

Embracing Heritage Reimagining Tradition



“For more than three decades, I have embarked on a journey of self-discovery, exploring colour, texture, and design. During this time, I have cultivated a passion for sharing my talents and discovering innovative ways to create enriching experiences that showcase my expertise in Indian arts and crafts. India boasts a rich and diverse heritage, beautifully reflected in its exquisite arts and crafts. Centuries-old traditions blend harmoniously with contemporary creativity, which allows me to create a vibrant artistic expression.”

Ranbir

The stories Ranbir’s grandparents told her about Punjab continue to influence her life in the UK. She strives to combine her British education with her Indian roots to connect the two worlds. Her upbringing provides a unique opportunity for her to bring different cultures together, as it represents a perfect balance between tradition and modernity. It conveys a universal message about the significance of arts and crafts as a medium capable of transmitting what words alone cannot express.

Rangoli

Rangoli: a kaleidoscope of colours poured onto earth. Each grain of rice, petal, and powder weaves a story of tradition and hope. More than decoration, it's a sacred geometry, a communal canvas where hands and hearts unite.



Transient Beauty

A canvas of earth, a vibrant hue,
Where fingers dance, dreams come true.
With grains of color, a magic unfolds,
Intricate patterns, stories untold.

From sacred geometry to floral grace,
Each stroke a prayer, a holy space.
A masterpiece on morning's dew,
A welcome mat for spirits new.

With every petal, a wish takes flight,
A symbol of hope, a radiant light.
A fleeting beauty, ephemeral art,
A moment of joy, a pure heart.

[images] 1. Ferens Art Gallery: Hull 2016 2. Private Commission: London 2022

Textiles

Textiles: immerse yourself in a world where artistry and tradition intertwine. These textiles are more than cloth; they are living testaments to India's rich heritage. Each piece whispers tales of love, loss, joy, and celebration. From the grandeur of royal courts to the simplicity of village life, these fabrics have adorned and enriched generations.



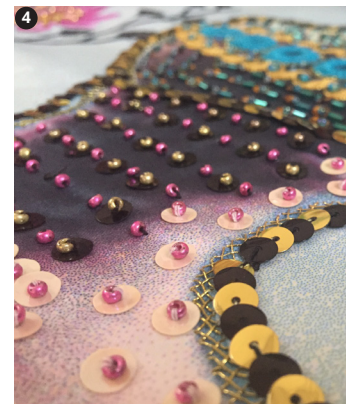
Fabric of India

From Kashmir's chill to Kanchipuram's heat,
A vibrant palette, a textile feat.
Silk, cotton, wool, in every hue,
Stories woven, old and new.

Banaras brocade, a golden gleam,
Mysore silk, a royal dream.
Jamdani's grace, so delicate and fine,
Chanderi's shimmer, a design divine.

Phulkari's stitches, a soulful art,
Kantha's patterns, a woman's heart.
Kalamkari's colors, bold and bright,
Ikat's magic, a wondrous sight.

Each thread a whisper, a cultural lore,
Centuries of craft, forevermore. I
ndia's textiles, a treasure trove,
A legacy of love, a nation's love.



[images] 1. Scarf: running and herring bone stitch 2. Wall Hanging: sequins and mirrors 3. Table Cloth: chain stitch 4. Wall Hanging: fabric print with beads and sequins 5. Table Runner: filigree stitches featuring beads

Phulkari



[images] 1. Contemporary 3 Panel Peacock Themed Screen 2. Traditional Wall Hanging 3. Section of a traditional Indian dress

Phulkari: blooming with colour and symbolism, phulkari transforms cloth into living art. Each stitch is a petal, each pattern a story. These textiles are more than adornment; they are vessels of memory, joy, and cultural heritage.

Needle's Story

Threads of story, woven with care,
A tapestry of dreams, beyond compare.
With needle's dance, a world takes form,
Phulkari's beauty, a vibrant storm.

In every stitch, a tale untold,
Of women's hearts, brave and bold.
With colors bright, and patterns fine,
A heritage shines, truly divine.

From fields of gold to skies of blue,
Nature's hues, in threads anew.
A symbol of grace, a cultural art,
Phulkari's magic, right from the heart.



Mirror Embroidery

Mirror Embroidery: shimmering with history, mirror embroidery, or shisha, is a captivating art form with roots in 17th-century India. Tiny mirrors and reflective pieces are meticulously attached to fabric, creating dazzling patterns and designs. From the vibrant hues of Rajasthan to the intricate motifs of Sindh, this technique has transformed into a diverse and beloved craft across South Asia. Beyond its aesthetic appeal, mirrorwork is often believed to ward off evil, adding a layer of cultural significance to its allure.



