विहंगम

रजत जयन्ती अंक नवम्बर-२०१२ इ.गा.रा.क. केन्द्र की पत्रिका

Vihangama

Silver Jubilee Issue, November 2012 The IGNCA Newsletter

25 years

इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

The then Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi floating lamps into a lotus pond, marking the inauguration of the IGNCA 19 November 1987

Shri Rajiv Gandhi planting a sapling representing an academic division of the Centre 19 November 1987

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लेखों में दिए गए मत लेखकों के स्वयं के हैं, इसलिए इ.गा.रा.क. केन्द्र उनके विचारों के लिए उत्तरदायी नहीं है।

The opinions expressed in the articles are those of the authors and the IGNCA does not necessarily subscribe to them.

Message from Member Secretary

It is a proud moment for us at the Indira Gandhi Centre for the Arts, as we celebrate the Silver Jubilee. The journey of two and a half decades has been momentous with the Centre receiving all-round kudos for the work done. We are determined to make the coming decades equally meaningful. We are committed to carrying on the mandate envisioned by the founders of this organisation and later given shape by its programmes and fine-tuned by the researchers, collaborators and scholars.

This special issue of Vihangama is not just a looking back. It showcases some of the best that the IGNCA has to offer, and also a glimpse of the future programmes chalked out, especially in this Silver Jubilee Year. An international conference on Rock Art is scheduled for December. Several lectures, cultural programmes and exhibitions are lined up throughout the year, including some from our valuable Archives.

The IGNCA has weaved a network of scholarship with like-minded organisations world over, some of which are reflected in this issue. It also gives an idea of the breadth and reach of the Centre's academic orientation and inclination.

I on behalf of the IGNCA wish all the members of our extended family a very happy Silver Jubilee Year.

Dipali Khanna
Member Secreatary IGNCA

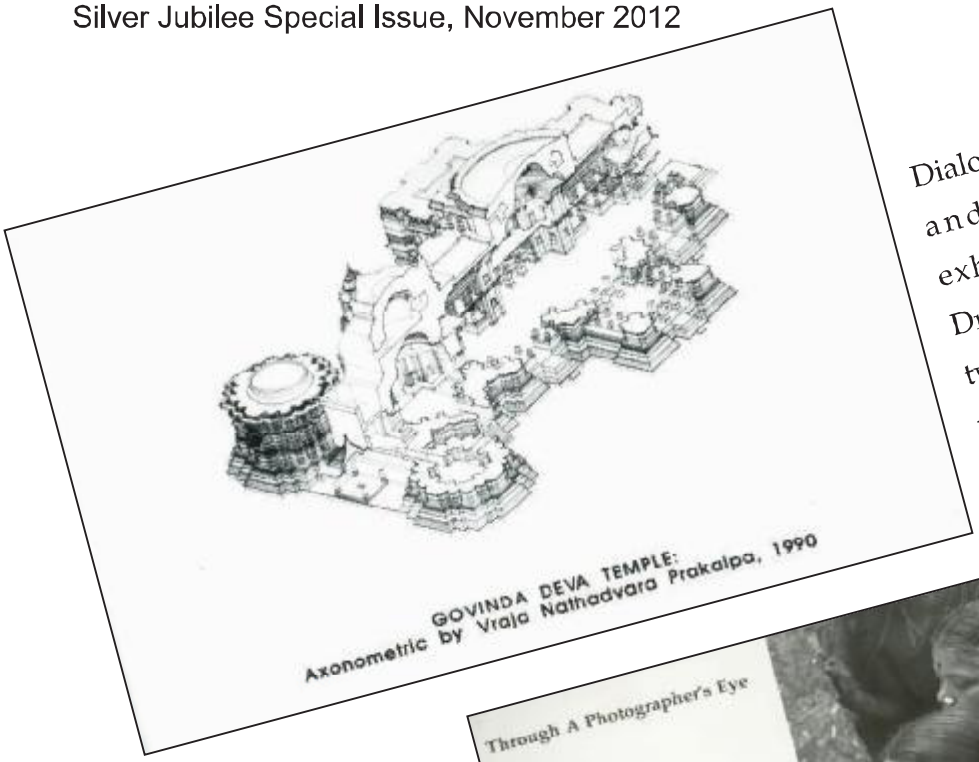
A view of the panels in the exhibition Kham-Concepts of Space : Ancient and Modern, November 1986.

The then President of India Shri R. Venkataraman and his wife at the exhibition Akara-The Quest for Perfect Form, November 1988.

