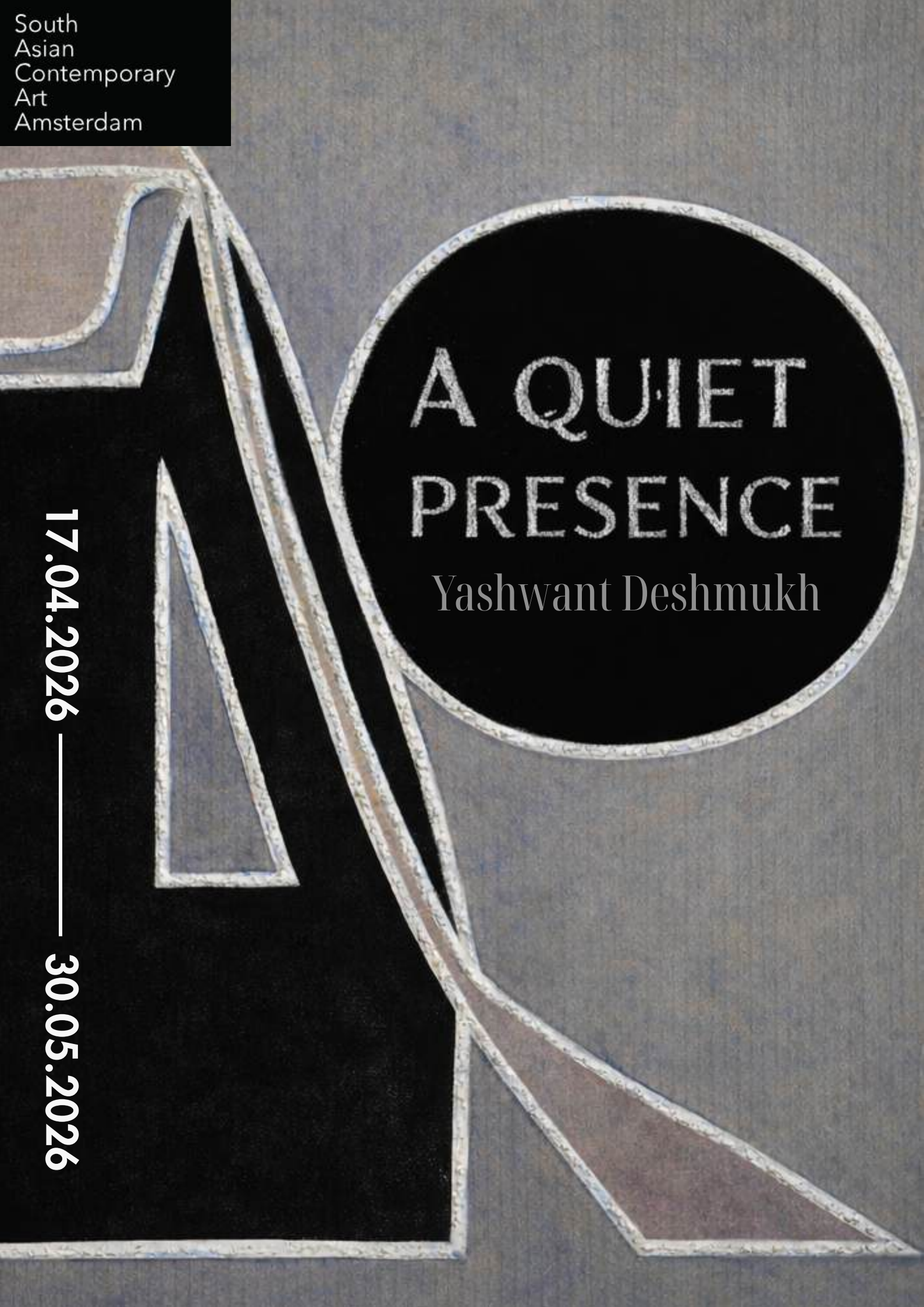


South
Asian
Contemporary
Art
Amsterdam

The background of the poster is a textured, greyish-blue surface. Overlaid on this are several geometric shapes outlined in a thick, white, hand-drawn style. A large, dark, irregular shape occupies the left side. A large black circle is positioned on the right side, containing the title and artist's name. The overall aesthetic is minimalist and contemporary.

