

LEON MORROCCO

CHENNAI KOLKATA GOA





Holy Cow, Kolkata
pencil on paper 5¼ x 8¼ ins 14.5 x 21 cms

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4 - 20 November 2010

JOHN MARTIN GALLERY 38 ALBEMARLE STREET, LONDON W1S 4JG WWW.JMLONDON.COM

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Four Women Back to Back, Goa Market, 29th Jan 2010
pencil & oil pastel on paper 10½ x 11½ ins 27 x 39 cms

This is my second exhibition at John Martin's on India and my enthusiasm for that country continues unabated.

In recent years the subject matter that I like to paint in Europe has become increasingly hard to find. Affluence has inevitably led to a kind of visual standardisation - people are, on the whole, well-fed, cities and countryside well-maintained, highly organized and controlled, clean and tidy.

I do not wish poverty on anybody, but it is a fact that poverty in India results in a kind of unstructured pattern of crumbling buildings, flaking paintwork, walls that are depositories of all kinds of political and religious slogans, teeming street markets and public spaces shared by human beings and animals alike - in short, a kind of organic mess punctuated by notes of intense colour - all of which provides rich pickings for a painter.

The problem of painting India is one of selection - how to extract an idea from what is often organised chaos and then to find a formal solution on the canvas that will convey a sense of place without becoming over complicated or "busy" - the conundrum is that the more one simplifies the less it looks like India!

My answer to this problem is drawing. Three or four weeks of intensive, on-the-spot drawing, absorbing every kind of visual experience from burials at the Ghats in Varanasi, to street barbers in Kolkata, to temple elephants in Madurai. This process for me is an exhilarating method of building a vocabulary from which to develop a group of paintings.

