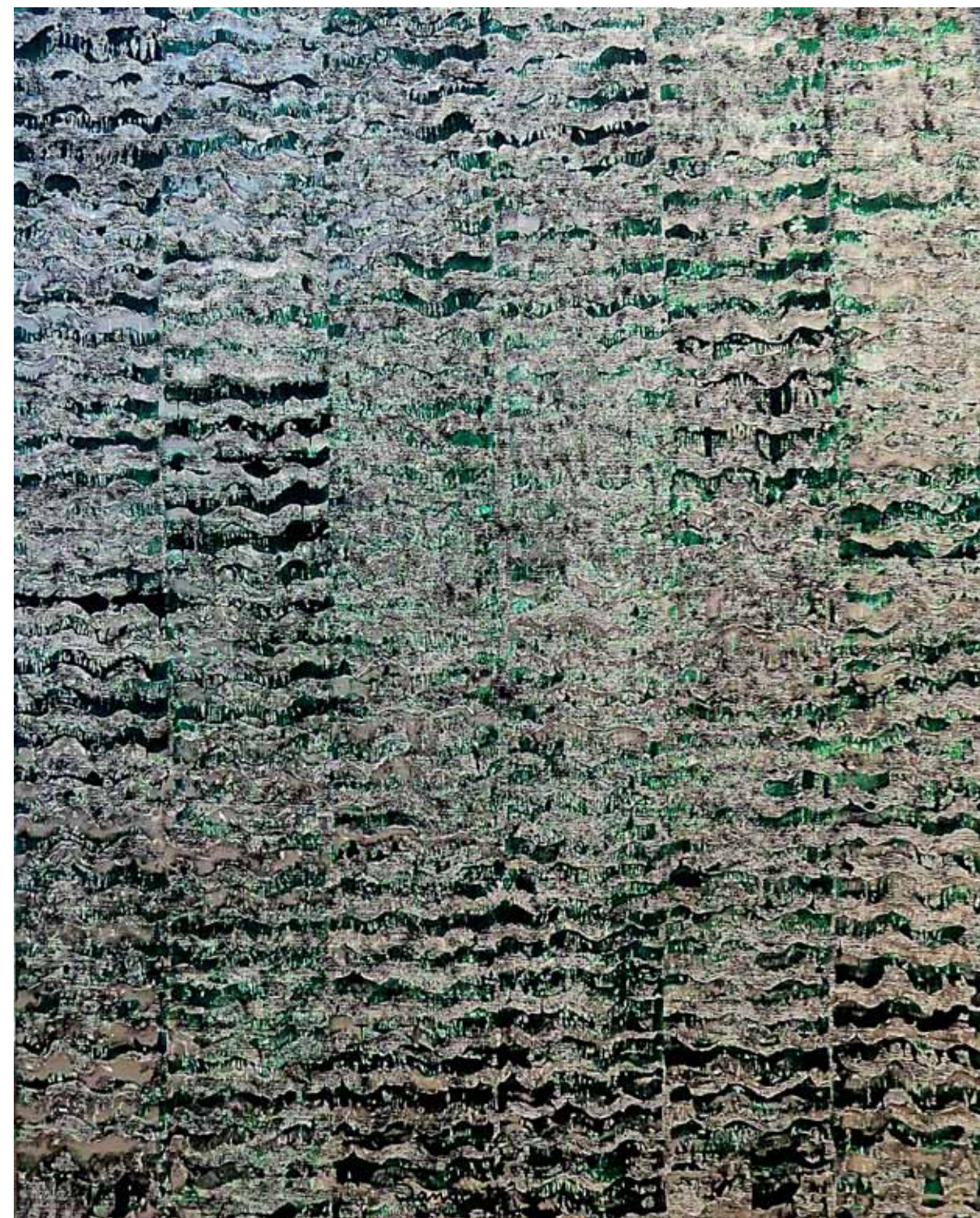