A QUIET PRESENCE

Yashwant Deshmukh

17.04.2026 — 30.05.2026

A QUIET PRESENCE

Through a language of restraint, the paintings of Yashwant Deshmukh reveal themselves gradually. Forms emerge within subdued fields of colour, held in a delicate tension between appearance and withdrawal. Nothing in these compositions demands immediate attention. Instead, they invite a slower mode of looking, in which perception adjusts to subtle shifts in line, tone, and spatial balance.

Presented in Amsterdam, these works enter a context long attentive to light, atmosphere, and the quiet drama of observation. Within this setting, Deshmukh's restrained pictorial language resonates with traditions of careful looking and the subtle interplay between object, light, and space.

Deshmukh begins with familiar shapes drawn from everyday life. Yet these images move far beyond the conventions of still life. Released from their utilitarian context, the forms hover between object and sign, between recollection and abstraction. As the artist notes, "My painting is not about shapes. It is about space."

The shapes originate in the vocabulary of the ordinary, but they are no longer treated as objects of use. They become spatial markers, forms that register direction, weight, and balance within the pictorial field.

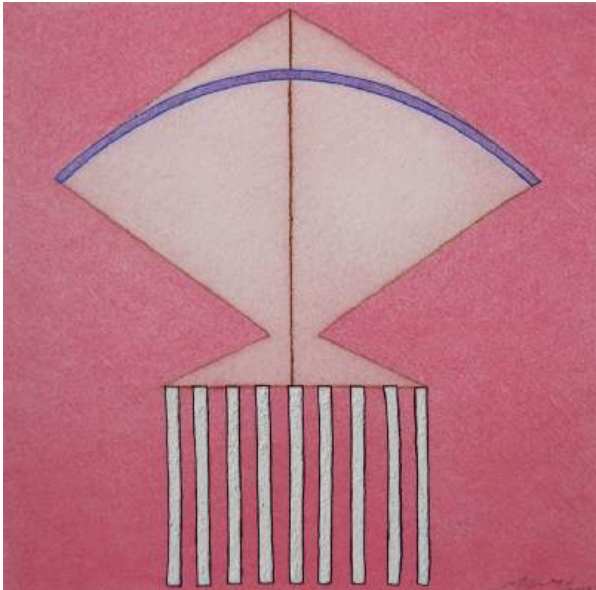
Line and contour form the quiet architecture of the work. Horizontal lines settle the image, verticals introduce balance, diagonals create tension, and curves allow the forms to breathe. These gestures unfold within restrained tonal fields—dusty greys, muted browns, diffused blues, where images appear suspended between object and abstraction.

Encountering these works is almost like reading a poem. In poetry, the line shapes rhythm and attention, while the blank space around it carries equal weight. Meaning emerges through pauses and intervals. Deshmukh composes his paintings with a similar sensitivity: a single contour guides the eye while surrounding tonal fields allow space itself to become as present as the form it contains.

Critic Ranjit Hoskote has described Deshmukh's paintings as explorations of the "life and afterlife of objects," where humble forms move beyond description and acquire an unexpected intensity of presence. A vessel may recall the silhouette of a mountain, a contour may echo the arc of a horizon.

Traces of the landscapes of Vidarbha in Maharashtra, where the artist spent his childhood, continue to echo within these compositions: vast plains, shimmering heat, and horizons dissolving into haze.

'A Quiet Presence' gathers paintings that reward sustained attention. Their power lies not in spectacle, but in the gradual unfolding of image and atmosphere. What remains is not the image of a thing, but the experience of its presence.



