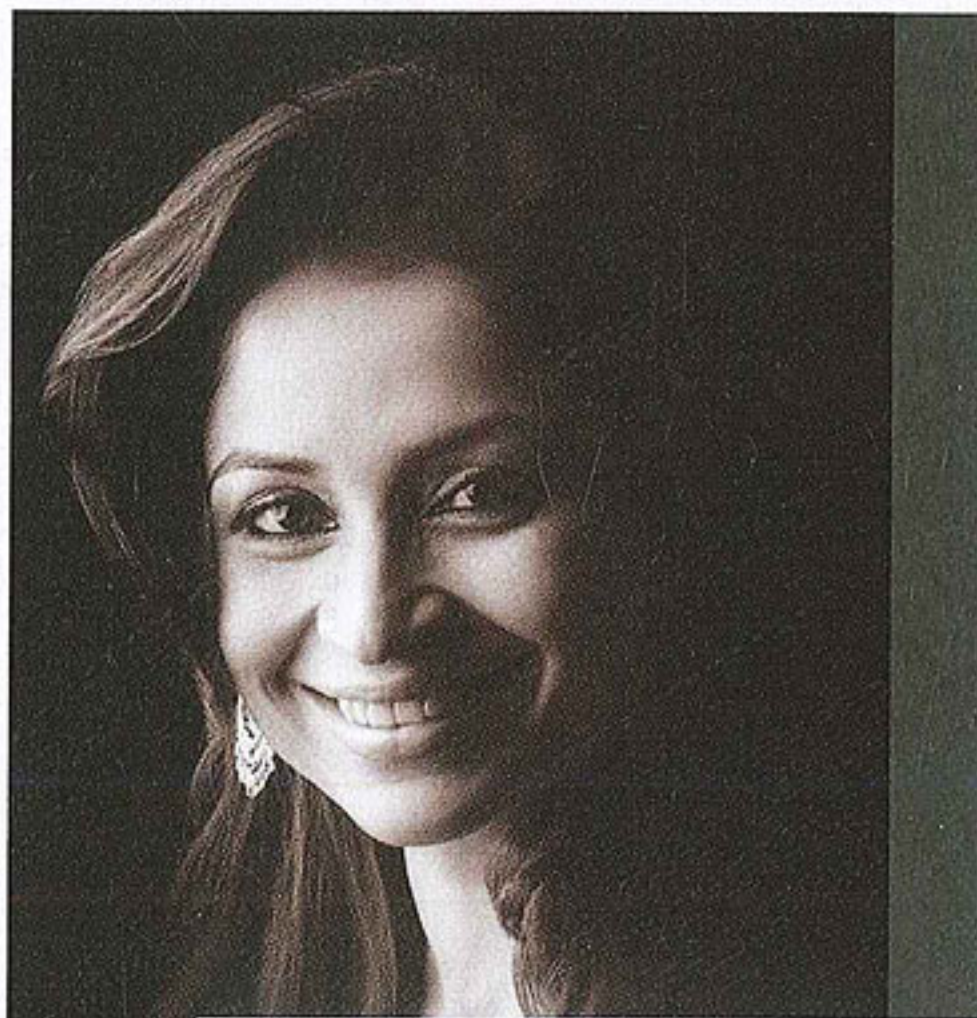
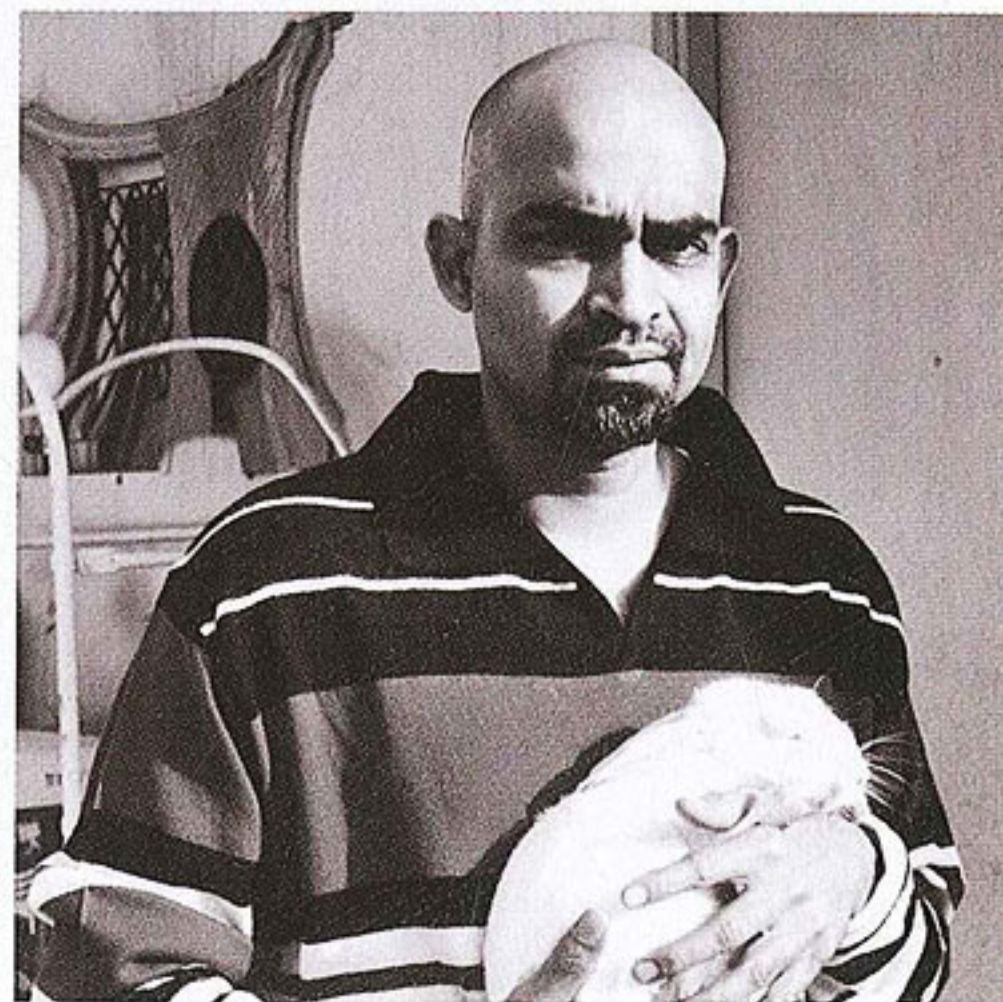