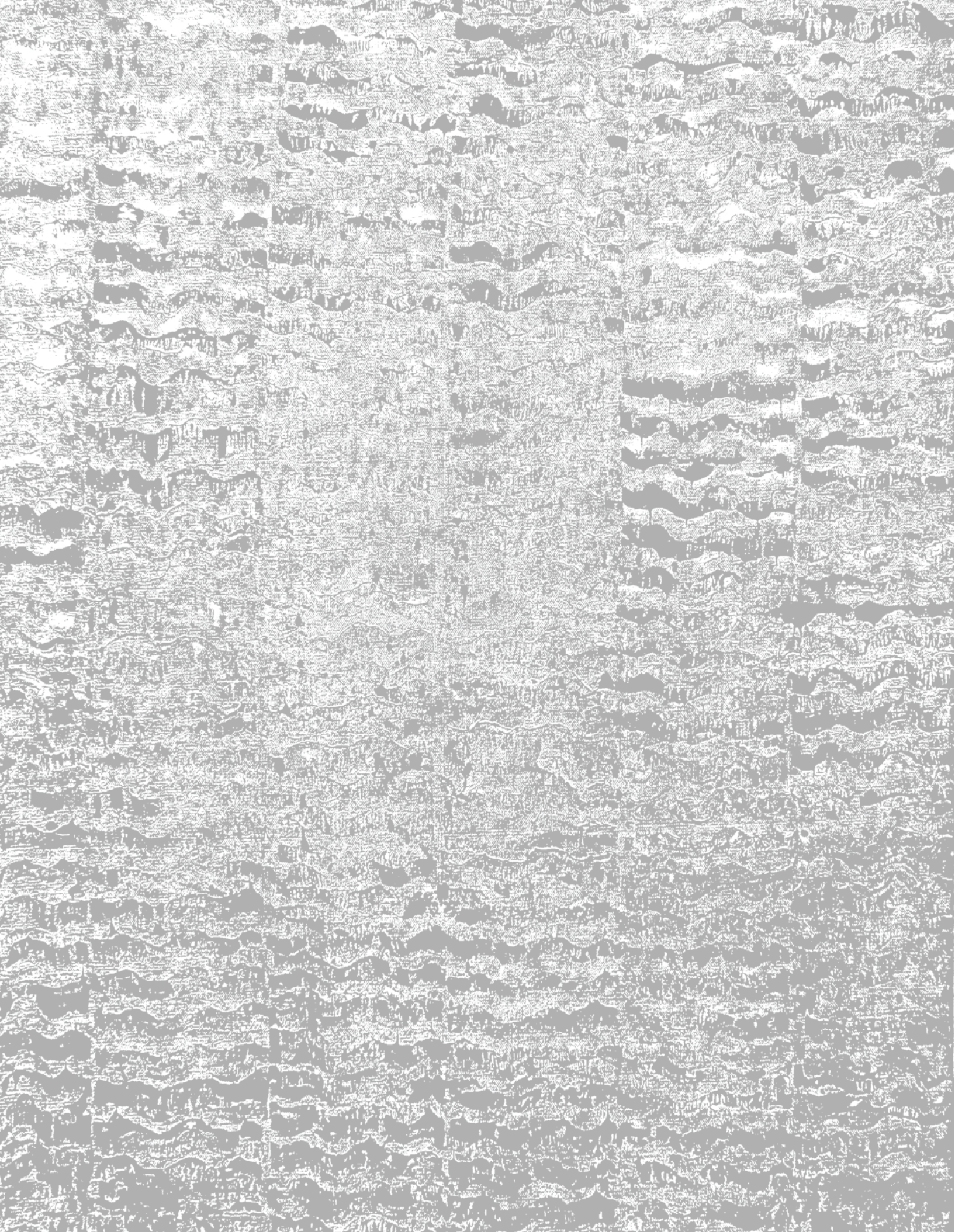


Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-IV
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
127 x 102 cms

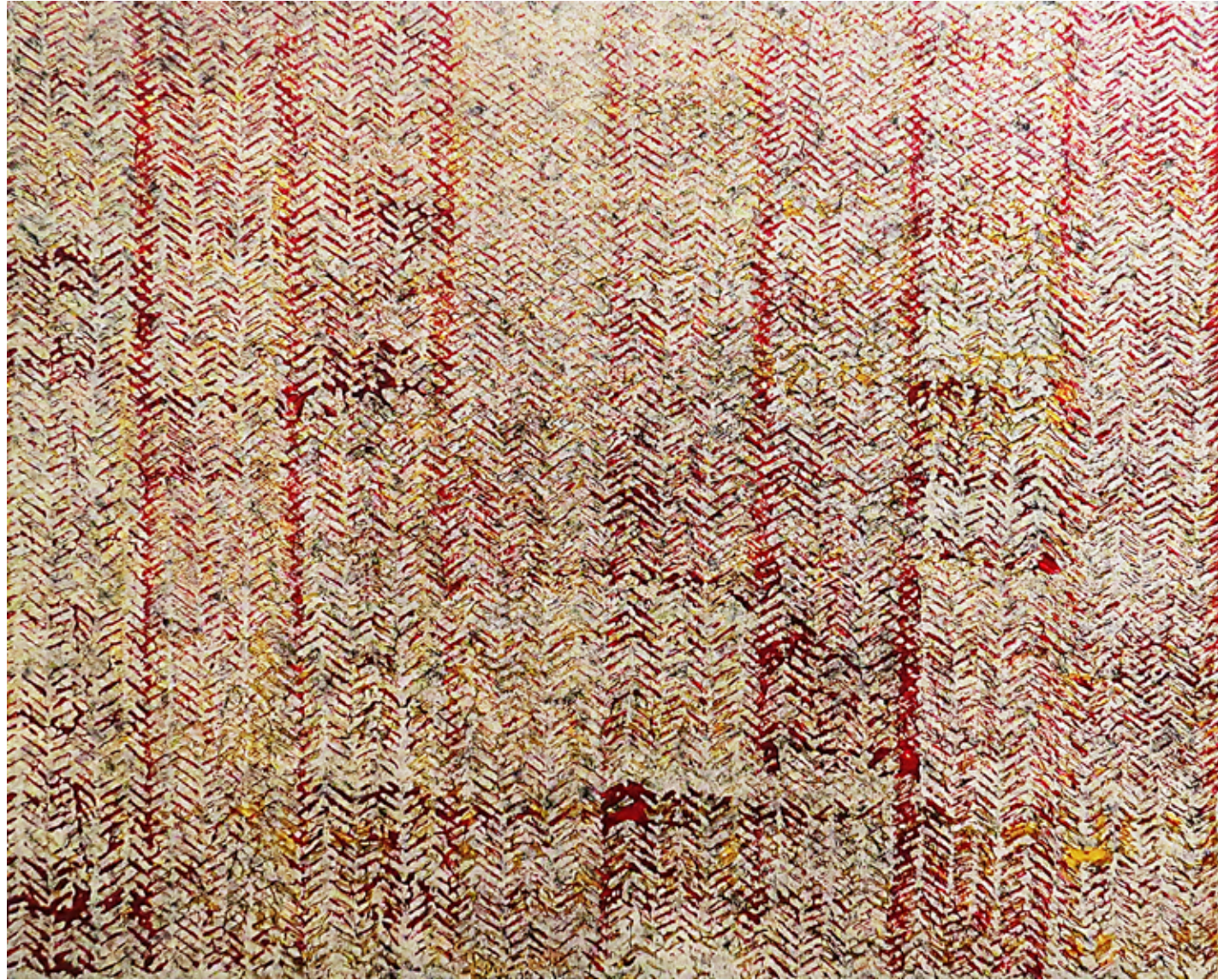


"In my paintings, I represent nothing. Pure abstraction has become my inevitable destiny. I pray to God and my Guru and meditate before I touch the canvas and like a blessing a painting is born each time. Each time it is new, yet there is an organic unity, a cosmic bonding between all my works. When I paint, I salute the spirit".

-Sangeeta Gupta



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-V
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
127 x 102 cms



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-VI
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
102 x 127 cms



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-VII
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
127 x 102 cms



Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-VIII
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
127 x 102 cms



