

ART1ST PRESENTS

open minds

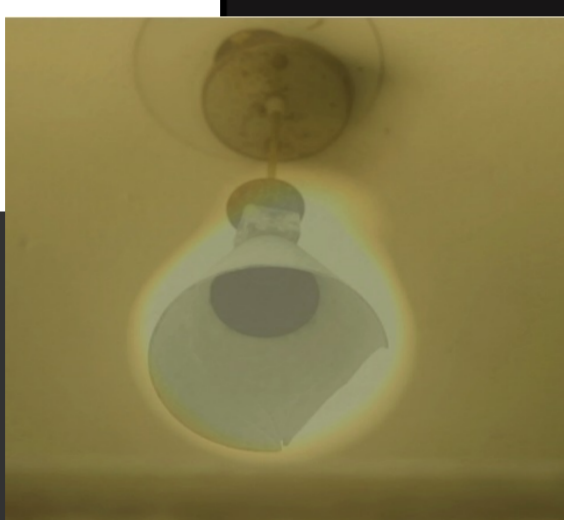


FILM
SCREENING

art1st

At **Art1st** we are passionate about producing films that present the lives and minds of Indian visual artists. A powerful visual art form in itself , films help us to reach out to and connect wide audiences in an immediate and visceral manner. This supports our larger goal of celebrating the significant role that modern art and artists have played in India's aesthetic, socio - cultural and political history.

Our role is one of the facilitator and collaborator. We brainstorm ideas and concepts, organize and bring together a team of dynamic artists and filmmakers and organize funding. We are very proud to have been part of three critically acclaimed films.



Even Red can be Sad

2015 | English | Colour | 59 minutes

Direction: Amit Dutta
Creative Producer: Art1st
Producer: Film Division
Screenplay:
DOP: Rangarajan Rambadran
Editing: Kratika Adhikari
Music: Catherine Lamb

Synopsis : This film explores various aspects of litterateur and painter Ram Kumar's personality by structuring the film around his stories and paintings, travelling between fragments of his past, present, fiction and imagery. It strives of etch out the synthesis of word and image in Ram Kumar's creations, presenting it as a portrait of the artist himself. The text used in the film is from various short stories by Ram Kumar.



“ Look at a Ram Kumar paintings as you would look into yourself when you try and recall your experience of a vacation in the hills; your visit to a lake, or of your being air - borne for the first time. You will feel the stir of a force within you, a search for some semblance of a reality which you once lived, which has become a part of you and which is yet outside you because you are relating yourself to time and movement and change.”

- Richard Bartholomew

Ram Kumar (born in Shimla 1924) is an Indian artist and writer who has been described as one of India's foremost abstract painters. He was associated with the Progressive artist's group along with greats like M.F.Hussain, Tyeb Mehta, S.H.Raza. He said to be one of the first Indian artists to give up figurativism for Abstract Art.

He started taking interest in art during his school days and joined weekly art classes offered by the school in Shimla. However, within a few months he felt his first art experience uninspiring and wished to become writer. During school days in Shimla, he came to know about the pristine Kashi from Sarat Chandra's novel. He never knew that the ancient city would become so significant to his art and his life.

Ram Kumar received M.A. Economics degree from St.Stephen's College in 1946 and at the same time, he enrolled for evening classes at Sarda Ukil School of Art, New Delhi, where he studied basics of art from Sailoz Mukherjee, a Master Indian artist. He did sketches of Shimla hillocks, market places and the ruins and monuments of Delhi. His first set of paintings was purchased by Dr. Zakir Hussain, then Vice - Chancellor of Jamia Milia University. He also contributed for the college magazines. After completing higher studies in Delhi, he joined a bank in Shimla, but his love for art and literature forced him to quit the job. In 1948 he joined Hindustan, a Hindi daily as a trainee journalist. Having served jobs as a banker and journalist, Ram Kumar finally decided to work as a full time artist. In 1950s, he went to Paris and studied western art theories and practices under Fernand Leger, Atelier Leger, Paris.

He started with figuration and during 60's shifted to a kind of abstraction, where he perfectly balances the elements of abstraction and figuration tuned in harmonious colours. His technique of defining forms and the use of colours progressed simultaneously according to subject to subject and theme.

In the early age of his career, around 50's, Ram Kumar was very much fascinated with the human forms, specially the faces. He used to paint human figures to express.

Amit Dutta (b.1977. Jammu) graduated in film direction from the Film & Television Institute of India (FTI) in 2004. He is known for his distinctive style of filmmaking rooted in Indian aesthetic theories and personal symbolism resulting in images that are visually rich and acoustically stimulating. His works mostly deal with subjects of art history, ethno - anthropology and cultural inheritance through cinema, many times merging research and documentation with an open imagination. He has made more than 15 films. He began his career making several short experimental films which critics described as “ without precedents except probably for a distant echo of Sergey Parajanov savant-garde play with childhood memories, making the director probably the most singular and idiosyncratic in the world.” His montages are considered as baffling the eye as well as the urge to interpret, being interwoven with a complex labyrinth of allusions from historical reminiscences, fairytales, children’s stories, texture etc.

