do! YOUR WEEKEND FIX

CRAZY DAISY

USP: The studio offers free consultancy services. You can discuss designs and the counselling session means there is less chance of regretting your choice afterwards. The place offers tidy cover ups too. They also offer black and greealistic tattoos.

PRICE RANGE: ₹2,500-₹90,000

LOCATION: D-1, Defence Colony, Tel: 9910236996

MEHAR CHAND MARKET HIPSTER HANGOUT

The street in the market which houses the store CMYK

secretdelhi
An ocassional series that takes a fresh look at Delhi's iconic markets

Srishti Jha
srishti.jha@hindustantimes.com

QUAINT APPEAL With the advent of niche stores and cafes the Lodhi colony hangout is becoming quite serious about chic

With high profile neighbours like Khan Market and Defence Colony market, it is easy to overlook Lodhi Colony's six-decade-old Meher Chand Market with its quaint appeal and retro charm. In the last few months, however, Meherchand Market has been undergoing a quiet change. Much of this has to do with the advent of niche fashion stores like Khadi Line and Ruh and the appearance of The Altitude Store and the Bagel Café.

With shoppers now considering it the next Khan Market, retailers have begun to realise that the area which abuts Lodhi Colony, Jorbagh and Golf Links is rich with possibilities. And so among the linear row of bleak shops that includes unremarkable groceries, tailor shops, tenthouses, and mobile rechargers, you will now find bright add-ons like CMYK, Soma Marigold and Play Clan, which offer quirky, charming buys for your wardrobe and home. The area that once had as many as 75 tailoring shops is now much sought after by designers. Masaba Gupta's store that sells innovative saris and other attire is located here as is Ruchika Modie's Katan Weaves that sells handwoven saris and Anuradha Ramam's outlet that retails ikkat kurtas.

The market is also a delight for the house proud who can choose from the range of home accessories at décor stores. The place isn't short on gourmet delights either. Stop by at The Cheese Ball to try out a variety of cheeses before moving on to the French restaurant, Chez Nini. The transformation of the area hasn't gone unnoticed. "The Lodhi Road market has started getting its due. We see a lot of new shops coming up every month," says Rinki Pradhan, manager at one of the market's new showrooms who believes Meher Chand Market has begun to exude the hip vibe of a Hauz Khas Village. Market association president Ashok Kumar Sakhuja, says, "This market is becoming more prominent and with designers like Ritu Kumar setting up their stores here, it will get the attention that a posh market deserves."

theweekendfixguide

From food to furnishings, there's something for everyone here. Here's our pick of the new 'It' spots

CHEZ NINI

USP: Conceptualised by Montreal-born Nira Singh, Chez Nini whose food and interiors are infused with joie de vivre serves up the perfect blend of French food. Here's what you can feast on Jewish Khallah fermented breads, pork belly, duck burger and a selection of desserts like lemon marine pie and carrot cake.

PRICE RANGE: ₹250-₹700

LOCATION: 79 & 80,Meher Chand Market, Tel: 49050665

NOURISH ORGANICS

USP: Here's where you can stock up on a variety of organic food and forget all about starving to stay fit. You can buy apple cinnamon, anjeer amaranth and ginger clove bars. You can also gorge on healthy pizzas made of buckwheat, walnuts and pumpkin seeds and follow that up with seed mix-based smoothies tinged with honey and ginger.

PRICE RANGE: ₹60-₹2,500

LOCATION: 30, Meher Chand Market, Tel: 49051184

ARTISAN LUXE

USP: The interior and lifestyle store offers a unique and vibrant range for your home that includes unusual furniture, coloured shaded bulb holders, creeper votives, fish-shaped chopping boards, chandeliers fashioned from entangled wires and ceramic painted jars, among many other funky things to liven up your space.

PRICE RANGE: ₹500-₹15,000

LOCATION: 56, Meher Chand Market, Tel: 49051158

RAJ K RAJ / HT PHOTOS

KUNAFA

USP: The Arabic confectionery run by Nasser Barakat from Palestine stands out for its distinct offerings. The in-house Syrian chefs conjure up delicious baklavas, kunafa rolls and warbat istas. This is also the perfect place to enjoy a wide range of Turkish and Arabic teas and coffees and pick up Jericho dates stuffed with dry fruit and Arab ittars and incense.

PRICE RANGE: ₹500-₹3,000

LOCATION: 70, Meher Chand Market, Tel: 49050644

pick of the week

ATTEND

Emotional quest

Art Spotting III brings to you an exhibition of new works by a group of new emerging artists from across India. The vanguard collection offers glimpses of the shifting terrains that point to the direction in which Indian art is heading as it moves apace in tune with the changing India and the networked world. Ranging from the personal to public, the artists engage with emotional- spiritual- socio- economic and political domains. The work in all sorts of modes and media is as varied as the young artists themselves

At Gallery Art Positive, July 10 onwards.For more details Call at: 8595157484

Glimpses of changing Indian art

Art for real

Art depicts reality in all its philosophical forms and that is what the debut exhibition titled *Distorted Liberation* by Aditya Vikram Sengupta depicts. The work comprises an expanse of mutilated forms and grotesque figures, nude postures, charcoal drawings on paper. The work is reflective of the artist's interest in humanism but also spectacle, sex and violence that is so pervasive in today's media and real world.