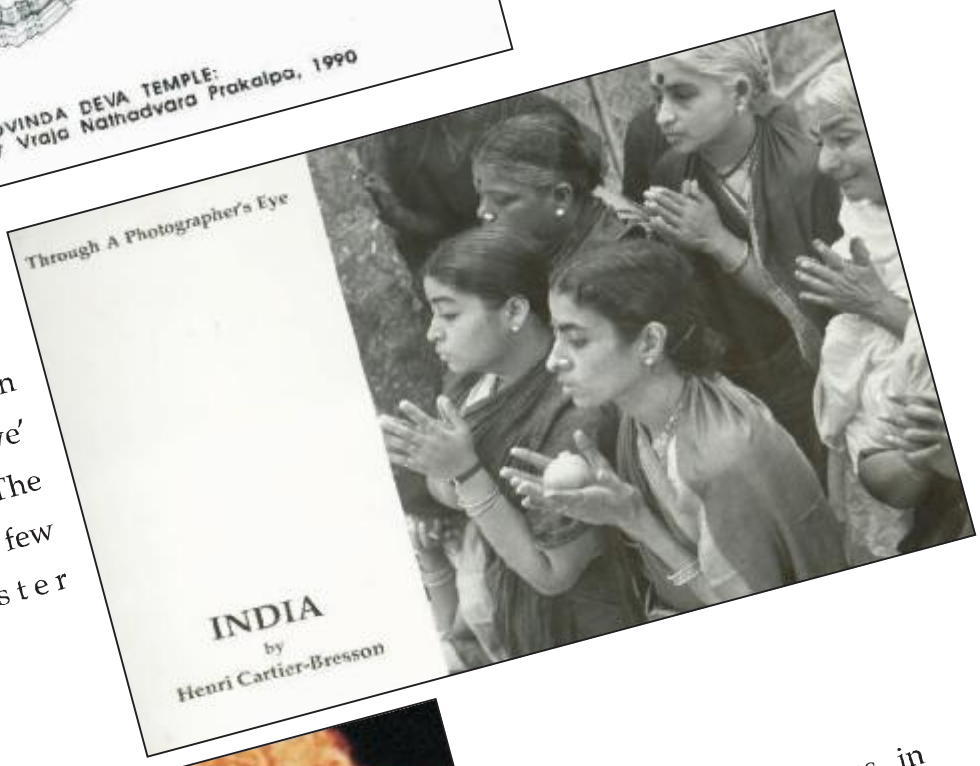
Japanese calligraphy being demonstrated as part of the seminar on Akara-The Quest for Perfect Form

Kaal, the third of the IGNCA's major seminar and exhibition saw the presence of His Holiness Shri Dalai Lama. Seen with him are Dr Karan Singh and Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan December 1990 to February 1991

Magao Grottoes, Dunghuang - An exhibition of Buddhist cave paintings from China, December 1991 to January 1992. In one of the first exhibitions, the paintings from Dunghuang were exhibited in India, at the IGNCA.

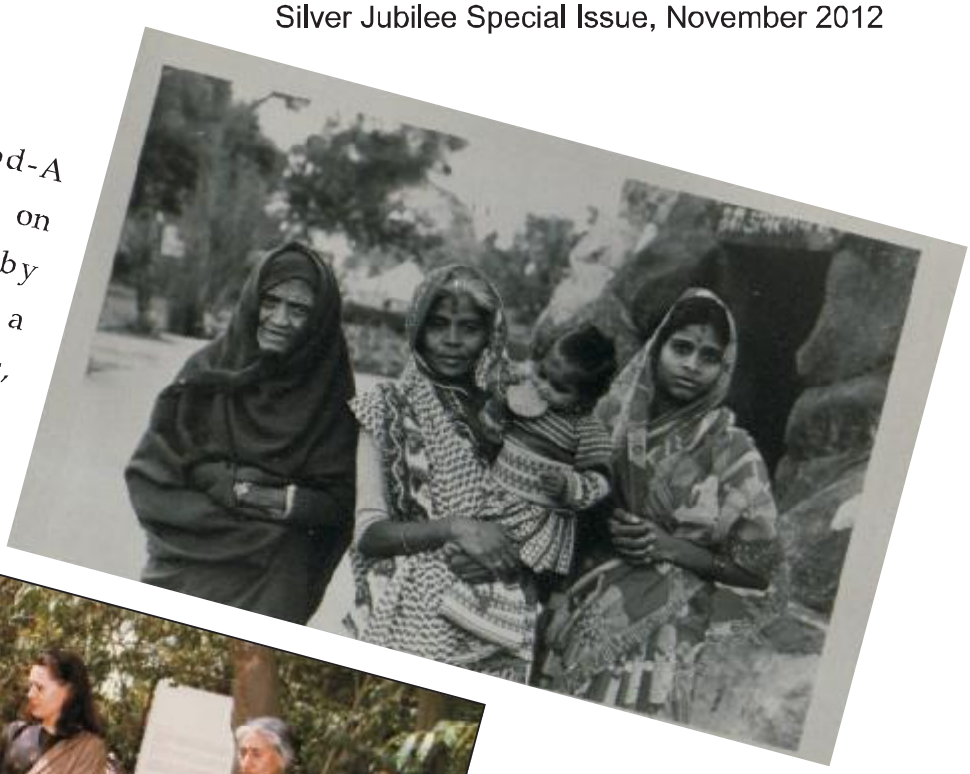


Dialogue in Stone – Brhadisvara and Govindadeva – An exhibition of Architecrutal Drawings May-June 1992. These two temples are the Centre's pilot projects under the Kshetra Sampada programme

