

Late M. K. Prabha Pala

Selected Works

PAINTER, ART EDUCATOR, PLAYWRIGHT AND POET · PALA, KOTTAYAM, KERALA

aarty

THE ARTIST

Late M. K. Prabha Pala

M. K. Prabha Pala was born in Poovarany in Kottayam district. He received his school education at various schools and pursued his pre-degree studies at St. Thomas College, Pala. He studied art at the Ravi Varma School in Mavelikkara (now the Ravi Varma College of Fine Arts) and the Sharada Ukil School of Arts in Delhi.

He worked as an art teacher in Delhi and at Kerala School and S.F.S. He also served as Principal of the Kairali Institute of Fine Arts, Pala. Alongside painting, he wrote plays and poetry.

In 1972, his play Swarabhangam received an award for its script at the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi's Alappuzha district amateur drama competition.

In 1973, his play Yathi was presented as a Malayalam entry in the Bengali Club's All India All Language Competition at AIFACS in New Delhi.

In 1974, his play Utpreksha won five awards, including the award for Best Script, at the district competition for Kottayam and Idukki.

He also published a collection of poems titled Kaattinte Kaiyoppu. He passed away on 3 June 2023.

He is survived by his wife, Indira, and children, Athira and Arathi.

Sri M. K. Prabha was the revered art teacher and guru of Aji Nayar, founder of AARTY. The paintings displayed here honour his artistic legacy and the guidance that helped shape his student's creative journey. AARTY remembers him with deep gratitude, affection, and respect.



Dreams of the Watchful Earth

A monochrome drawing of spiralling, eye-like organic forms suspended in an open landscape, built from dense looping lines and areas of fine shading.



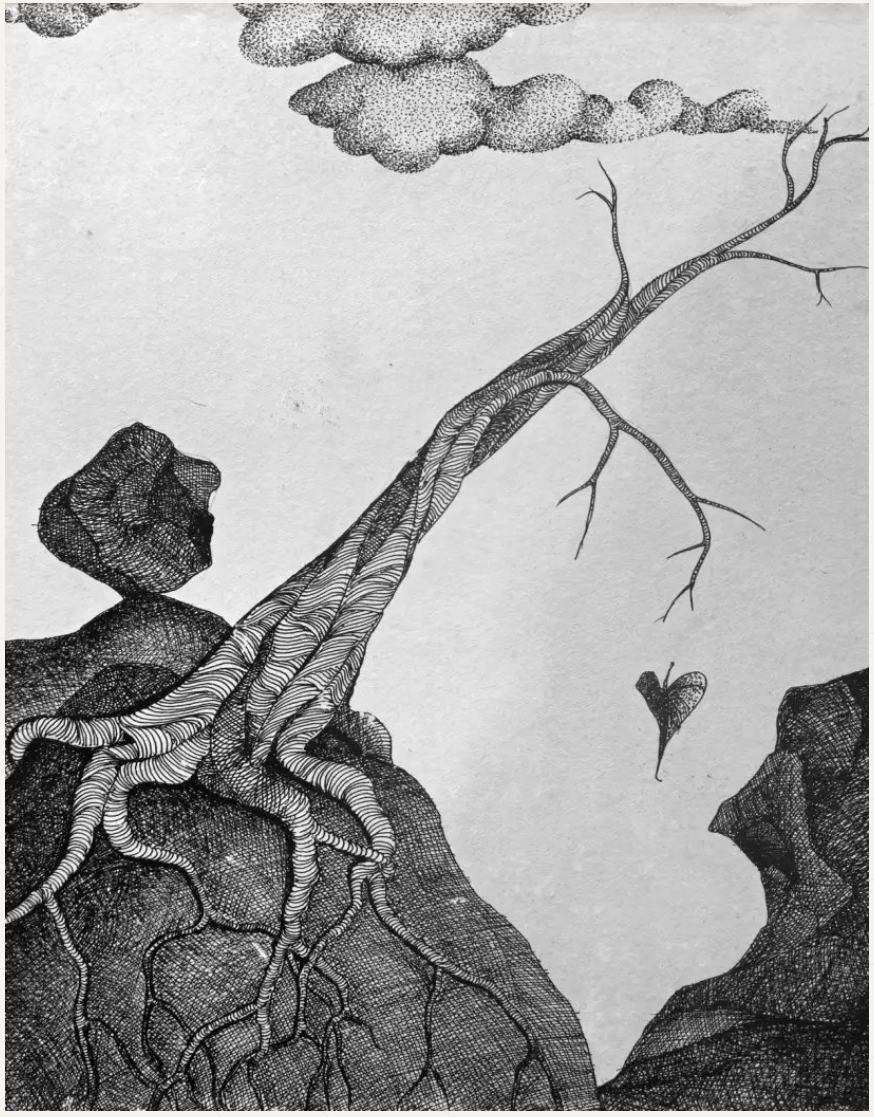
The Sky Unravels

A monochrome drawing with a cloud-like swirling mass above fragmented buildings and scattered geometric forms. Dense looping lines create shifting areas of darkness and open space.



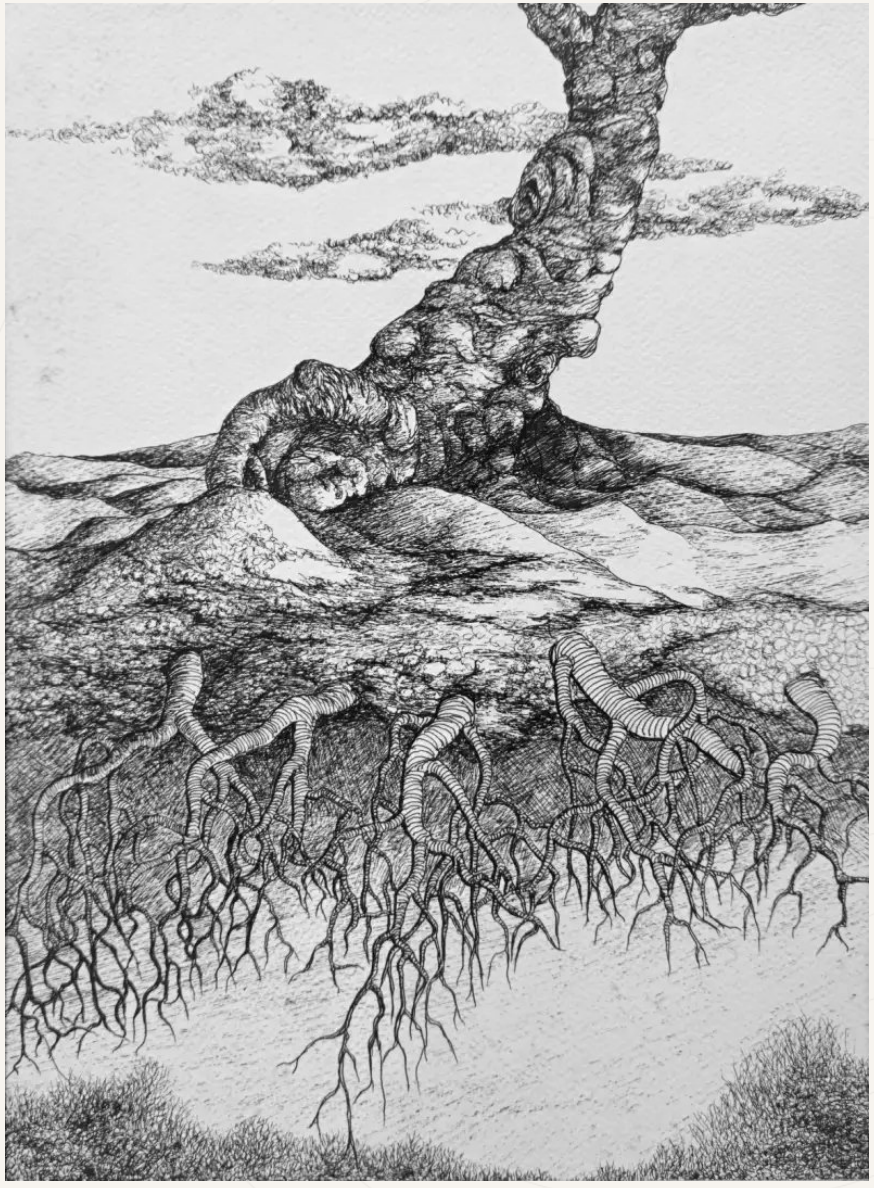
A River Through Silence

A monochrome landscape drawing with slender trees rising from deeply textured rocky ground. A pale winding passage leads through the centre, contrasting with the dense crosshatched terrain.



Between Root and Wing

A monochrome drawing of a bare branching tree extending diagonally from a rocky ledge. A small butterfly-like form floats in the open space, with stippled clouds overhead and densely patterned rocks below.



