

# Women's International Club

April 2019

<https://wicdelhi.wordpress.com/>

## From The President's Desk.....

Dear Ladies,

Decades ago the then renowned Doordarshan news reader, Ms. Pratima Puri, addressing a gathering said: "Life is full of challenges and challenges should be met." That was all. But those words got etched in my mind and since then challenges haven't bothered me, rather I would say, I have enjoyed facing whichever one came my way. It's stimulating to take head on something that is demanding, somewhat difficult and testing one's ability. It makes me put in all my energy and sincere efforts to pass the test.

This WIC year has been the beginning of one such challenge—of meeting expectations. As the months went by, the test became easier and rather engaging. But closer towards the end a bigger challenge confronted me and my team –the WIC Gala. The consensus was on a Sunday Brunch – an event far removed from the traditional annual dinner. How would it be received, was it the right choice, will it be a success—were some nagging questions which troubled us.

The Gala team in particular and the Executive Committee in general put their hearts and soul into the preparations—working out every single detail of the event.

On Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup> February, for starters, the weather God was on our side and the sun smiled, the temperature perfect, the vibrations positive and cheerful, the programme delightful and the food scrumptious. But most importantly, the members, their partners and guests, I could say literally had a ball.

We had met our challenge. The Gala Brunch, those who attended may agree, was a grand success!

Now we prepare ourselves for the last General Meeting of 2018-19, to be followed by the AGM. Time to take stock of the year gone by and your marking on our report card! A fresh cycle, like always will begin with renewed vigour and enthusiasm. Cheers towards that end, I sign off.

Warmly,  
Renu Mehra

## Executive Committee Members 2018-19

### President

Renu Mehra

[renu.mehra.128@gmail.com](mailto:renu.mehra.128@gmail.com)

9811130422

### 1st Vice President

Leena Singh

[leena\\_s455@hotmail.com](mailto:leena_s455@hotmail.com)

9810032426

### 2nd Vice President

Seema Bhalla

[seemabhalla2003@yahoo.com](mailto:seemabhalla2003@yahoo.com)

9316120551

### Secretary

Dominique Chorosz

[dominique.chorosz@gmail.com](mailto:dominique.chorosz@gmail.com)

8447334247

### Membership

Karima Kaderi

[karima.india@yahoo.com](mailto:karima.india@yahoo.com)

7042890922

### Treasurer

Anuradha Kumra

[anuradhakumra1@gmail.com](mailto:anuradhakumra1@gmail.com)

9810277441

### Hospitality

Stevie Clayton

[stevieclayton174@gmail.com](mailto:stevieclayton174@gmail.com)

8826049651

### Newsletter Editor

Sabina Inderjit

[sabina@infa.in](mailto:sabina@infa.in)

9810005349

## **Slate of Candidates for the 2019-2020 Executive Committee**

**As Chair of the Committee on Nominations, it is my privilege to place before you the names of the candidates proposed for the next Executive Committee.**

**As per the current Constitution, these candidates will be introduced to you at the April General Meeting. At the April General Meeting, nominations from the floor may be made for a particular post provided written permission of the individual has been taken and she is present at the meeting. In the event of such a nomination, an election for that post will be held at the AGM.**

**At the AGM in May, the new slate of officers will be proposed and seconded and then deemed approved. (In the event of such a nomination, an election for that post will be held at the AGM.)**

**The proposed candidates:**

<b>President</b>	<b>Dakshina Gammanpila</b>
<b>First Vice President</b>	<b>Atsuko Jakhar</b>
<b>Second Vice President</b>	<b>Anita Dua</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Gitaljanli Mehta</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Sonal Bedi</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Neena Malhotra</b>
<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Poonam Batra</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Catherine Garet Emmerllng</b>

**I am grateful to the members of the Committee on Nominations, Radhika Birla, Rita Gharekhan, Megan Reid, Christine Samandari, Surinder Sarna, Vibhuti Sharma, for their thoughtful, efficient and dedicated efforts to create a talented and balanced slate. It was a great pleasure to work with you.**

**Peggy Sood  
Chair of the Committee on Nominations**

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- ✓ **AGM:** Please block your date for the AGM on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May at India Habitat Centre at 11.00 am. Details will follow later.

# General Meeting

Ganga, a river that is most venerated is not a mere source of life through its water, but an integral part of rituals that are essential to Indian culture. Descending from the heavens, with extreme force that is received by Shiva in his matted hair, she calms down to flow with ease becoming benevolent for all who need her. Ganga, takes the form of a mother who is the life giving force and in the end accepts the same life in her folds. In different creative art forms of India, she is depicted and celebrated with emotional connect, placing her on a pedestal that comes from love and reverence.

For the April General Meeting, river Ganga is celebrated in a synergy of verse and dance, between a poet and a dancer.