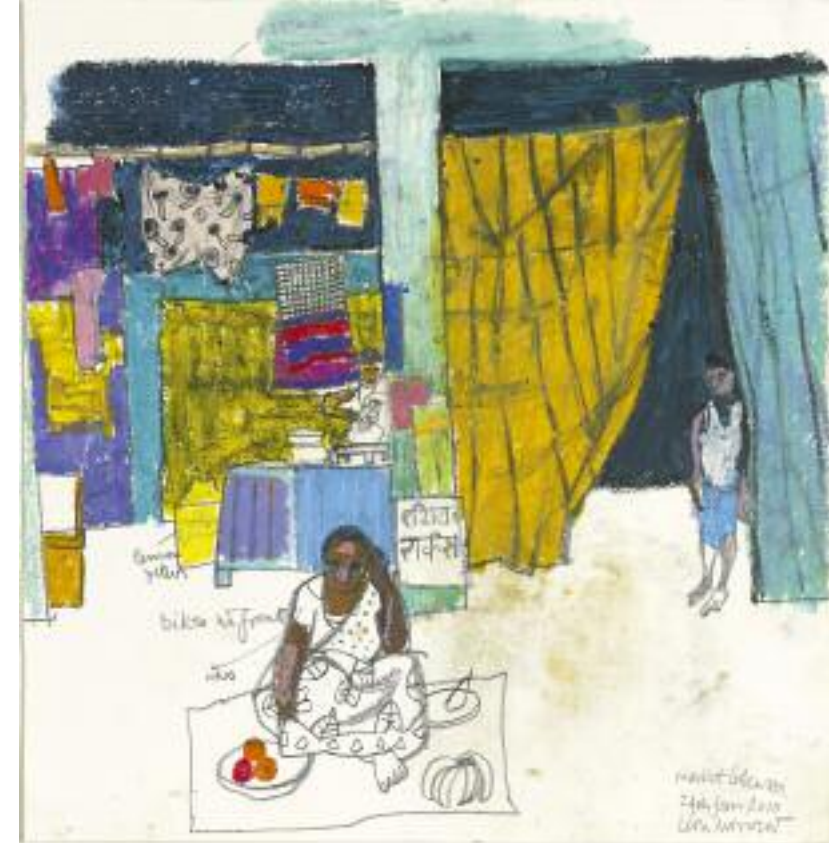
Leon Morrocco, 2010

Market Women with Fruit, Goa
oil on canvas 36 x 38 ins 91 x 96.5 cms





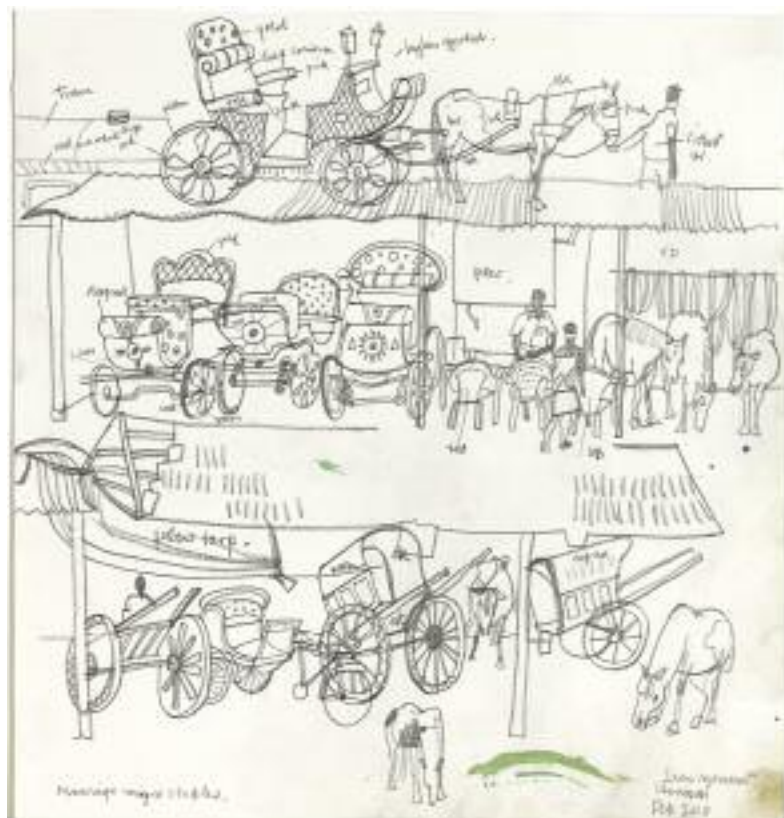
Fruit Market, Goa, 30th Jan 2010
pencil & oil pastel on paper 11½ x 12 ins 29 x 30.5 cms



Market Woman, Kolkata, 24th Jan 2010
pencil & oil pastel on paper 11½ x 12 ins 29 x 30.5 cms

