

madhur dhingra

PHOTOGRAPHY

www.madhurdhingra.com

fine art



The Journey

My name is Madhur Dhingra and I am a Minimalist/ Surreal / Fine Art Photographer based both in Toronto (Canada) & New Delhi (India).

My images are a part of a personal journey where I search answers to some fundamental questions about life, its meaning and purpose and later trying to understand the ultimate nature of Reality. This quest is taking me to every nook and corner of India including nearby Himalayan states and countries like Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim, Zaskar, Ladakh (Little Tibet) meeting Buddhist philosophers, , Vedantic yogis, agnostics spiritualists, scientists and charlatans alike. Many of my images have been shot in remote Himalayan monasteries dating back 1500 years or more.

Constant interaction with brilliant Vedic & Buddhist scholars has made me understand that the whole concept of a 'Creator God' proposed by organized religions is a childish one. That had failed to fully comprehend that unconditioned, non-dual, eternal, omnipresent force. God is not a glorified 'personality' sitting somewhere in the universe, directing lives of its people or attending to minute details of its day to day operations. We need to understand that the Universal Mind does not exist separately along the universe but in it and as it.

The universe was not arbitrarily created by any outside intervention but is self- born and is governed by the eternal Law of Cause and Effect. The impressions of all objects in the universe lie dormant within the inner depths of the Universal Mind, until they become active by the working of Karma. They are then projected in our familiar space-time dimension which we know as the material world. The universe is not only self-actuating but also self-determining.

As I continue on my unfinished search I find it pertinent to quote a Sanskrit shlok (verse) written 3000 years ago by a Indian monk named Adi Shankracharya.

*मनोबुद्ध्यहङ्कार चित्तानिनाहं न च श्रोत्रजह्विने न च घ्राणनेत्रे ।
न च व्योम भूमिर्न तेजो न वायुः चदानन्दरूपः शविःहम् शविःहम् ॥१॥*

Translation :

Neither am I the Mind, nor Intelligence nor Ego, Neither am I the organs of Hearing (Ears), nor that of Tasting (Tongue), Smelling (Nose) or Seeing (Eyes), Neither am I the Sky (Space), nor the Earth (Matter), Neither the Fire nor the Air, I am the Ever Pure Blissful Consciousness;

I am Shiva, I am Shiva !!!!!



