



Continuing Traditions

Pranabranjan Ray

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- Follows the reflections on inter-relationships between textiles, trade and non-performing visual arts in India
- Explores the different kinds of connections that the modern Indian artists have been building through their practice

The age of exploration was one in which a confident and wealthy Europe was ready to look at the world in different ways. By this time, the emerging European imagination could see the world as an imagined or designative concept. Textiles brought the colours of the other lands, and its mass printing and production brought a sense of fantasy and playfulness into European homes. **Continuing Traditions** follows the reflections on inter-relationships between textiles, trade and non-performing visual arts in India. The volume has been brought out in conjunction with a travelling exhibition in India called Safar-nama: Journeys through a Kalamkari Hanging, an exhibition of digital prints of an ancient painted fabric piece in the kalamkari tradition, which prevailed in the Coromandel Coast, and is now housed at the Museum of Printed Textiles of Mulhouse in France, along with 'Continuing Traditions', a show of contemporary artists and designers whose works can relate to it. After a long modernist interregnum in which the sole objective was to create a thing-in-itself, these works emerge as a postmodernist re-assertion of interrelationship between worldly phenomenon. Published in association with Akar Prakar.

Pranabranjan Ray has worked as a social scientist for the West Bengal government. He has been a founder member and the secretary of the Society of Contemporary Artist, Calcutta, for 25 years. **Surajit Sarkar** has been currently working as a video artist for theater and dance productions, and as a multimedia installation artist.