



## Art Stage Singapore 2017

### **Rajinder Singh** ***Wound Bloom***

The idea of the wound in its many different forms, physical, mental and metaphorical is a recurrent motif in much of Rajinder's work. Rajinder sees the wound as a failure of language, when the wound itself becomes language, articulating secrets in the presence of pain through the testimony of cut and ripped skin. Rajinder's wounds speak impossibly not only of a trauma in the past but reanimates the boundary between existence and non existence to reveal conditions of possibility that exceed the limits of the suffering flesh and gives us a glimpse of that blurry unity, the great throbbing consciousness beyond. These aspects of language and the wound are embodied especially in Rajinder's assembled gods that are at once scarred fragmented deities and healing, embracing unities.

For his most recent exhibition '*Cage of Deliverance*', Rajinder returns to his distant past, to a life in Malaysia, to a pageantry of human spirit triumphant over flesh, in order to construct spacious cages in his paintings, free to roam about in, their oceanesque tranquility oblivious to the trauma transcribed onto their very walls. This terrorising calligraphy, unseen yet obvious, forms a salient component in Rajinder's 'simulation cages', strapped onto life's limbs, lancing together an algorithmic representation of the self. And this recalibration of self is Rajinder's final rite and preparation. Haunted by a fragmentary, disintegrating body, Rajinder surrenders to the culturally authentic, to find unification in disunity or even to move beyond these paradigms to tranquility and peace.

Rajinder Singh (b. 1964) was born in Ipoh Perak and is now based in Dublin, Ireland. He graduated with a PhD in Engineering (UK) in 1993 and a Master's in Fine Arts (Singapore) in 2010. His recent exhibitions include *Cage of Deliverance*, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur (2016); *Common Ground*, Chan Hampe Gallery, Singapore (2015); *The ceiling floats away with a sigh*, Wei-Ling Gallery (2014); *Muestra Colectiva de Verano*, Isabel Anchorena Gallery, Buenos Aires (2014); *Fold*, ICA, Singapore (2012); *MOLC*, Chan Hampe Gallery (2012); *Ya-ad*, ICA, Singapore (2011); *Ellaline*, Stephanie Hoppen Gallery, London (2011).