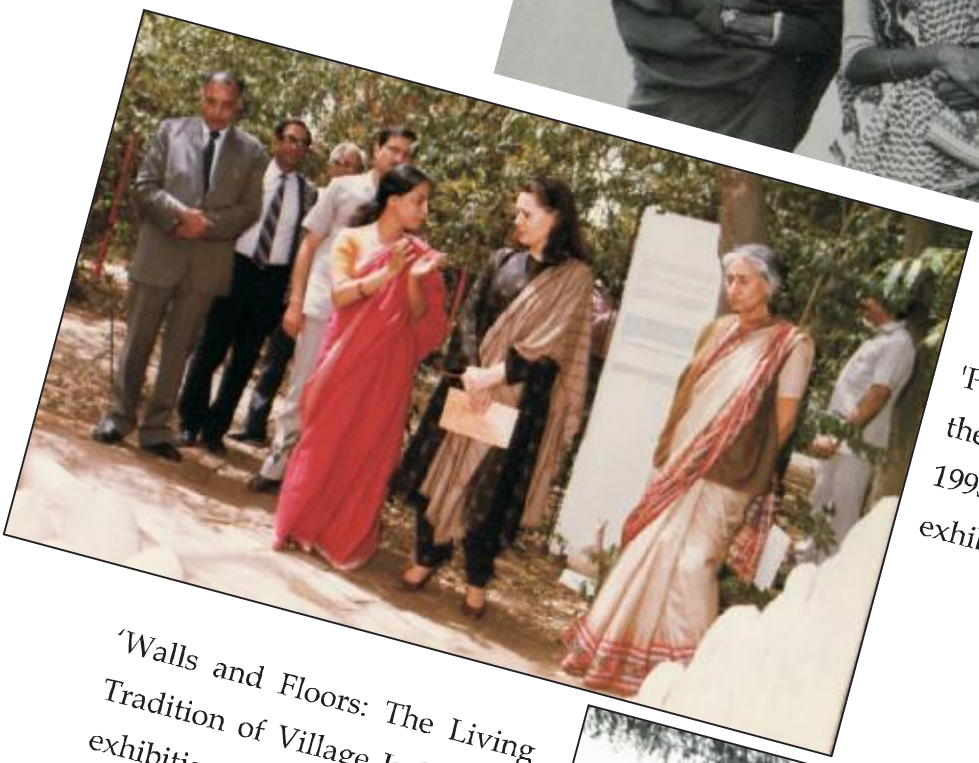


'India' by Henri Cartier Bresson 'Through a Photographer's Eye' Series September 1992. The IGNCA has in its archives few prints of the master photographer, on India

From 'Deer, Early Images in Rock Art of India and Europe', December 1993

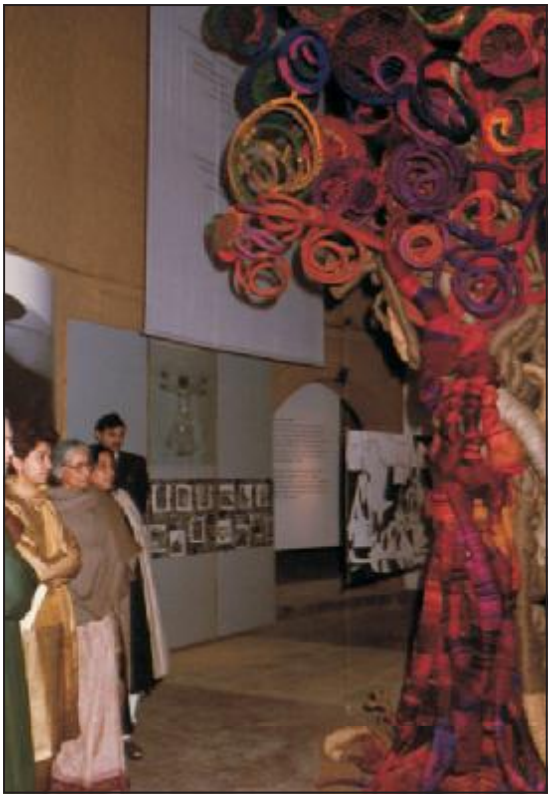


'The Feminine of God-A Photographer's Reflection on Women (1964-1995)' by Sebastiana Papa, 'Through a Photographer's Eye' series, November 1995



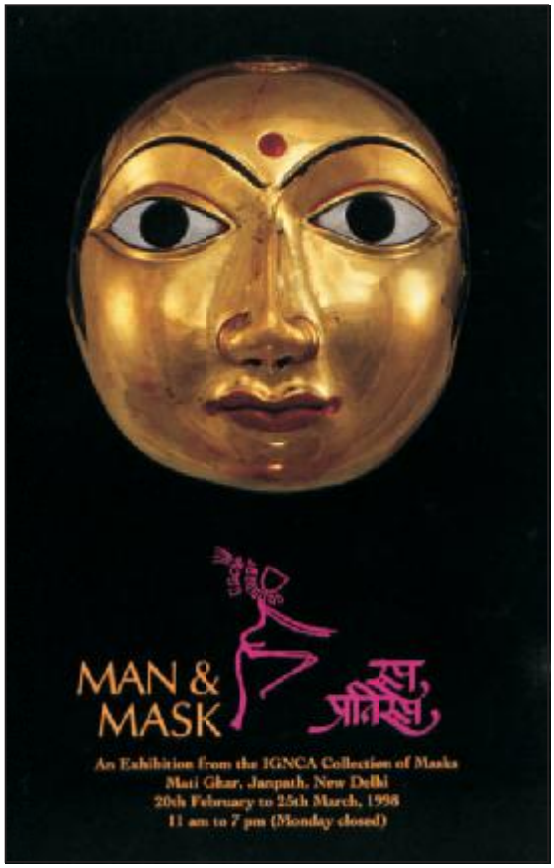
'Prakriti – Man in Harmony with the Elements', February-March 1993. This was an open air exhibition

'Walls and Floors: The Living Tradition of Village India – an exhibition of photographs by Jyoti Bhatt, September 1997