Being Timeless: Varanasi



Shunyata: The Ultimate Void: Zanskar



Being Timeless:Varanasi



Kali: Durga Puja: Kolkata



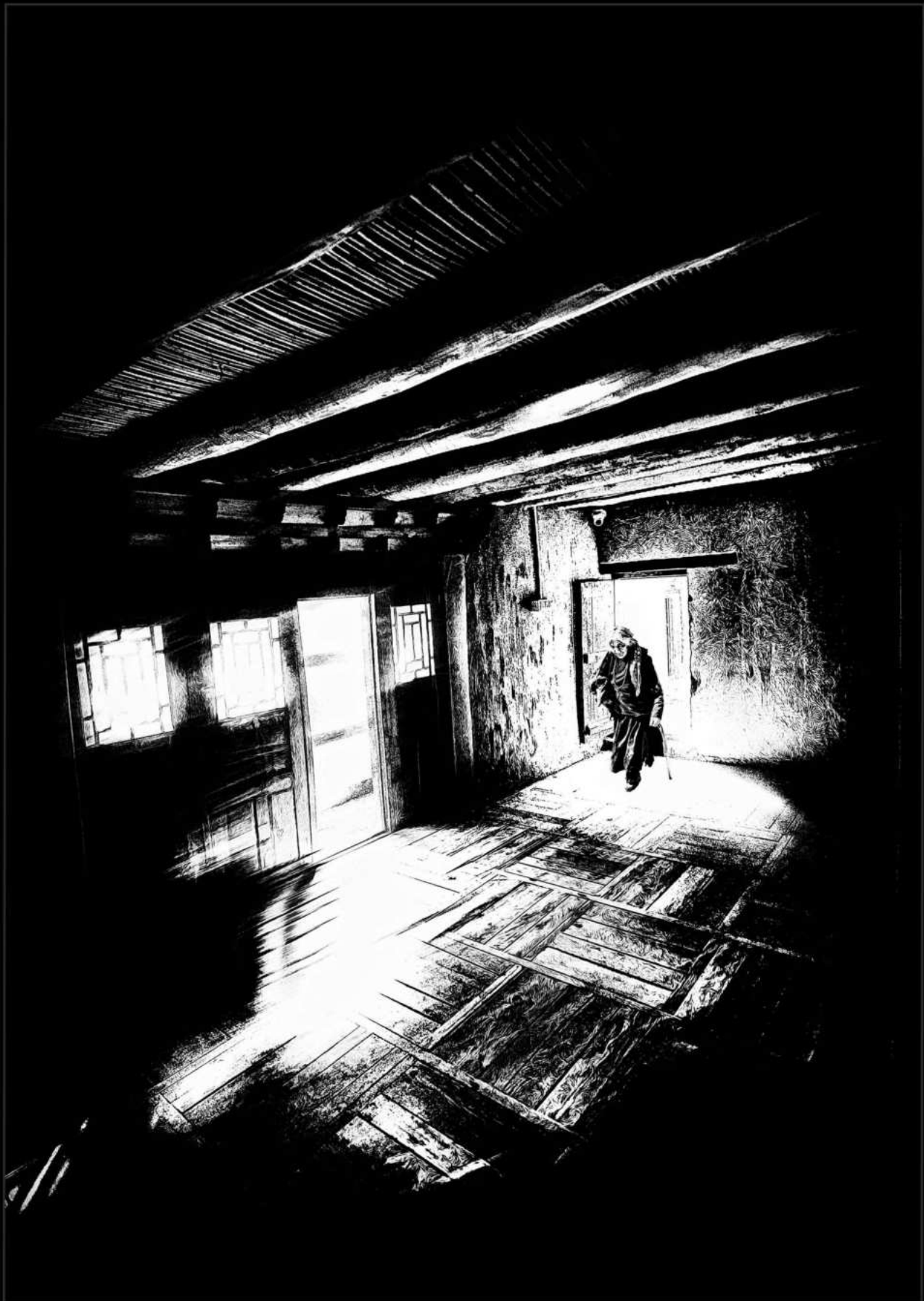
Shunyata: The Ultimate Void: Gangotri



Shunyata: The Ultimate Void: Ladakh



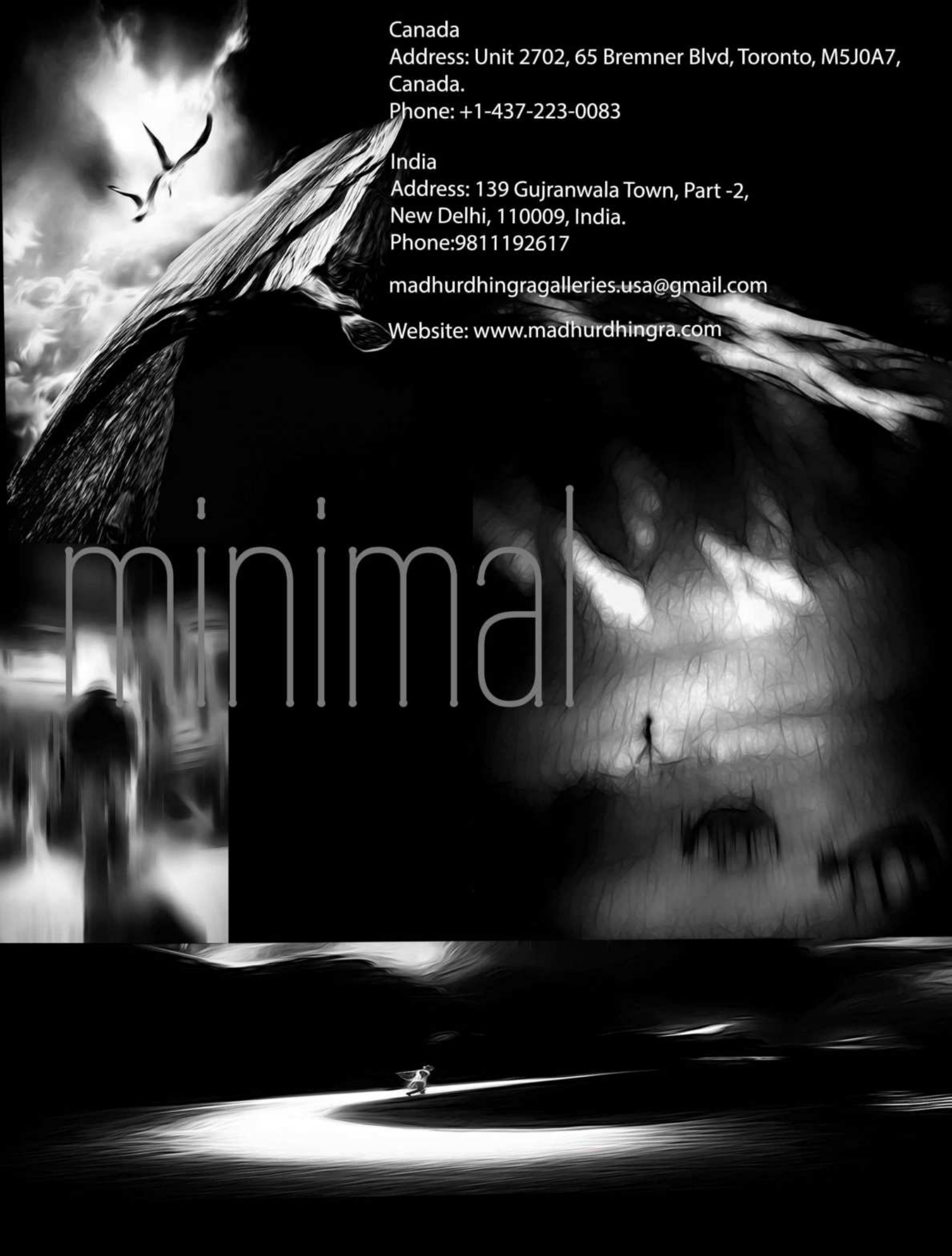
In Search Of The Absolute: Rishikesh



Anitya - Change The Only Permanent : Zanskar



Being Timeless:Varanasi



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minimal

madhur dHINGRA fine art photography

Letter Of Introduction

My name is Madhur Dhingra and I am a Minimalist /Surreal /Fine Art / photographer based in Toronto (Canada) & New Delhi (India). I started my career in photography in the year 1998.

My images are creations of a personal journey where I search answers to some fundamental questions about life, its meaning and purpose, trying to understand the ultimate nature of Reality. This quest is taking me to every nook and corner of India including Himalayan states and countries like Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim, Zaskar, Ladakh (Little Tibet) meeting Buddhist monks, philosophers, scientists and charlatans alike.

Constant interaction with brilliant Vedic & Buddhist scholars has made me understand that the whole concept of a 'Creator God' proposed by organized religions is a childish one. It had failed to fully comprehend That unconditioned, non-dual, eternal, omnipresent force. God is not a glorified 'personality' sitting somewhere in the universe, directing lives of its people or attending to minute details of its day to day operations. We need to understand that the Universal Mind does not exist separately from the universe but in it and as it.

My works has been widely acclaimed and published in many international magazines. Four photography clubs of Brittany (France) got together and sponsored my solo photography show in the town of Erquy in December 2022. A documentary was also made on me and my style of work by French and Korean photographers and displayed in the Town Hall of Erquy during my exhibition. Many newspapers of France published articles on my work and style. The exhibition was a complete sell out.

