



SERIES' - ISOLATION  
@silentstoryteller\_art

*Isolation*

- By Dheeraj Kumar

Who am I when no one is looking?

The current climate of our world has brought about words like 'quarantine' and 'isolation' into common parlance. Ironically so, the more aggressively we isolate during the pandemic, the sooner we can hope to put it behind us and re-join the cacophony of the society.

To some, its loneliness, and to others, it's solitude.

A time of reprieve where one can shed the Armor one wear to be able to face the world. This is the safe space- to just be, recuperate from the clingy world-weariness. A place to dream and to breathe.

This work - ISOLATION is an 'outsider's/viewer's intimate glimpse into the 'bare' soul of the creator/ artist, which is at once charged with exhilaration and teeming with life as it is riddled with an inexplicable turmoil brought upon by isolation.

Who am I when no one is looking?

Am I just a body, an object of sex contorted with desires? Or am I an extended love song- that wants to break free? Am I the Gay, the Queer, the Sublime or the Vile?

Or do I just want to feel the sensation of the skin- free from the we fight of arbitrations.

The artist circumvents the linear narrative in favour of intangible invocations of emotions. The work represents an overwhelmingly visceral desire to play with human bodies to achieve abstraction. It aspires to exemplify the artist's deep-seated desire to break the chains of his upbringing, the boundaries of the social construct he was raised in. It depicts his personal revolution, which is to shatter the constricting barriers that tried to enslave and conquer him. He wants to fully embrace and revel in his raw, authentic Self with all its avarices and frustrations without the fake veneer of propriety and with a primal rectitude that is true to his essence.



SERIES – ISOLATION

ENCLOSED, TRAPPED, MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL DISORDERS OR BEHAVIOURS, ANXIETY, DEPRESSION, SELF HARMING, SUICIDAL TENDENCIES, LOW SELF ESTEEM, LOW SELF CONFIDENCE, AGGRESSION, WITHDRAWAL FROM PEOPLE AND ACTIVITIES.

### About the Artist ....

Dheeraj Kumar hails from Muzzaffarpur, Bihar and is a trained fashion designer turned photographer and artist. He aspires to define with his lenses, his personal approach towards life, beauty and art. Dheeraj is inspired by artists like Frida Kahlo, Robert Mapplethorpe and Henry Moore.

Anonymous male bodies have been a constant motif in his art. He uses the body as a canvas over which he experiments by superimposing different styles of ornamentations- ranging from botanical floral drawings to masks and markings inspired by the art of Rangoli. Dheeraj draws from his own experiences of the human body to represent it untethered by the burden of rigid gender conventions imposed by society and his own cultural upbringing.

He exposes, through elaborate staging and meticulous contortions, the landscapes of the human body and the many hidden nooks and crannies that carry traces of untapped and concealed emotions. The body becomes the subject and the object in his work- rendered into abstraction, reminiscent of organic rocks and boulders but somehow still retaining its 'human-ness' albeit in an unsettlingly intimate way that provokes the viewer's primal instinct to touch and experience the sensory pleasure of bare skin.