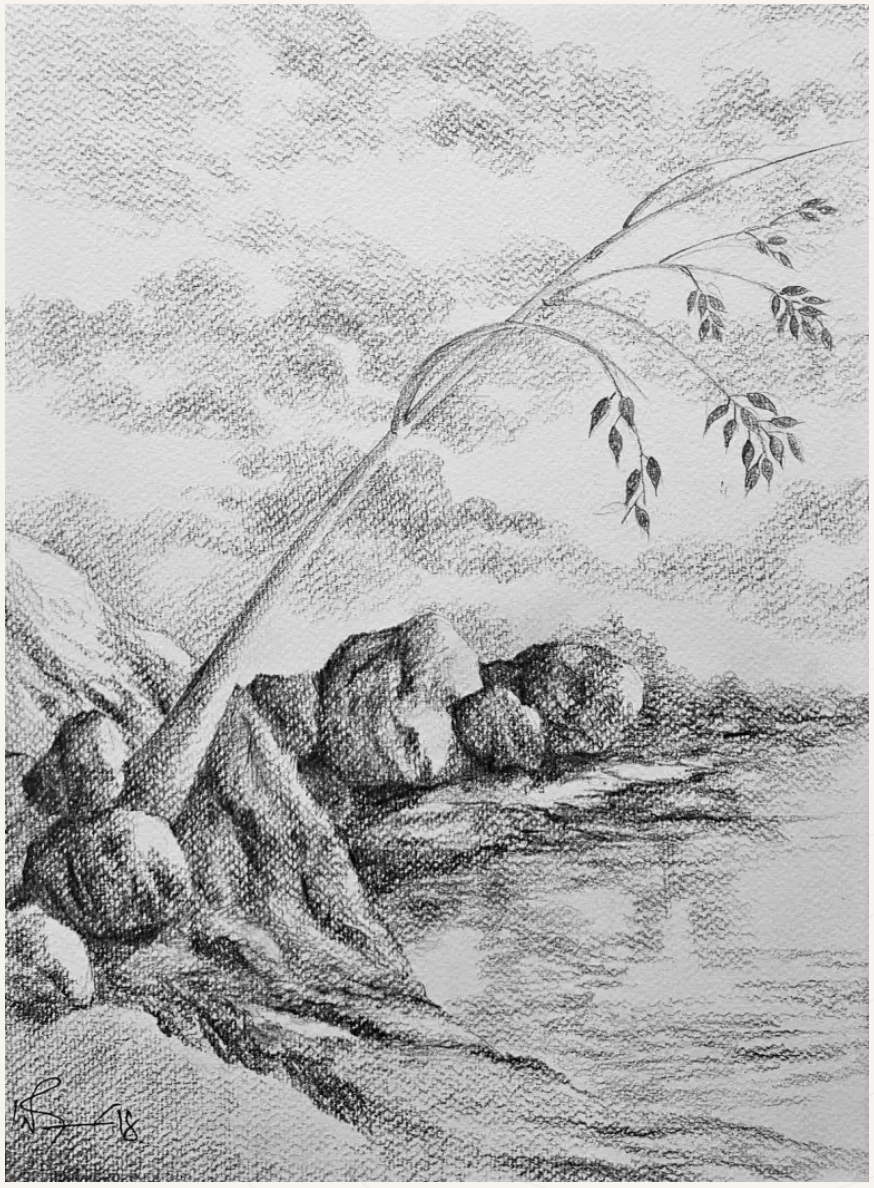
The Hidden Life of Roots

A monochrome drawing reveals a gnarled trunk above ground and a branching network of roots beneath the surface. Fine looping marks shape the soil, clouds and bark.



A Clearing Beyond Colour

Dark branching forms frame an open pale clearing. Turquoise, yellow and pink passages bring light to this atmospheric abstract landscape.



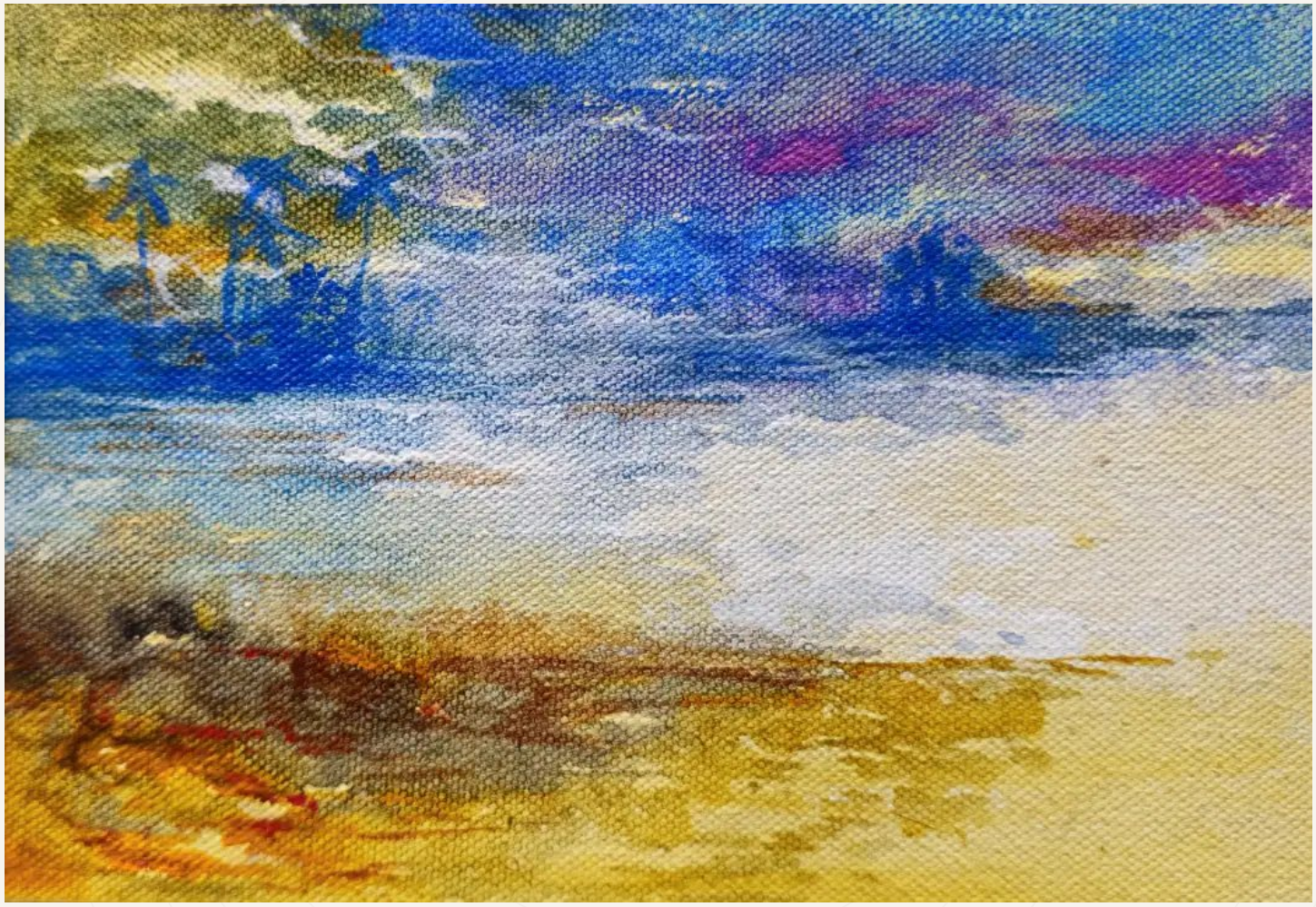
A Branch Over Still Water

A slender leafy branch arches over a rocky shoreline. Fine monochrome marks describe textured stones, quiet water and a lightly patterned sky.



Light in the Dark Harbour

Bright yellow, turquoise, blue and white forms gather against a dark ground, suggesting a harbour and its broken reflections.



