

INDIA ABROAD



Bari Kumar. ICU. Oil on canvas. 1998. 57 x 69 inches.

*East Meets West: Imagining India in Baltimore and Los Angeles* was exhibited at Baltimore's School 33 Art Centre from May 15 - June 29. The show featured the works of two Indian artists, now residents of the United States, Dhruvi Acharya and Bari Kumar. While the two artists shared an interest in exploring themes of Indianness and cultural relocation, their works differed significantly from each other. Influenced by modernist abstraction, American colour field painting and ancient Indian art, Dhruvi Acharya's paintings evoked the emotion and occasional romanticism of dreams.

Bari Kumar combined sensually rendered human figures with words drawn from pop imagery. Kumar's paintings invited viewers to re-examine their beliefs about the human race, religion and violence. The exhibition was curated by M.A. Greenstein, an independent Los Angeles-based curator, lecturer and author of numerous articles and catalogue essays on contemporary west coast art.



Dhruvi Acharya. Mumbai. Oil on canvas. 1999. 54 x 54 inches.