

PRESS RELEASE

Kolkata Centre for Creativity presents  
**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (The World is One Family)**  
 Edition – II  
 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2020



Images: Edition I of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* at KCC, 2019. Image courtesy of Kolkata Centre for Creativity.

**Kolkata, 9 January, 2020:** After a successful first edition of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (VK-I), Kolkata Centre for Creativity (KCC), spearheaded by Richa Agarwal as the Centre’s Chairperson, is all set to hold the second edition of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (VK II), it’s Annual Conference. VK II will be held from 24<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at KCC.

This year’s conference, co-curated by Dr Kalyan Chakravarty and Shwetal A. Patel, will invite contributions from leading practitioners from India and around the world such as Anand Patwardhan, Dr. Ganesh Devy, Gayatri Sinha, Dr Tara Douglas, Feroze Gujral, Deepika Sorabjee, Aric Chen and Ravi Agarwal to name a few. The initiative is an effort to build high quality partnerships in Civil Society for joint contemplation with action, advocacy and engagement to promote a sustainable and inclusive society sought through the United Nation’s 2030 17 Sustainable Development Goals (UN 17 SDG’s).

This year, Dr. Thomas Wide, founding curator of The Museum for the United Nations — UN Live in Copenhagen, will launch a new interdisciplinary project relating to the theme of the conference.

The philosophy of the conference is to provide a free and accessible platform to investigate and probe the meaning of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (“The world is one family”) in light of growing environmental degradation and resource depletion.

The second edition of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* will explore creativity’s relationship to the environment through panels such as “Art, Culture & Activism in India” with keynote speaker Ravi Agarwal, and panellists Parul Zaveri (Architect, Abhikram), Siddhant Shah (Heritage Architect), Dr. Tara Douglas (Animator); “Reviving & Inventing Sustainable Approaches to Art and Architecture” with Dr. Kalyan Chakravarty (Convener), Siddhant Shah (Heritage Architect), and Vikas Dilawari (Architect) moderated by Anupam Sah (Conservationist) and “Visual Art Today” with panellists like Gayatri Sinha (Art Writer & Critic), Aric Chen (Curator) and Prof. Rashmi Sawhney (Academician). Anand Patwardhan, who has curated a film program for VK II exploring filmmakers response to environmental degradation, will also be screening “Vivek”, his work in progress.

With relation to *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, Dr Kalyan Chakravarty, Curator says, “The aim of the conference is to initiate a conversation about creative initiatives and to build a data bank for accommodating a diverse corpus of best opinions, practices and strategies in a consensual framework”.

Co-curator Shwetal A. Patel voiced his belief - “If the creative community is going to contribute towards the effort of confronting global challenges (UN 2030 17 SDGs), then we must look beyond narrow definitions and work with various actors and agents across civil society, VK II is an opportunity for diverse stakeholders to come together to find new approaches and solutions”.

Richa Agarwal, Chairperson, KCC said, “The brilliant response that we received to the first edition of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* held last year, encouraged us to present the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of our Annual Conference of Kolkata Centre for Creativity, with all the right ingredients to make the it a very enriching experience. I am eagerly looking forward to the diverse list of eclectic speakers from the fields of culture, academics, media, architecture, history, art & creativity who will share their thoughts over two days to provide a platform for engaging discussions.”



*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* coincides with Bose Krishnamachari’s ongoing solo exhibition *The Mirror Sees Best in the Dark* at Emami Art Gallery (located on the ground floor of KCC) in Kolkata. In his latest series, Bose returns to art-making, through experimenting with form and material as he confronts the increasingly extreme discourses that shape our consciousness.

Image courtesy : Emami Art Gallery

Emami Art will also be showcasing artworks of eminent artists of national & international stature like Jogen Chowdhury and G Ravinder Reddy and Bengal artists, who work in representational and non-representational genres like Anjan Modak, Soma Das, Bholanath Rudra, Arindam Chatterjee, Tamal Bhattacharya and Arunima Chowdhury at the India Art Fair which is scheduled to take place in Delhi from the 30th January till 2nd February.

#### **About Kolkata Centre for Creativity (KCC)**

A unit of Anamika Kala Sangam Trust (AKST), Kolkata Centre for Creativity (KCC) is a multi-disciplinary interactive art and creativity center located in Kolkata, West Bengal. Spearheaded by Richa Agarwal as it’s Chairperson, the 70,000 sq. ft Centre champions the art and cultural landscape of contemporary India since 21st November, 2018. It comprises an Amphitheater, Exhibition & Learning Spaces, Dance studio, Conservation Lab, Books & Materials Library, Creative Culinary space- Grace, Craft & Design outlet and a Skill Development Maker’s section.

Showcasing several expressions of art and design to highlight their common creative core – KCC encourages visitors to explore, interact and design ideas on various art forms. KCC works in the areas of Capacity Building, Well-Being, Conservation & Restoration, Craft & Design, Culinary, Visual and Performing Art. KCC aims to establish itself as a platform for artistic enhancement through Displays, Presentations, Fellowships, Laboratories, Residences, Conservation, Research and Discourses. KCC’s programs are designed on the principles of cultural diversity, gender equality, conservation of environment and inclusion of people with disabilities. The Centre offers free entry to the public and is open between 11 am to 6 pm from Tuesday to Sunday.

For more information about exhibitions and the conferences, please visit [www.kolkatacentreforcreativity.org](http://www.kolkatacentreforcreativity.org)