Another sponsored exhibition has just got over in New London - Connecticut in USA . The show carried on from 31st August to 28th September 2024. Thirty images had been displayed in Hygienic Art Galleries – TBD/ Lower Gallery. My exhibition was very well received by the American audience. All images have been retained by the gallery for sales.

My next upcoming sponsored exhibition is now due at Flinn Gallery in Greenwich - Connecticut in USA, for the year 2025- 2026 whose final display dates are yet to be.

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Biography

My name is Madhur Dhingra and I am a Minimalist / Surreal / Fine Art / photographer based both in Toronto (Canada) & New Delhi (India). I was born an only child to my parents in Delhi, into a family torn apart by the aftermath of the India-Pakistan partition. The India-Pakistan partition bloodbath resulted my then affluent family living in Pakistan to migrate to New Delhi - India. This migration was so sudden that my family had to leave Pakistan overnight completely penniless, leaving everything behind. This resulted in massive insecurity within the family members.

Though born much later in Delhi I was literally forced to inherit all that trauma, never being allowed to forget the naked scars of partition. I joined the Merchant Navy at the age of seventeen, as a deck cadet leaving college in the first year itself. I loved this new experience and was good at learning navigation. Soon I was promoted to become the navigating officer. The first year I never even thought of coming back home. I was busy fulfilling my desire to see the world and meeting different types of people and experiencing different kinds of cultures.

Restlessness and void set in fast. I was getting bored after five years of sailing. Novelty had worn off and my temperament too was not that of a sailor in most ways. I finally decided to say quits and join the family business which was waiting for me to return. My dad was overjoyed at my decision. I got married and soon become a father of two adorable children. My age at that time would have been early twenty four. Time flew by fast earning bread and butter for my family. Nothing was more important than bringing up the kids properly with a lots of love, something which I was deprived of during my childhood days.

After some years of doing business the same restlessness and void set in. I was in a dilemma, now trying out new ways to end this emptiness. Photography came to me as a fulfilment of this void that has plagued me since childhood. I studied photography at the prestigious art institute "Triveni Kala Sangam" situated in Mandi House, New Delhi, India. I later started shooting product photography for all major advertising agencies.

I have held solo shows in India, France and some are due to come up in America in 2024 and 2025. Many international magazines have published my work.

Life for me as a photographer continues.

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Artist Statement

Something About My Style

I, Madhur Dhingra, am a Minimalist / Surreal / Fine Art / photographer. I keep experimenting with new techniques & style to make my images unique. As a photographer I have an inherent urge to continuously evolve both in style and technique. It started as a hobby in 1996, later to become an acute passion and profession. I studied photography at the prestigious art institute of "Triveni Kala Sangam" situated in Mandi House, New Delhi. After passing out from there I started shooting product photography for all major advertising agencies in New Delhi.

My exhibitions and work have been highly acclaimed and published in India, Europe, Canada & America. Photography comes to me as a fulfilment to a void which has plagued me since my childhood. Emptiness and restlessness have become an integral part of me and you will find this reflecting in my images and style.

Isolation resulting because of Covid 19 gave me time to search rigorously for a style which I could call entirely my own. After many month of hard work and perseverance I finally did succeed. Many international magazines and galleries have published & displayed my recent work and called it unique and refreshing. All that has been written about my work is posted on my website with links.

Shooting people has always fascinated me. Those strange and unknown faces with their uncharted expressions and emotions enthral me to my very core. I love spontaneously created moments and real emotions using them to create my own artistic images. What initially started as stark realism in street photography has now given way to abstract, impressionist, surreal and painterly imagery. Waiting endlessly for 'the decisive moment' does not attract me anymore. I now like to blur out images, faces, expressions and create movement in my own way.