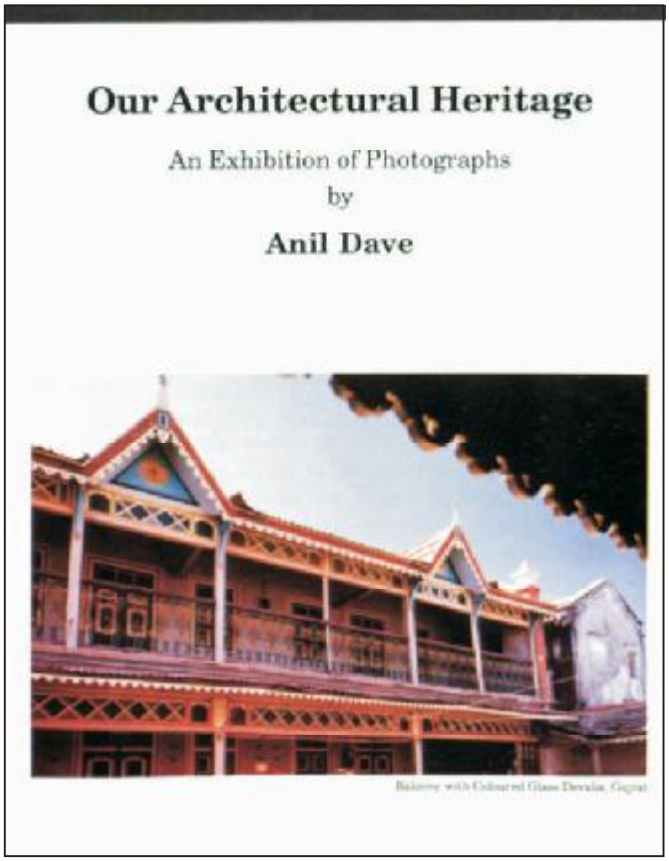


'Rta-Rtu-Cosmic Order and Cycle of Seasons', January-March 1996 This exhibition saw several installations, one of which a tree in multiple colours is seen

An 'International Conference on Rock Art' was held in November-December 1993 under the aegis of UNESCO. The IGNCA took the lead in a holistic approach to Rock Art. In this Silver Jubilee, the Centre is hosting yet another international conference and exhibition in December 2012

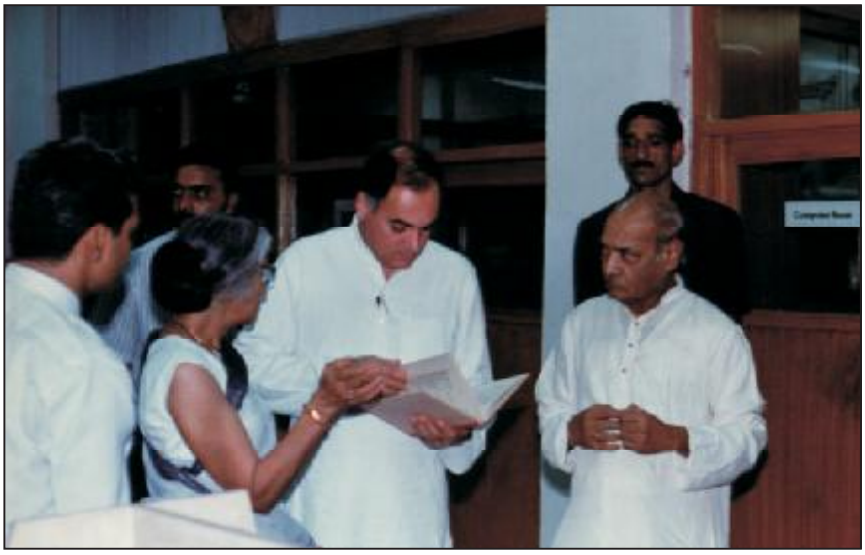


Rupa Pratirupa-Mind, Man &Mask February to April 1998. This exhibition and seminar saw a collection of some of the rarest and best masks from world over, including those that are part of the living cultures and rituals



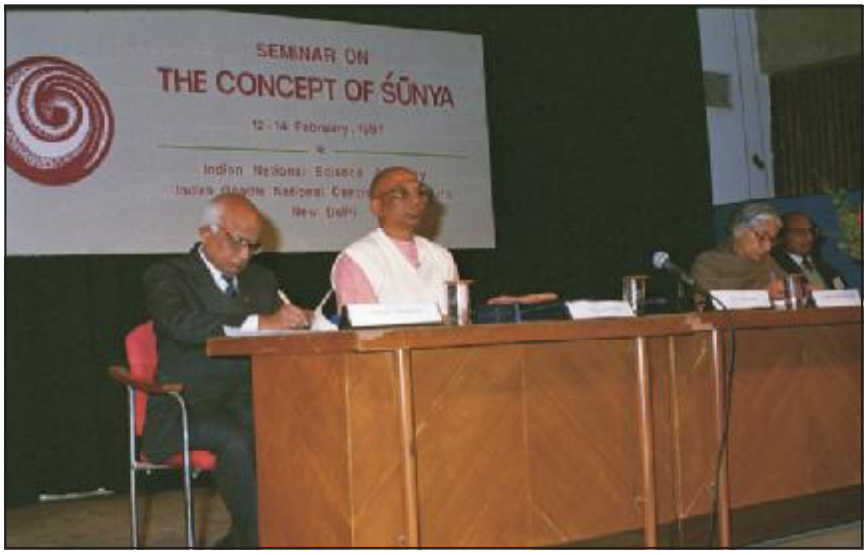
Some of India's rich architecture was showcased in an exhibition of photographs 'Our Architectural Heritage' by Anil Dave, November 1998

Panctantra, the ancient Indian stories or moral learning have been represented in several genres. An exhibition 'Panctantra' presented books, paintings and multimedia presentations on this. Given is a Kalamkari painting on the story of lion and four bulls, September-October 1998



