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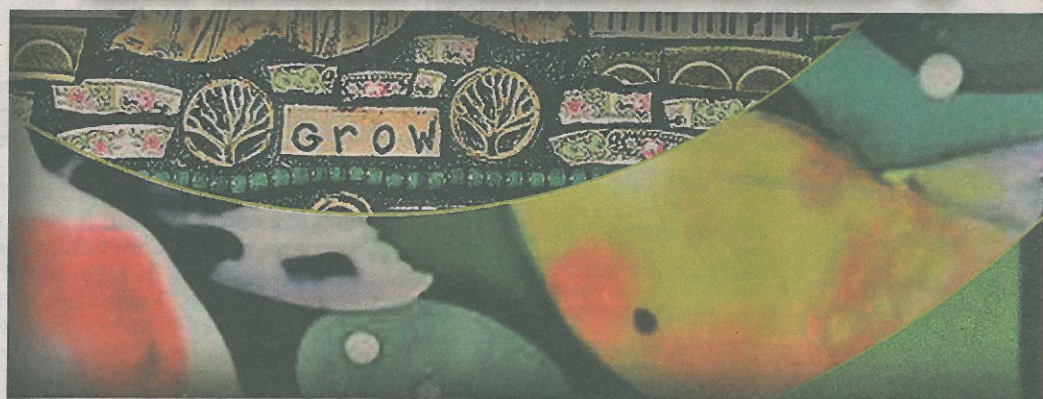


Artist K.P. Singh
will return to
the art fair for
the 40th time



BROAD RIPPLE ART FAIR

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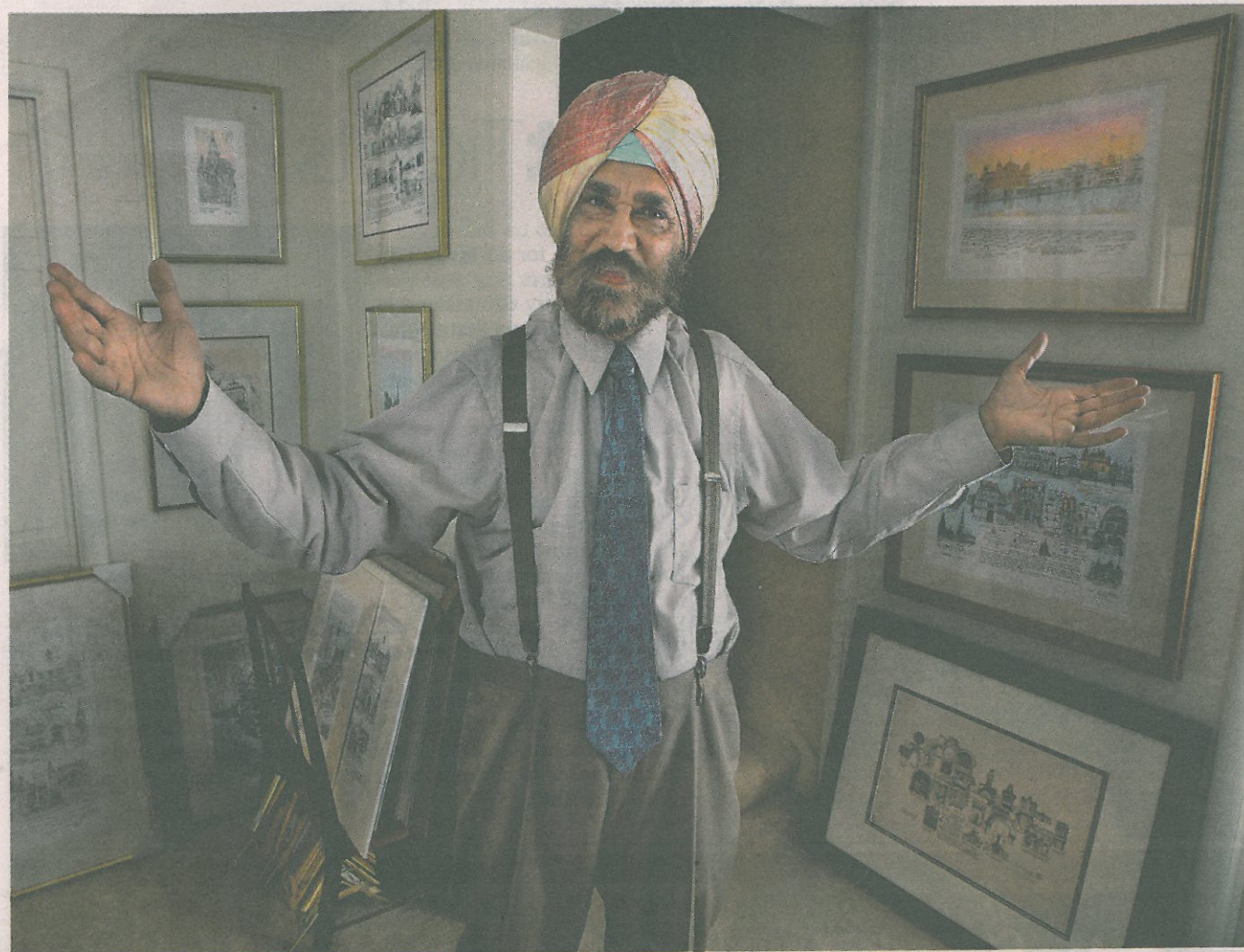
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FRANK ESPICH / The Star