Nap by the Marriage Carriages, Chennai
oil on canvas 26 x 38 ins 66 x 96.5 cms



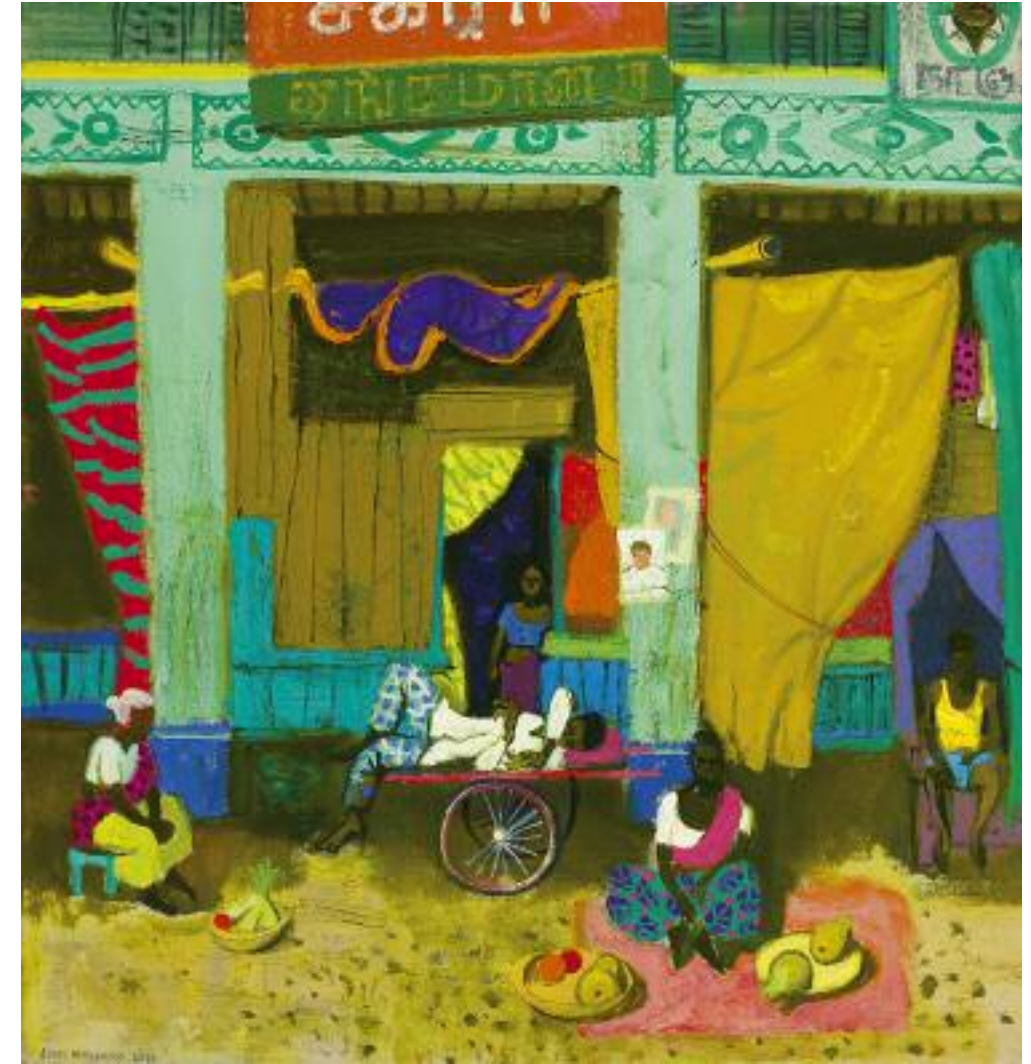


Marriage Carriages Stables
pencil on paper 11½ x 12 ins 29 x 30.5 cms



At the Stables, Chennai, 20th Feb 2010
pencil and oil pastel on paper 11½ x 12 ins 29 x 30.5 cms

Taking a Break, Kolkata
oil on canvas 30 x 28 ins 76 x 71 cms



Women at the Market, Goa
oil on canvas 20 x 24 ins 51 x 61 cms





Children's Roundabouts, Kolkata (triptych)
oil on canvas 48 x 144 ins 122 x 366 cms



Market, Kolkata
oil on canvas 24 x 30 ins 61 x 76 cms



Vijay's Kiosks, Chennai
oil on panel 8 x 16 ins 20 x 40.5 cms



Waiting Outside the Market, Mumbai
oil on panel 28 x 30 ins 71 x 76 cms





Raised Fruit Stalls, Goa, 30th Jan 2010
pencil on paper 11½ x 12 ins 29 x 30.5 cms



Market Stall, Kolkata, 24th Jan 2010
pencil and oil pastel on paper 11½ x 12 ins 29 x 30.5 cms

