



[Uncovering The War](#)

Shekhar Gupta



Art Connect

EXPRESS FEATURES SERVICE : Fri Feb 24 2012, 02:34 hrs

Every time somebody would talk about peace and bridging distances, I would instantly think of art. For me, it is the only way to reach out to people and bring them on one platform," remarked Sonia Dhillon Marty, Director-Founder, Dhillon-Marty Foundation, as she arrived at the Government College of Art, Chandigarh, to announce the Contemporary Artist Residencies Programme between Japan, the US, India, Pakistan and France. She is now looking for artists from Punjab for this programme.

The selected artist would work like a cultural ambassador of India and get a chance to build relationships with art galleries and collectors, thus contributing to their professional career, said Marty.

"Funded by grants from the Dhillon-Marty Foundation, these residencies are of a one-month duration," she added. The artist could be working in the field of visual or media art and should be over 30 years of age to be eligible. "We are looking for fresh faces, who can present the traditional folk culture of Punjab on an international platform," Marty said.

An artist, curator and art producer, Marty was born in Punjab and says the state holds a special place in her heart. She was accompanied by a 24-year-old artist from Paris, Marc Johnson, who is showcasing his work in India as well as documenting the colours of Punjab.