



## CONTENTS

Editorial	05
<b>Jyoti Mishra</b>	
Popular Geopolitics and Hollywood Biblical Epics in post 9/11 America: Interrogating American Propaganda in <i>Exodus: Gods and Kings</i>	07
<b>Chandrakant Kamble &amp; Santosh Kumar Biswal</b>	
Portrayal of Women in Bollywood Item Songs	21
<b>Gauthami Venu Nair</b>	
<i>Bharat Nari</i> in Military Uniform: Indian Celluloid and the Strategic Preservation of the Metanarrative	31
<b>Hashmina Habeeb</b>	
Female Bonding Depicted in Bollywood Women's Cinema: A Reading of <i>Parched</i>	38
<b>Rani Alex</b>	
Contouring the "Excesses": Body Politics and Disputable Depictions in Mollywood	44
<b>B. Hariharan</b>	
Born again Fictions and the Birthmark <i>in mediis rebus</i>	50
<b>Joby Joseph &amp; Catherin Edward</b>	
Re-Encounter with José Saramago's <i>Blindness</i> in the Wake of COVID-19 Pandemic	58
<b>S. Manoj</b>	
Representations and Countering Representations through Illustrations: Marjane Satrapi's <i>Persepolis</i>	64
<b>Prasara V.P.</b>	
Mo Yan and the Art of Scatology: A Study on <i>Red Sorghum</i> and <i>The Garlic Ballads</i>	74
<b>Prerena Kush &amp; Rekha</b>	
From Sleep to Awakening: Urmila and Her Re-presentational Trajectories in Select Narratives	82

<b>D. Rajani</b>	
Writing for Survival & Resistance: A Critique of Lee Maracle's Works	93
<b>Shijo Philip</b>	
Positive Gerontology: The Role of Engagements in Active Ageing	99
<b>Sanchita J. &amp; Kavitha B. K.</b>	
Confuting the Cinderella Complex: Traversing the 'Feminiverse' in Select K-dramas	108
<b>Sujatha S.</b>	
A New Way to See the Planet :	
A Reading of Amitav Ghosh's <i>The Nutmeg's Curse</i>	116
<b>Monica Deidra Mendez</b>	
A Black Feminist Reading of Octavia Butler's Novel <i>Kindred</i>	121
<b>Meenu Sabu</b>	
Mapping of Kerala in English Travel Guidebooks:	
A Study on Select Works of Pre-Independent Period	129
<b>Md. Saquib Abrar &amp; Asma Rafiq</b>	
Alienation, Absurdity and Search for Identity in Badal Sircar's <i>Bhoma</i>	139
<b>N. Shannad</b>	
Allegorical Semitic Representations in	
Naguib Mahfouz's <i>Children of the Alley</i>	149
<b>Umara Shameen Butt</b>	
'The Survival Quest:' A Posthumanistic Reading of	
Cormac McCarthy's <i>The Road</i> and P. D. James' <i>The Children of Men</i>	158
<b>Anusree G.</b>	
Interpolation of the Robotic and the Mythopoeic in	
Kazuo Ishiguro's <i>Klara and the Sun</i>	169
Book Review	
<b>M. Sridhar</b>	179
<b>Dr. Veena Mani</b>	189

Cover: Godfrey Das , Detail from Kandal (Mangroves)  
Watercolor on Arches paper, 5 x 3 ft, 2019.

Godfrey Das, one of the most gifted senior designers in Kerala, has always been redefining his inner urges as a painter by constantly revisiting his artistic practices of the yester years. The academic engagement he had in Fine Arts from 1976 to 1983 has an unparalleled impact on his artistic perception and in determining his future as an artist. Largely influenced and mentored by his favourite teacher Sri. ACK Raja, Das regularly refreshes the technicalities of the medium, always upholding the aesthetic beauty of a work of art. His unprecedented journey with Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad (KSSP), from the year 1983, has enormously transformed his artistic inclinations into a socially responsible designer. As a full-fledged designer, he explores the sublime possibilities of watercolour in his own terms, in an attempt to restore and reclaim the lost nature and ecological spaces in his art, to share his deep concerns of perceptions of nature and to reveal more innate spaces through a simple yet intricate handling of colours and pigments.