Our dear member, Dr. Kusum Ansal has specifically dedicated one of her books of poetry to River Ganga. Having earned her degree of Ph.D. in Hindi Literature, she has authored 32 books that include novels, poetry and travelogues. Her novel '*Uski Panchvati*' has been made into a film by the famous director, late Mr. Basu Bhattacharya with the prestigious cast of Deepti Naval, Suresh Oberoi and Akbar Khan. Recipient of many awards like 'Hindi Academy Sahityakar Samman', she takes inspiration for her writings from real life. What she sees, finds expression through her words.



Indi Brar, a dancer of Bharatnatyam, learnt dance when she was touching her 50s. Her passion for Bharatnatyam reflects in her Bhavas (expressions), for which she has been trained by her Guru, Shri Krishnamurti. Together, they create a rhapsody of ode and rhythm to venerate River Ganga.

Dr. Kusum Ansal opens her house once again to host the April General Meeting.

**Date:** Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April  
**Venue:** 26, Feroze Shah Road,  
New Delhi-110001  
**Time:** 3.00 p.m.

# Culinary Trails at Ping's Café Orient

**P**ing's Café Orient is healthy and wholesome urban Asian Brasserie in Lodhi Colony Market.

Bringing freshness and originality to South East Asian street food Ping's offers diners a curated menu of authentic South East Asian delights, served in the way street food was originally prepared using farm fresh ingredients and freshly ground spices and herbs that bring out the robust flavours of the cuisine.



**Date:** Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April

**Venue:** Ping's Café, 13, Lodhi Colony Market, New Delhi

**Time:** 12.30 pm

**Cost:** Approx Rs.1100 per person

# Indian Heritage & Sights

The Residence of industrialist BD Birla has been converted into a memorial for Mahatma Gandhi, where he used to stay during his visits to Delhi. Gandhiji was assassinated here on his way to offer customary evening prayers. Large collection of photographs with a few personal belongings and a series of small doll houses and terracotta dolls illustrating Gandhiji's life are the attractions at this museum.



**Date:** Tuesday 9th April

**Venue:** Gandhi Smriti, Tees January Marg, New Delhi

**Time:** 3.00 p.m.

**Limit:** 25



# World Panorama

*Why weaving a Dhakai Jamdani sari is a true labour of love.*



Our member Tuhfa Zaman Ali from Bangladesh brings to us a wonderful programme on Dhakai Jamdani right from its intricate weaving technique to how it is being modernised.

The art of weaving is art itself. It requires skill, precision and rhythm, which when repeated, produces a delicate weave. Since the defining aspect of this textile is its rich motifs, which are all intricately added by hand, Jamdani is the most advanced hand weaving technique in the world. Each motif has to be inlaid into the fabric by adding denser threads to fine warp threads, and this process is so time intensive that on a usual day, an artisan can weave only between a quarter-and-one inch of fabric. That shockingly translates to a year if we're looking at a hand-woven Jamdani sari. No wonder the traditional art of weaving Jamdani was declared a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2013.

**Date:** Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April

**Venue:** Bangladesh House, EP - 39 Dr. S Radhakrishnan Marg,  
(Please use Gate # 1), Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021

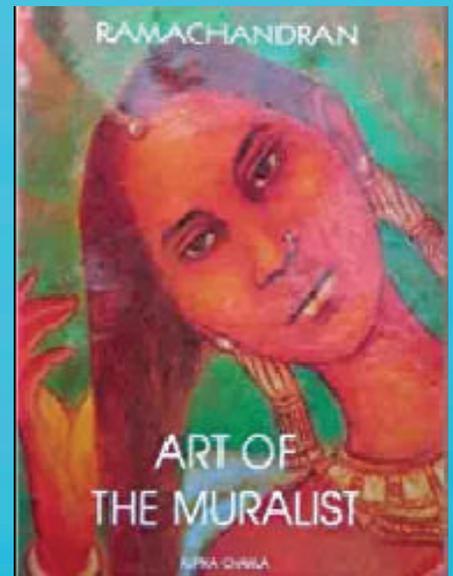
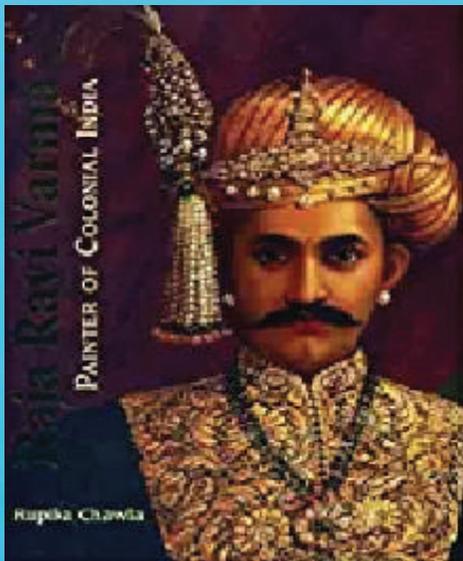
**Time:** 11.00 a.m.

