

# The Still Life Paintings of Careen Langstieh

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The small number of works in this pleasant exhibit truly allowed visitors to admire the simplicity in life, by being bold and dramatic. Her paintings caught the attention of not only the Contemporary Art lovers but also viewers of different age groups. Her paintings connected to each individual in their own way, be it pleasing or repulsive.

Careen showcased her intriguing art work at Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong. Visitors experienced the beautifully captured stills from daily activities which are usually taken for granted, but were noticed and appreciated here.

The artist captured an activity that is very commonly seen on the streets of Shillong, she depicted it by showing hands and their different positions while peeling the beetle nut, making this simple task look so beautiful and dramatic.

Another eye catching piece was that of a woman playing with puppets. She explained the painting as her controlling the events that happen in her life. She explained it as being the masters of our own destiny. The painting captured the playful emotion of the puppeteer and the puppets and a cat as an observer.

Her wrap series which showed the after use of newspaper was well composed with the subtle use of watercolours. She explained the series saying that she wanted to show how scrap newspaper could be used again in different ways like wrapping a small statue or peeling beetle nut on it. What was fascinating was how Careen managed to make the newspaper look realistic.

Careen Langstieh exhibited a burst of colours and extraordinary life in her paintings. The exhibition did not have a particular theme to it, for the artist did not want to limit herself to a particular theme. This exhibition was her collection of still life paintings.