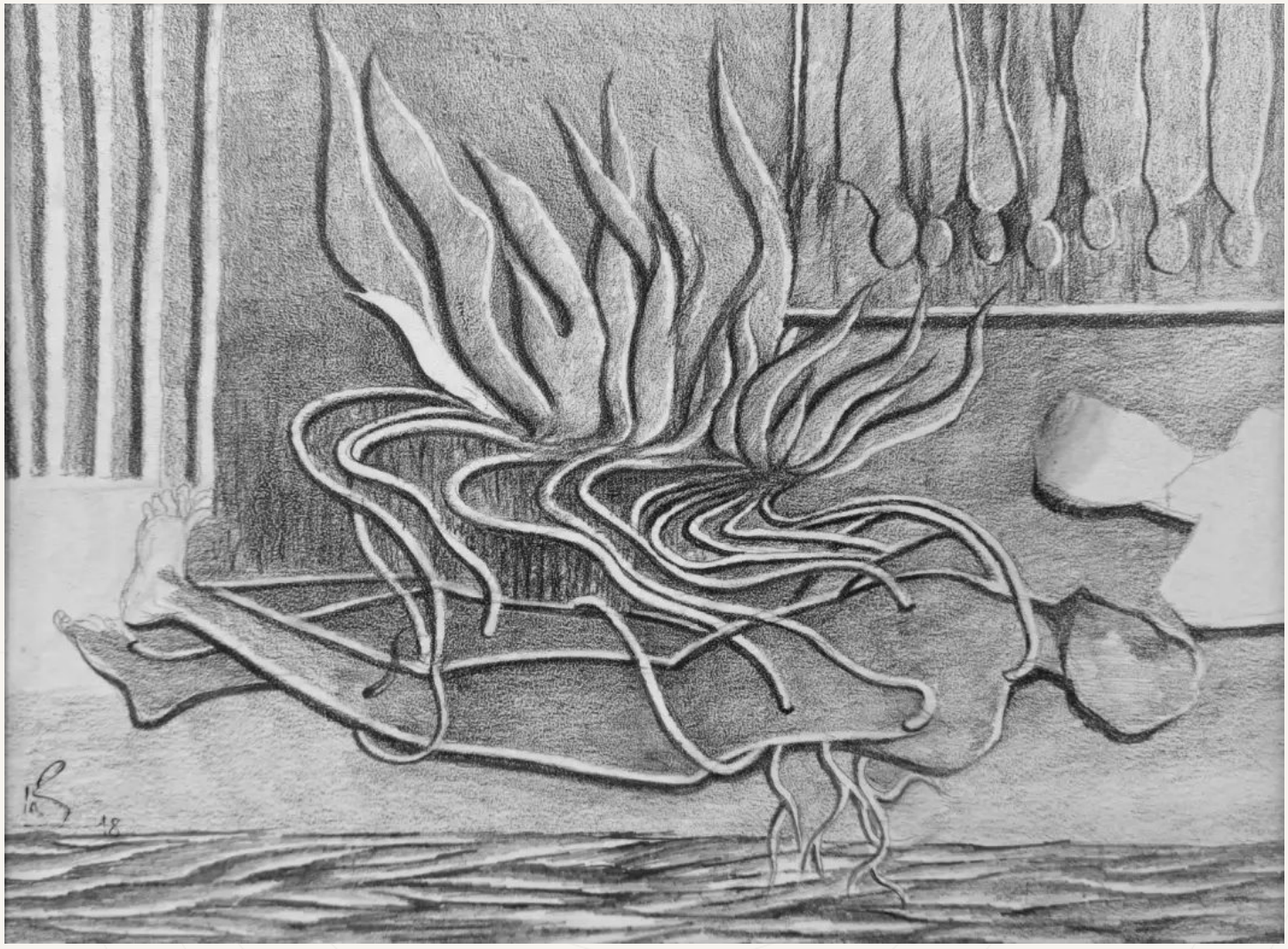
The Far Shore in Blue

Blue and violet silhouettes gather beyond a pale stretch of water. Ochre and warm brown marks describe the near shore in this textured landscape.



A Golden Moon on Dark Water

A luminous yellow disc hangs above a dark expanse, with scattered gold reflections and a small blue vertical accent.



The Bed That Took Root

In this surreal monochrome drawing, a reclining figure rests beside a bed-like structure that sprouts flame-shaped growth and trailing roots. Suspended droplet forms hang above.



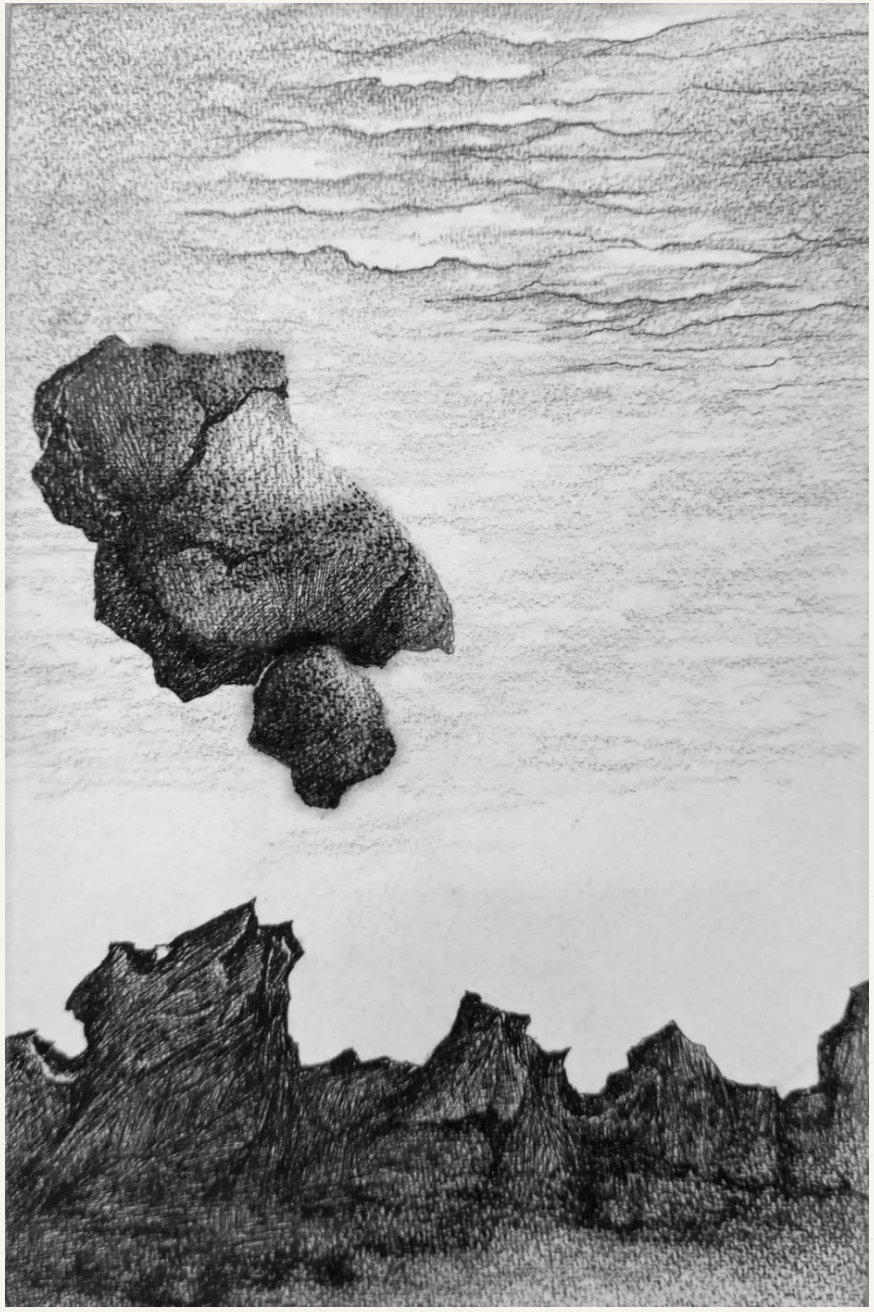
A Kingdom of Quiet Mushrooms

Mushroom-like forms rise from an undulating landscape, their broad caps and slender stems described through fine monochrome linework and stippling.



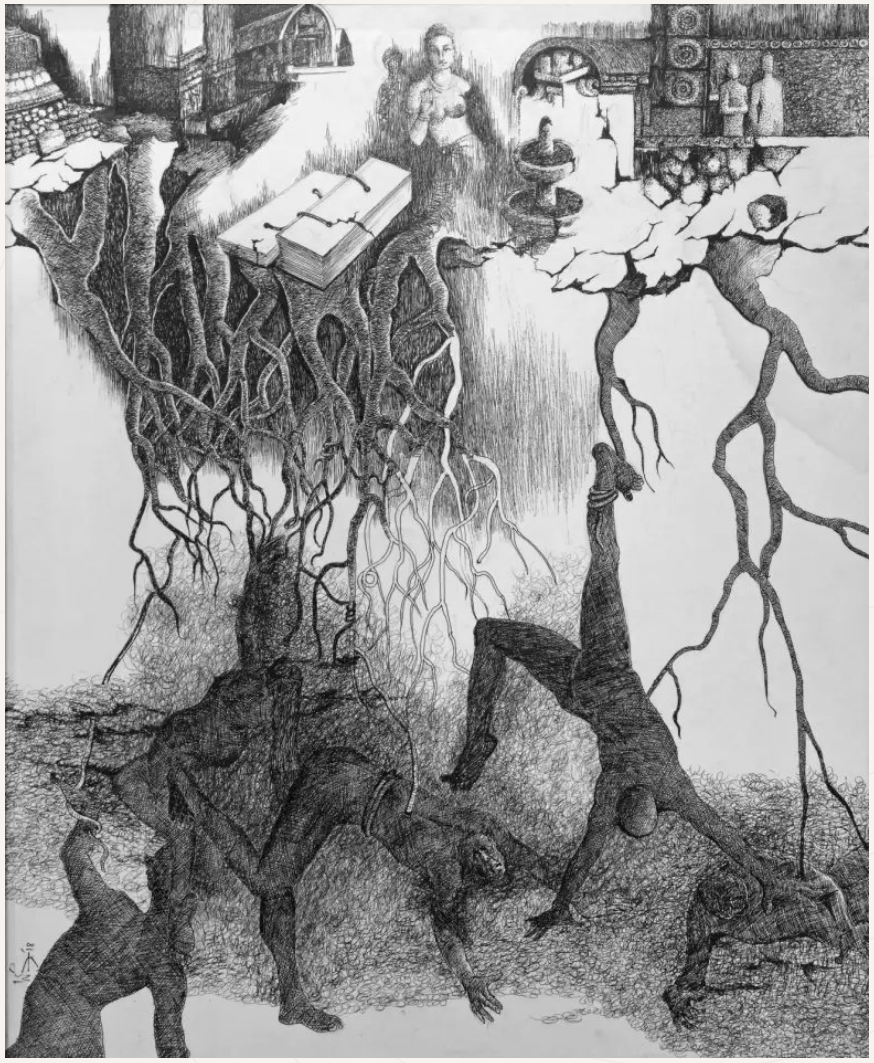
Blue Light Beyond the Rocks

Pale blue and yellow light gathers above dark foreground rocks. Soft green passages create depth within an atmospheric abstract landscape.



