

Figuring out creativity

THOSE IN nine-to-five jobs often yearn for bohemian lifestyles. Now here's a bureaucrat who manages to balance both kinds of destinies. Sure, handling the same old balance sheets

and profit and loss accounts can get a little monotonous. So IAS officer Sangeeta Gupta uses her leisure time to give herself that magic element missing in her job. She flouted all set patterns and ingrained

notions of discipline to paint, paint, paint.

"That's what a constraining government job can do to you at times," she says. So here she was letting herself loose amidst colour palettes and wooden canvases, trying to live life all over again. Nudge her with too many questions and she replies, "It's the age of women doing multi-tasking, isn't it?"

It's been 15 years, and Sangeeta matures with every new show. Ink drawings, landscapes, women figures, Sangeeta loved painting figurative stuff. But her last show at Kumar Gallery just a few days ago says something new. The show has been marked as her most abstract work till date. "I have unknowingly shifted towards the abstract. It proves to be very therapeutic for me and I hope for my viewers as well," she adds.

Her recent paintings

reveal panoramic motifs, prints in the sand, fossils bearing testimony to the narrative of time, and recollections of fingerprints. You see myriad pairings, of cobalt and indigo, colours of earth and trees, reds,

Sangeet Gupta's recent show has been touted as the most abstract of her works till date.

mixed monochromes.

Sangeeta also does welfare work for women and street kids in her spare time but that's a different facet, she doesn't let it spill over her artwork. "My poetry (yes she writes poetry as well) is filled with social messages but I keep my art away from all that. Art is pure recreation for me. That's it." ■

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Sangeeta Gupta (above) and her work (right)