**Limit:** 25

Rupika Chawla is a conservator of paintings made on diverse mediums. Based in Delhi, she also imparts training in her studio. She has lectured on conservation at the National Museum Institute, Delhi. Chawla has contributed to various magazines, written extensively on contemporary Indian art and maintained a column in the Indian Express for three years.

# Book Club

She is the author of *Surface and Depth: Indian Artists at Work* (Viking), *A. Ramachandran: Art of the Muralist* (Kala Yatra & Sistas), *Icons of the Raw Earth* (Kala Yatra), and *Raja Ravi Varma, Painter of Colonial India* (Mapin Publishing). Chawla has curated several exhibitions at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi, Lalit Kala Academy, Delhi and an exhibition on Ravi Varma at the National Museum, Delhi.



She is presently working on a book dealing with the Buddha's life story as projected in the cave paintings of Ajanta.

**Date:** Wednesday 24th April

**Venue:** Residence of Radhika Birla, 27--C, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Road,  
New Delhi – 110011

**Time:** 3.00 pm

**Limit:** 25 Ladies

# The Arts

## The Kochi Biennial 2019

The Kochi Biennial is the subcontinent's most important Biennial. Initiated by a group of artists from Kerala eight years ago, it had set as its task to be a peoples' biennial -- by the people, for the people. The biennial's success proves them to be right. The Kochi Biennial managed to be locally accepted and internationally relevant. Always curated by an artist from India, it has continually expanded in its scope and in its reach. This year's biennial is curated by Anita Dube, one of the most renowned feminist artist from the subcontinent.



Dr. Leonhard Emmerling is the director of the Max Mueller Bhavan/Goethe-Institut's cultural programme for the South Asian region. He has a background as art historian and has worked as a curator in Germany and New Zealand before joining the Goethe-Institut in 2010.

**Date:** Friday, 26th April

**Venue:** Residence of Leonhard & Catherine Emmerling, 14B Malcha Marg,  
1st Floor, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

**Time:** 3.00 pm

**Limit:** 20

# NOTICE BOARD

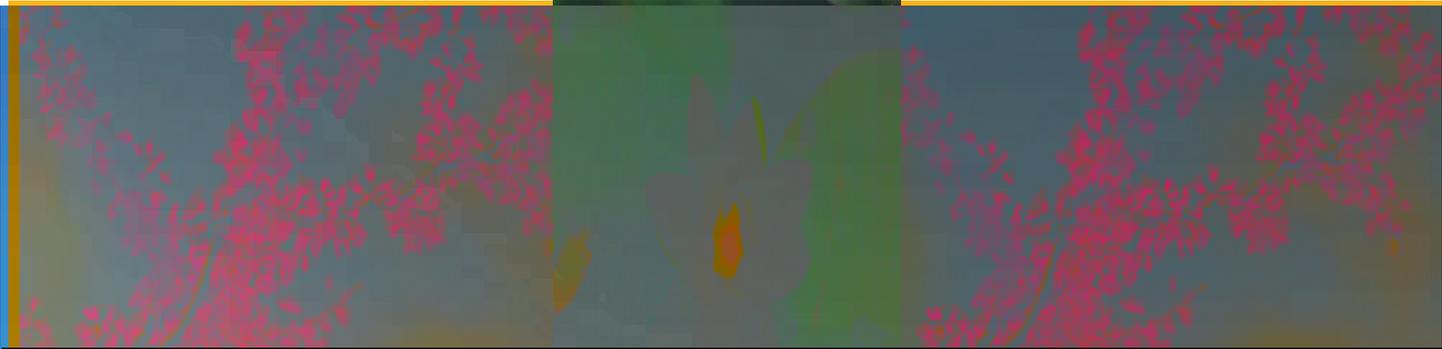
- **Constitution Review Committee**

Members will recall that, at the very first meeting of this Club year, in September 2018, the President announced the establishment of a Constitution Review Committee to tidy-up and modernise the Club's Constitution. Well that Committee met diligently for several months and has produced a new draft Constitution for the membership to consider.

The draft Constitution will be emailed to members early next week. There will be three weeks (25 March to 14 April) for members to provide comments or ask questions – including two consultation meetings. The final draft will be sent to members with the other papers for the AGM and we will all vote on the new Constitution at the AGM.

So watch out on the email (or for a few, the mail) next week.

- **Receipts:** Those who haven't collected their annual subscription receipts please do so from Anuradha Kamra at the General Meeting.
- **Members' Hobbies:** Our member Dr Vimla Rajan has a passion of growing flowers on stone/rocks and those wanting to take a cue could do so by going on this You Tube link: <https://youtu.be/AYnPvzPKzT4>



# April 2019

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

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Culinary  
Trails  
12.30 pm

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Indian  
Heritage  
& Sights  
3.00 pm

General  
Meeting  
3.00 pm

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World  
Panorama  
11.00 am

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Book Club  
3.00 pm

The  
Arts  
3.00 pm

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