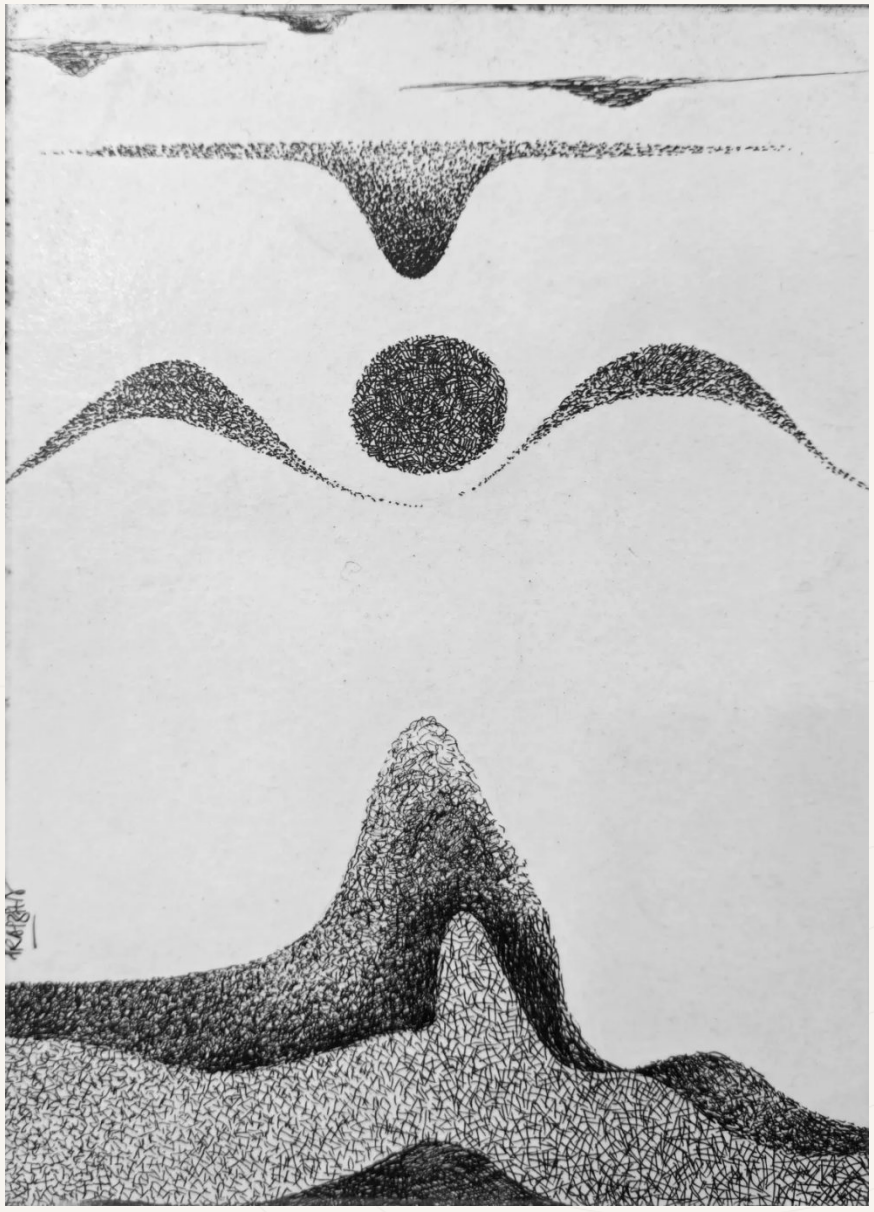
A Stone Between Earth and Sky

A large dark stone-like form appears suspended above a jagged ridge. Fine monochrome marks create a quiet expanse of sky between the floating form and the land.



The Weight of the Unseen

A surreal monochrome drawing contrasts architecture, a bound book and a standing figure above ground with tangled roots and suspended human figures below. Dense looping lines connect the fractured earth and the bodies beneath it.



A Sun Between Silent Hills

A dark circular form floats between two sweeping hill-like arcs. Fine stippled and woven marks shape the hovering forms and the undulating terrain, leaving a broad expanse of pale space.



Where the Blue Meets the Shore

A quiet coastal landscape in soft turquoise, pale blue, yellow and earthy brown. A distant blue headland rises above the water while loose bands of colour describe the shore.



The Lake at First Light

Dark trees frame a still lake, with pale light opening across the water and distant blue woodland.



The Road Around the Mountain

A winding mountain road curves past tall trees and hillside homes, with layered blue peaks in the distance.



The Forest Cascade

A white cascade rushes between large grey rocks, surrounded by deep green foliage and warm autumn leaves.



Leaves in a Colourful Wind

Sweeping red, yellow, green and blue leaf-like shapes rise around a branching trunk against a pale ground.



Moon Over a Folded Landscape

A pale moon hangs above a surreal monochrome landscape of undulating ground, slender spires and dark overhanging forms.



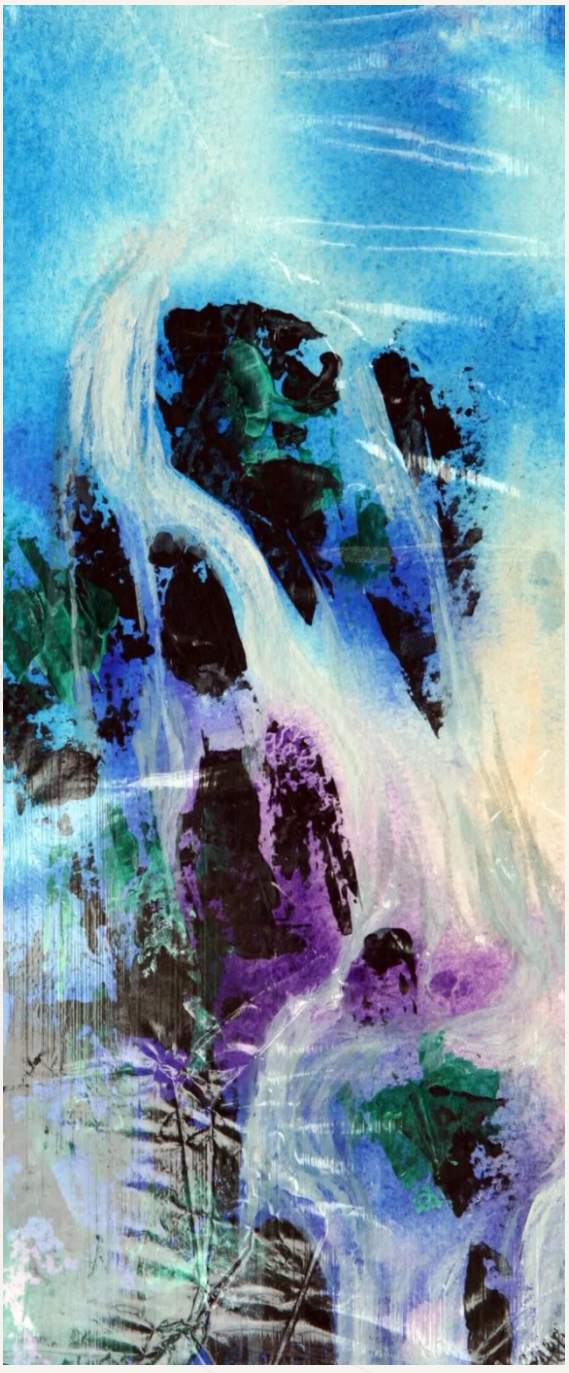
The Village of Violet Trees

Violet and deep blue trees flank a curving village road, with white houses and red roofs set among warm fields.



Violet Light, Broken Lines

Violet washes and black linear fragments gather above pale blue and white passages in a luminous abstract composition.



A Current Through Blue

Pale flowing lines stream past dark floating shapes
in a tall field of turquoise, blue and violet.



Fragments of an Ochre City

Black, red, ochre and violet planes overlap with white passages in a layered architectural abstraction.



Black Sails on Violet Water

Dark angular forms drift across violet and turquoise bands, suggesting sails and reflections on open water.



A Thicket of Violet Light

Fine pale and dark marks rise through violet washes, with scattered yellow accents suggesting light in dense growth.



The Blue Pulse

An intense blue circular burst with a dark centre floats between red, yellow and pale fluid passages.



The Red Crossing

A broad red-orange diagonal cuts across a layered field of black, ochre, pale blue and white marks.



Rhythms in Violet and Vermilion

Bands of violet, vermilion, blue and white intersect with black fragments in an energetic abstraction.



A Flight Across Grey

Black wing-like forms cross a pale grey field, framed by orange, green and ochre marks.



