

'Indian & Other Birds, the solo exhibition of recent works by Hermann Heinzl the leading international ornithological artist held by Indar Pasricha Fine Arts from 17th March – 4th April, 2009

Submitted by: Cassleton Elliott

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Indar Pasricha Fine Arts (<http://www.ipcontemporary.com/index.html>) is holding 'Indian and Other Birds, the solo exhibition of paintings by Hermann Heinzl, the leading international ornithological artist. The exhibition will feature 30 large works that have not been seen before including watercolours, drawings and a rare oil painting by the artist of a lappet vulture, with prices starting at £3,000.

The name Hermann Heinzl (<http://www.ipcontemporary.com/index.html>) will be well-known to all bird enthusiasts, as he has painted the majority of birds seen throughout India, Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, the Galapagos and North America, and has his name on all pocket guides used throughout the world, including those published by Collins. He has been rightly called the heir to James Audubon, the 19th century wildlife artist also renowned for studies of birds.

Highlights from this exhibition include a portrait of a Lammergeier (Bearded Vulture), caught in its eyrie on a mountain ledge; one of Heinzl's rare oil paintings. The majority of his works are in watercolour, and include such studies as a family of flamingoes on their nest and Jungle Fowl seen in the Jungle.

Heinzl's work can be found in private and public collections internationally and is represented in such collections as the Museum of Natural History in Bonn, the Museum of Napa County, USA, and that of the late Duke of Bedford.

Heinzl does multiple sketches of each type of bird, capturing its movements and making notes about colour, habitat and other important factors. If he can, he'll do a field sketch using watercolours. He also studies and draws stuffed specimens in museums. At his home in Southern France he often picks up dead birds along the road, so he can examine them more closely. One thing he never does is work from a photograph. "It is just a fraction of a second of the life of the bird when the picture is taken, and the colours are always changing," he says. "I prefer to use my binoculars."

Heinzl works in what he terms a "very peculiar way" compared to other illustrators. "When I have a plan for the book, I put the birds on a page. I put the families of birds together and draw them in felt pen."

The felt pen outlines, which include habitat details, get blown up to about 60 percent, are copied onto transparent paper and then transferred to drawing paper. Each bird is painted separately, using watercolours, wash and acrylics. "The most important thing is not only the paint, but very good quality brushes," Heinzl explains.

Indar Pasricha, owner and curator of Indar Pasricha Fine Arts, said, "We are thrilled to welcome Hermann back to Connaught Street and showcase his immaculate observations of birds that can be seen in India. His accomplished work is not only anatomically correct they are individual portraits of the birds in their natural habitat."

For further information, images and a catalogue of the forthcoming Hermann Heinzl exhibition, contact Indar Pasricha Contemporary Arts, 22 Connaught Street, W2

www.ipcontemporary.com

For further information:

Indar Pasricha

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Notes to Editors

Hermann Heinzel has been enthralled by birds nearly all his life. After World War II, Heinzel's family moved from their native Poland to West Germany, leaving almost everything behind. For the 8 year Hermann, the only thing available in abundance was the nature that filled and surrounded his village. He was fascinated, and spent hours watching the wildlife all around him, especially birds.

'In the village, there was boy who has a bird book, and I wanted one as well,' Heinzel recalls at his home in Southern France. He didn't have a lot of resources, but he was resourceful. "I cut the ends of a newspaper and glued them together and despite having no coloured pens, in one way or another I made it look like a bird book."

The other boy wasn't able to lend Heinzel his bird book for him to copy, so he sketched the birds he saw about him. Heinzel is still drawing birds, only he is a world-renown illustrator who has followed his avian interests throughout India, Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, the Galapagos and North America and has his name on the outside of most of these books guides.

Indar Pasricha Contemporary Arts

Indar Pasricha has been one of London's leading dealers of Indian and South Asian art since 1978. The gallery has launched Indar Pasricha Contemporary Arts, which will be concentrating on contemporary art from south Asia. A series of exhibitions will be held to show that artists from south Asia have something very valuable, apart from considerable talent, to offer: they have a voice.

The gallery will also be exhibiting European artists and artists from the Americas who deal with images and themes from South Asia.

The historic links with Great Britain which have allowed South Asians to settle in the United Kingdom have enabled artists from these communities to assimilate the cultural mores of their new country and this has given an energy and vitality to their work. The gallery looks forward to be able to show works

by these exciting young artists.

Gallery opening hours:

Monday to Saturday 10.00am to 6.00pm