



# Newsletter January 2023



# Archives



We have started a **digital archive** of our designs - the oldest of these were created 40 years ago.

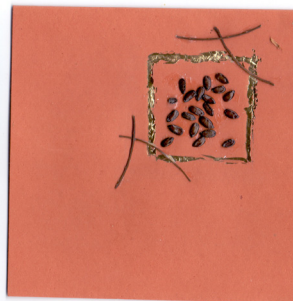
Over the decades, our designers have come from a diverse range of backgrounds - artists or self-taught creative persons, students or graduates of architecture, textile design, product and graphic design from NIFT, NID and many other institutes across India.

We share with you here glimpses of a few designs from our archives.





Pressed flowers and leaves combined with coloured butter paper, batiq paper, gold foil and edible seeds can be seen in the designs shown here. Which one do you like the most? Let us know your in your feedback.





Some more unique designs! The experiments with embroidery and pressed leaves can be seen on cards on the far right.

We have been fortunate to have a great influx of ideas over the years. We are immensely grateful for this and would like to celebrate all these creative contributions.



# Exhibition

In January 2023 we had a special exhibition at the Tibetan Pavilion in Auroville of 15 artworks at designed by Jinyeo Kim who has been working in Shradhanjali as a designer for 3 years. The artworks were done over this period. Here are some of the pieces. If you are interested to know more or to purchase any of the pieces, please write to us.



