



She can be best described as a crowned lady with an ever-smiling face. Sometimes you'll find her walking besides you or you may catch her smiling mischievously on the billboard and posters. She might become the talk-of-the-town. Travelling across the globe is the only thing she does and that is why she is referred to as *The Wanderer*.

Her eyes are closed with a zip and she is painted in bright red, orange and yellow. She has given her travelling a miss for few days and is at Gallery Exhibit 320, DLF Place, Saket. If you happen to drop by at the gallery, you might meet its creator Siddharth Choudhary.

The artist explains of this happy character that earlier existed in his thoughts and now has a form and is an integral part of his sculptures, paintings and digital artworks.

"I used to think of a lady who is always smiling, is not concerned about the happenings around her and is so much into herself that she doesn't bother to even open her eyes. She is hardly connected to the mundane issues and problems that we keep discussing," said the artist, who created this character while spending few years in Paris.

Siddharth has always been travelling, and he says that this is one common trait that he shares with the character of his imagination. "I wanted to make her travel across the globe and spread happiness. Also, when I say that she keeps travelling I want to stress on the fact that she is not bound by any regional boundaries. She is just a human being who does not belong to any specific region, caste or creed. Therefore, if you notice her features, they

The lady with a red face

SIDDHARTH CHOUDHARY has created a 'happy character' out of his imagination. The form with a smiling face can be a part of any one's life



are very common, only the crown on her head might give a few British colonial reference. The crown also signifies that she is the queen of her own mind and soul. She looks for happiness within herself and doesn't look for the company in anyone else," shared he.

The artist also said that the viewers are open to make their own perceptions and stories of the face.

Siddharth, who earlier did paintings, sculpture and digital art shows in Delhi and Mumbai, said that the character has always been part of his art world.

"When I do photography, I place the lady's face digitally in the photographs. I went to rundown house in Berlin, which was full of graffiti works. I took some pictures and then made the face a part of those pictures. Similarly, I was travelling in a metro in Paris and saw the posters. I shot them and made the face a part of those posters," said Siddharth and added that the only reason why the lady's eyes are shut with the zip is to make it very definite.

On the use of bright colours in his art, he said, "I am a self-taught artist and the common colours like the red, orange, blue and yellow, are the colours that I understand and relate to."

But why has he not given any name to the character? "She can be anyone — your friend, a colleague or an acquaintance. She can be somebody that you saw and the face remained in your mind. So I want people to relate with her. Giving her a name means giving her a definite identity, which I don't want," said he.

The exhibition will continue till March 3.