

Caricaturing a smile onto faces

Artist Prashant Sinha seeks to spread the joy with his special form of art

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Do you wish to be frozen in time in a very special manner? Get yourself caricatured!

Meet artist Prashant Sinha who does just that - makes people feel special by doing caricatures of them. Armed with an MFA (Master of Fine Arts) degree, Prashant, 28, started his venture Prashant Arts in 2006, to promote caricaturing as a serious art.

Prashant began by doing live caricatures at a popular city restaurant, but people then were not very familiar with the art of caricaturing and thought they were done to ridicule others. "I wanted people to know that caricatures can also be used to make others feel special and bring a smile to their faces," he says.

The initial response to Prashant's caricatures was very appreciative and encouraging. Taking his art beyond restaurants to fairs, parties and picnics, Prashant's venture grew to accommodate artists Ajinkya Shinde, who does caricatures along with Prashant, Sachin Burande, who specialises in portraits and paintings on canvas, and Vijesh V, who handles the digital artwork.

Prashant's firm now does caricatures at a variety of events such as parties, company picnics, trade shows, weddings, birthdays and corporate functions, among others. He also organises the printing of personalised caricatures and portraits on mugs, t-shirts, veneer, glass and watches.

Interestingly, Prashant has also done acrylic family caricatures directly on walls of houses, and book illustrations for children and advertising firms. The caricatures done by Prashant and his firm may cost anywhere between Rs300 and Rs500. The



Some of the caricatures done by the artists



Ajinkya Shinde doing live caricatures at a restaurant



price range varies due to the degree of complicity, mediums (colour/shading) and difficulty involved. Caricatures on mugs, t-shirts and other items start from Rs550 and range upwards.

Prashant says that caricaturing is an art form that should not be underestimated. It has a really good future according to him. In the future, Prashant plans to hold caricature workshops and classes and also launch a complete caricature shop and studio to promote this wonderful art and take it to the masses.



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