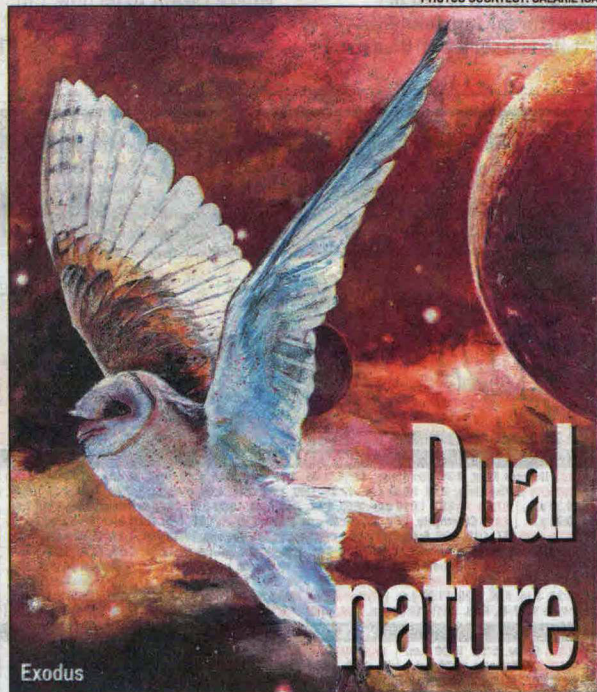


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Acclaimed German artist Martin Eder's debut show in Mumbai features works that question the notion of beauty and explore the darker side of human beings

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German artist Martin Eder may be showing his works in Mumbai for the first time, but globally, he's earned a reputation for creating kitschy paintings that border on being eerie at times.

Eder is known to deconstruct the world around him through his works and question the idea of beauty or desirability. The 45-year-old grew up in rural Germany, that is known for its idyllic beauty. However, the countryside haven also happens to be one of the areas with the highest reports of rape and suicides.

His new collection, *Monsters Of Silence*, explores this very dual nature of human existence. Eder says, "My work questions circumstances that affect the capitalistic

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Catch the show which is on till January 24, at Galerie Isa, Fort, between 11 am to 6 pm

world I live in. I am also interested in media, their artificial values and the changes in society. As the title suggests, destruction and monstrosity can sometimes lie in stillness, lethar-

gy and lack of reaction. Violence is hidden in everyday life. The monster is not a fictional creature; it can also be an ignorant society."

Talking about the subjects in his paintings, Eder explains that this exhibition is a classic painting show with more or less dreamlike situations drawn from nature. "Mixed with some subconscious experiences, the protagonists take the viewer to an uncanny but beautiful underworld. For instance, the painting *Exodus* is an unreal, dreamlike situation of a bird flying in space in the midst of planets and stars."

The artist is also very excited about his trip to India. "I have heard a lot about this beautiful country. I am looking forward to the visit and the show," he says.

