

## Gane Trust Travel Scholarship 2015 report

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I am a third year student studying Drawing & Applied Arts @UWE. Earlier this year I won the Gane Trust Travel Scholarship and used the funds to travel to India on a residency. I travelled to Delhi, Jaipur and Mumbai .

The purpose of the residency was to interact with other artists and people from different walks of life to understand the significance of colours in Indian culture through personal experiences. I went with the objective to research on traditional tools and organic pigments used in ancient Indian art forms, and observe the making of handmade paper. I wanted my work to reflect these experiences.

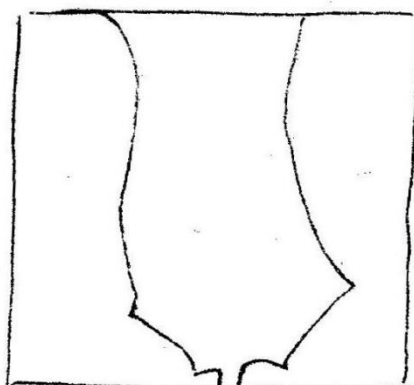
During my stay in Delhi I met visual artists, sculptors, dancers, musicians and a Jain temple priest. I collected information from all these individuals on what colours were preferred in their profession and why. I took part in a Miniature painting workshop and learnt the use of pigments, special brushes and gold leaf in that art form.

The residency gave me time and space to absorb, reflect and react to the place. In the feedback of my previous projects I had been told to allow for chance and try not to control my work and processes.

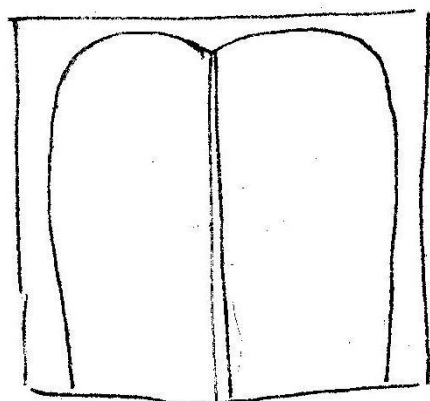
Therefore chance and order, control and chaos were the guiding elements of my work.

This residency was a perfect opportunity to try this out. Although I had made an itinerary before my trip and packed some materials to work with, I did not attempt to control each day and its happenings. The place was driving the intention more than me. It was a time to reflect on what was most important to me, what had shaped my identity, the factors that have had a strong influence on me resulting in this obsession for order, control and organizing my surroundings.

I made some drawings of the natural environment around me and recorded some sounds with the aim to use these shapes and forms in my work. Currently I am working with some of these shapes and experimenting with colour and texture. Here are some images of my work in progress...