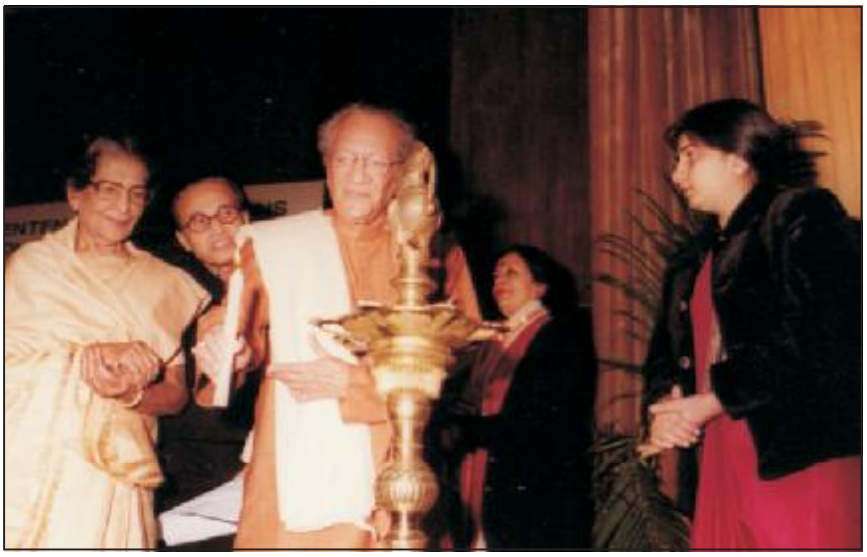
The then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited our fledgling Library Kalanidhi and took keen interest in our collection and work. Seen with him is the then HRD minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. The dignitaries were conducted around by Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan

The multimedia exhibition on 'Gitagovinda' was received very well. The then Vice President Shri Krishna Kant looking at a panel at the exhibition, January 1998

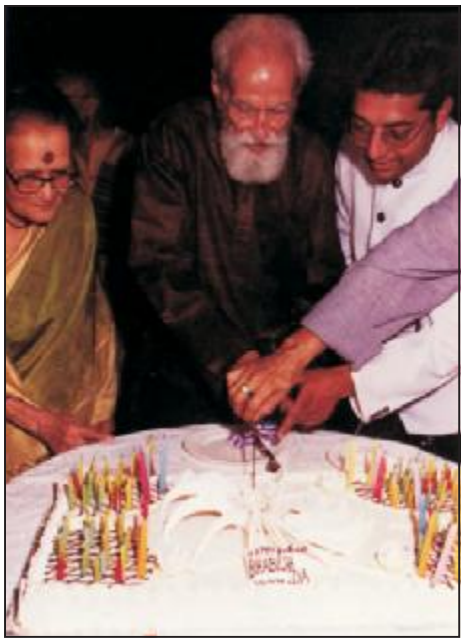


The concept of Sunya is a conference organised in collaboration with the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) in February 1997, which saw the participation of academicians, scientists and philosophers.

Late Uday Shankar's wife Amala Shankar , noted dancer Sonal Mansingh and then minister for Culture Jagmohan at the inauguration of the exhibition 'Celebrating Creativity-The Life and Times of Uday Shankar, December 2001



Sitar maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar and Amala Shankar lighting the lamp to mark the inauguration of the exhibition, December 2001



Shri B C Sanyal, doyen of the Indian arts scene turned a hundred in April 2002. The IGNCA marked the occasion with a tributary exhibition in which 172 artists displayed their work.

Amar Nath Seghal, the well-known painter-sculptor had created a series of paintings on two of our greatest epics Ramayana and Mahabharata. These were presented in an exhibition, opened by the then President of India Abdul Kalam, October 2004

The then External Affairs Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurating the seminar Cities, Roads and Caravan Sarais on the Great Silk Road – An Emblem of Linkages through the Ages – India, West and Central Asia, January 2008

The then president Abdul Kalam receiving Shri Ayyapa Panikker's book Indian Narratology, published by the IGNCA in February 2003. Also seen in the picture is Prof. N R Shetty, then Member Secretary IGNCA. Panikker's book is the outcome of the two year Indira Gandhi Memorial Fellowship awarded to him

A view of some of IGNCA publications and books from the library

Hand gestures play an important part in communication. A multi event of seminar, exhibition and performances explored the theme 'Mudra: meaning, metaphor & mystique' in December 2003. On left : Mudra in a dance performance,

The traffic policemen's 'mudra'

Envisioning

Member Secretary Ms. Dipali Khanna taking a meeting of senior officers of the IGNCA regarding the preparations for the Silver Jubilee Celebrations, November 2012. Seen in the picture are: L to R Dr Jayanta Kumar Ray, Director (A), Shri V B Pyarelal, Joint Secretary, Ms. Dipali Khanna and Shri P Jha (Director-CIL)

While reminiscing about the past twenty-five years, the IGNCA is also planning for the future. The IGNCA is galvanized for the year-long celebrations and beyond. Member Secretary Ms. Dipali Khanna has tasks cut out for all divisions and set time-bound goals.

