



SHREY'S eye view

**Showing through
September 30, 2024
At THE BIRDCAGE
816 Sutter Street**

Shrey Purohit's artistic journey is encapsulated in his evocative body of work titled "Shrey's Eye View," where he brings urban landscapes to life with a unique blend of immediacy and depth. Returning to the practice that brings him joy, Shrey slows down time by painting scenes he has documented while traveling through cities. His cityscape paintings, derived from photo walks around the world, blend the instantaneous nature of iPhone photography with the textural richness and contemplative pace of acrylic paints.

In his art, Shrey strives to capture the magic of moving through cities, transforming predominantly mundane scenes into captivating depictions of light and its reflections on streets, water, and buildings. His work is profoundly inspired by Edward Hopper's words, "Maybe I am not very human—what I wanted to do was to paint sunlight on the side of a house." Embracing this perspective, Shrey's flâneur approach to art, once deemed futile, now brings him immense joy, akin to the comfort of a warm cup of coffee. Through his paintings, he hopes to inspire a sense of hope and wonder in the viewer, presenting his unique view and experiences as a reflection of the universe.

The title "Shrey's Eye View" playfully references both the Bird in Birdcage Gallery and the bird's-eye views that have shaped his artistic vision since his days in art school. This creative perspective has allowed Shrey to develop a distinctive style that resonates with his audience.

Since moving to San Francisco in 2018, Shrey has become obsessed with street photography, amassing an impressive collection of 321,730 photographs to date, as per his iCloud stats. His trusty iPhone has been instrumental in capturing the raw truths of the city, which he then transforms into paintings in his studio on Nob Hill. The views from this northern part of the city have given Shrey a unique perspective on life's challenges, providing the courage to climb that hill and build strength, both physically and mentally.

Shrey Purohit (b. 1997, Mumbai, India) is a San Francisco-based artist and curator whose work vividly captures the dynamic essence of city life. Through his paintings, words, and short films, Shrey explores the transient nature of urban existence, finding enchantment in everyday moments. Utilizing tools such as an iPhone, acrylic and oil paints, and a word processor, he creates immersive experiences that celebrate the magic of contemporary living.

Shrey's work has been showcased at San Francisco City Hall and various galleries across the Bay Area and New York City. He is also the founder of Ingleside Gallery, a DIY art space supporting emerging, under-represented artists. Since 2023, Shrey has served as the Outreach and Exhibitions Coordinator for ArtSpan, a non-profit organization that supports over 1,000 artists in the SF Bay Area, reinforcing his dedication to the local arts community.

Through his multifaceted artistic endeavors, Shrey Purohit continues to capture and share the fleeting beauty of urban life, inviting viewers to see the world through his eyes and find joy in the simple act of observing.