Line drawing of  
Shapes of leaves I  
collected in Delhi

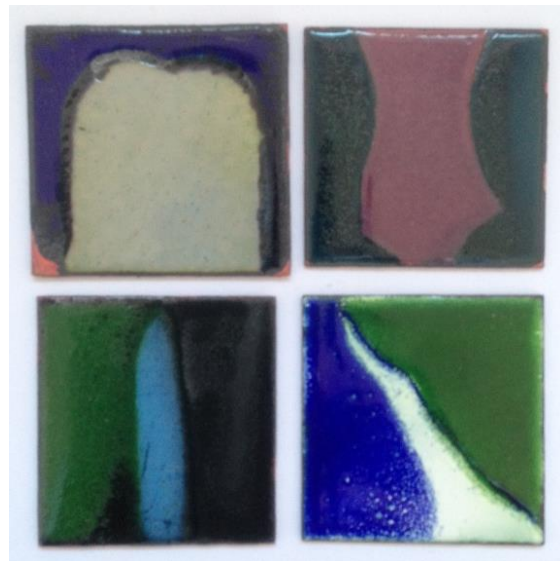




Collage on card based on the shapes brought back from Sanskriti in Delhi



Etched Copper plate on mdf covered with sandpaper



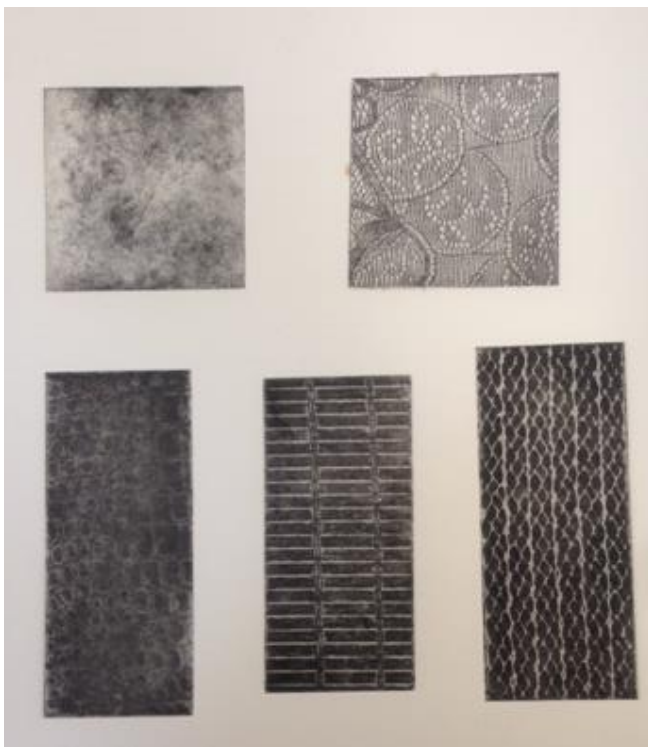
Enamel on Copper using the colours I brought back.



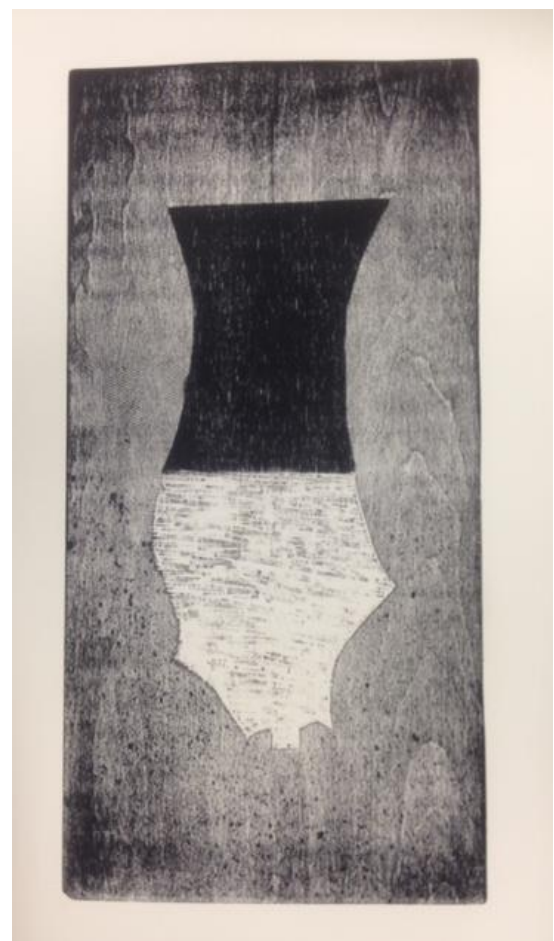
Porcelain sculpture based on a fruit of a tree at Sanskriti, Delhi

The drawings and pigment samples are my constant 'go to' resource during my work. Reading my notes from the interviews and the miniature workshop has been helping make decisions about my work. I am still vary of working in large scale. The studio space that I had during my residency would have allowed for experimenting in large format. But due to time constraints I was unable to do so. The colour palette is another challenging subject but referring back to my research notes helps me make the choices. My entire body of work currently is based on the shapes and colours that I brought back with me.

Without these I would not know where to start. This scholarship has been the back bone to my project. Infact it forms the very foundation on which my work stands today. In the next semester I am hoping to bring these elements together in my final piece which will be based on the theme of 'Chaos and Order'.



Soft ground etching with textures using some samples brought back from my residency



Mokulito Lithography print- a new process I'm experimenting with.