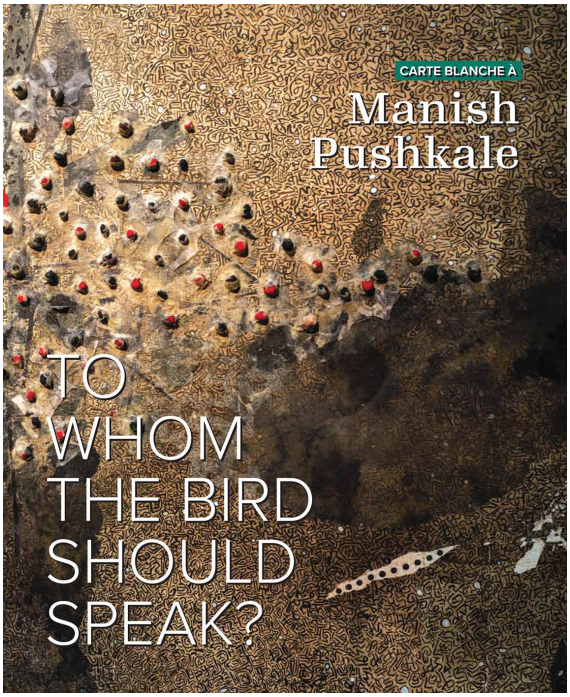
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Carte Blanche à Manish Pushkale

To Whom the Bird Should Speak?

Edited by Claire Bettinelli

ISBN	9789394501423
Publisher	Mapin Publishing
Binding	Paperback / softback
Territory	USA & Canada
Size	9 in x 11 in
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- Catalogs an immersive, 125 sq. mt. hand-painted installation imagining a visual 'script' of a now-lost history
- Inspired by the loss of an ancient language of the Aka-Bo tribe in the Andaman Islands upon the death of its last speaker
- A visual enquiry into the significance of language as a medium of communication
- Published to accompany an exhibition at Musée Guimet, Paris, from October 2023 to March 2024

Manish Pushkale, born in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, is an autodidact who honed his artistic style and sensibility at Bharat Bhavan's fertile and creativity-filled ambience of the time. His engagement at the art center cemented Pushkale's deep engagement with indigenous folk and tribal traditions. The installation *To Whom the Bird Should Speak?* is a visual enquiry into the significance of language as a medium of communication. Pushkale's artistic research into indigenous cultures was inspired by the story of the Aka-Bo tribe in the Andaman Islands and their oral tradition of communicating with birds that was lost to the world after the death of its last speaker, Boa Sr.

As a contemporary artist and an abstract painter, Pushkale works at the intersection of linguistics and archaeology in an immersive 125 square meters of hand-painted installation, as he imagines a visual 'script' of a lost history that we would like to recover, or should it be allowed to fade inexorably into oblivion?

With contributions by Claire Bettinelli, Yannick Lintz, Ganesh Devy and Devika Singh, and a poem by Ashok Vajpeyi.

Text in English and French.

Claire Bettinelli is in-charge of exhibition production and the contemporary collections at the National Museum of Asian Arts-Guimet. **Dr Yannick Lintz** is President of the French National Museum of Asian Arts-Guimet. **Ganesh N. Devy** is a literary critic, thinker, cultural activist, and institution-builder. **Devika Singh** is a Senior Lecturer in Curating at the Courtauld Institute of Art. **Ashok Vajpeyi** is a New Delhi-based Hindi poet-critic.

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