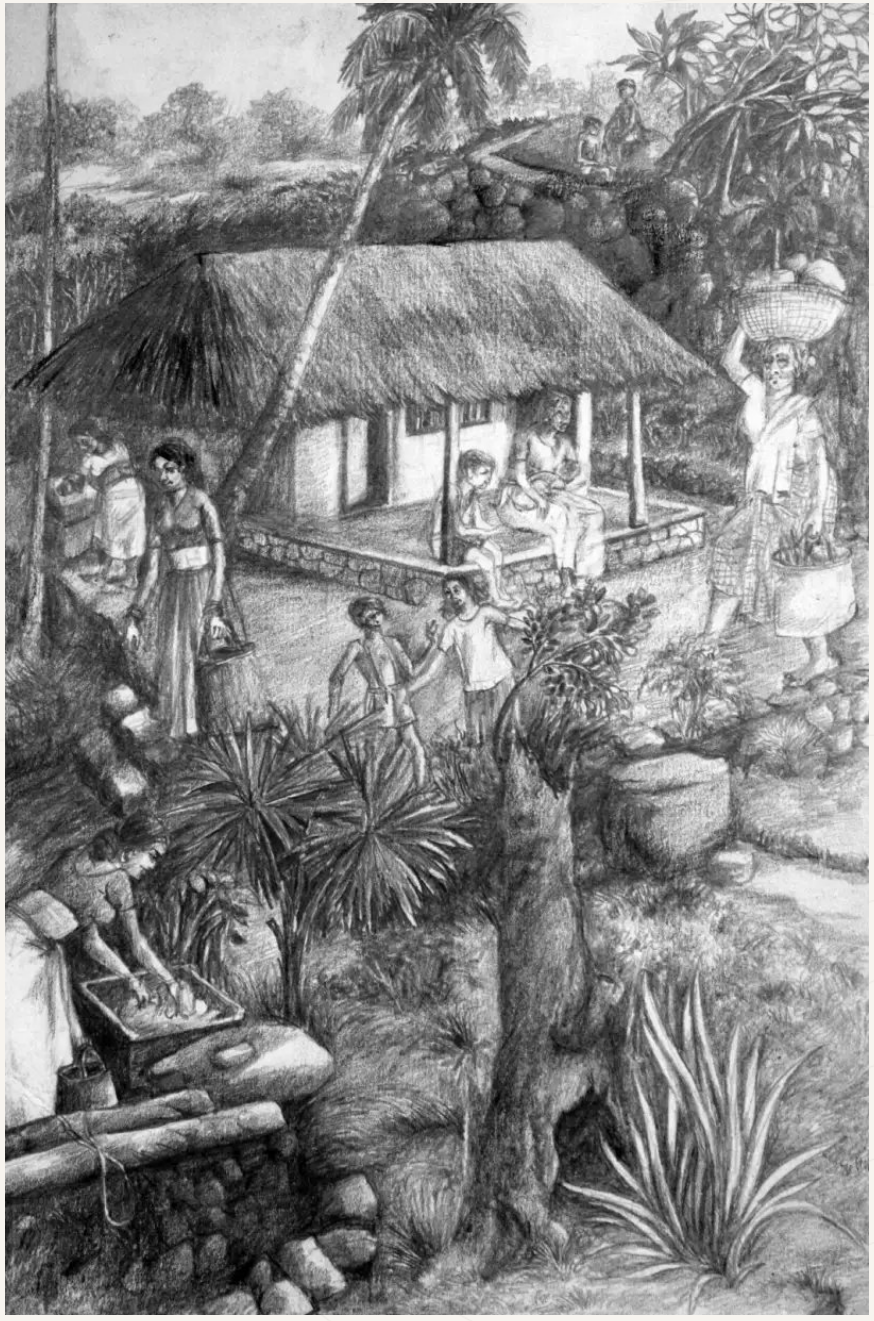
A Garden of Orange Light

Bright orange and yellow passages flare above a dense cluster of violet and black reed-like strokes.



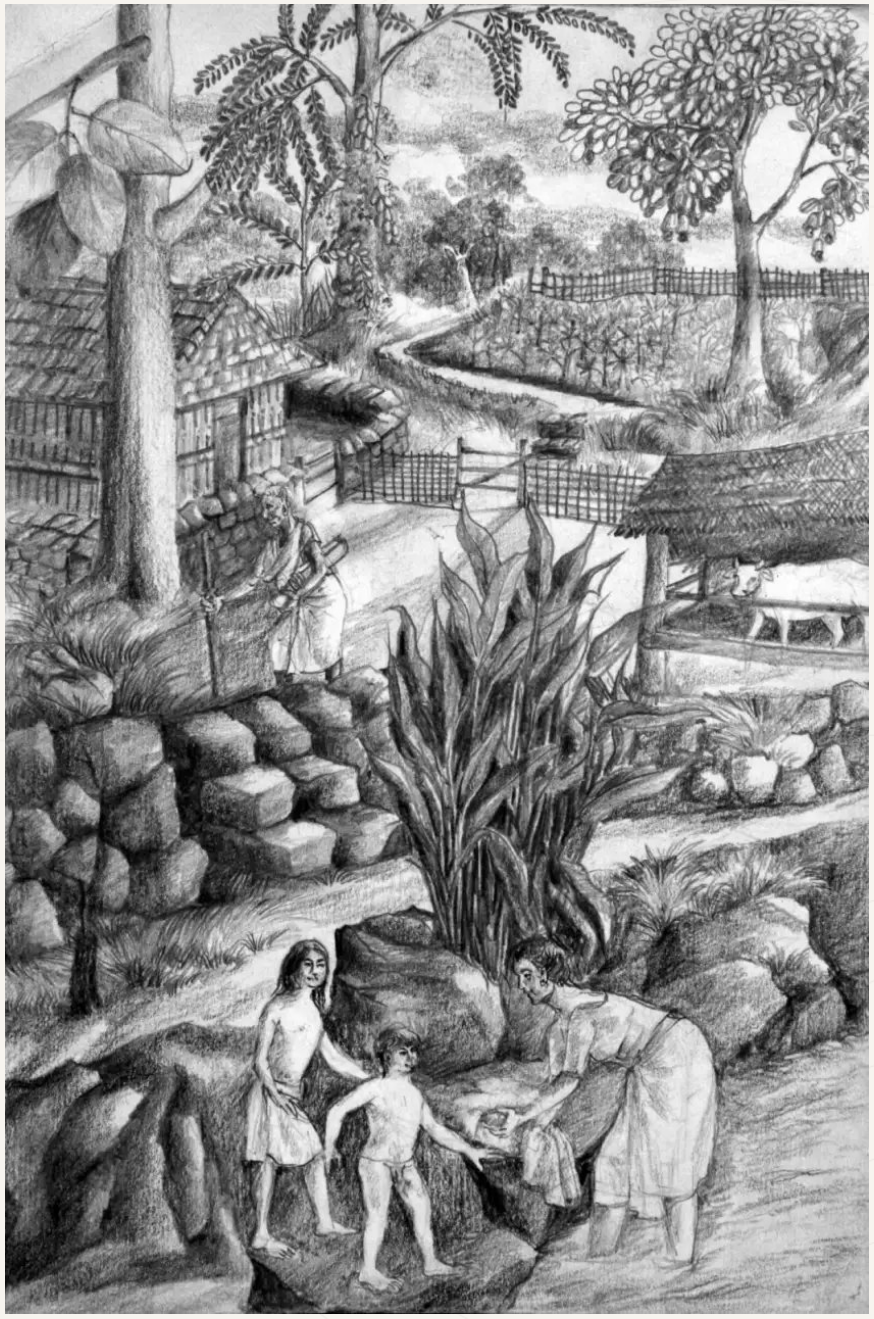
The Tree and the Bound Book

A broad leafy tree stands above a bound book and a small dark hand-like form in this finely marked monochrome drawing.