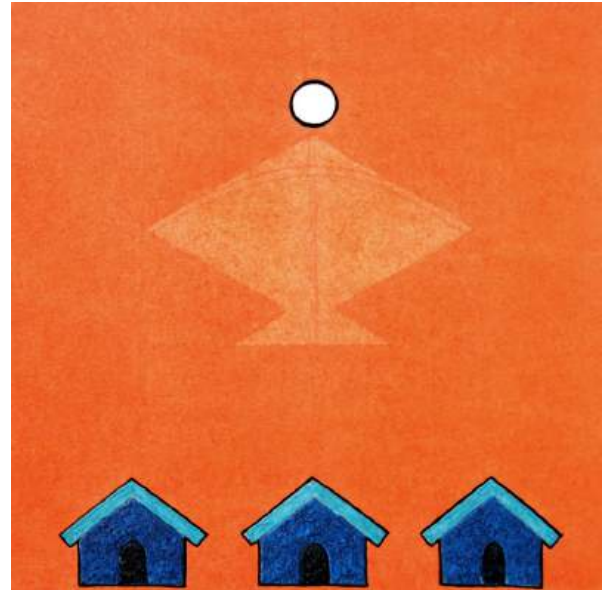
Kite I

2013

Acrylic & Dry Pastel on Paper

12 × 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm



Kite II

2013

Acrylic & Dry Pastel on Paper

12 × 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm



Kite III

2013

Acrylic & Dry Pastel on Paper

12 × 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm



Kite IV

2013

Acrylic, Dry Pastel & Graphite on Paper

12 × 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm



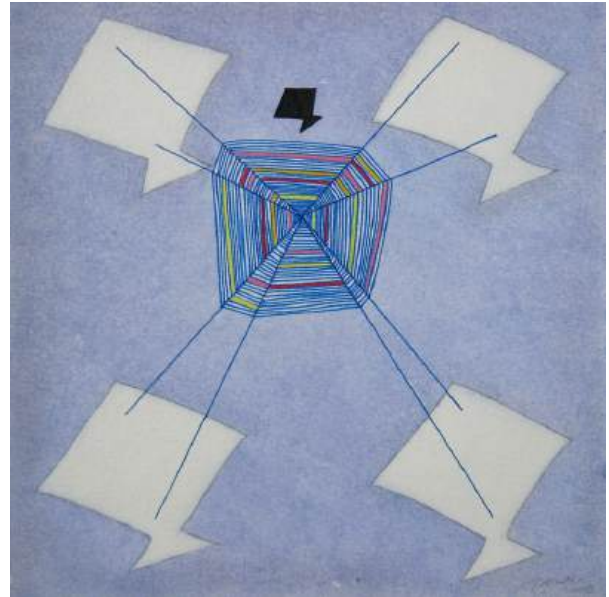
Kite V

2013

Acrylic, Collage & Dry Pastel on Paper

12 × 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm



Kite VI

2013

Acrylic & Dry Pastel on Paper

12 × 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm



Mridangam

2010

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

22 x 22 inches

55.9 x 55.9 cm



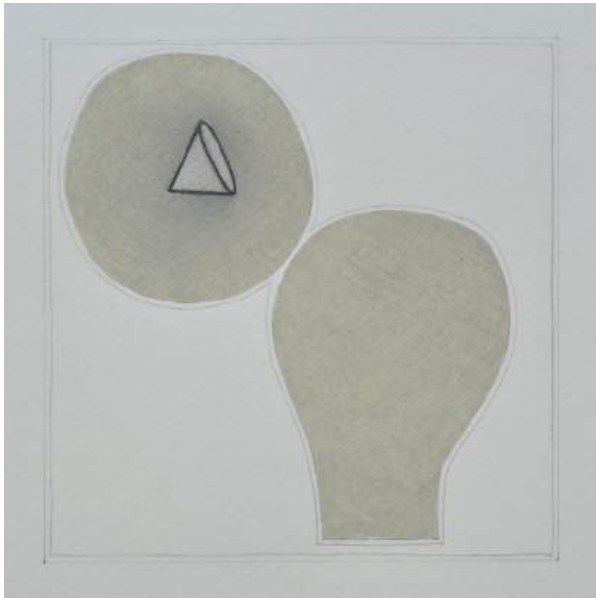
Untitled

2013

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