After graduating from the film school in 2004, he spent many months interviewing painters from the Gond tribal community of Madhya Pradesh, who had migrated to the city of Bhopal following the success and untimely demise of one pioneering young Gond artist ‘ Jangarh Singh Shyam’. It resulted in a book ‘ Report one’ that explored the art -historical reasons behind Jangarh’s predicament as a modern artist from a primitive society and the film ‘Jangarh Film-one’, which revolves around his absence amidst his legacy in the contemporary art practice of his kin.

He also made a feature -length documentary ‘ Ramkhind’, a meditative observation of the everyday life of the people in a Warli village, which has produced some of the finest contemporary painters in its distinctive folk idiom. Since Nainsukh in 2010, Amit Dutta’s area of interest has focussed more specifically towards the art- historical and cultural aspects of the Kangra Valley and the surrounding area, most of his recent work being based in the same region.

His films have won many national and international awards. In March 2015, at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, Cinema Du Reel conducted a major retrospective of 14 of his features and short films. He has taught at National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and Film and Television Institute of India (FTI) Pune.

Art1st was established in 2009 with a vision to create and develop learning environments that nurture and strengthen imagination, visual literacy, creative skills and cultural awareness of children and educators. At Art1st, we think that art is a powerful medium through which we can understand ourselves and transform the world around us.

Our work commends and draws inspiration from the abundant traditions of Indian visual art, be it is folk or fine art, photography or performance. It highlights the significant contribution that these arts have played in India's aesthetic, socio-cultural and political history.

Contemporary artists, authors, designers, filmmakers, educators and historians from across the country serve as mentors and collaborators. Our work focuses on :

- Supporting schools and educators to implement a strong visual arts curriculum that we have developed independently.
- Publishing books for children that introduce them to Indian art.
- Establishing studio workshops for children to engage directly with and learn first-hand from India's established and emerging artists.
- Organising public seminars and discussion forums on Indian visual art and artists.

Our work continually promotes the joy and transformative nature of art.

