

# Fringe

Works by Shastri Maharaj

November 11 – 24 2010

Soft Box Studios Gallery 9 Alcazar Street, St. Clair, Trinidad

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Gallery hours Mon-Fri 10 am – 6 pm, Sat 10 am – 2 pm





## Fringe

DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS existing structures used in the creation of art works invites innovation, experimentation, novelty and new inroads.

This body of work attempts to transcend the borders that have been present in previous works...pushing pulling....wrestling...to simplify subject matter.

In essence, it is an on-going dialogue with the muse...to communicate an ethos, an environment, an attitude as to how I construct and present visual statements.

– Shastri, November 2010

Left:

*Going South* [detail], Acrylic on canvas, 23" x 29"



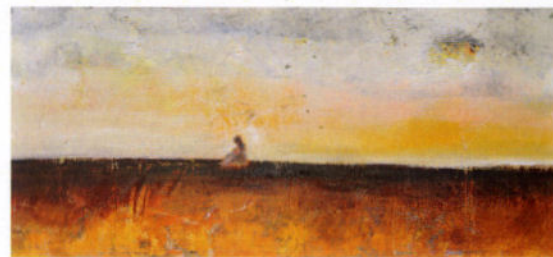
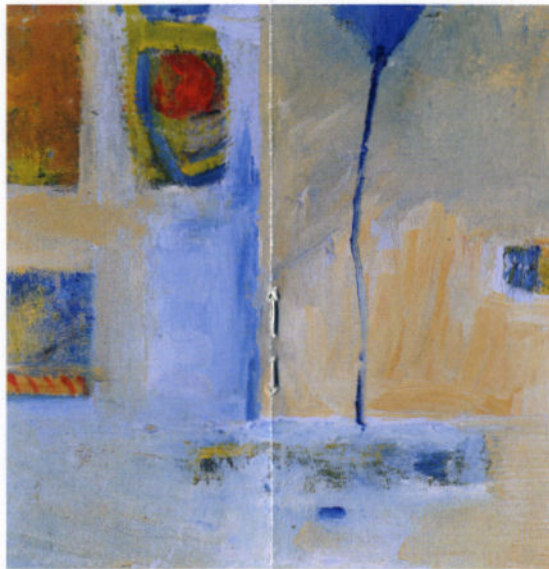
Clockwise from top left (opposite page):

*End of Trace*, Acrylic on canvas, 20" x 29"

*Caroni Before the Rain*, Acrylic on canvas, 18" x 24"

*Somewhere in Central*, Acrylic on canvas, 22" x 62"

*Season Changing*, Acrylic on canvas, 21" x 37"



Clockwise from top left:

*Back Yard*, Acrylic on canvas, 14" x 14"

*Slow Wind in the Evening*, Acrylic on canvas, 12" x 12"

*Citrus Tree*, Acrylic on canvas, 24" x 24"

*Solitude*, Acrylic on canvas, 24" x 36"

*Crossing Borders*, Acrylic on canvas, 22" x 62"



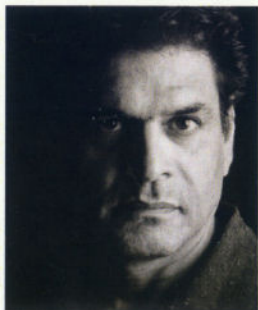
THE PRIMARY SUBJECT matter of the exhibition *Fringe* is the landscape. Contemporary painting of the landscape in Trinidad and Tobago may have emerged out of a need to depict the natural world and to memorialize the appearance and style of our man-made places. To this we are indebted to Michel Jean Cazabon and those persons who commissioned the finely rendered vegetation and topographic subject of his paintings. His landscapes revealed a particular way of seeing the physical features of the environment as a medium for treating light and colour as a romance of nature.

Shastri Maharaj's landscape paintings would like to eschew these origins, to move beyond depiction and into the experimental use of paint for the simple transformation of a scene, especially the fast disappearing empty open field with its borderland of mountains, into a primary visual experience. The landscape in this exhibition is his way of exploring the edges of a memory, a way of treating with the spirit, beliefs and aspirations manifest in a place.

– Ken Crichlow

Left:

*South of Caroni* [detail], Acrylic on canvas, 24" x 30"



## Shastri Maharaj

SELECTED BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

### EDUCATION

- 1992 Master of Education  
University of the West Indies
- 1985 Bachelor of Fine Arts  
University of Manitoba

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 ART EXPO  
New York, Jacob Javits Convention Centre
- 2004 CARIBBEAN ART  
ACP House, Belgium
- 1998-2000 SING ME A RAINBOW Meridian  
International Centre – travelling art exhibition,  
USA
- 1995-1997 CARIBBEAN VISIONS  
Travelling exhibition, USA
- 1993 CONTEMPORARY ART  
The Schoelcher Library, Fort-de France,  
Martinique
- 1990 CONTEMPORARY ART OF TRINIDAD  
AND TOBAGO  
IFA Gallerie, Bonn, Germany
- 1988 SPIRITS UNDAUNTED  
Central Bank, Barbados
- 1986 2ND CUBAN BIENALE  
Havana, Cuba

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 PATHWAYS  
Y Gallery, Trinidad
- 2006 INWARD JOURNEY (Retrospective)  
The National Museum and Art Gallery,  
Trinidad and Tobago
- 2005 TWO VIEWS  
Gulf Coast University, Florida, USA
- 2003 THE SPIRIT WITHIN  
Gallery 101, Port of Spain, Trinidad
- 2001 TALK  
Gallery 101, Port of Spain, Trinidad
- 1999 INHERITANCE  
Gallery 123, Hotel Normandie, Trinidad
- 1997 INDENTURE  
Gallery 123, Hotel Normandie, Trinidad
- 1994 THE UNFOLDING  
Gallery 123, Hotel Normandie, Trinidad
- 1992 RECENT PAINTINGS  
Galerie Hansen, Bonn, Germany
- 1992 RECENT PAINTINGS  
The National Museum and Art Gallery, Trinidad
- 1987 RECENT WORKS  
Aquarela Galleries, Trinidad

[smfineart.com](http://smfineart.com)



Above:

*Cashew Gardens*, Acrylic on canvas, 19" x 31"

Catalogue cover:

*Somewhere Before*, Acrylic on canvas, 28" x 22"

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