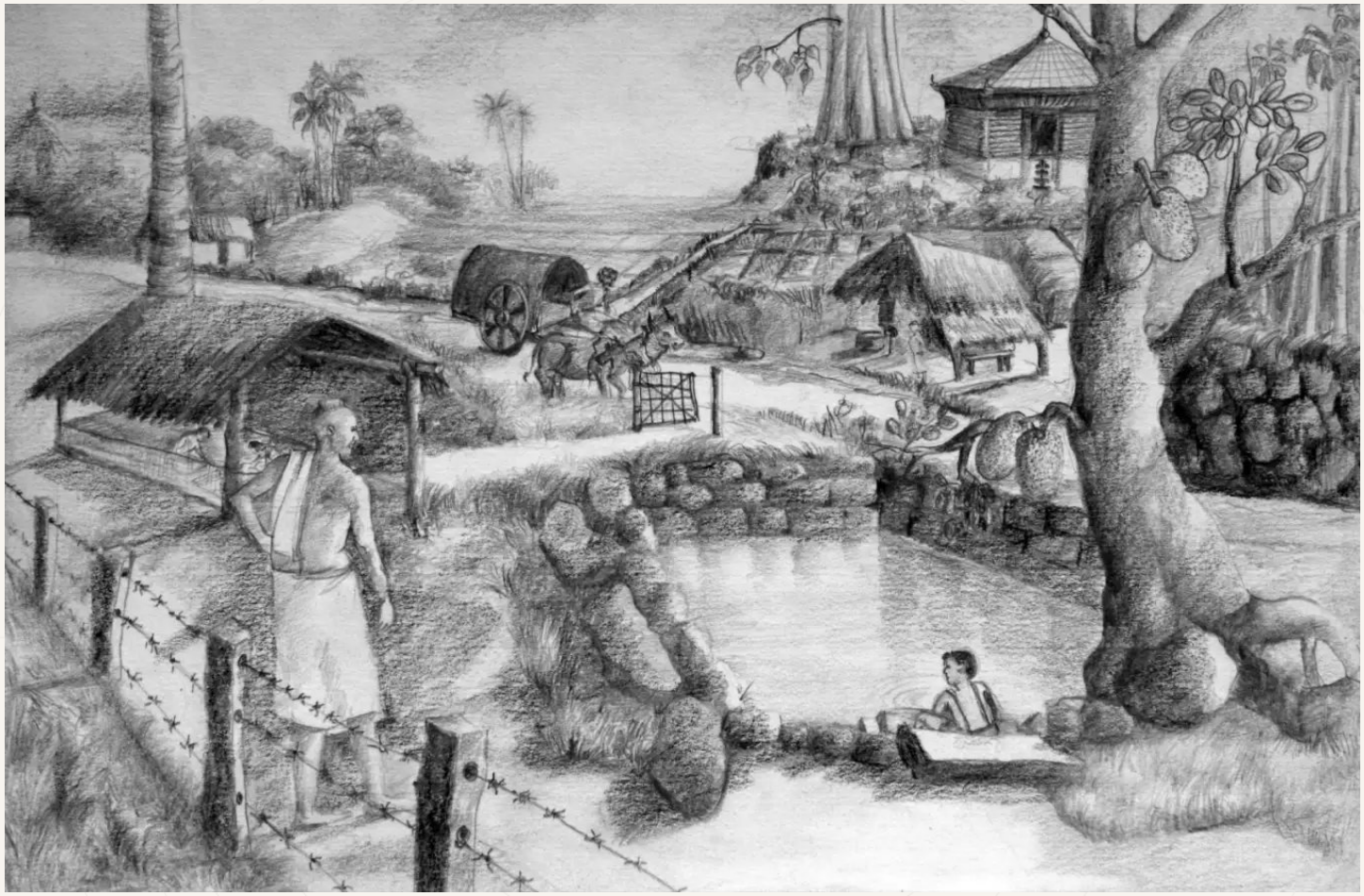
The House Above the Water

People gather around a thatched house among palms, rocks and water, described through dense monochrome linework.



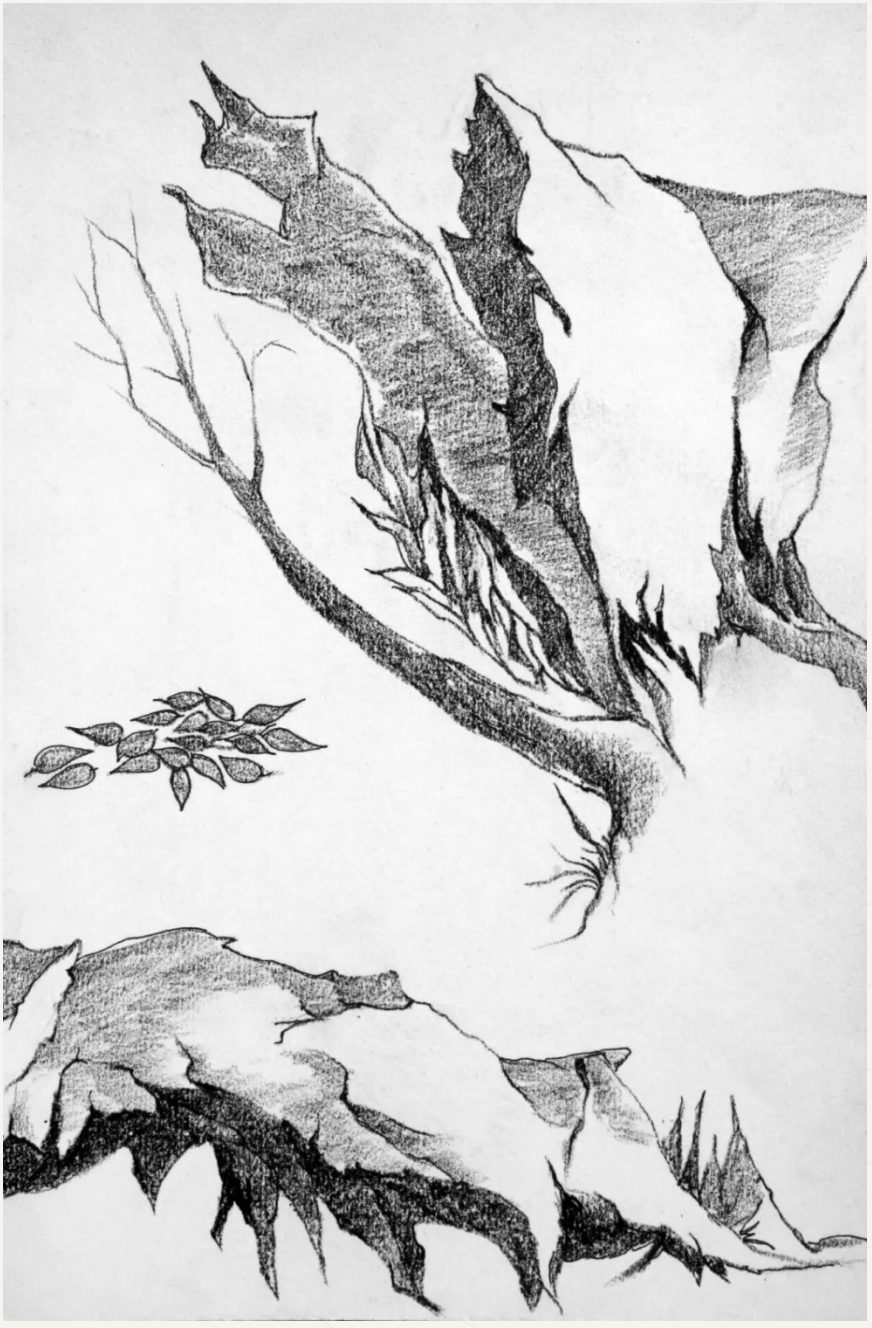
A Village by the Stone Steps

A woman and child stand near stone steps, village houses and thick vegetation in a detailed monochrome rural scene.



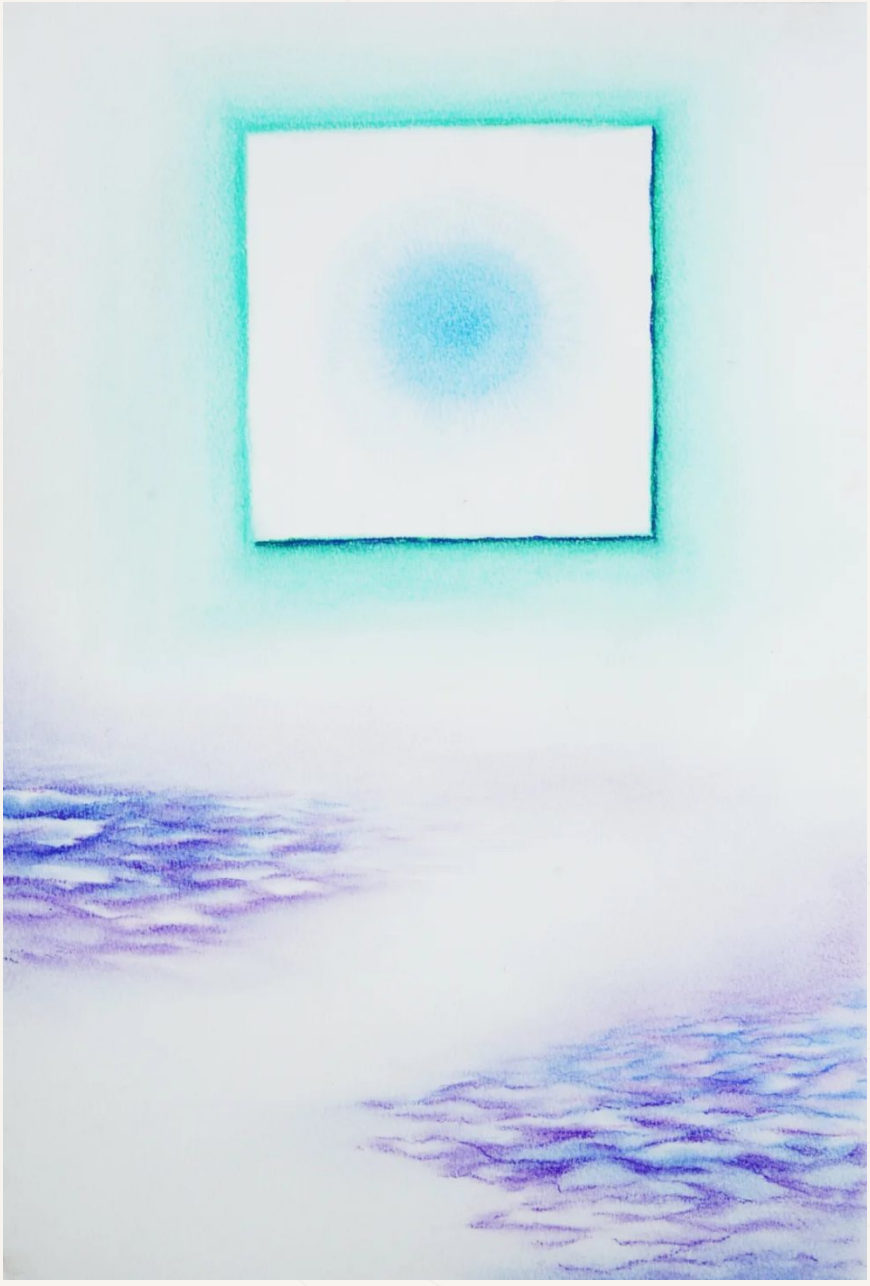
Crossing the Village Stream

A figure stands near a stream and stone crossing, with houses, palms and a bullock cart along the village road.