President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee is inaugurating the Silver Jubilee Year on 19 November 2012 at a function in Rashtrapati Bhawan. On the occasion, a set of eleven DVDs, containing some of the best films/documentaries produced by the IGNCA is being released. Also being unveiled is a Retrospective on the IGNCA with a Foreword from the President, IGNCA Trust Shri Chinmaya R. Gharekhan and a 'Retro Note' from the founder Trustee and renowned art historian, Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan

the future

Senior officers of the Centre at the meeting

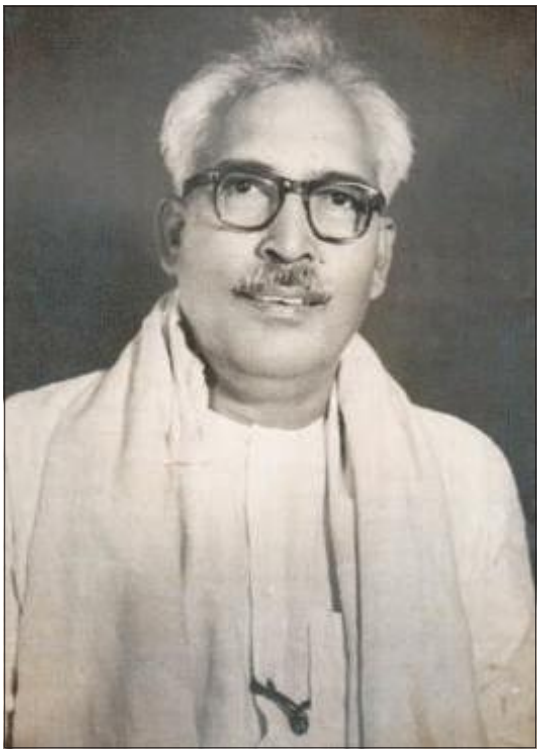
While a series of lectures for the year would be kicked off with three lectures on Comparative Aesthetics by Dr G B Mohan Thampi on 21,22 and 23 November 2012, two concerts are being held on 20 and 21 November – Dhrupad by Gundecha brothers Shri Umakant and Shri Ramakant and violin jugalbandi by Dr T. N. Krishnan and Prof. N Rajam.

In December 2012, an international Rock Art Conference is being held. Complementing it would be a theme exhibition and cultural performances. In January 2013 an International Conference on "Atisa and Cultural Renaissance is being held. Atisa Dipankara Srijnana was a great Buddhist saint and philosopher of 10th – 11th century A.D. Several programmes are being organised as part of the Silver Jubilee Year, showcasing some of the precious collections of the IGNCA and resources.

Suniti Kumar Chatterjee

Nirmal Kumar Bose

The IGNCA holds memorial lectures in honour of these four great personalities



Acharya hazari Prasad Dwivedi

Thakur Jaidev Singh

Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan and Mr Ralph Lerner after signing the agreement over the new building, 11 Mansingh Road

The new building

The 'Log Drum' part of the Naga's cultural heritage. This reconstructed drum was the centre of attraction at the exhibition 'Sungkong Call of the Log Drum' October 1997. This showcased select objects from our archive Milada Ganguli Collection

Indians have gone and settled in almost all parts of the world over the centuries. While most were taken as indentured labour, several families went because of various political, social reasons. The map here shows the route usually taken by the Indians. This was part of a huge exhibition and meeting hosted by the IGNCA in 2003 on Indian Diaspora, to coincide with the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas, organised by the Government of India, annually in January.

An old family photograph contributed by a person of Indian origin for the exhibition

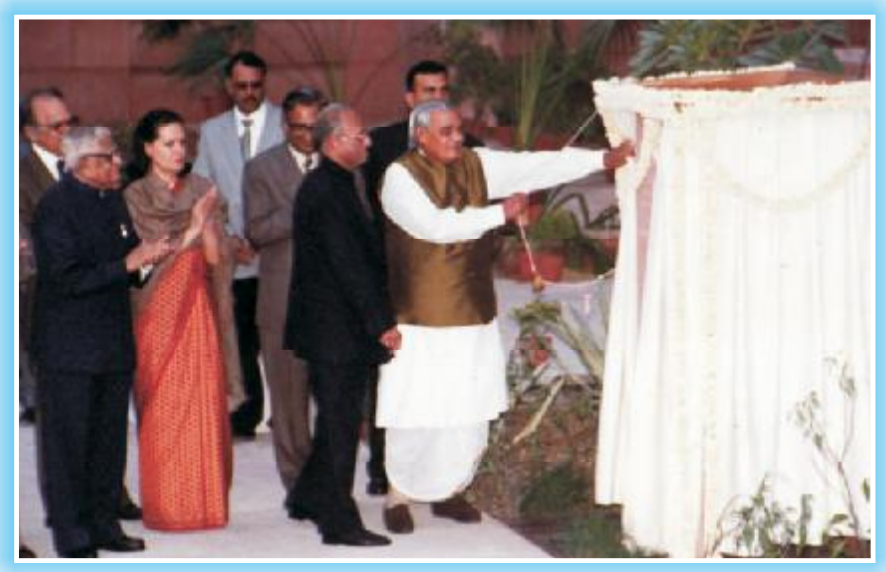
'Utsa' or 'Origins' celebrated the culture of the People of Indian Origin, January 2007

Children are very much part of the IGNCA's reachout. Schools are regularly invited to bring their students to visit our exhibitions. Here children are looking curiously at some of the exhibits.

Noted theatre person Zohra Seghal at a lecture in the IGNCA. Dr Sunil Kothari and Mrs Usha Bhagat at the mike

Ajanta cave paintings have been documented by the IGNCA in an interactive DVD as also acquired the photographs taken by Benoy Behl. This is a picture from this collection

Dignitaries at the inauguration of the new building at 11 Mansingh Road November 19 2001



The then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee unveiling the plaque, inaugurating the building

This building, at 11, Mansingh Road, is one of the three building of the IGNCA. It houses the library, the Computer Informatics Lab, the Kalakosa Division, the Janpada Sampada Division, the slide unit, the photography unit, the Archives, the Lecture Hall, the Exhibition space and the National Mission for Manuscripts. The library has over 1.5 lakh books in Indian and foreign languages, manuscripts in microfilm, microfische, digitised rare books and journals in over 30 subjects. The slide unit is among the largest in Asia with over one lakh slides of paintings, art objects, architecture and natural sceneries. All the IGNCA's reference material are well catalogued and are available for ready reference.