Market Women & Rooster, Goa
oil on canvas 24 x 30 ins 61 x 76 cms



Family in Benares
oil on panel 28 x 30 ins 71 x 76 cms



Women by Striped Awning, Mumbai
oil on panel 28 x 30 ins 71 x 76 cms

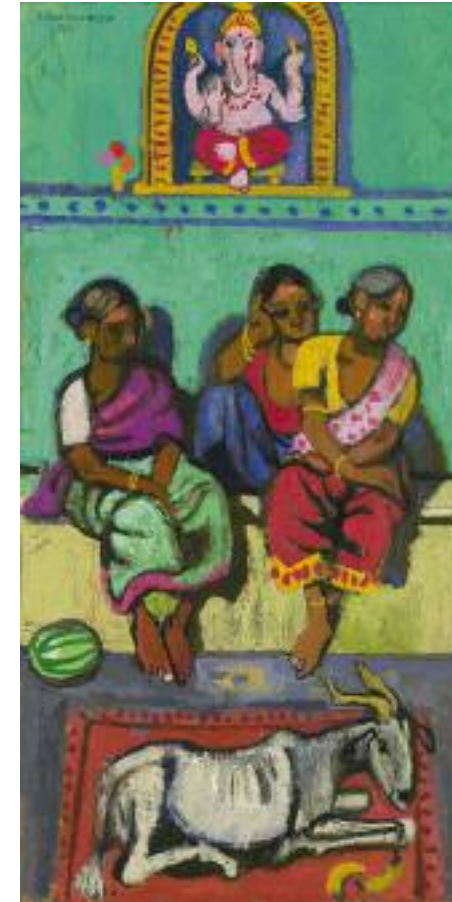




Man with Roundabout, Kolkata
oil on panel 28 x 30 ins 71 x 76 cms

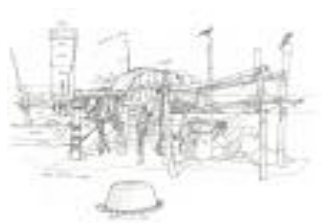


Three Women beneath Ganesh, Goa
oil on panel 16 x 8 ins 40.5 x 20 cms



Sleeping Market Boy, Kolkata
oil on panel 8 x 16 ins 20 x 41 cms





Fishermen & Goats, Marina Beach
oil on panel 8½ x 17 ins 21.5 x 43 cms

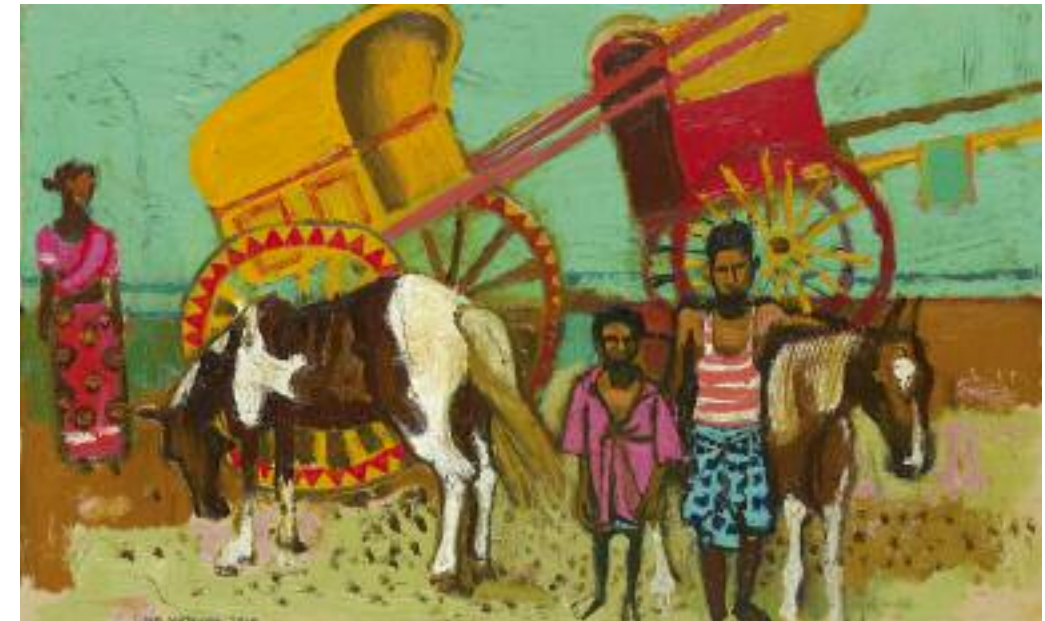


Two Holy Men with Mother & Child
oil on panel 10 x 16 ins 25.5 x 40.5 cms





At the Stables, Chennai
oil on panel 10 x 16 ins 25 x 40.5 cms



Market Street, Kolkata
oil on panel 9 x 17 ins 23 x 43 cms



Sleeping in a Market Cart, Goa
oil on panel 8 x 16 ins 20 x 40.5 cm





Fish Market Women, Goa
oil on panel 10 x 16 ins 25.5 x 40.5 cms

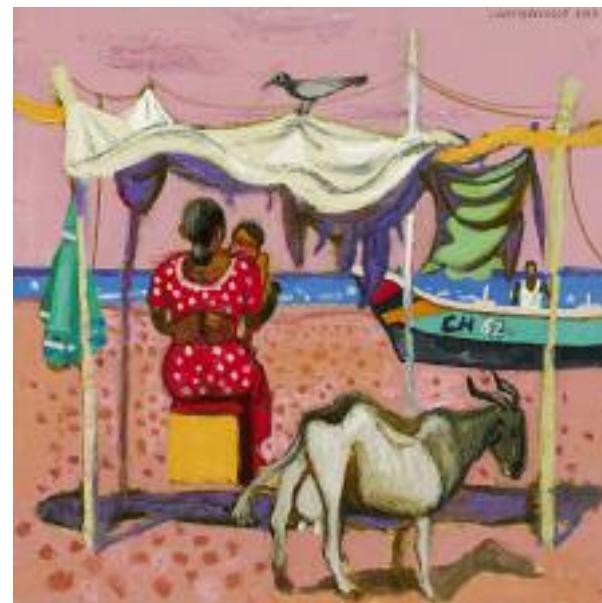


Fruit Stall, Goa

oil on panel 10 x 10 ins 25.5 x 25.5 cms



Mother & Baby, Chennai Beach
oil on panel 10 x 10 ins 25.5 x 25.5 cms



LEON MORROCCO ARSA RGI

Leon Morrocco was born in Edinburgh in 1942 and studied at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, The Slade, and Edinburgh College of Art. In 1968 he won an Italian government scholarship to study at the Accademia di Brera in Milan. He was lecturer in drawing and painting at Edinburgh College of Art from 1965-1968, accepting a similar post at Glasgow School of Art from 1969-1979.

In 1979 he moved to Australia as Head of the Department of Fine Art at the Chisholm Institute in Melbourne. He resigned in 1984 to devote all of his time to painting.

Leon Morrocco, who was elected an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy in 1971, had eight solo exhibitions in the UK before moving to Australia where he had a series of highly successful exhibitions in both Melbourne and Sydney.

In 1991, to herald his permanent move back to Britain, Leon held his first British Exhibition for twelve years; his paintings in oil, gouache and pastel, featured landscapes and still lifes from a year of traveling through Spain, France and Australia. His works reveal both his outstanding draughtsmanship and his passion for colour. In 1998 a monograph on his life and work, Leon Morrocco: Journeys and Observations was published (for details please contact the gallery).