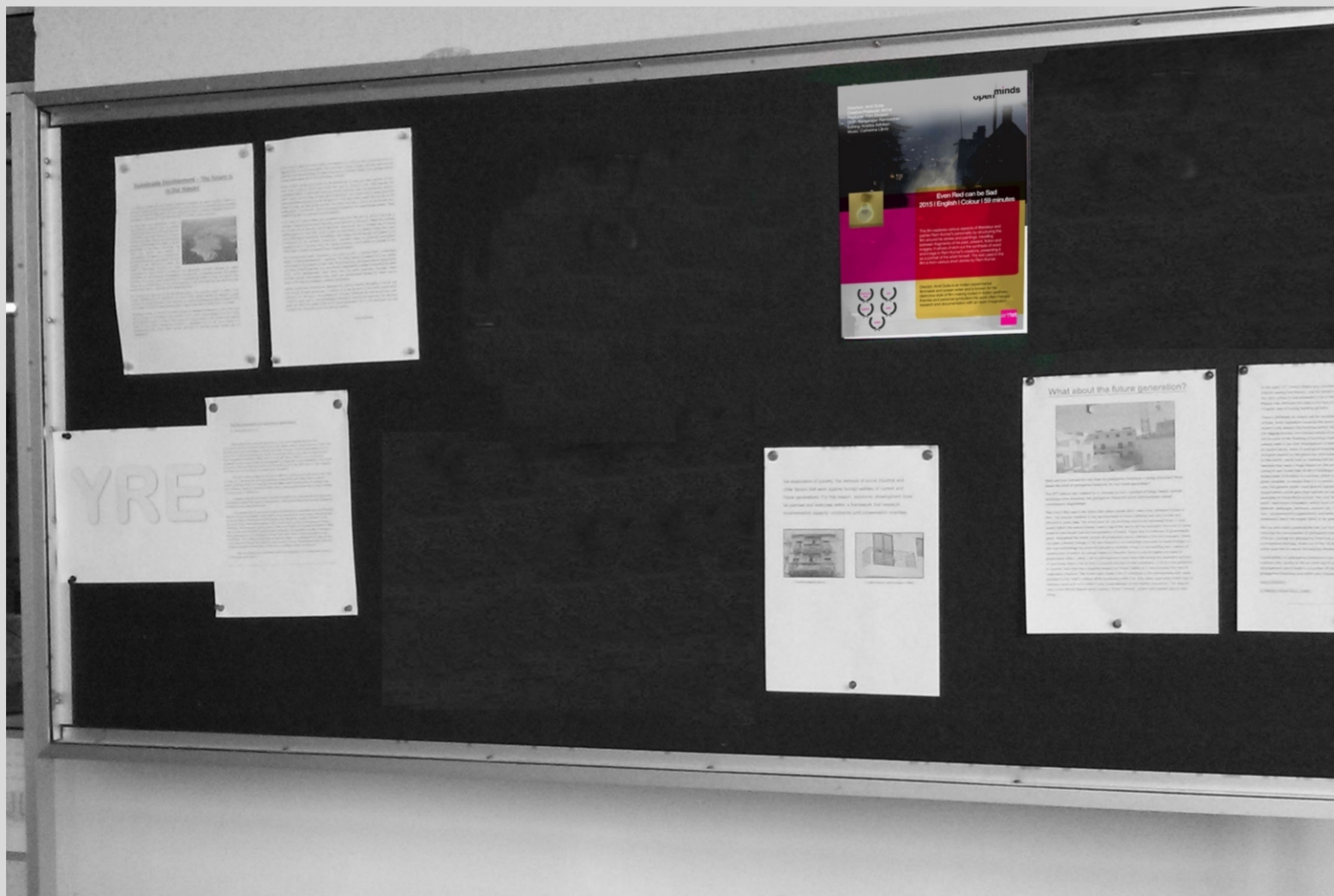
art1st signage



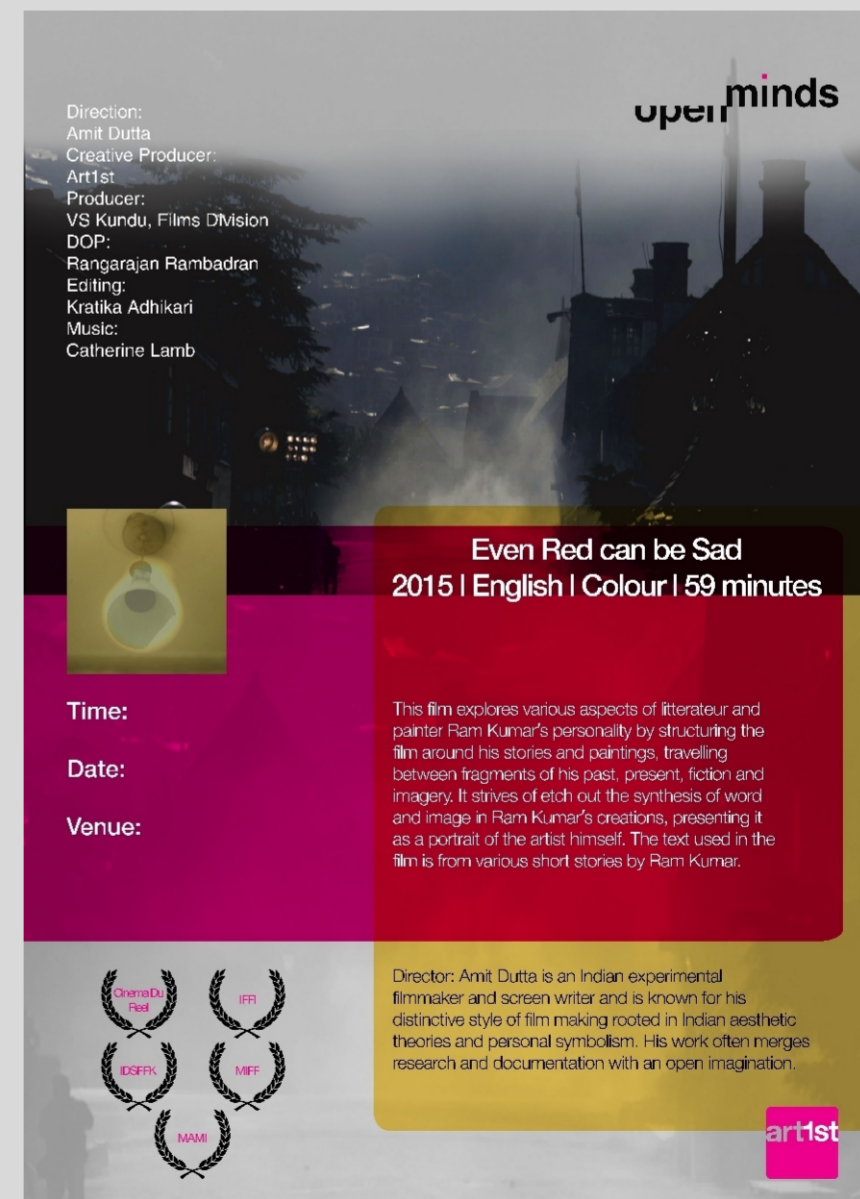
Standee
Size - 36 x 72"



Poster
Size - A3 and A4



Poster placed on the soft board
Size - A3 and A4



E invite

contact

Bombay Office :
Priyam Mehta
+91 9987962986
priyam@art1st.co.in

New Delhi Office :
Gopa Trivedi
+91 7289884687
gopa@art1st.co.in