22 x 22 inches

55.9 x 55.9 cm



Spatial Faces I

2019

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

5.9 x 5.9 inches

15 x 15 cm



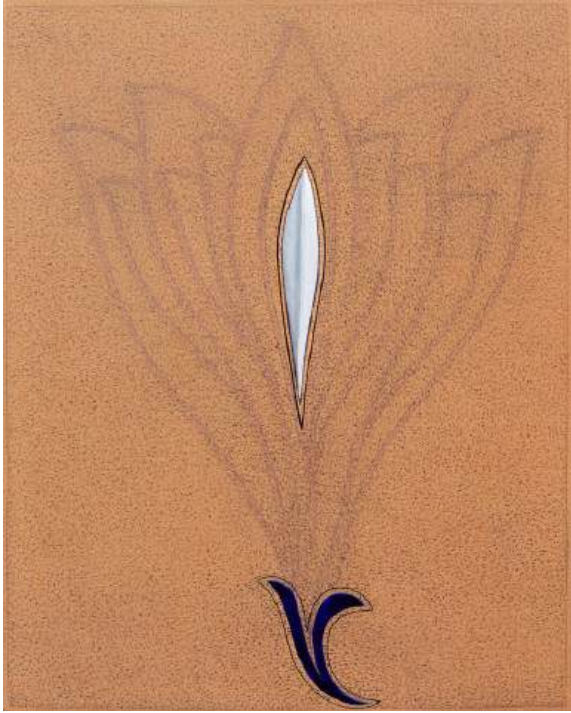
Spatial Faces II

2019

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

5.9 x 5.9 inches

15 x 15 cm



Flower – I

2019

Mixed Media on Mounted Canvas

15 x 12 inches

38.1 x 30.4 cm



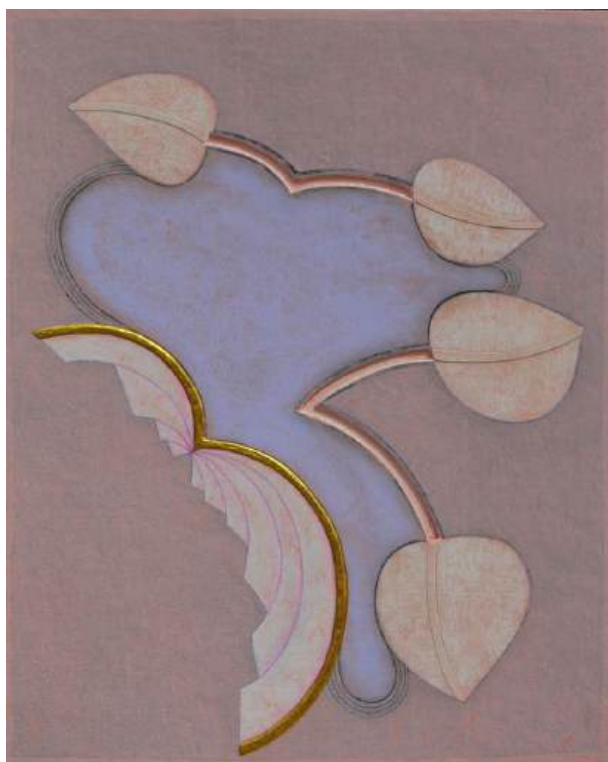
Flower – II

2019

Acrylic on Mounted Canvas

15 x 12 inches

38.1 x 30.4 cm



Flower – III

2019

Acrylic on Mounted Canvas

15 x 12 inches

38.1 x 30.4 cm



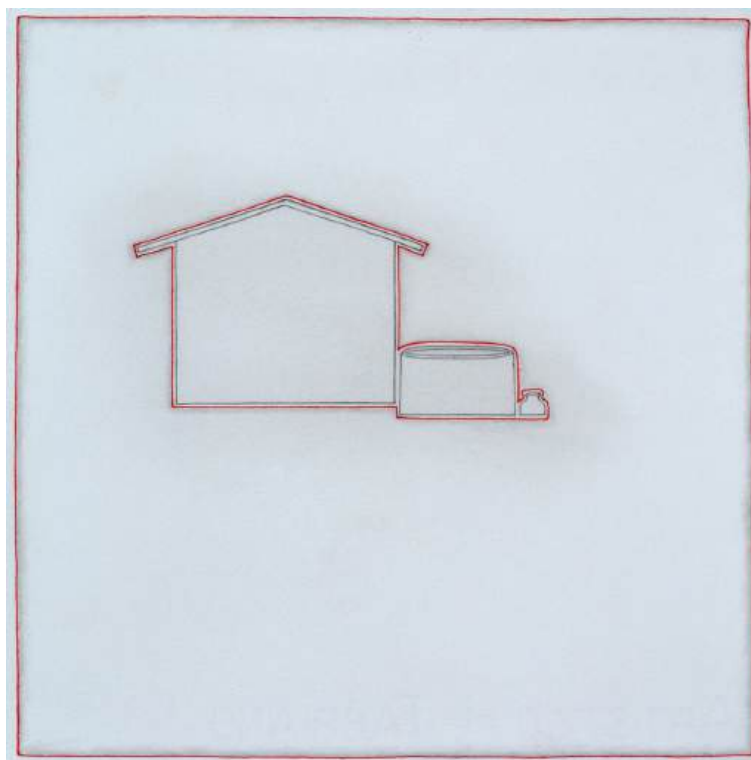
Waterfall

2011

Acrylic & Graphite on Canvas

21.6 x 30 inches

54.8 x 76.2 cm



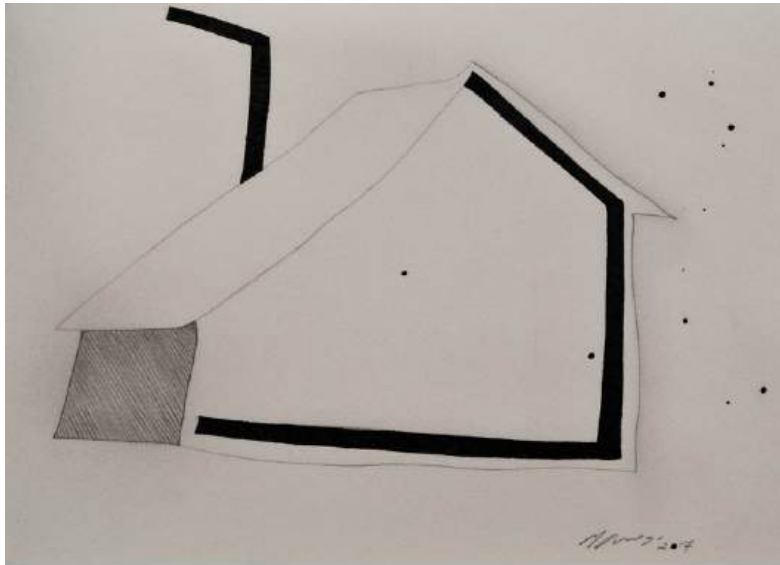
Courtyard

2016

Pen & Pencil on Paper

9.8 x 9.8 inches

24.5 x 24.5 cm



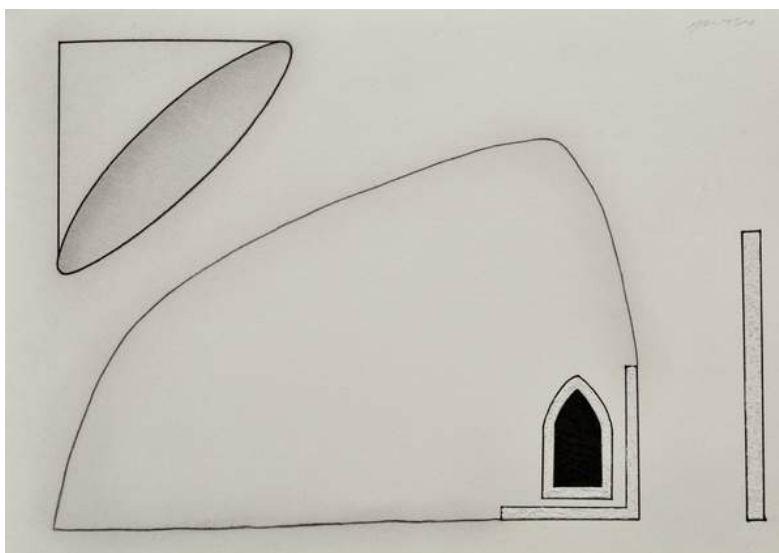
Drawing I

2017

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

7.8 x 10.6 inches