The work reflects humanism

Where: Art Positive Gallery II, F213/B, Lado Sarai, Old MB Road, July10-August 11, Call: 9891306373

The varied world of women

If you would want to check out the upcoming young art scene in India, then the group art exhibition *Allegories* can be one option to check out. The show attempts to put together the various sensibilities of six young women contemporary artists. Coming from diverse backgrounds the artists share a unique sensitivity to their surroundings and a keen observation of the same. They, each in her own way have taken a closer look at their socio-cultural and immediate surroundings and reacted sharply. One looks at women's place in society as in contrast to what it was in the ancient past, another talk about issues of displacement.

The work depicts sensitivity

Where: Art Konsult .23 Hauz Khas Village, July 6 to July 28, 10.00 am to 7.00 pm, Call: 26531819

Across the age barriers

The exhibition titled *Art for everyone* is a group showing of paintings and sculptures of upcoming and senior established artists in the country. The works have a thoughtful quality heightened by the hues that form the palette. The mix of artists is interesting as the string that binds them cut across the barrier of age and seniority. Keeping with the show's theme, these are affordable artworks for every household. Some of the participating artists are Ashok Dixit, Biplab Biswas, Jignesh Panchal, Laxman Aelay, Manash Ranjan Jena, Manoj Agarwal and Rajat Nandi amongst others.

Art in its modern context

Where: Pearl Art Gallery, 185/K/3 Ground Floor behind Hotel Crown Plaza, July 6 -August 6, Timings: 10.00 am-7.00pm, Call 981864257

LISTEN

Soulful strains of melody

In this world of rock and jazz music if you too find the strains of flute music soulful then you must check out an the third chapter of *Raasrang World Flute Festival 2012*. An effort by Krishna Prerna Foundation to bring rarities of Flute at one stage delegates from worldwide will participate at premises. The theme of Rasrang World Flute Festival- Love Peace Water - will be depicted through special artworks created by inspired designers and artists from all over the world, celebrating the culture.

Celebrating the flute music

Where: Lotus Temple, August 9-11, Time: 10:30 am - 6: 30 pm, Call 981004274

also playing

IN THE MIDDLE OF CHAOS

A treat to watch

Aashim designs cover for Penguin Books, Nalin is a shutterbug and clean energy enthusiast, Rishab and Samia are graphic designer and an art director for Tehelka respectively, have come together to showcase their other side of their life. These four friends thought of taking a break from their regular mundane office jobs and decided to put together an illustration and photo exhibition, *A Return to Circles* with an idea of having a good time, just for one day. "Since these artworks were created with good music as a catalyst, we would like you to experience it in the same way - definitely expect live music—from Pratap Aditya," says Ashim Raj, one of the exhibitors. Go check out the exhibition if you are keen to discover a whole new creative world. The exhibitors will be showcasing both their published as well as unpublished works at the showing.

Where: The Attic, 36 Regal Building, Connaught Place, July 21, 11 am – 7 pm, Contact 9560090795

CINEMATIC CONFLUENCE

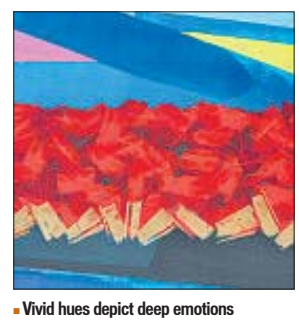
Osian's-Cinefan, a film festival from the Osian's Film House Division has come back after a sabbatical of two years in association with Govt of NCT of Delhi. Film connoisseurs could watch the 12th edition of the festival which is being devoted on the Asian and Arab cinema. Apart from this a section has been dedicated to cinema of intolerance, a competitive section that will include that respond to or deal with the intolerance of modern times.

July 27 -August 5, 9.30 am to 9.45 pm, screenings in Siri Fort Complex, and Blue Frog; Contact 41743166

A glimpse into Arab world

EVOKING NOSTALGIA

Painted in the vivid, red colours of Semul and Palaash, Manoj Kachangal's voice against terrorism and corruption surfaces in a solo show titled *Sublime Lands*. Kachangal's paintings are bright, textured landscapes and yet they are not just realistic renditions of what he sees around him. A viewer would feel that he has seen these landscapes somewhere ; either in a real journey or in the flights of fancy. These landscapes evoke nostalgia and yet, the more one moves closer towards these enigmatic lands, they seem to transform from the mundane to sublime.



Vivid hues depict deep emotions

Where: Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre, July 21- 25,

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