Department of Fine Arts
Sarojini Naidu School of Arts & Communication
University of Hyderabad

Entrance Examination 2011
(Only for Art History & Visual Studies specialization)

Time: 10 am – 12pm (2 hrs)  Total: 80 marks

Both section I & II are compulsory

Section I

Answer any four of the following five questions. All questions carry equal marks (15 marks each). The answers will be evaluated for your familiarity with visual material, independent and innovative thinking, aptitude for visual analysis and recall, and the ability to present your ideas in a clear and effective manner.

1. One of the primary concerns of architecture is the design and conceptualization of three-dimensional space. Architects throughout the ages have experimented with a wide range of technologies, materials and media in order to design spaces that could suit various needs and functions for their buildings. Use any three well-known buildings or monuments from India (or abroad) to analyze their presentation and use of space. Tell us why you think that these buildings deserve to be famous and historically important in the world of architecture.

2. The history of art shows us that every tradition of painting evolves within its own circuit of ideas and approaches to visual material. Each tradition has its own rules, aesthetic criteria, systems of learning and apprenticeship. Discuss using at least three well-known images to systematically compare the attitudes of Indian, Western and Chinese paintings to the depiction of nature and landscape.

3. In 2010, the eminent Indian artist M.F. Hussain accepted the citizenship from Qatar. He faced
numerous obscenity charges in India (which he left in 2006) after nude paintings of Hindu goddesses that he did in the 1970s were brought to light, spurring protests, vandalisms and death threats. How should controversies involving issues of artistic freedom, freedom of speech, creative license be understood and approached in a country like India? Use the incident of M. F. Hussain to articulate your opinion on the issue of artistic freedom and censorship.

4. Write a review of any film that you may have seen recently, or of a film that has moved you deeply. Analyze the roles of the storyboard (narrative), art direction, sound play, editing, actors, and director in the overall impact of the film.

5. Sculpture inhabits space in all its dimensions. Whether it is an integral part of an architectural structure, or a free-standing piece in landscape or whether placed in a ritual context, a sculpture is in continuous conversation with its immediate surroundings. Choose any three well-known sculptural images to discuss the relationship between form and function in these examples. Analyze the images for their choice of material, location, size, theme and style.

Section II
(Answer all, each carries 4 marks)

1. Name four artists of the Progressive Artists’ Group of Bombay.

2. Which series of bronze statues were recently vandalized in Andhra Pradesh? Why?

3. Name four manuscripts that were illustrated during the reign of the Mughal dynasty.

4. Where was the 2011 Art Summit held?

5. Who was the director of the film Peepli Live?