19.8 x 26.9 cm



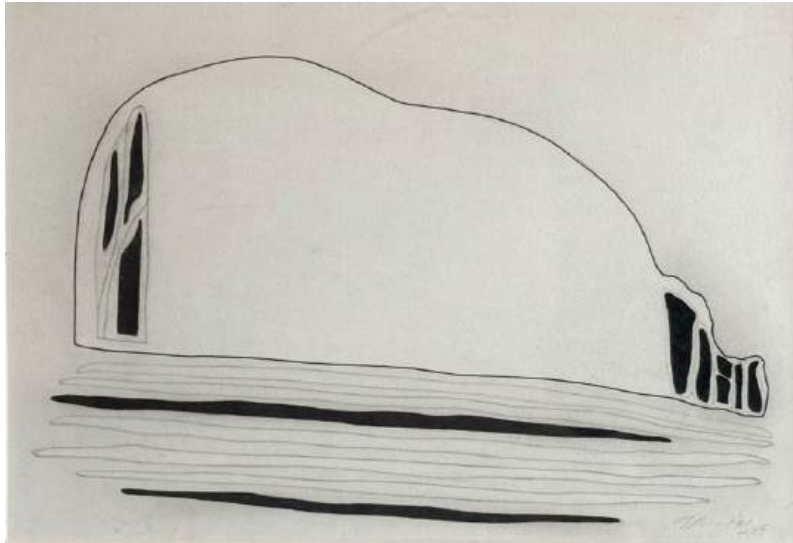
Drawing II

2018

Graphite & Marble Powder on Paper

7.8 x 10.6 inches

19.8 x 26.9 cm



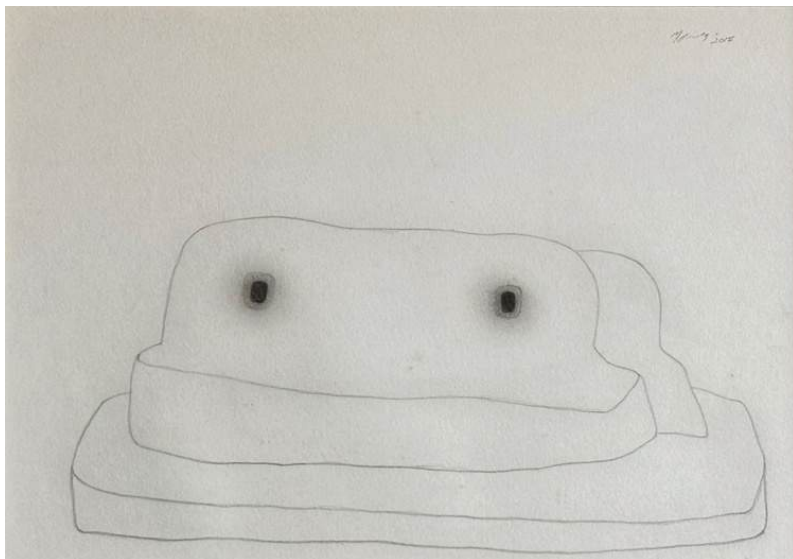
Drawing III

2017

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

7.8 x 10.6 inches

19.8 x 26.9 cm



Drawing IV

2017

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

7.8 x 10.6 inches

19.8 x 26.9 cm



Arch

2025

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

30 x 21.6 inches

76.2 x 54.8 cm



Bottle with a Round label

2025

Acrylic on Paper

30 x 21.6 inches

76.2 x 54.8 cm



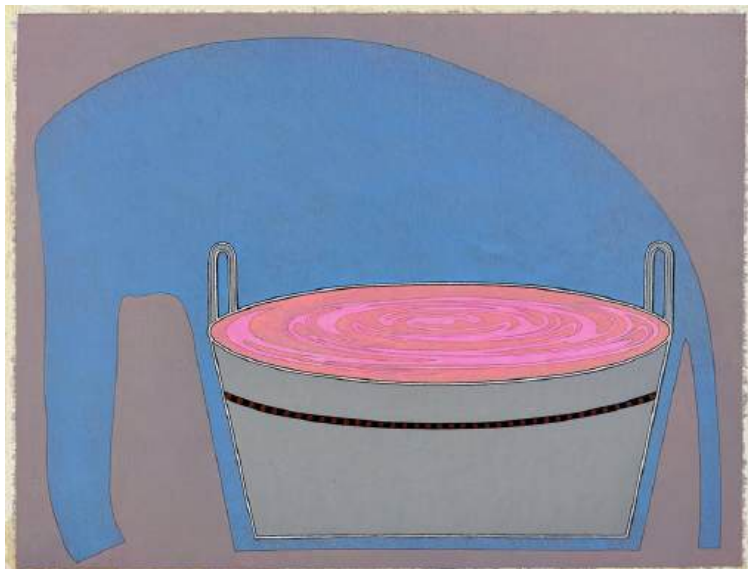
Earthen Pot in Landscape

2011

Mixed Media on Canvas

21.6 x 30 inches

54.8 x 76.2 cm



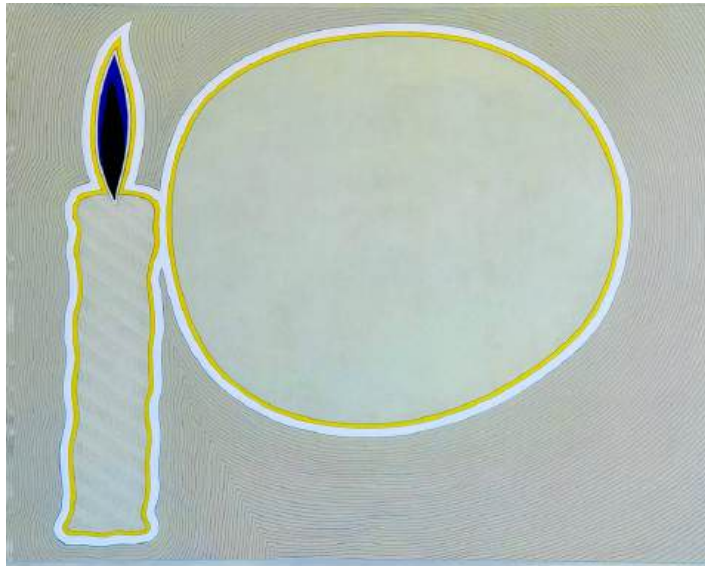
Elephant Shadow

2025

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

21.6 x 30 inches

54.8 x 76.2 cm



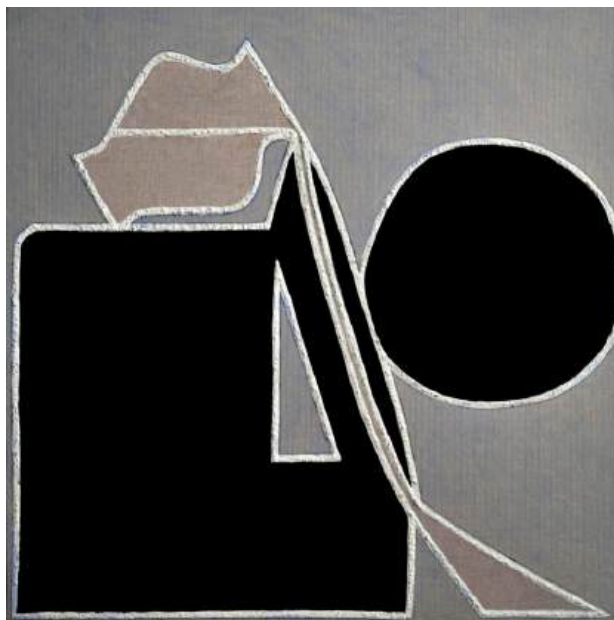
Candle - Light

2025

