



## Jyoti Bhatt's Diaries: Conscious/Subconscious Depiction of Journey

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## **Jyoti Bhatt's Diaries: Conscious/Subconscious depiction of journey**

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### **Abstract**

Jyotindra Manshankar Bhatt, in short Jyoti Bhatt, A Baroda based Padam Shri awarded versatile artist. He studied at the MSU (Baroda), Academia di Belle Arti in Naples (Italy), Pratt Institute in New York where he explored the field of Printmaking, Painting, Drawing, Design and Photography. He had begun their artistic carrier as a part of the Group 1890. In late '60s, Bhatt started documenting Traditional Indian Craft and Design through lens; during this journey he started maintaining diaries where he consciously or subconsciously drew thoughts in the forms of Doodling and Scribbling. These diaries having both artistically and thematically scope about what Jyoti Bhatt perceived during travelling. Author tries to trace the various borrowing, appropriations, emulations and idioms and contextualize them in brief.

*Key words: Doodling & Scribbling, Indian Modernism, Conscious & Subconscious, Folk art & craft, Traveler's Diary*

### **1. Introduction**

Jyoti Bhatt has been a robust in the Modern Indian Art era for quite a long time. He has made various contributions in the field of Art, and never let himself be constricted inside any single type of techniques. His steady and ordinary movements starting with one medium then onto the next characterized his convincing desire to travel ahead to look for new shores whenever he had dominated a specific perspective—either specialized or philosophical. Bhatt, through his works, has made critical depictions of different moving creative philosophical speculations like Cubism, Abstract Expressionism, Modernism, and Pop Art,

which were impacts from European nations while additionally fusing Indian themes, folk art, and Indian culture and custom.

Bhatt's own youth childhood was inside an extremely provincial set-up yet throughout the process of things working out he had seen uncommon changes influencing the imaginative culture and customs of country life. They presently were either characterized contrastingly or had vanished in parts. This acknowledgment drove Bhatt to investigate this unknown region, with the particular expectation of protecting and recording them for people in the future. To achieve this, Bhatt revolves around the country to interact with people, participate in their customs, record their tradition and document their essence of life in a traveler diary.

Around 500 year of journey of Leonardo Da Vinci's notebook's doodling who started from renaissance till now given lot of clue about scientific experiments. Psychologically lots of theories are here to connect notebook's doodling with unconsciousness stage of mind. Like Freud's great iceberg theory. This explains the unconscious, pre-conscious and conscious stage of human mind and where he says "the creative act, starting from daydreams as the most common form of fantasy".

Since 1969, When Jyoti Bhatt started travelling around rural India stat maintaining diaries where he put together his thoughts, ideas and observations through scribbling, doodling and writing. Many of his diaries include notes based on his travels to various locations for documenting the Living Traditions, rituals, art and craft and daily lives of the inhabitants, in the depths of Gujarat, Rajasthan, undivided Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and South India. He articulates what he perceived during his numerous encounters with different cultural context in these diaries.

In the late 20th Century when interpretation and definition of Indian art changed constantly and existing philosophy and theories of art renewed itself with time. Then Bhatt emerged with implementation of new learning from various new experiences. They bring memories alive by their inherent desire to recycle old materials in masterpieces of art. The overall shape of composition came from equilateral division of images, color impact, juxtaposition of text and other patterns. That gives a pleasant finesse and vibrancy to his creations.

In contemporary times Bhatt deserve credit for their remarkable work on vast documentation of rural India. Because it's gradually vanished with the changing times of various aspect of art and culture.

## **2. Literature Review**

Jyoti Bhatt's travel diary seems to look like a visual note from a lost land. In which they explore rural life's simplicity, where people with their daily life echoes merged with folk art & craft in a symphony. As per their observation art and culture could not be seen as exclusive from people, because it's become inseparable parts of their lives.

**Sutariya, Divya ( 2017)** They have their own individual unique creative language to interpret visual thoughts into art. They use text to fill the blank space between images. It came from observation when he traveled around Saurashtra region of Gujarat. In this region women use colloquial verbal forms and traditional visuals in embroidery works. In this work text was used to connect identical figures. Viewers enjoy that symphony of text and image. Without knowing the meaning of text, like calligraphy in Chinese or Arabic is not readable but still enjoy their aesthetical essence.

**Darji, Sunil (2017)** Bhatt always saw text in work as a visual image, that's why he deliberately stylized various textual references to create a layer of expression in his travelling diary's scribbling. One of their famous Scribble based paintings "A-B Zee of My India" (1999), where he wrote text not only in English but also in Hindi and Gujarati. That combination of written text came from travelling experience of urban and rural India.

**Velayudhan, Vinod (2016)** His early career as an academic when he traveled around the world like Italy, Britain and the USA got a lot of experiences. That experience is portrayed in many of his works. His scribbles sometimes look very ornate and stylized when he draws visuals with or without images in the form of a puzzle, it's a desire of man who searches for the essence of beauty.

The word and the image have often behaved like the best friends and the worst of enemies, from Dadaist photomontage to conceptual commentaries; they have exchanged enthusiasms, cut into each other's orbits, interrupted each other's flow and engaged in

prolonged inter-play. The frisson of excitement that this had generated had generally been good news for art. Because several artist as a poet and several poet as an artist scribble lots of doodling art on the way of artistic exploration

### **3. Theoretical Framework**

The relationship between the conscious & subconscious nature of the brain and creativity produce new concepts, ideas, art and innovation. Thus, Doodling & Scribbling practice should be intangible attributes of human brain. Jyoti Bhatt's expressive text and forms are introduced in a prodding way to pass on to the watcher the fundamental importance of his works of art. This paper explores nexus between the form and their aesthetical meaning as a theoretical framework.

### **4. Research Methodology**

In this study Qualitative method of research will be used to interpret Jyoti Bhatt's Doodling and Scribbling practice in their Notebook. The information gathering technique utilized in the research will be Interview. The study focused on the interpretation and understanding the relationship between form and meaning of the doodles in the notebook of artist.

### **5. Data Analysis**

Thematic analysis will be performed because all data collected by author are qualitative in nature. Investigating the relationship between the form or text and the significance of the doodles would help the examination track down the genuine importance of the doodles in artistic exploration. Author goes at the heart of an artist's oeuvre, for all its complexity and protean diversity, often lays the kernel of a single idea or an even more singular sensibility. It provides force and direction to his themes and carries importance and intelligence to the proper component he utilizes. It is through this core that the individual and the psychological energies of an artist break into his art.

### **6. Conclusion**

The authors are extremely hopeful with regards to the scholarly capability of this work of art. Instructive ramifications inborn in this kind of expression are obviously rich and multidimensional, for both doodles and viewer. Thus, doodling and scribbling practice

provide unique opportunity and freedom to explore self-expression. Thusly it hoped that the study could contribute to the semiotic analysis in general and in particular to the fields of fine arts, new media art and contemporary art. It can be beneficial for future researcher and society at large. His undertaking to record the diverse parts of folk art & culture, custom, ceremonies and particular types of weaving and wall murals has made a boundlessly rich file of marginalized people of India.

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