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Vadodara artist sculpts India's heritage on Italy's Caorle beach

Prashant Rupera | TNN | Updated: Jul 5, 2018, 12:55 IST



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Sangam Vankhede with the artwork on marble in Caorle, the town overlooking the Adriatic Sea

VADODARA: A 7 x 6.5 foot art work on marble stone dedicated to Indian heritage sites is now on permanent display at Caorle, a well-known historic town overlooking the Adriatic sea in Venice, Italy.

This art work has been carved out by Sangam Vankhade, 29-years-old young artist from Vadodara who was amongst three sculptors from across the globe selected for the

prestigious 'Scogliera Viva-Sculpturing the sea' competition.

Sangam, who is a native of Rameshra, a small village in Halol taluka of Panchmahals district, has not only created a miniature version of Indian heritage sites on the beach of Caorle which is being promoted as "an open-air museum that can be visited 365 days a year" but his work has been credited as the best sculpture by the jury that judged the competition. selected sculptures are invited to create art works under the eyes of citizens, tourists and visitors to transform the rocks of the breakwater cliff into real works of art.

This year, as many as 200 sculptures from across the globe had submitted their entries to take part in this competition. And Sangam was the only who was selected to represent India as well as South Asia.

"I had presented the idea to create a miniature version of the rich heritage sites which India is known for. The jury selected my entry and I was invited to Venice for ten days to take part in the competition," said Sangam, who along with Germany's Markus Wuste and Italy's Federico Ellade Peruzzotti, was amongst the three sculptures selected for the competition, said.

"Although the competition was for ten days, I finished my art work in nine days," said Sangam, whose art work focused on preserving the memory of Indian heritage sites and attempted to bring out the neglect the sites are suffering at the hands of urbanization.

Sangam, who completed his masters from M S University's famed Faculty of Fine Arts in 2013-14, has been sculpting on the theme of heritage since quite some time.

Last year in Ahmedabad, he had conducted a solo show where he had displayed his art works on Gujarat's famous stepwells including the 'Rani Ki Vav', 'Adalaj Ni Vav' among others.

"My idea is to spread message on the priceless heritage monuments that are facing neglect need to be preserved," he said.

The competition in Italy off course provided a different world view to this young artist, who has bagged Euros 2,000 as cash prize.

"Hailing from a small village, it was a great experience for me to mingle with well-known artist and being witness to how art is promoted globally," he said.

A week on, no clues about robbers' gang

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vadodara: The gang that that carried out a Rs 6 lakh robbery in Karelibaug seems to be from another state, police said. Cops investigating the case said the gang's movements after the robbery and their investigation over the last few days point to the accused being from another state.

"We have an image of one of the accused's face, which we matched with our records. The face doesn't match any history-sheeter. Also, from the way the gang moved around the city after the robbery, it seems that they were from

another state," said an official at Karelibaug police station.

"They must have hired a local person to conduct the recce, while planning the robbery. From how they first stole the car and then chose the robbery site, they must have had local inputs. We are working on the case and will crack it soon," a police official said. Police have formed teams and sent them to various other cities for the investigation. Investigators are also working on fingerprints found in the car used in the robbery.

On June 28, a gang of three persons attacked Ankit Thakur, an employee of a

company that fills cash in ATMs. The trio arrived at the spot where the cash delivery van had stopped, near Spring Hall Complex at Karelibaug, to refill cash in the HDFC ATM.

When Thakur was walking to the ATM booth, one of them snatched the bag full of cash from Thakur and the other two attacked him. The guard accompanying the van opened fire but the accused managed to flee. Thakur was stabbed by one of the accused in his stomach and hand. The getaway car was also involved in a minor accident later. Police found the car on Fatehpura-Bhandwada Road the next day, where it was ostensibly abandoned by the accused.

DAYLIGHT HEIST

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Prashant.Rupera
@timesgroup.com

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Scogliera Viva is a biennial international outdoor



Sangam Vankhade with his artwork that he created with marble which will now be on display at open-air museum in Italy

sculpture competition where selected sculptures are invited to create art works under the eyes of citizens, tourists and visitors to transform the rocks of the breakwater cliff into real works of art.

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