

## SUNIL PADWAL

Born in Mumbai, India.

Lives and works in Mumbai.

### Selected Exhibitions

2008

*Myopia*, solo show, Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai, India.

*The Journey, Indiart 2008*, New York Academy of Art, New York, USA.

2006

*Contemporary Indian Art*, The Chapel Gallery, Singapore.

*Untitled - River*, Manhattan, New York, USA.

### Artist Statement

*Still lives* - a part of a series of acrylic on wood

This collection of photorealist imagery is culled out from actual journalistic photographs that have appeared in the media. The artist approaches the images with a fresh eye, reframing and re-contextualising their relevance. In context to the exhibition that speaks of the fractured existence of women in Iraq and Kashmir, the images evoke a new meaning. Sourced from UN advertisements, where the images were published as an appeal to donate for earthquake victims in Kashmir, the irony is stinging.

*\*Public Enemy Number 1*

Terrorism as a phenomena will probably never go away. I think it is very essential to know and understand the roots of violence and the impact it has on our life. It's really sad that religion plays a major role in most forms of violence in our state.

*Still Lives*: This series is a deliberate attempt to focus on a gender who is most suffered in the name of terrorism, she is the wife of a terrorist, wife of a civilian, wife of a soldier. We have seen her so many times in print, we know her story, we try to ignore her cause we think we can't change a thing. I have selected few famous and few unknown faces who stares at us asking us questions, though deep inside her she knows that we are as helpless as she is.

It's a disturbing experience to see the way she is staring at us, as if we are walking all over her as if she literally doesn't exists, A life that really is still which ironically makes a good-looking prop for a still life painting.