K.P. Singh

Booth 44

"My works sold at the fair have traveled the length and breadth of this nation over the last 40 years," Indianapolis artist K.P. Singh says, reminiscing about the 40 years he's participated in the Broad Ripple Art Fair.

"I'm selling my artwork to the third generation in the same family there now, so that's remarkable to have that support, that love, that continued interest. It's amazing."

Singh, 70, says he stacked six of his now well-known pen and ink architectural drawings against a curb during the inaugural fair, which was on the old Canal parking deck in Broad Ripple.

"There were no formal displays, no formal tents," he says. "At the end of that day, I sold all those six pieces, so I said, this looks like a fun thing to do and here I am, 40 years later."

Since then, Singh has exhibited his works at the Smithsonian, authored the book "The Art and Spirit of K.P. Singh," and has work in collections in 25 countries.

Educated in architecture and city planning, he's inspired by the spirit and innovations that embody a great building or place.

"You will see some favorite landmarks, and you will see some landmarks from faraway places from around the world," Singh says of his pieces depicting, for a couple of examples, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Golden Temple in India.

Limited-edition and original works of his also will be available at the fair, which Singh refers to as, "A creative village."

"It's gone through tremendous transformation in its beauty, setting, layout and support. It's grown in many different ways, dimensions. Being an eyewitness has been an honor."

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

K.P. Singh has been one of the premier artists at the Broad Ripple Art Fair since its inception 40 years ago.

ART IS FAIR GAME

By Mary Lee Pappas

Star correspondent

When the gates open Saturday to kick off the 40th year of the Broad Ripple Art Fair, it will mark the first time Carter Wolf has attended the festivities as executive director of the Indianapolis Art Center, the event host.

"I'm excited to see the product because every year is different, said Wolf, who has been a fair patron for several years. "I want visitors to enjoy the total environment; that includes artists, the park, the beautiful spring day."

Known as one of the best art fairs in the Midwest, Broad Ripple's event is on the campus of the Art Center, which includes ARTSPARK, a 12-acre sculpture park designed by renowned architect and Broad Ripple native Michael Graves.

This year's fair features 222 artists (including 67 first-time participants) from across the country. They have created one-of-a-kind and limited-edition pieces representing a variety of media. Live music and children's events are included.

But the two-day event really is about the artists.

Here's a look at several of those participating in this year's fair, along with some facts about the annual event.

40th Broad Ripple Art Fair

When: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Where: Indianapolis Art Center, 820 E. 67th St.

Tickets: \$15 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-12 at the gate, free for ages 2 and younger. For more information, visit www.indplsartcenter.org.

What's new?

To celebrate the fair's 40th year, patrons who visit the Art Center's booth on Saturday will get a wristband for free Sunday admission.

Manpower

Art Center executive director Carter Wolf says nearly 4,300 staff hours are spent in preparation for the fair, which uses 400 volunteers.

Not just art

In addition to the works of art, 38 local food and drink vendors will be on hand, including Artie Boyz Bar BQ, Broad Ripple Brewpub and Hubbard & Cravens Coffee Co. Cultural booths, four music stages, performances inside the center and a children's area called Kid's World are all part of the fun.

Getting there

Free parking and shuttle buses are available at Broad Ripple Park, Broad Ripple High School and the Glendale Town Center lot along Rural Street. Secure bicycle parking is available at the center entrance off the Monon Trail.

Art Fair no-nos

Pets, coolers and outside food and drinks aren't permitted. Neither are in-line skates, bikes and skateboards.