

*FLY ON
THE WALL
#21*

- Manisha Gera Baswani

Moondance at Aspinwall

Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2016 'Forming in the Pupil of an Eye' Curated by Sudarshan Shetty

The curious photographer in me found my way to the majestic Aspinwall at the unearthly midnight hour on the eve of the Kochi Biennale opening. The edifice stood grand under the not so reticent moonlight, ethereal in its presence. The near full moon night gave Aspinwall an aura of lightness. It seemed poised to be swept by the persistent waves that were softly kissing the greying walls of the riverfront.

This historically vibrant city that I embrace every two years for one of the most awaited art events of Contemporary Indian art 'The Kochi Biennale' has become an opportune time for me to capture the invited and visiting artists through my lens for my ongoing project of almost 16 years, 'Artist through the lens' that I have been lovingly pursuing alongside my practise as a painter. Visits to the ancient city of Kochi during each biennale continues to add creative weight to my project and my heart grows lighter with excitement and joy with each image captured, adding to my already pregnant project.

I soaked in the majestic moonlight, walking the path of the artworks as they lay motionless, waiting for the first ray of light to caress them to life. The white walls of Aspinwall glistened in the reflected light of the moon, as a cool breeze swept past the milky landscape singing a silent lullaby. A melodious night indeed — of art and celebration getting all geared to await the new dawn.





