

The progeny paint a rosy picture now

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SHAMSAD and Owais Husain, Mrinalini Mukherjee, Chandana Hore, Manisha Parekh, Anjum Singh, Pooja Broota, Partha Shaw, Suman Roy and S Harshavardan. There is a common thread that link all these artists. True they are all quite well known in the contemporary art circuit and are contributing to the art scene. But, it doesn't end there. They are all progeny of major artists.

"In recent years, they have carved a niche for themselves and are seen rubbing shoulders with their parents. They have, in fact, emerged as the next generation of talented artists in India. Against the backdrop of their parents' lives and careers, it may have been easier for these young artists to introduce themselves to the professional sphere. But, at the same time, it was equally tough to make a place for themselves and break away from the influence of their parents. It was crucial to create an identity of their own and a distinctive language and style," an art market source told ET.

Incidentally, while Shamsad and Owais are children of the unflagging MF Husain, Mrinalini Mukherjee's father was the Bengal School master Binode Bihari Mukhopadhyay. In step, Chandana Hore is the

daughter of renowned sculptor and painter Somnath Hore and his artist wife Reba Hore; Manisha Parekh is Madhavi and Manu Parekh's daughter. Anjum Singh is the daughter of painters Arpita and Paramjit Singh. Pooja Broota is Shobha and Rameshwar Broota's daughter, while painter Lalu Prasad Shaw's son is Partha Shaw. Other children of reputed artists are Suman Roy, Suhas Roy's son and S Harshavardan, son of Jagdish Swaminathan.

"On the surface of it, it may seem simpler for children of famous artists to make it big very early on. However, things may have been quite difficult sometimes because comparisons invariably arose since expectations from viewers were very high. Now that they have succeeded in finding a slot of their own, they can move beyond the shadow of their parents," the source said.

"The good thing is that we grew up in an atmosphere of art. You see your parents working on their medium from a very early age. That imbibes in you a very good concept of what one aims at achieving. It's not fair to compare the children with their parents. The joy of painting is the most important experience that an artist goes through. Being the son or daughter of a famed father or mother doesn't improve someone's prospects in the art market," observed Chandana Hore, who is now witnessing a solo in well-known city gallery Akar Prakar.



A work of Chandana Hore