

My experience during the residency, NEILSON GALLERY 26 May – 26 June 2014

An extra ordinary Nature Reserve, landscapes and people. It is a land of surprises, a journey of beautiful country. Colorful abstract surfaces, geometric forms, deep ravines, mountains and narrow valleys, reflections and perspectives bathed in soft light displaying eye catching details were truly discovered by me.

Time away from my local commitments, time away from my normal routine, gave me time to focus on my artistic exploration, to research new ideas, and finally culminate my thoughts in the form of new creations. Residency is a direct reflection and evolution where you are with your own creativity. This residency has provided the most beautiful, supportive and inspiring moments - a life changing experience for me.

My learning curve:

Arriving on day one of my residency I smoothly settled into my new temporary life with the help and support of you and Maru. I was inspired by the environment and locale. Days were longer there which helped me to focus more on my work. Evolving my process of work and discussing it with you and Maru was truly satisfying and enriching. The adrenalin rush of finishing my work and making the most of each and every day was my driving force. Meeting artists and new people was great for my soul. Every evening I would take strolls in the streets of Grazalema, which had typical structures of an Arab village with narrow lanes, white lime walls, sunny squares etc. I experienced close and personal observations, the unrivalled insights and views of the colourful attractive flower lines in balconies and the calm and contentment of the locals and the peaceful lanes. It was an entirely different world for me. So to say, "it shook the sleep away from the soul".

I grew as an artist, walking with a sense of purpose and direction, which will serve me deeply in the years to come.

I am thankful to you and Maru for showing me Malaga, Seville, Ronda and Zahara village which gave me mysterious, unforgettable, long lasting experiences. During my visit to Barcelona I got the chance to see the master pieces of Picasso at the famous Picasso Museum. I also visited the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art, many art galleries, saw the unique and distinctive architectural styles of Gaudi and the popular street La Rambla. Exposure to other artists' work at different art galleries was very inspirational and enriching.

The opening ceremony of the exhibition was very well received by art lovers and artists. We had a good discussion on global art scene and exchanged our views on contemporary art.

Lastly, from the bottom of my heart I offer my profound thanks to you and Maru, who made this possible for me. I look forward to revisit and meeting you both again. Muchas gracias!

Best Regards,
Anita Tiwary