Acrylic & Graphite on Paper

21.6 x 30 inches

54.8 x 76.2 cm



Still Life

2013

Acrylic, Graphite & Marble Powder on Canvas Board

12 x 12 inches

30.4 x 30.4 cm

YASHWANT DESHMUKH

1963 | Maharashtra, India

A graduate of the Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai (1988), Yashwant Deshmukh has developed a sustained painting practice over several decades within the evolving landscape of contemporary Indian art.

Working primarily with acrylic, charcoal, and mixed media, he approaches the canvas as a site of experimentation where drawing, surface, and tonal variation interact to construct subtle spatial relationships. His practice reflects a careful inquiry into form, perception, and visual structure.

Deshmukh has exhibited widely in India and internationally through numerous solo and group exhibitions. Early presentations include a group exhibition sponsored by the Jindal Art Foundation at Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai (1993); a two-person exhibition at Gallery-7, Hong Kong; and participation in the Sixth Bharat Bhavan International Biennial of Contemporary Indian Art, Bhopal (1996). A solo exhibition organized by Bombay Art Gallery was presented at Shridharani Art Gallery, New Delhi in 2007.

More recently, his work has been shown in international exhibitions including the 1st Mumbai Biennale (2018), organized by K-Art International Exchange Association, Korea in collaboration with InKo Centre and the Sir J. J. School of Art, as well as SARANG, a senior artists' group exhibition in Busan, Republic of Korea (2018). His solo exhibition *Altruism of Lines*, curated by Prabhakar Kamble, was presented at Art & Soul Gallery, Mumbai in 2019.

Recent exhibitions include *Contours of Continuum* (2024) and *Horizons of Memory* (2025) at Art Alive Gallery. His work has also been presented at major art fairs including India Art Fair and Art Mumbai.

During his time at the Sir J. J. School of Art, Deshmukh received several awards including the Kumari Ratan Wadke Award, Shirgaonkar Award, Mayo Award, and the Maharashtra State Art Award.

He currently lives and works in Mumbai.

This catalogue features content from SAC Art Amsterdam, showcasing the gallery's exhibitions and artists.

No part of this publication, including text, images, or design, may be reproduced, distributed, or used in any form without prior written permission from SAC Art Amsterdam.

Established by Tasneem Hatimbhai in June 2024, SAC Art Amsterdam specialises in modern and contemporary art from India and South Asia, aiming to raise awareness and foster international recognition for artists from South Asia and its diaspora.

Instagram: [sacart.ams](https://www.instagram.com/sacart.ams)

Email: art@sacartamsterdam.com

For internal use only.

South
Asian
Contemporary
Art
Amsterdam

Panamakade 200, 1019TT, Amsterdam, The Netherlands