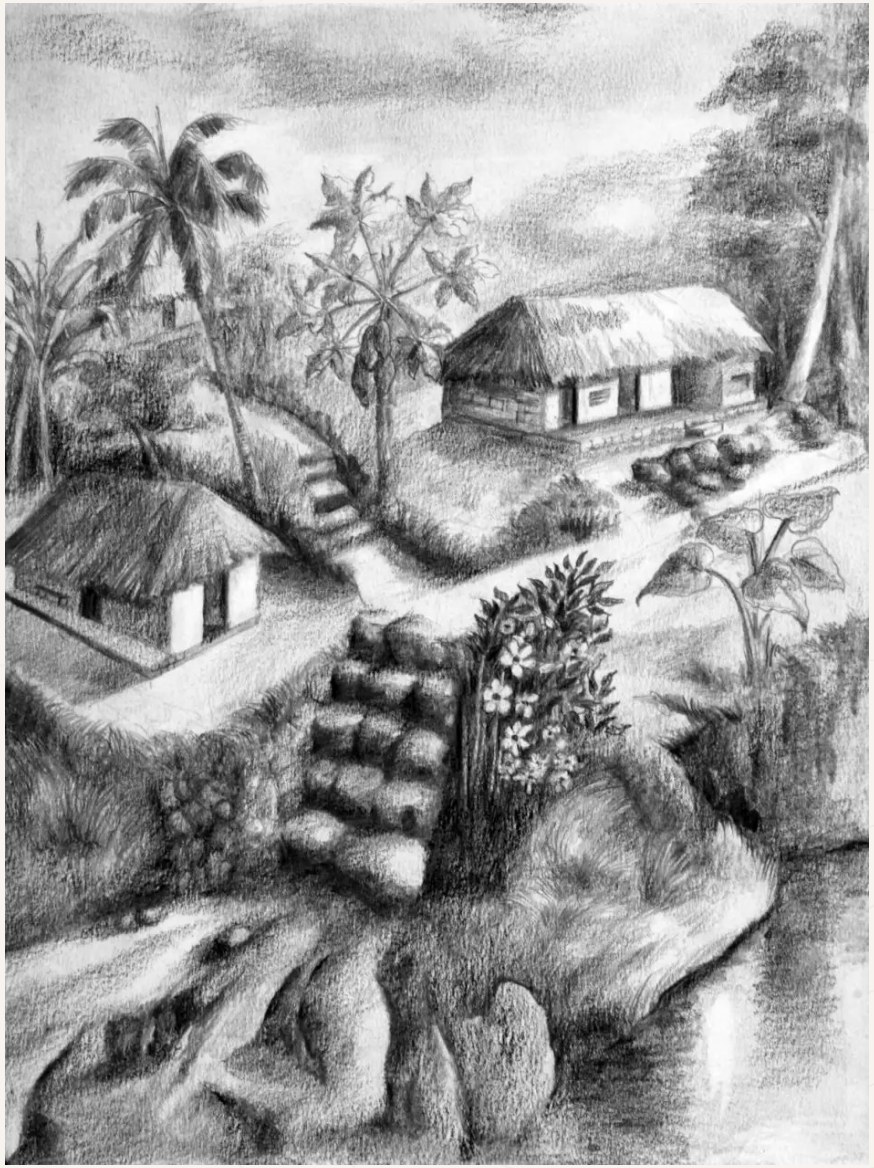
The Branch That Became a Wing

Bare branches merge into torn wing-like forms suspended above a fragmented monochrome landscape.



A Window into Blue

A turquoise square surrounds a soft blue centre, while violet ripple-like forms float in a broad pale field.



Stone Steps to the Homestead

Two thatched homes sit among palms above stone steps descending towards water in a detailed monochrome village scene.



Flowers for the Courtyard

Two women in bright skirts gather flowers beside a tree, with a red-roofed building and deep blue woodland behind them.



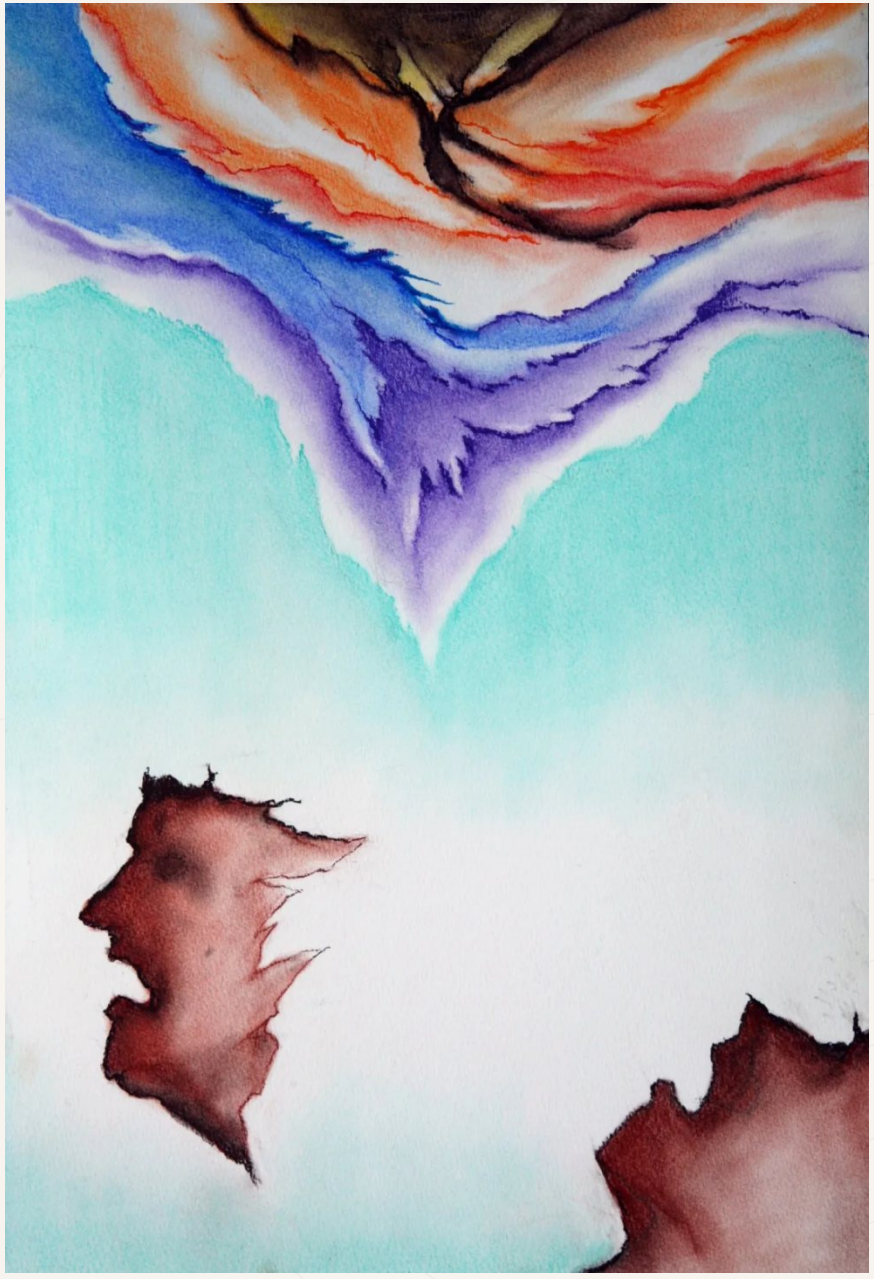
Islands in the Morning Mist

Tree-covered islands and a leafy shoreline frame calm water in a pale blue-green landscape.



The Air Between Broken Trees

Dark broken trunks and branching roots float across pale blue, green and warm earth-coloured passages.



