

THE EXHIBITION

MERCURY RISING



Jaideep Mehrotra has been the kind of artist who's equally at home in a gallery and at a high-society party.

He's created public art (a sculpture featuring Sachin Tendulkar on Marine Drive) and incorporated public themes (art themed on the Indian Railways). And his works have used oils, acrylics, fabric, resin, digital techniques, Giclée, and video. Six years after his last solo show, the artist takes yet another swerve with his style.

Reflections in Mercury features abstract works that merge metal and paint. At first glance it seems like liquid metal has been poured over canvas-based works, giving them a reflective sheen.

Bright blues and bold reds stand out, giving each piece a surreal feel (see image above).

Mehrotra says the idea is to show that art is a "reflection" of its surrounding cul-

ture. The metallic gleam represents the industrial culture of gadgets and instant gratification. "I was tempted by the idea of creating a work of art that will be physically different for every person looking at it," he adds.

The medium explains the artist's long gap between shows. "I was researching new techniques... new methods to help me best convey the ideas through my work, which sometimes takes years," he says.

ANESHA GEORGE

WHAT: Reflections in Mercury

WHERE: Tao Art Gallery, 165, The View, Dr Annie Besant Road, Worli

WHEN: September 23 to October 22

CONTACT: 2491-8585 / 868

Entry is free