His work can be found in many notable public and private collections, including The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, H.R.H Princess Margaret, The Scottish Arts Council, Leeds Art Gallery, The Nuffield Foundation, and Queensland Art Gallery.



Kathakali Dancer at Chennai Arts Centre
oil on panel 10 x 10 ins 25.5 x 25.5 cms

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2010Chennai, Kolkata, Goa
John Martin Gallery
- 2009From Mumbai to Madurai,
John Martin of London
- 2009Strade di Roma, Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2007Morrocco's Morocco at Art London,
John Martin of London
- 2007The Sketchbooks & Paintings of
Leon Morrocco, Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2006Havana, John Martin Martin of London
- 2005The Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2003Roman Paintings, John Martin of London
& John Martin Chelsea
- 2000Leon Morrocco, John Martin of London
- 1999The Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1998Roger Billcliffe Fine Art, Glasgow,
John Martin of London
- 1997Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1996John Martin of London
- 1995Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1994Loomshop Gallery, Fife
Roger Billcliffe Fine Art, Glasgow
- 1993Portland Gallery, London
Roger Billcliffe Fine Art, Glasgow
Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1992Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1991Portland Gallery, London
- 1989Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1986Australian Galleries, Melbourne
Bonython-Meadmore Gallery, Sydney

- 1984Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 1982Stuart Gertsman Galleries, Melbourne
- 1979Glasgow School of Art
- 1978Stirling Gallery, Greenock Arts Centre
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow
- 1976University of St. Andrews
- 1975The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1973The Loomshop Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1971The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1965Douglas & Foulis Gallery, Edinburgh
French Institute Gallery, Edinburgh
Traverse Theatre Gallery, Edinburgh

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- The Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art
- Scottish Arts Council
- Leeds City Art Gallery
- Lillie Art Gallery
- Australian Government Collection

PUBLICATIONS

- Leon Morrocco: Journeys and Observations
(ISBN 1 902761 006) London, 1998



Ox, Kolkata

pencil on paper 4 x 5¼ ins 10 x 14.5 cms