

ASIA SOCIETY PRESENTS

~Family Day~

Diwali

Arpita Singh Diwali Project



Arpita Singh, *Amina Kidwai*, 1992. Oil on canvas. H. 68 1/2 x W. 62 in. (174 x 157.5 cm) Spectrum Supplies DMCC. Photograph

Since Covid-19 began in March 2020, many of us have spent more time at home—a special opportunity to connect with family members and neighbors.

Arpita Singh is an artist whose paintings celebrate the joys and the sorrows of family life. Her two works in the Asia Society Triennial – *Amina Kidwai* and *The Eternal Repose*—share intimate experiences of older women. In *The Eternal Repose*, the multi-armed woman reaches out, as if juggling multiple relationships with families and friends. Her work shows joy through the use of bright colors and bold shapes. She shows us the positive side of aging.

This project invites you to take this moment to connect with an elder in your life—a grandparent, family member, neighbor, or friend. Ask them questions about their life experience and think about a way to portray that experience through art. Be inspired by Arpita Singh, who shows us that older adults have rich and beautiful experiences to share.

Use your imagination. Develop an artistic work using the materials you have. It can be a painting, a drawing, a collage.

Some suggest projects are listed below. Please share your projects with us on social media. Tag @AsiaSociety on Instagram or use the hashtag #AsiaSocietyDiwali

Have Fun!



Arpita Singh, *The Eternal Repose*, 1997. Oil on canvas. H. 59 1/2 x W. 66 in.

PROJECT A / Story project

Either with your grandparents or with your nearby elderly neighbors: ask them to share a favorite story from their own life. And in return, you must also share your favorite story. Identify the part of their story that excites you, and develop a work of art around it.

PROJECTS B / Vocal project

Ask your elders to sing their favorite songs, and in return sing yours. Learn songs from an earlier generation. Spend time getting to know this song and use it as a way to connect with your family.

PROJECTS C / Art and design project

If you have a flair for art or design, this is another idea to develop a creative project. Ask your grandparents or elderly neighbors to pose, at their ease, and try to draw/ paint their hands holding a favorite object. Their faces. You can also draw/ paint some of their favorite objects separately.

If you are interested in photography, develop a series of photos of them in various domestic settings. Or even plan a walk in the nearby park to develop a series, in nature. Imagine how invigorating this will be. This can also be done over Zoom if the person is far away.

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