The then President of India Shri K. R. Narayanan receiving a portrait of Mahatma Gandhi in porcelain from the artist Meena Patel in January 2001

World renowned puppeteer Michael Meschke with shadow puppeteers from India

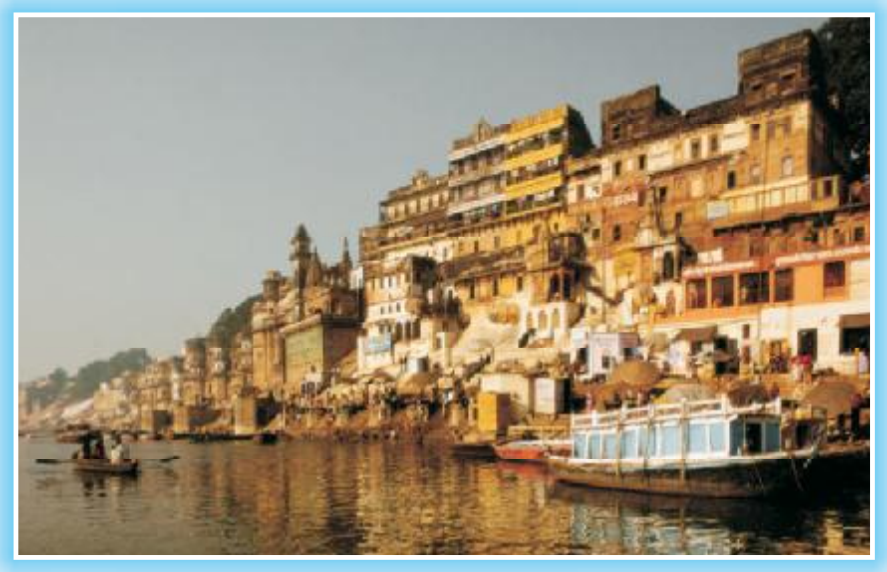
Mati Ghar, the mud and brick structure was considered temporary when built. Today it has become the quintessence of the IGNCA. It offers fabulous exhibition space in beautiful ambience. Complementing it are the amphitheatre and the sprawling green lawns.

An exhibit at the multimedia expression River, Body and Legends, March 2011

Einstein and Rabindranath Tagore, a rare photograph, from an exhibition mounted by the IGNCA on Tagore on the occasion of his 150th Birth Anniversary, May 2011

The largest ever show of the works of world-renowned artist Krishna Reddy was hosted by the IGNCA in November 2011

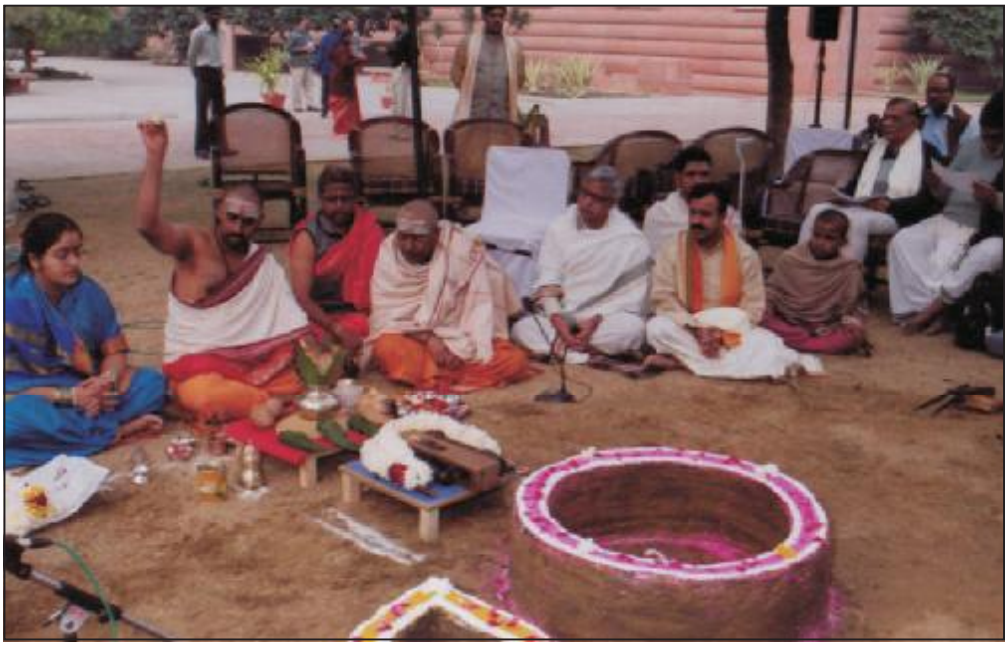
'Oriental Scenery – Yesterday and Today' an exhibition held by the IGNCA in April 2011 in collaboration with the Victoria Albert Museum, Kolkata presented a unique idea. On the one side were aquatints done by Thomas and William Daniell two hundred years ago. Juxtaposed to each of these were the photographs taken by contemporary photographer



Antonio Martinelli from the same spot and view as the Daniells. The similarities and contrasts had their own stories to tell-
seen here: Above, the aquatint of the Danielle's of the Ganga Ghat at Varanasi, on the left the photograph by Martinelli

