

# Martin Eder Talks About his Monsters of Silence

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If you try to see Mumbai from a third person's view, you will realise how its nooks and corners are brimming with inspiration amidst all that chaos. I believe that's what intrigued German artist Martin Eder to specially make a series of paintings that he would showcase in India for the very first time. His artworks, titled *Monsters of Silence*, will be on display at Galerie Isa in Mumbai from December 5, 2013 till January 4, 2014

Martin Eder's paintings disclose the rich symbolism associated with owls and flowers that at first seem pleasant, but have a darker undercurrent when you dig deeper.

*Below are edited excerpts of a conversation with the artist*

## The beginning of his journey...

...I discovered my artistic abilities at the mere age of six, when I was drawing technical machine parts in a factory my mother worked in. She would sneak me in while talking to the engineers about her work. Later, in the 1990s, I studied art and sculpture in Germany.

## His views on abstract art...

There is nothing like abstract in my vision. We all deal with one fact of reality. I feel our whole existence is abstract.

## Who are the *Monsters of Silence*?

These paintings were specially made for the show at Galerie Isa in Mumbai. I tried to find subjects that fit the situation and also reflect the title.

I am not an artist that creates only from sources. I sometimes feel more like a traveller or journalist, who comments on the world he is in. The title of the show here, *Monsters of Silence*, suggests destruction and monstrosity that sometimes lies in stillness, lethargy and non-reaction. Violence is hidden in everyday life. The monster is not a fictional creature; it can be an ignorant society as a whole or loss of empathy. This is what inspires me to paint.

## His time in Mumbai...

It is so exciting and fascinating to be here in Mumbai, it's a very energetic and controversial city. I am really overwhelmed by the interest and positive response to the show. What is an artist without an audience?

## His Indian inspiration...

India inspires me very much. The clash of cultures, wealth and poverty has left a long-standing impression on me. I want to learn about the culture and social scenario here. The urban structure of buildings, the fact of improvisation in midst of complete chaos and beauty is really kicking my mind.

[View Martin Eder's official website here.](#)

*Monsters of Silence will be on display till January 24, 2014 at Galerie Isa, 132, Great Western Building, 1st floor, SBS Road, Opposite Lion Gate, Fort, Mumbai 400023*