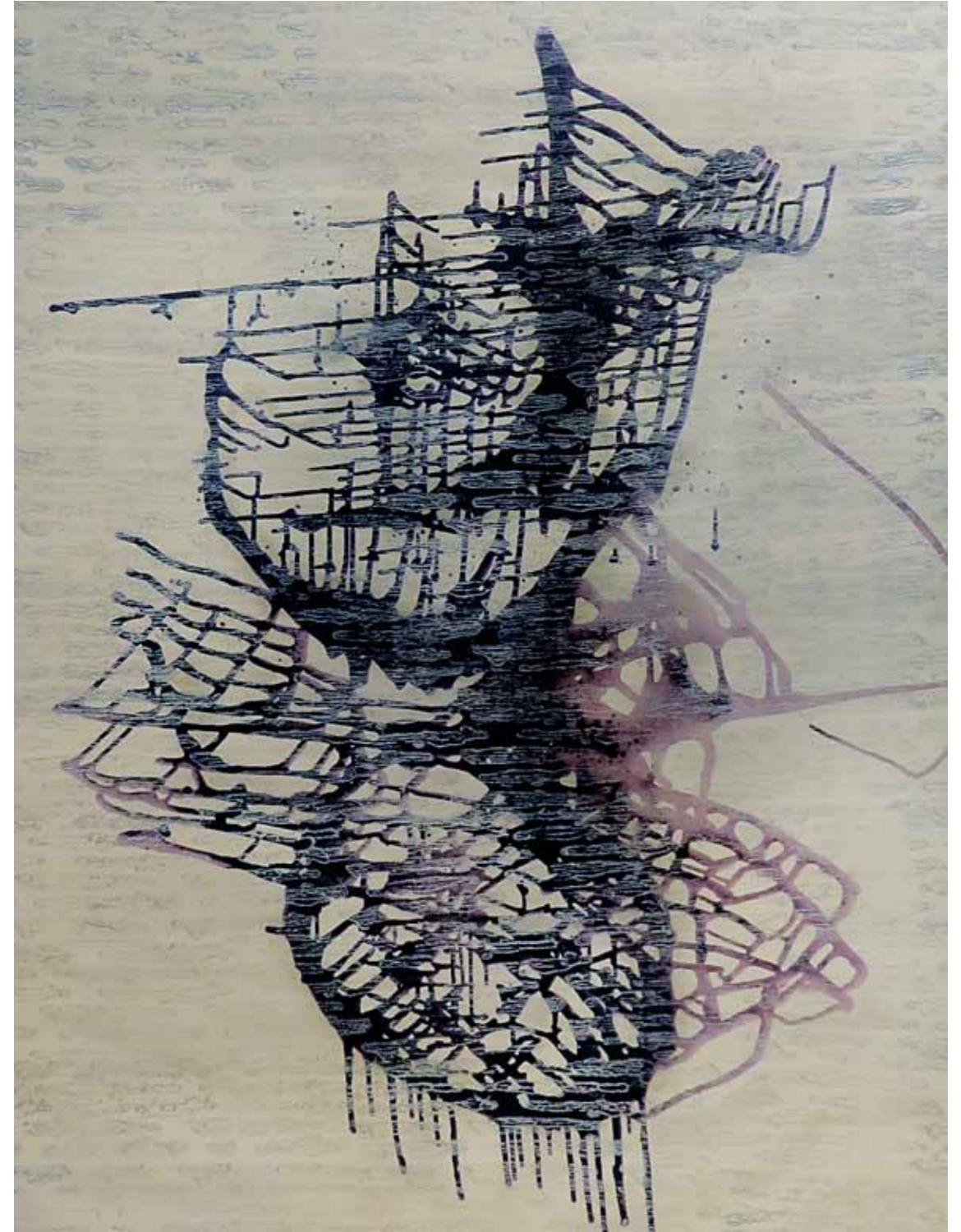
Gentle Gesture, Flowing Line, Silken Movement-IX
Acrylic on Canvas, 2010
127 x 102 cms