A scene from Indramaha, a dance-drama presented at the inauguration of the 15th World Sanskrit Conference in January 2012

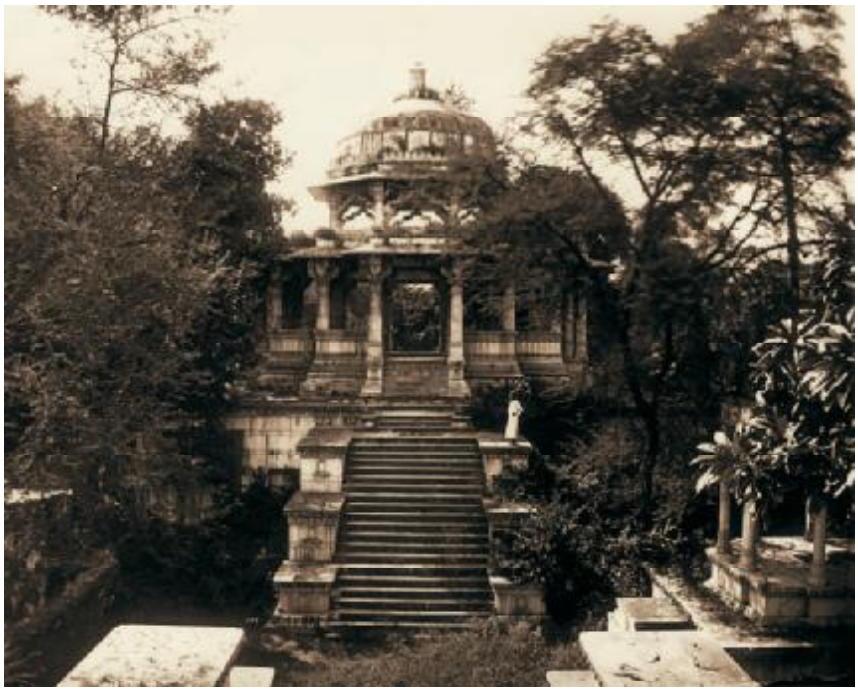
The Computer Informatics Lab of the IGNCA won the Golden Icon award from the Ministry of communication and Information Technology. The award, and P Jha, Director (CIL) receiving the award from the then minister



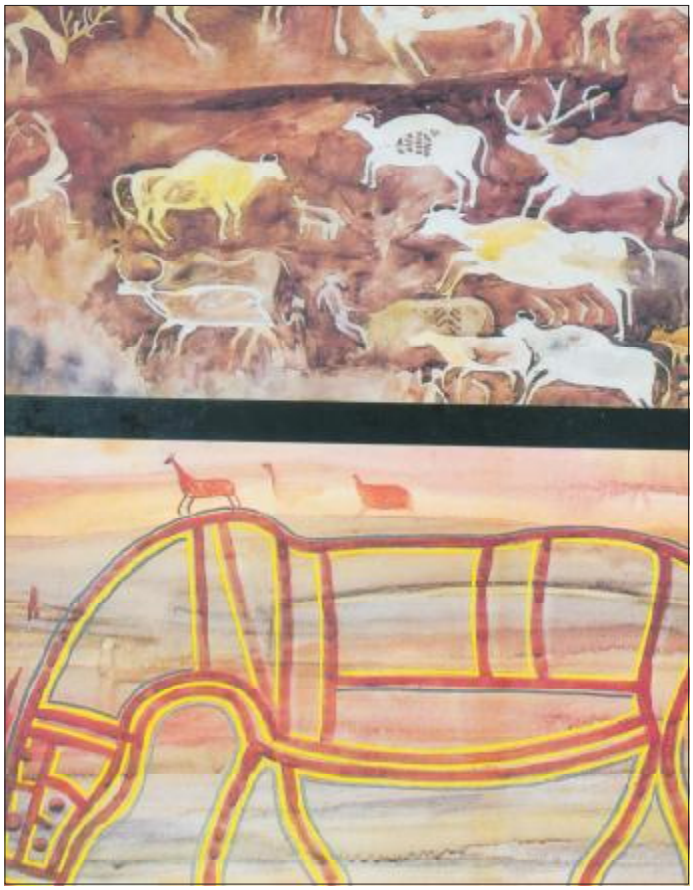
The IGNCA celebrated a Vedic Heritage Week, during which a yagna was performed in strict adherence to the rules of the rituals. Very senior Vedic scholars and ritual performers attended the event, December 2001

Santokba Dudat, the lady who painted 1.2 kilometres of scroll, narrating the story of Mahabharata. She also painted the life of Indira Gandhi, inspired by her persona. Given here is a scene of Mrs Indira Gandhi addressing people. These scrolls are part of our archives

The IGNCA has in its archives a collection of sixty-three handcrafted maps, which are decades old. This collection was gifted to the IGNCA by Prof. R.P Misra, an earth scientist.



The IGNCA has the largest collection of glass plate negatives of the pioneer photographer Raja Deen Dayal. The Centre has showcased his works in three exhibitions. On the left is Raja Deen Dayal and on the right is one of his photographs, the Cenotaph of Sangram Singh, Mewar



Some water colour reproductions by Dr Yashodhara Mathpal of rock art paintings. these are part of the IGNCA archives. Dr Mathpal has also authored books on rock art for the IGNCA

The IGNCA logo is a symbol from a second century Badami celing. Seen here is the image recreated in mud by women artist from Mehrauli village in Delhi.

R. No. 62032/93

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NEW DELHI

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