





REDUCE > REUSE > RECYCLE > REPURPOSE

## BUSINESSOFART

Financial Chronicle 14 Mar 2016 (The writer is an author and a former art gallery owner) SHONA ADHIKARI



Van Gogh's Sunflowers

When a man jumped off a the roof of a 30 floor building. The exhibition was rescheduled late last year, but so far only three locations have been been found to date. News

reports indicate that Gormley is on the lookout for a sponsor, since the previous Hong Kong sponsor has backed out. Meanwhile, fears that were vaguely voiced by art collectors, gallery owners and auction houses, has now been officially stated — global art sales did indeed drop in 2015 and there is every chance of a further decline to come. Despite these ominous tidings, however, there continues to be a demand in major cities for more exhibition space.

This brings us to the recently opened Sophia Contemporary Gallery in London. The gallery which specialises in contemporary art from West Asia opened on March 9 with 18 works by Iranianborn artist Reza Derakshani, who is based in Austin, UK. The show ti-

tled The Breeze at Dawn, was a near sell-out with nearly all the paintings priced between £ 60,000 and £ 150,000, being booked or sold on the opening night. Derakshani is a polymath — is also a poet and musician — and this success is not surprising. His abstract style of art is seen as "a confluence of eastern artistic traditions and western contemporary practices."

Closer home, Kolkata's Aakriti Art Gallery presents Odyssey, a splendid exhibition of paintings by Sudip

W Roy between March 12 and 26. A gold medalist from the Government College of Art & Craft, in the art of water colours, After graduation, he went through all the usual subjects that artists seek to excell in — landscapes, architecture, temples and monuments, gradually moving to the world of abstactionism through the medium of collage and geometrical forms. The artist who resides in Delhi, is now known as a serious abstract artist whose

sense of composition and use of colours are highly appreciated in the capital. Odyssey, has earlier been shown at the Jehangir Art Gallery in Mumbai.