



शहराला आठवते का? एकेकाळी असलेली ती माती...

Does the city remember
the soil it once was?

A solo exhibition by **Swapnil Godase**

5th May - 11th May, 2026
11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Jehangir Art Gallery
AC 1, Kalaghoda, Fort, Mumbai 400001

Does the City Remember the Soil it Once Was?

Text by Urvi Chheda

The shifting relationship between cityscape and landscape, shaped through construction and erasure, unfolds as a persistent inquiry in Swapnil Godase's practice of more than a decade. As cities expand, they generate both progress and damage, altering not only physical structures but also the visual and sensory being of space.

Swapnil Godase's sculptural installations emerge from this condition of constant transformation. Using scrap and discarded materials, he engages with the debris produced by cycles of demolition and renewal.

These fragments hold traces of what once existed, suggesting the hope that the city may still carry a memory of the soil it rose from.

Drawing from his past exhibition series Dagad, the recurring triangular (trikon) forms in his practice evoke and mirror the temporary movement between rural and urban spaces, where migration and aspiration shape transient landscapes.

The works stand like quiet memorials; they neither celebrate urban growth nor mourn loss, but remain suspended in inquiry. In this in-between state, the exhibition asks: does the city remember its origins, or has it forgotten the language it once spoke?



▲ 1

Size : 10' - 4' - 10'.8"

Medium : Mild steel, Stainless steel, Aluminium, Wood, Cement, Acrylic with mixed media



▲ 2

Size : L 58"- W 22"- 67" Ht

Medium : Mild steel, Wood, Cement with mixed media



▲ 3

Size : Dia 4'- 4' Ht

Medium : Mild steel, Stainless steel with glossy



▲ 4

Size : L 46"- 14.5" Ht

Medium : Paper and Wood, Aluminium sheet



▲ 5

Size : L 46"- 14.5" Ht

Medium : Paper and Wood, Aluminium sheet



Swapnil Godase

A graduate of Sir J.J. School of Art, Mumbai, where he pursued his BFA in 2010 & Master's degree in 2024, Swapnil Godase has developed a distinctive sculptural language rooted in metal craft and contemporary material exploration. Trained in traditional techniques such as repousse, embossing, and metal shaping, his practice reflects a refined balance between craftsmanship and evolving artistic inquiry. Over the past decade, Godase has consistently worked with copper, brass, steel, and scrap materials, transforming industrial remnants into tactile, layered forms that carry memory, history, and transformation. His works bridge the organic and the constructed, translating everyday observations into sculptural narratives.

His artistic journey is marked by significant milestones, including solo exhibitions DAGAD (2021) at Jehangir Art Gallery and DAGAD II (2025) at Nine Fish Art Gallery, Mumbai. Alongside this, he has been widely exhibited across reputed platforms such as Bajaj Art Gallery, Nine Fish Art Gallery, Tao Art gallery, Bombay Art Society, and major art festivals including Kala Ghoda Art Festival.

His practice has been recognised with notable honours including the Sangeeta Jindal Scholarship, JJ Masters Award, and the Loksatta Tarun Tejankit Award. Godase's works are part of prominent corporate and celebrities private collections across India and internationally. His collectors include leading industrial groups such as Pidilite Industries, Emami Group, Kalpataru Ltd, Birla group, Kunal Maniar & associates, Fair field Marriott Hotel, Bharat Diamond Bourse, Sandip Shikre, Technocraft LTD., among other eminent business and cultural figures.

His work has also reached audiences beyond India, with collectors across international locations. The current exhibition, Does the City Remember the Soil it Once Was?, continues his exploration of material memory through scrap and industrial remnants, reflecting on the layered relationship between urban transformation and its origins.



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