

Benny Varghese

Selected Works

PAINTER, ILLUSTRATOR, PHOTOGRAPHER AND ART TEACHER · KOCHI, KERALA, INDIA

aarty

THE ARTIST

Benny Varghese

A pair of elongated figures, a field of violet, a procession moving along a narrow strip of green: Benny Varghese's work brings together the clarity of a designed image and the particularity of an observed scene. Across the paintings in his portfolio, people, performance and cultural memory take different visual forms, from bold silhouettes to closely described costume and landscape.

Based in Kerala, Benny is an artist and creative professional with more than four decades of involvement in the creative field. His experience spans graphic design, advertising visualisation, illustration, photography, portraiture and painting. Alongside these disciplines, he is an art teacher and nature conservationist. This breadth places his practice at the meeting point of image-making, communication and shared learning.

His figurative compositions reveal a strong sense of line. Faces and bodies are simplified into expressive contours, while gestures, flowing fabric and areas of contrasting colour give the figures their movement. In one composition, a couple appears among lamps, architectural forms and references to Kerala's cultural life. In another, figures and sweeping shapes emerge against diagonal passages of purple. Their visual economy allows posture and rhythm to carry much of the image's expression.

An abstract work extends that interest in rhythm through layered violet tones, drifting forms and clusters of slender marks. Elsewhere, a more descriptive approach brings attention to the elaborate costume of a traditional performer and to a group of performers and musicians walking beside flooded paddy fields. Seen together, these works demonstrate his movement between stylisation and observation, and between the isolated figure and its surroundings.

Teaching is a substantial part of Benny's creative life. His published catalogue biography records that he has guided more than 1,500 art enthusiasts, ranging in age from seven to seventy. It describes an approach concerned with helping learners discover and develop their artistic potential. His experience therefore reaches beyond the works he makes himself, into the confidence and abilities of people learning to make their own images.

His catalogue also records work in institutional and private collections. Across his varied roles, a continuing interest in learning and exploration connects professional experience with personal practice. For Benny, the creative field encompasses both the making of images and the sharing of knowledge: a sustained engagement with what can be seen, imagined and taught.



Couple and Cultural Motifs

Painting by Benny Varghese depicting a stylised couple among lamps, architectural forms and cultural motifs against a purple ground. The displayed title is a descriptive catalogue label; an artist-supplied title is not recorded in the source material.



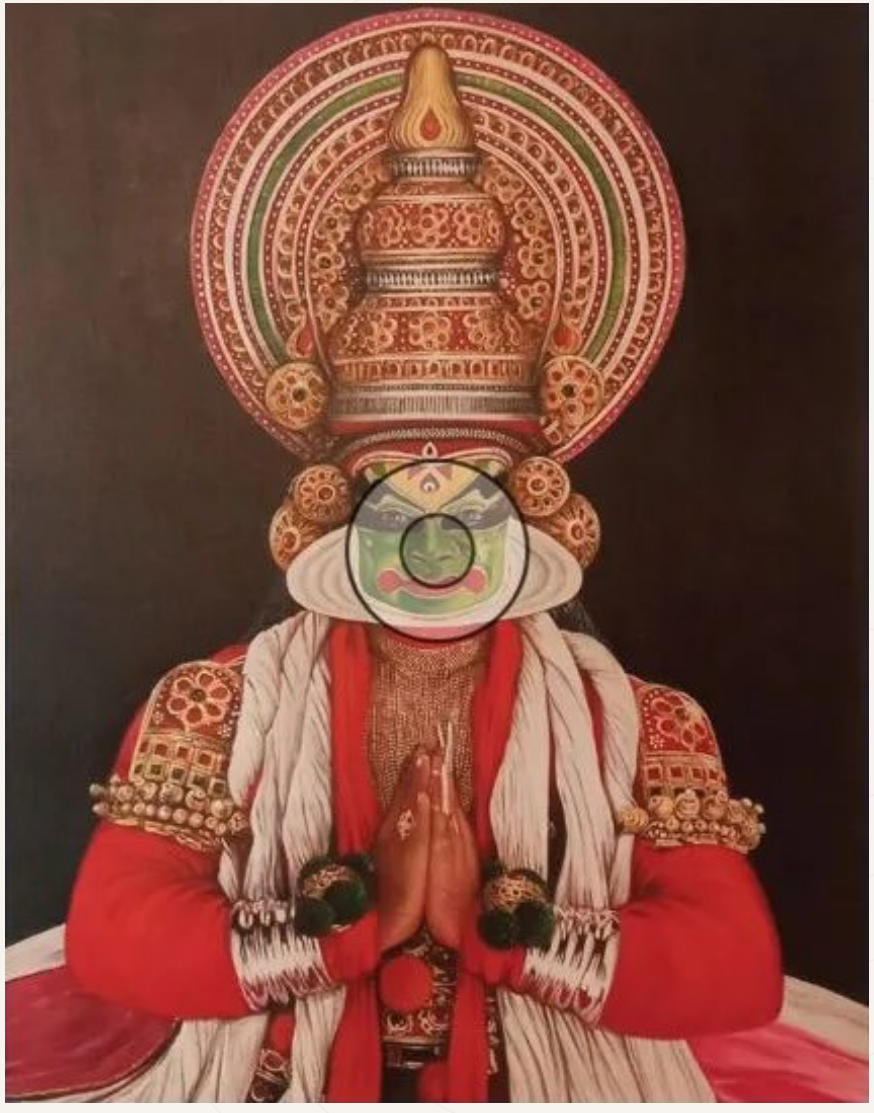
Figures in Motion

Painting by Benny Varghese with elongated figures, flowing forms and warm brown accents set against diagonal purple brushwork. The displayed title is a descriptive catalogue label; an artist-supplied title is not recorded in the source material.



Purple Abstract

An abstract painting by Benny Varghese combining layered purple tones, drifting forms and clusters of fine vertical marks. The displayed title is a descriptive catalogue label; an artist-supplied title is not recorded in the source material.



Kathakali Performer

Painting by Benny Varghese showing a Kathakali performer with an ornate headdress, green facial makeup, red costume and hands held together. The displayed title is a descriptive catalogue label; an artist-supplied title is not recorded in the source material.



Performers in the Paddy Fields

Painting by Benny Varghese depicting costumed performers and musicians walking along a narrow green embankment between flooded paddy fields. The displayed title is a descriptive catalogue label; an artist-supplied title is not recorded in the source material.

More from Benny Varghese, and every work in this book, online

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