I then process the images keeping in mind the mood & aesthetics of that particular image, using brushes, smudges, light and painterly effects to reach my visualized image. Going close to the subject still remains an important part of my style. I can never ever forget the saying of Robert Capa "If your photos aren't good enough, you're not close enough."

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Project Statement

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न च व्योम भूमरिन् तेजो न वायुः चदानन्दरूपः शर्वोऽहम् शर्वोऽहम् ॥१॥

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fine art photography
food photography
product photography

Curriculum Vitae

Updated On 01-01-2024

Skills:

- Fine Art Photography*
- Food Photography*
- Product Photography*
- Surreal & Minimal Photography*
- Editing Skills in Adobe Photoshop and other related software*

Websites, Portfolios, Profiles:

- Website: www.madhurdhingra.com
- Portfolio: <https://www.madhurdhingra.com/portfolio/>
- Exhibits : Galleries / Press/ Festivals / Magazines :
<https://www.madhurdhingra.com/exhibits/>
- YouTube : <https://www.youtube.com/@madhurdhingra8479/videos>

Professional Summary:

Accomplished Fine Art Photographer , Food & Product Photographer, with over 25 years of experience, renowned for unique surreal artistic imagery, published and displayed internationally. Excelled in photo editing, particularly with Adobe Photoshop. Executed projects for top advertising agencies. Proven track record in delivering high-quality, creative compositions under tight deadlines, showcasing exceptional time management and artistic skills. I am a dedicated photographer exhibiting true love for art, craft, and science of the photography process. Seasoned professional at using camera lenses, controls and composition to capture stunning results. Consistently enhancing creative insight through projects and professional workshops.

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Education : Studied Black & White Photography at the prestigious art center of New Delhi, India named : **Triveni Kala Sangam** located at 205, Tansen Marg, Mandi House, New Delhi 110009 (India) Year 1994

Work History : 1996 To Current

- Fine Art Photography: For Art Galleries & Festivals in different countries.
- Food Photography: For Star Hotels & Restaurants
- Product Photography : For Advertising Agencies
- Images published in numerous international magazines and publications.
- Many sponsored solo photography shows held by art galleries of different countries including France, USA, India
- Freelance : Product & Food Photographer with twenty five years of experience in photography shooting for topmost advertising agencies
- Developed a unique style of my own in fine art & surreal photography
- I digitally edit my own photos to enhance appearance.
- Delivered high-quality images under tight deadlines, demonstrating strong time management skills.
- Captured stunning images by utilizing various lighting techniques and creative compositions.
- Photographed high-quality images for various print and digital projects.
- Utilized natural and artificial lighting to capture desired images and maintain quality.
- Optimized workflow efficiency by implementing photo editing software tools like Photoshop & Topaz.
- Expanded clientele base by consistently delivering top-notch imagery that showcased individuality and uniqueness of subjects.
- I showcase my imagery through my personal website and other social media platforms.

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Accomplishments :