Our Panelists



They either create art, appreciate it or are the patrons. But they have one common goal: to promote upcoming talent. These aficionados have helped us choose the creative 32 for the year



(Clockwise from top left) **Shallu Jindal** A highly accomplished Kuchipudi danseuse, Jindal is a renowned lover of contemporary Indian art as well. Her private art collection that adorns her living space includes several upcoming artists. "I am always searching for opportunities to promote and support young artists. In India, they require a little more encouragement than in the rest of the world. Here, recognition often eludes young artists who want to make it big without any support," says Jindal.

Lyla Rao This young scholar-cum-curator's interest in arts is twofold: focusing on the role of art and cultural institutions as centres of learning and the curatorial development of young art markets. And she is all for supporting the cause. "Support for young artists can come from a multitude of sources: exposure, access to information, better educational facilities, residency programmes and initiatives like *Andpersand's* 32 Mind Creative," says Rao, who has worked for leading art institutions, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. She is currently the resident gallery curator at Religare Art.

George Martin We could steal a line from a popular advertisement to describe the work of this contemporary artist: think colour, think Martin! He uses stark colours to portray a world that is rushing past at a fanatic speed. Though he works with a variety of medium, his acrylic abstractions always attract the art lover. One of the most popular contemporary artists in the country, Martin would do anything to support the next generation. "During my time of struggle there were very few platforms for recognition. I strongly believe we need more platforms to help upcoming artists. Initiative likes *Andpersand's* 32 Mind Creative can motivate youngsters and inspire them to experiment more," he says.

Rasika Kajaria It might take some time to convince a newbie that this young gallerist is a serious art collector and promoter. One look at the works on display at her Delhi gallery, Exhibit 320, would prove Kajaria's enthusiasm towards promoting contemporary art. Most of the artists in her kitty are young and thanks to her discerning eye, very talented. "The only reason I set up an art gallery was to provide young artists a neutral platform. I would always like to be associated with initiatives where fresh ideas and minds are promoted," says Kajaria.