Untitled
Acrylic on Canvas, 2005
91 x 183 cms



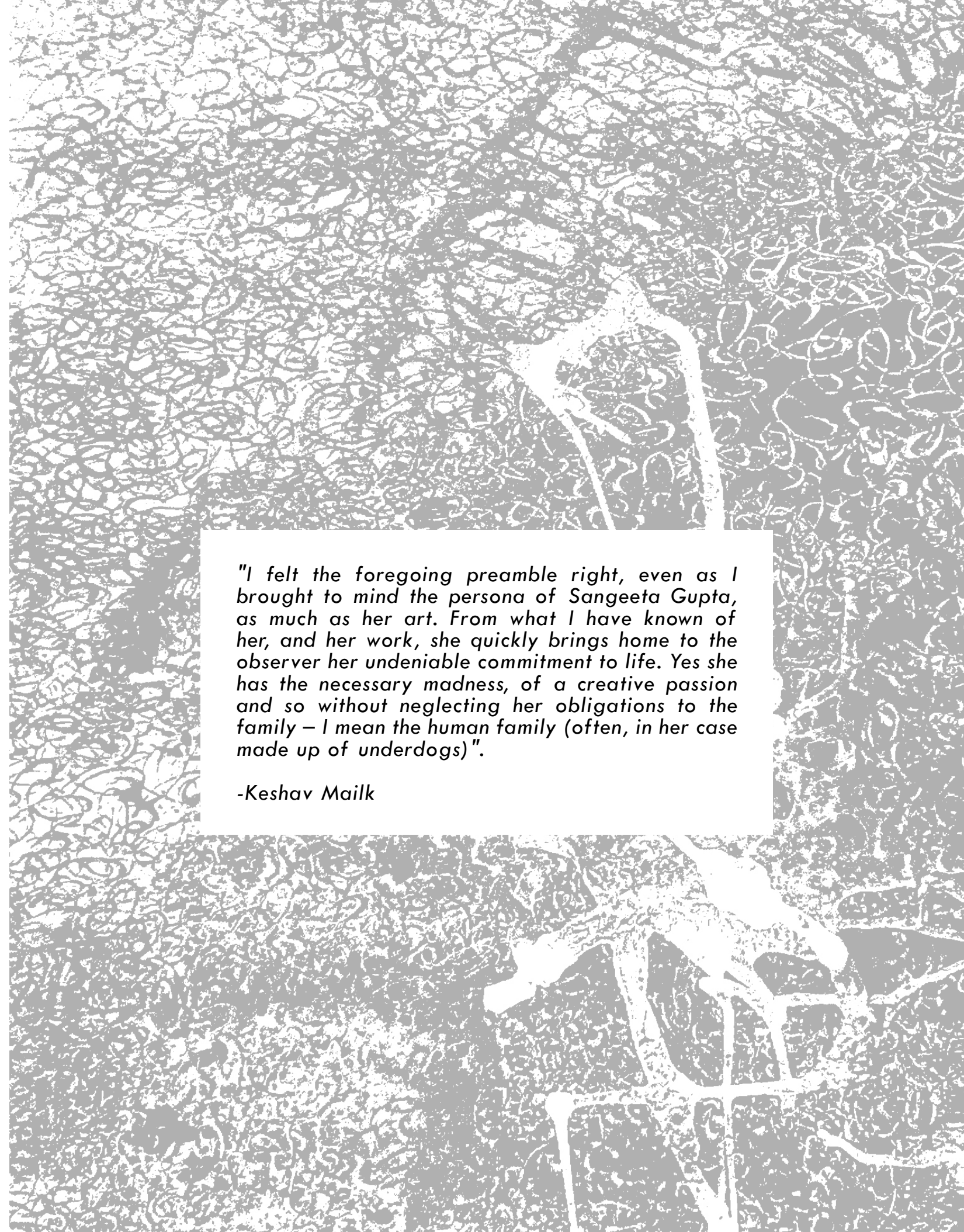
Where Silence is a Poem-I
Acrylic on Canvas, 2016
142 x 102 cms



Where Silence is a Poem-II
Acrylic on Canvas, 2016
142 x 102 cms



Where Silence is a Poem-III
Acrylic on Canvas, 2016
142 x 102 cms



"I felt the foregoing preamble right, even as I brought to mind the persona of Sangeeta Gupta, as much as her art. From what I have known of her, and her work, she quickly brings home to the observer her undeniable commitment to life. Yes she has the necessary madness, of a creative passion and so without neglecting her obligations to the family – I mean the human family (often, in her case made up of underdogs)".

-Keshav Mailk



Where Silence is a Poem-IV
Acrylic on Canvas, 2016
142 x 102 cms



Where Silence is a Poem-V
Acrylic on Canvas, 2016
142 x 102 cms



Where Silence is a Poem-VI
Acrylic on Canvas, 2016
142 x 102 cms



SANGEETA GUPTA

Born – 1958 at Gorakhpur, U.P.(India)

Poet, Film Maker and an artist, Sangeeta Gupta started her artistic journey with intricate drawings. Her real calling was discovered in her abstracts in oils and acrylics on canvas. Her solo shows (2003, 2004, 2006 & 2007) with Kumar Gallery launched her love for contour within the abyss of colour; the works seemed to stir both within and without and splash off the canvas. Her tryst with art is born of her own meditative ruminations in time, the undulating blend of calligraphic and sculptonic entities are all realms that she has explored with aplomb.

Images in abstraction that harkens the memory of Himalayan journeys and inspirations, the works speak of an artistic sojourn that continues in a mood of ruminations and reflections over the passage of time.

Sangeeta wields the brush with finesse, suggesting the viscosity of ink, the glossiness of lacquer, the mist of heights, the glow of the sun, and the inherent palette of rocks when wet. The canvases bespeak surfaces akin to skin, bark and the earth.