- Upcoming approved exhibition for the year 2025-26 at Flinn Gallery , 101 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830, USA (dates yet to be finalised)
- Exhibition (Solo): Hygienic Art Gallery : 79 Bank Street, New London, Connecticut 06320 (USA) : 31st Aug To 28th Sep 2024
- American Art Awards 2023: First Prize : Category Number 45 •American Art Awards 2023: Second Prize : Category Number 45
- Spectaculum Magazine -London (U.K) 2nd July 2023
- L'Oeil de la Photographie Magazine - France : May 27th 2023
- Edge To Humanity Magazine - USA : 1st July 2023
- Edge of Humanity Magazine-USA : April 2023
- Solo Photography Exhibition — Erquy - Brittany, France
- Press : Le Penthievre -France - 14 Dec 22 — Article By Helen Herault
- Press : Ouest-France —Article Published on23/12/2022
- Press : Le Télégramme -France — Article Published on December 23, 2022
- Press : Ouest-France - Article Published on30/12/2022
- Press : Le Télégramme -France Article Published on December 29, 2022
- the Photo argus — Magazine Edition — May 2022
- The Eye of Photography — L'OEIL DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE / French Magazine — Edition of May 7th, 2022
- Aurodhan Art Gallery — Pondicherry -4th March 2022 - Audio Visual Presentation Of My Work
- Centre d' Art Citadines" Art Gallery - Pondicherry - India : 3rd March 2022 / Audio Visual Presentation Of My Work 16.
- Photo & Technique Magazine : Issue 34 — March 2022
- Dek Unu Magazine : The Print Issue — Janaury 2022
- Shotkit Magazine — December2021
- Monovisions - Black & White Photography Magazine — December 2021
- Spectaculum Magazine - Fine Art ublication — London (UK) — November 2021
- Peta Pixels — November 2021
- Lenswork Publications Canada — January 2021 (A) •121CLICKS.COM - DECEMBER 31, 2020
- Street Photography Magazine - Dec 2020
- The Phoblographer - Dec 2020
- Bnw Minimalism Magazine - Issue 26- Dec 2020
- Fotoargenta Magazine Argentina- December 2020

Accomplishments :

- Solo Photography Show -Quarentena Galeria —Chile —Art Gallery -19th Nov 2020 TO 30th Nov
- Edge of Humanity Magazine - October 24, 2020
- The Non Middleman Art Gallery - October 2020
- Chania International Photo Festival - Greece -16th Aug — 2019
- Sublimation - Voies OFF Festival- Arles - France -23rd To 27th of July, 2019
- Edge of Humanity Magazine -April 28, 2019
- Edge of Humanity Magazine - April 9, 2019
- Edge of Humanity Magazine - February 23, 2017
- All About Photo.com
- Solo Exhibition : India International Centre : New Delhi India Exhibition Title: "Where Man Meets God"- IIC Annexe - 24th Nov To 1st December -1998
- Solo Exhibition - Art Konsult (Art Gallery), 1 Hauz Khas Village - New Delhi / 13th November To 20th November -1998
- Press (India) : The Indian Express - 19th November 1998/ Article: "Perils on the way to man meeting God" - Nirupama Dutt
- Press (India) : Hindustan Times - 21st November 1998 : Column: With Malice Towards One And All — Article : Brown Man In Search Of God By Khushwant Singh
- Press (India) : The Statesman - Sunday 22nd November 1998 :Article: An exhibition with a difference -By Our Art Critic Press (India) :
- The Pioneer - 25th November 1998 : Article : "In Search of a God" By Manisha Vardhan
- Press (India) The Asian Age - 27th November 1998 :Article: "Photographs that capture the indignity of death, and more" By Shilpa Banerji
- Press (India) : The Statesman - 7th December 1998: Article: Camera as a tool for expression By Nikhil Mishra
- Press (India) : The Hindustan Times-PTI - Dec 23,1998 : Article: Of homosexuality and macabre ways of cremation
- First City Magazine: Where Man Meets God —December 1998 Issue

Note : All related articles can be viewd / read on my website on the below mentioned links:

- <https://www.madhurdhingra.com/exhibits/>
- <https://www.madhurdhingra.com/archive/>

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List Of Work Videos : You Tube

- (1) Shambala - A Paradise On Earth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bgexu4GFVro>
- (2) Shunyata -The Ultimate Void <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcMzNjQ4PBs&t=30s>
- (3) Krishna The Cosmic Dancer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvHMT3rk82l&t=53s>

Portfolio : <https://www.madhurdhingra.com/portfolio/>

Technical Information For Exhibition (Prints) :

- (1) Total Print Size : 91cms x 61 cms (Inclusive of Image & Image Borders)
- (2) Hahnemühle – Photo Rag, 308gsm, 100 % Cotton, White, Matt Fine Art
- (3) High Quality Printing

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