Peace



Majestic Force

# Exhibition

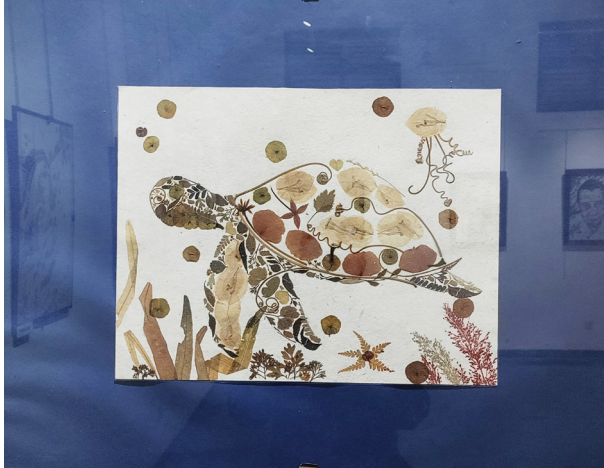


Lakshmi



Realisation

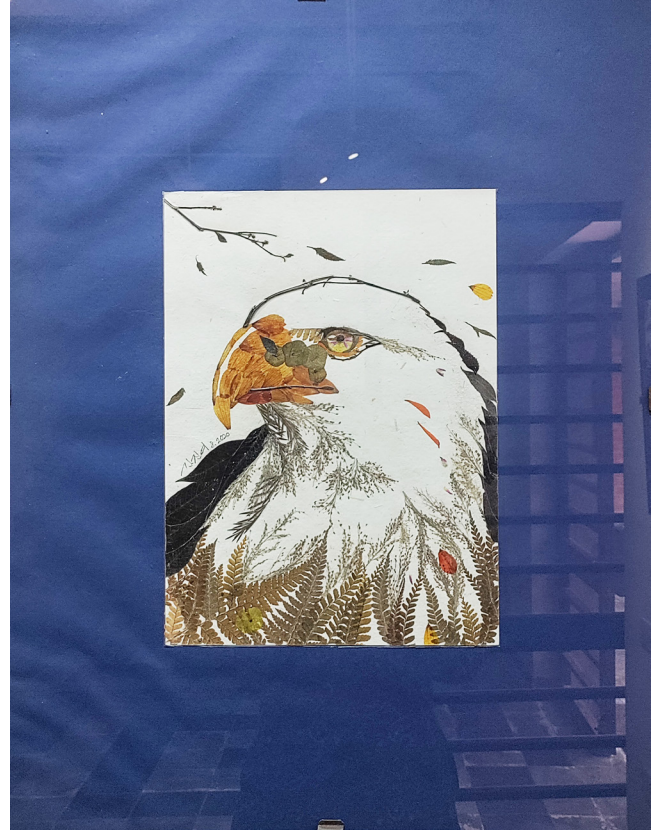
# Exhibition



Freedom



Exhibition display at Tibetan Pavilion



Fearless

# Temple visit



In May 2022, the Shradhanjali team visited temples in the neighbouring villages of Bahour, Madagadipet and Thirubhuvanai. Some of the temples we visited were built a 1000 years ago during the Chola period - beautiful stone architecture adorned by intricate carvings of deities and mythical creatures, reminding us of the interconnectedness of life in all its forms.





# Interviews

The long term association and relationship that Auroville shares with the people of several surrounding villages such as Edayanchavadi, Alankuppam, Sanjeevi Nagar, Kottakarai, Kulapalayam (and several others) is unique. The people in the villages here, like in other parts of the country, carry within them a special innate sense of service, spirituality and community which is an important part of what Auroville is working towards.

We are sharing excerpts of some of the interviews in the following pages. We have posted a few more interviews on our instagram page - <https://www.instagram.com/shradhanjaliaurowille/>. If you would like to know more, let us know in your feedback by email.



## **DEEPA**, flower pasting team

I joined Shradhanjali when I was 16 years of age on April 15th, 26 years ago. I am now 42.

I did 6 months of flower pressing initially when I first joined. Now I do flower pasting mostly and painting for trays. It is unique work so I like it.

Everyone enjoys the designs made here so it is nice for us to see that. I like the flower designs of trays the most.



Design by Deepa



Design by Themozhi

## **THENMOZHI**, flower pasting team

I joined at 15 years of age. I am now 48 years of age. I have worked here for 34 years.

I was selling fish in the village before I joined Shradhanjali. One of the ladies I was selling fish to told me about Shradhanjali and I came here to join.

I got interested in card pasting. I like all the designs. I have to thank God that I got work that I like.



# Interviews

## **SAHADEVAN**, gardener and care-taker

I have been working in Auroville since the 1970s. So I have been working here for 50 years. I have been in Shradhanjali since 1993, so almost 30 years.

When they told us Auroville was starting 50 years ago, roads needed to be made. I helped in this task. I was a helper at Matrimandir too. I served tea, handed nails, tools to workers. I also helped dig the foundation and erect the scaffolding.

There were no scooters or even cycles. Everyone walked from far to Matrimandir. I walked to work too. I continue to walk from Alankuppam to Shradhanjali today. It must be about 2 km.

Everyday I wake up at 3 am. I come here at 5 am. I work for 5 hours and go back home. Even at home, I have work. I look after the cows and do different kinds of work there. There is continuous work.



## **KALA**, book binding team

I joined Shradhanjali in 1994 - on 7th April 1994. I have been around for 28 years. The years go by fast!

I did flower pressing and pasting initially. Now I do book binding, lampshades, flower picking and envelopes. I like all the work here.

They had organised a workshop few years ago. We made our own designs- the best of which were chosen for production. They chose 2 of my designs - a coconut tree and a flower design.

I didn't work anywhere else before this. This is home now and Abha takes care of us.



Design by Kala

# Work Process

We have put together a collection of photographs documenting our work processes. There are many stages and hands involved in our labour intensive work process.

The full collection of our photographs are uploaded on our [website](#).





Auroshilpam, Auroville - 605101  
Tamil Nadu, INDIA



(0413) 2622172, 2622062, 2623780



[info@shradhanjaliauroville.com](mailto:info@shradhanjaliauroville.com)



[www.shradhanjaliauroville.com](http://www.shradhanjaliauroville.com)



[Shradhanjaliauroville](https://www.facebook.com/Shradhanjaliauroville)



[shradhanjaliauroville](https://www.instagram.com/shradhanjaliauroville)

---