A Tapestry of Light.

Fragile mirrors, captured dreams,
Embroidered on time's ancient seams.
A constellation of glass, a starry night,
Catching the world in a shimmering light.

From desert sands to mountain peaks,
A story told in a thousand flickers and gleams.
Each stitch a whisper, a soulful art,
A universe reflected, heart to heart.

Let your gaze wander, let your spirit soar,
In this realm where shadows softly implore.
For in these threads, a magic resides,
Igniting wonder, where beauty abides.

[images] 1. Cushion Cover 2. Scarf



[images] 1. Handmade Dolls: depicting individual states and dancers of India
 2. Handmade Rajasthan Doll 3. Handmade Indian Bride Doll
 4. Handmade Traditional Village Scene

Dolls

Dolls: unveil the cultural heritage of India through the lens of these cherished dolls. Traditionally gifted to brides as symbols of love and hope, these dolls embody the aspirations and blessings of new beginnings. Explore the rich symbolism and traditions associated with these timeless artifacts.

The Porcelain Goddess

From India's heart, where colours dream and twine,
 A passion kindled, deep and truly mine.
 In dolls of grace, a world of wonder gleams,
 Embroidered stories, like enchanted streams.

For brides adorned, a symbol pure and bright,
 Of love's embrace and hope's enduring light.
 With needle's magic, souls in cloth are cast,
 Each region's essence, a timeless past.

Bengal's poise, Rajasthan's fiery zest,
 In every form, a spirit, truly blessed.
 A collector's heart, where joy resides,
 In these fair ladies, where beauty abides.



Filigree



[images] 1. Decorative Place Mat

Filigree: a whisper of metal on fabric, has been a source of endless fascination. Rooted in India's opulent heritage, this intricate art form has inspired a collection that blurs the lines between tradition and modernity. By adorning ethereal fabrics with the delicate caress of gold and silver, I have created garments that are as much sculpture as they are clothing. Each piece is a testament to the enduring allure of handmade luxury.

Filigree's Paradox

Lace of metal, delicate and fine,
Intricate patterns, a design divine.
Yet, some may deem it overly sweet,
Averse to its ornate, fanciful fleet.

Curving, twisting, a graceful art,
Captured sunlight, a beating heart.
But critics may find it too ornate,
A fussy excess, elaborate.

With patient hands, it takes its form,
Shimmering beauty, warm and warm.
Though some may recoil, its beauty unseen,
Averse to its intricate, delicate scene.



Exhibitions

[images] 1. Life in Colour: Sunderland 2018 2. Journey Through Colours: Wednesbury 2019 3. Out of the Frame: Birmingham 2021 4. New Art Exchange: Nottingham 2008 5. Washington Arts Centre: Sunderland 2015

My work has been exhibited extensively both internationally and within the UK. I aim to challenge stereotypes and build bridges between cultures through art that is visually captivating and culturally resonant.

My most recent exhibition in the heart of Birmingham aimed to encourage the diverse community within the city, to discover and embrace their local art galleries. A diverse collection of my work displayed across 2 galleries in Birmingham, both portray the complex and multivalent culture throughout India, telling a story of not one, but many India's. Through a language which manages to bring different worlds and cultures together harmoniously, it's the perfect balance between tradition and modernity.

Commissions

My work is a vibrant exploration of Indian heritage, where ancient techniques meet contemporary expression. Through textiles and Rangoli-inspired pieces, I delve into a personal journey of self-discovery, celebrating color, texture, and design. This exhibition invites you to experience the rich tapestry of my cultural roots, reinterpreted for the modern world.

My work has been commissioned by prestigious clients including Bloomberg, HSBC, CITV, PoliNation, Manchester City Football Club, WOMAD, Sainsbury's, and West Midlands Growth Company.



[images] 1. Fresh Flower Rangoli: Art in the Park, Leamington Spa 2021 2. Coloured Rice Rangoli: Diwali themed packaging, Sainsbury's 2022 3. Grain Rangoli: WOMAD 40th Anniversary, Somerset 2022 4. Fresh Flower Rangoli: Wednesbury Library 2023

Education

My passion for sharing cultural insights inspired me to create workshops that empower children and adults to explore and appreciate traditional Indian arts and crafts.

[images] 1. Fabric Painting Workshop: Sikh Academy, Smethwick 2023 2. Rangoli Workshop: MAC, Birmingham 2019 3. Sewing Rangoli Workshop: New Indian Art Gallery, Birmingham 2008 4. Block Printing Workshop: Sunderland Museum & Art Gallery, Sunderland 2018 5. Textile Workshop: MAC, Birmingham 2022