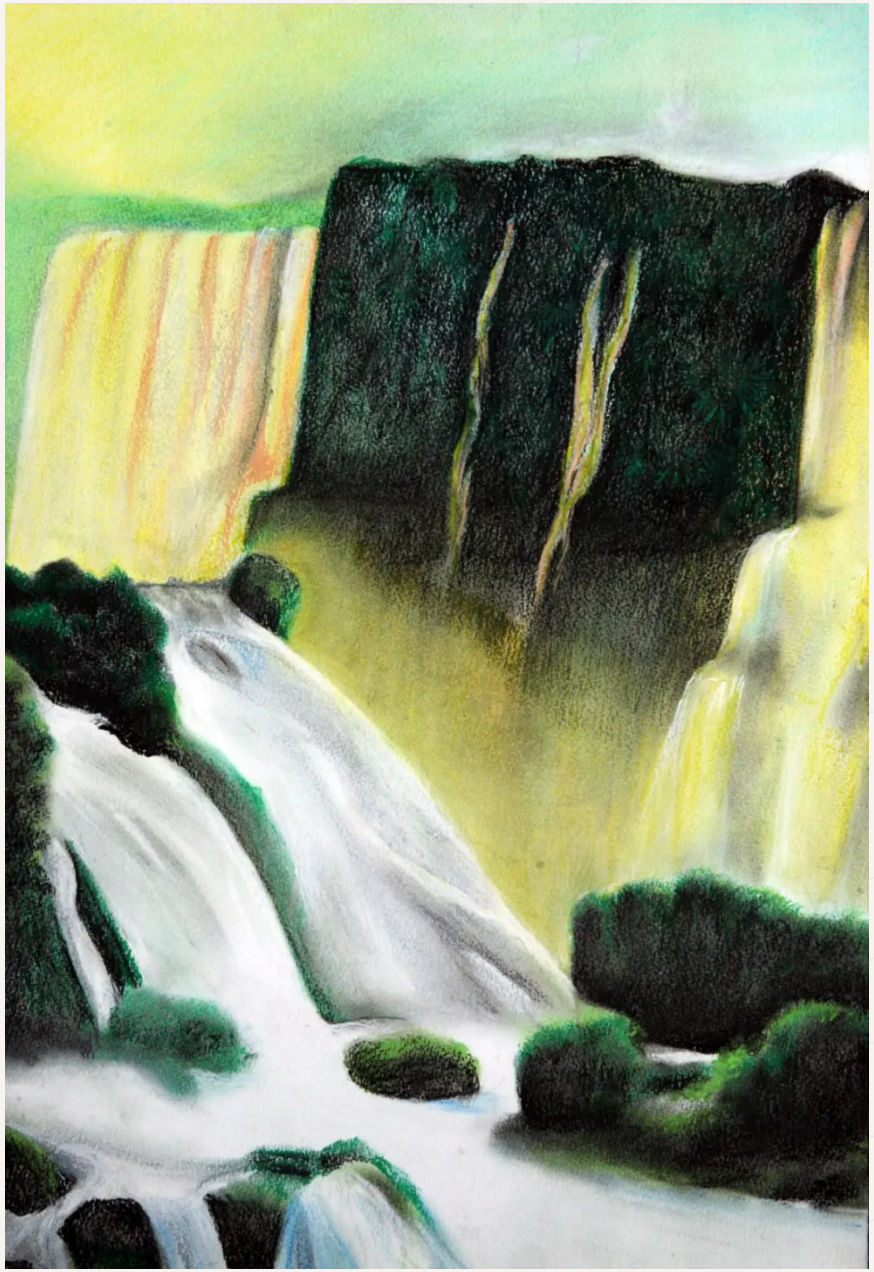
A Rift in the Coloured Sky

Layered red, orange, blue and violet bands open across a pale turquoise field, with dark fragments suspended below.



Two Palms on the Village Road

Two leaning palms rise above village houses and a winding path, set against a warm orange and pale blue sky.



Water Over the Green Escarpment

White water pours over a broad dark ledge and cascades between green-black rocks in a yellow-green landscape.



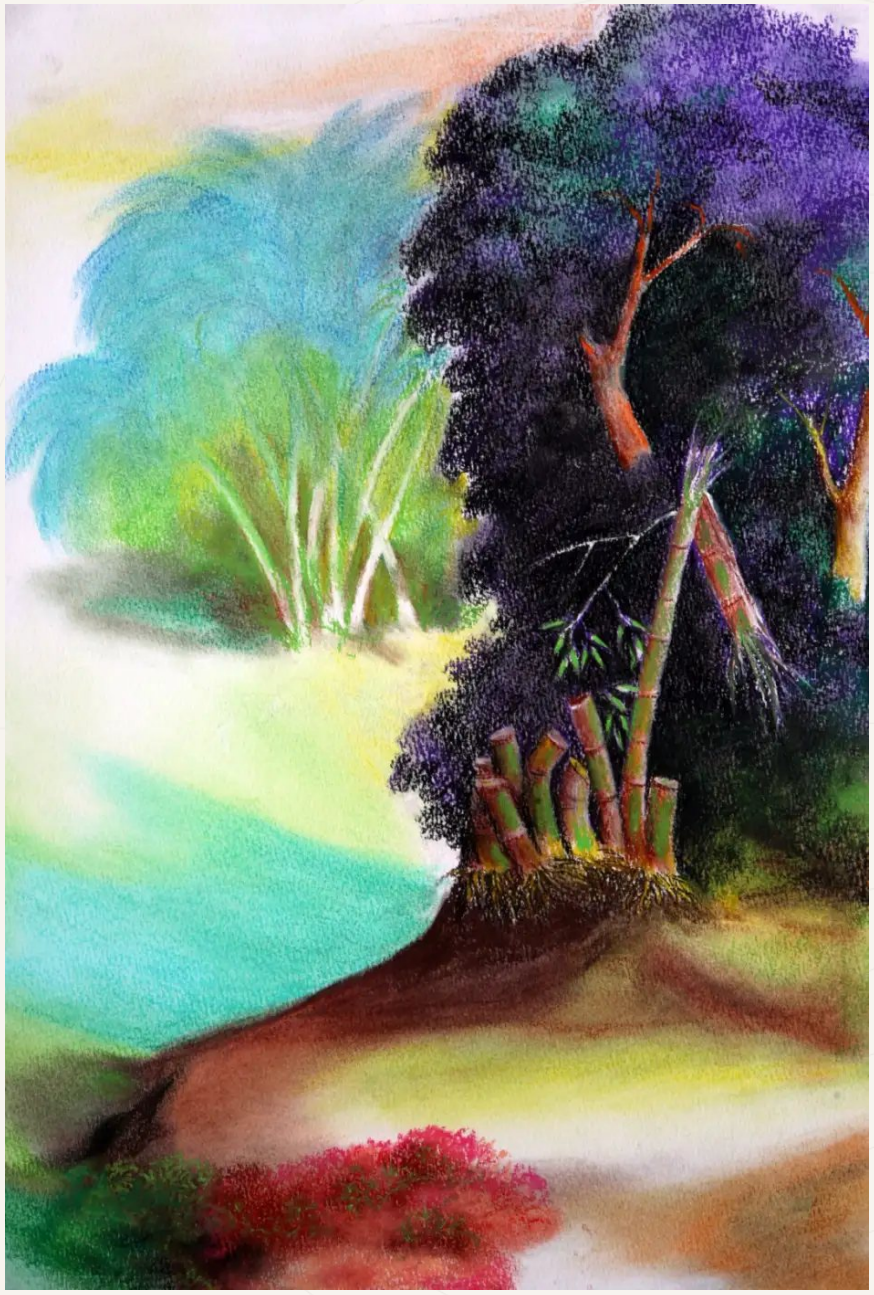
The House by Blue Water

A low red-roofed house rests on a green bank above water painted in broad blue and green strokes.



The Forest Writes in Green

A network of dark branching forms spreads through green and turquoise washes, creating a dense rhythmic forest abstraction.



A Quiet Bend in the Green

A pale green clearing curves past violet and turquoise trees, with colourful upright forms clustered in the foreground.



The Bed of Restless Roots

A yellow reclining figure lies on a bed-like form threaded with roots, below suspended pale shapes in a blue and violet interior.



The River in Full Voice

Broad pale blue and white strokes rush among warm brown rocks and green passages in a vigorous river landscape.



The Twisted Violet Trunk

A violet trunk twists among warm ochre and brown rock-like forms, with thin green shoots at its base.



A Sea Beyond Black Rocks

Dark rocks rise against a bright blue sea, where white and ochre marks catch the movement of the water.



Fire Above a Crimson Tide

A bright ember-like mass floats above red spiralling forms, set against a deep blue-violet field.



The Face Within the Flame

A blue face and hand emerge from a dark rounded enclosure amid pink, red and pale flame-like forms.



Reaching Across the Red Sky

A figure reaches upwards from a blue-dark foreground towards two closely gathered figures against an intense red sky.



The White Sun and the Red Wings

Red wing-like forms spread across a white circular sun, above ascending bands of yellow, orange and red.



The Clock on the Red Table

A hand rests on a round red surface above a clock-like eye, while a white bird perches against a deep red and green ground.



Stones Suspended in the Sky

Red and dark rock-like forms hover above a black mound, with blue cloud bands and bright green ground behind them.



The Shape of a Sleeping Mountain

Warm ochre and brown landforms resemble a reclining figure, reflected in a dark pool against deep blue distance.



Figures in a Room of Fragments

Green and violet figures sit within a fragmented interior of vessels, faces and red, blue and pale geometric passages.



Two Faces, One Dream

Red and deep blue profiles face one another among angular warm planes, a white star-like mark and a small blue gear-like motif.



The Blue Pool in the Valley

A bright blue pool lies within dark rugged slopes beside a pale winding path, with distant mountains opening under a light sky.


aarty
aarty
BY AJI NAYAR

aarty
BY AJI NAYAR

More from Late M. K. Prabha Pala, and every work in this book, online

AARTY.IN/ARTISTS/M-K-PRABHA