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KRIPA KRISHNAN NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1, 2013 | UPDATED 16:29 IST

## India Art Fair 2013: Day 1 highlights

TAGS: India Art Fair 2013 | NSIC grounds | New Delhi | Daniel Besseiche Gallery | Jenkell Lawrence | Scream gallery London | Freida Kahlo | Mahatma Gandhi | Gallery Espace | Chintan Upadhyay | Paul Stopper Gallery | Religare Art | Anant Mishra



Artist Nantu Das acknowledged that kids were his inspiration.

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A melange of colours, concepts and contours, the fare at India Art Fair delivered on its promise of a visual treat as it opened for public viewing on Friday at the capital's NSIC grounds. Headless horsemen, an Indian pantheon of superheroes and pop art Gandhi, there was plenty to look at and talk about. Here are some not-to-be missed eye catchers:

Daniel Besseiche Gallery, Paris has a bright booth populated by rainbow hued installations including a giant toffee covered in the hues of the Indian tri-colour. The arty candy by Jenkell Lawrence is part of a limited edition collection and was part of the goody bag gifted to high-powered delegates at the last G 20 summit in Dayos.

Scream gallery London's booth catches your eye with its pop art creations featuring an eclectic melange of historic figures including Freida Kahlo and Mahatma Gandhi. Thai artist Pakpoon Silaphan's 'Triple Gandhi on Pepsi' features the father of the nation beaming benevolently from the bottle of the packaged fizzy.

The highlight of the Gallery Espace showcase was Chintan Upadhyay's oil portraits of street children, their faces framed in flowery golden frames, a tart reminder of the contrast between the lives of the subject and the consumers of art inspired by them.

Paul Stopper Gallery, London has some big names under its banner including Damien Hirst and David Bailey. Legendary fashion photographer Bailey is better known for his take on Vogue beauties but here he turns his famed lens on flowers and with equally stunning results.

Religare Art's exhibit of Anant Mishra's works struck a cord with all lovers of superheroes. Where else would you find an 'Avengers' like outfit, this time made up of Hanuman, Shri Ram and other familiar faces from the Hindu pantheon with a Superman thrown in for good measure.