Her first solo exhibition was at the Birla Academy of Art & Culture, Kolkata in 1995. Her 28 solo shows have been held all over India i.e. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Chandigarh and abroad at London, Berlin, Munich, Lahore, Belfast (Northern Ireland) and Thessaloniki (Greece). Her 26th solo was inaugurated by the former President of India; Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam in August, 2013. The show was dedicated to Uttarakhand. The fund raised through sale proceeds of the paintings is used for creating a Fine Art Education grant for the students of Uttarakhand in collaboration with Department of Culture, Government of Uttarakhand.

rakhand. She has participated in more than 200 group shows in India & abroad, in national exhibitions of Lalit Kala Academy, All India Fine Arts & Craft Society and Sahitya Kala Parishad and in several art camps. Her painting is in the permanent collection of Bharat Bhavan Museum, Bhopal and Museum of Sacred Art (MOSA) Belgium. Her works have been represented in India Art Fair, New Delhi in 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016.

She has received 69th annual award for drawing (1998) and 77th annual award for painting (2005) by All India Fine Arts & Craft Society, New Delhi and was also conferred Hindprabha award for Indian Women Achievers by Uttar Pradesh Mahila Manch (1999), Udbhav Shikhar Samman (2012) by Udbhav for her achievements in the field of art and literature and was awarded "Vishwa Hindi Pracheta Alankaran" (2013) by Uttar Pradesh Hindi Saahitya Sammelan & Utkarsh Academy, Kanpur. She was bestowed with Women Achievers Award from Indian Council for UN relations (2013), Rashtrakavi Maithilisharan Gupt Samman (2013) for contribution to Hindi poetry and has received 6th National Women Excellence Award by Yog Confederation of India in collaboration with International Women Excellence Awards Organization (2013). Awarded and honored as an Artist by 3rd Delhi International Film Festival 2014. "Poet of the Year" award by 3rd Delhi International Film Festival 2014. Conferred with 35th Women Entrepreneurship Award 2015 by "Bharat Nirman" and "Global Women Achievers Award 2015" by IGBC.

There is a collection of short stories and four anthologies of poems in Hindi to her credit. Her poems are translated in many languages. Her collection of poems Pratinad has also been translated in Bangla, English and German. Her book 'Lekhka ka Samay', published in 2006 is a compilation of interviews of eminent women writers in Hindi. Weaves of Time (collection of poems in English), published in 2013 also translated in Greek. "Sparsh Ke Gulmohar" (collection of Hindi poems published by Rajkamal Prakashan 2015). Ladakh : Knowing the unknown" (a book of rare photographs published by Full Circle 2015) launched at Jaipur Literature Festival 2015, SKETBE, Thessaloniki, Greece, Nehru Centre London and Ramada Hotel, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

She has directed 7 documentary films. Her first film "Keshav Malik- A Look Back", is a reflection on the life of the noted poet & art critic Keshav Malik, Padma Shri, a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Akademi. He was an Art Critic of Hindustan Times and Times of India. The film features, several eminent painters, poets, scholars and their views on his life. The film was screened in 2012, at Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Sanskriti Kendra, Anandgram, New Delhi and at kala Ghora Art Festival, Mumbai 2013. Her other two documentaries "Keshav Malik – Root, Branch, Bloom" and "Keshav Malik- The Truth of Art" were screened by India International Centre and by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Delhi in 2013 and in the Spring Festival, 2014 at Alliance Francaise de Delhi. This film has been selected and is in the archive of Documentary Edge Campus, a resource centre for documentary films, New Zealand to be used for educational and research purposes. This film was telecasted by the TV channel DD Bharati three times in January 2014 and on Lok Sabha TV in April, 2014 twice. The film was screened at SKETBE, Thessaloniki, Greece in March, 2015. Her fourth film "Maha Kumbh- Astha ka Mahaparv", screened at Sanskriti Kendra, Anandgram, New Delhi. "Weaves of Time" her latest documentary was screened at India Habitat Centre, Delhi in December, 2013. Her film "Mystic Snow Desert : Ladakh" was telecasted by the TV channel DD Bharati three times in September, 2014. "Kung Fu Nuns in Mystic Ladakh" was screened at 3rd Delhi International Film Festival 2014, Continuum of Consciousness 2015 was telecasted twice in Greece.

A widely travelled person lives and works in Delhi.


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