

## FIVE GREAT MASTER ARTISTS FROM BRICS COUNTRIES

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### **Abstract**

*The artwork is a reflection of a country, of a nation. I believe this article will not only be conducive to enhancing friendship among the BRICS countries, but also of far-reaching significance to the promotion of international art exchanges. The important thing is that they are able to put their imagination and ideas into something tangible – although these are subject to other people's comprehension and appreciation. Art brings people together. It elicits different reactions and emotions but everyone can agree that it moves them to think, to feel, and to act. Art is there to remind us of the values that we uphold. It makes us realize that we may all come from different walks of life but there are some things that are undeniably common to all of us – like love, friendship, and freedom. We believe in the importance of sharing cultural experiences. Art is a part of our culture. It should be given importance by the people. It is the expression of our creative ideas and imagination. It has different forms such as the visual arts, sculpture, music, literature, theater, films, and other ways that artists choose as a medium for their craft. This article aims to improve cultural exchanges and mutual understanding, an exhibition featuring artwork from the five BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.*

**Keywords-** BRICS art exhibition, art and culture exchange between BRICS Countries, BRICS Countries artist

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## **Introduction**

### **Brazilian Master Artist José Francisco Borges**

Master J. Borges has a recognizable style of woodworking. José Francisco Borges is a poet and an engraver. He was born in 1935 and still lives in the town of Bezerros, in the Brazilian northeastern state of Pernambuco. This true Brazilian artist began his career as a woodcutter, making the covers of his own “cordial leaflets”, a popular literary genre usually written in rhymes. Corel literature and leaflets are popular Brazilian art that is affordable to the general population: printed booklets or pamphlets containing folk stories, poems, and songs. This art is particularly popular in the Northeast region of the country, being sold in public spaces such as town squares and street markets. Later he invested time and money towards creating bigger works, which were proper engravings themselves. He worked passionately, staying true to the culture of his people and artistically representing an expression of their being. He has won numerous awards, including the UNESCO Prize in Educational/Cultural Action. In 2002, he was one of thirteen artists chosen to illustrate the UN’s annual calendar. In 2006, J. Borges and his work were the subjects of an in-depth report in *The New York Times*.

### **Russian Marter Artist Nikolai Blokhin**

Nikolai Blokhin was born in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1968. His education in art began very early at the Art School for Gifted Children in 1980. Three years after graduating from the prestigious St. Petersburg Academy of Arts and finishing his post-graduate practical training, Blokhin begins his own teaching career. Blokhin’s first serious success was in portrait painting. Portrait is a genre where an artist depends on a model the most, where room for experiment is limited – otherwise, the portrait is no longer a portrait. The artist stands on classical humanist traditions according to which a human is considered an integral creation. His portraits are obviously influenced by Impressionists in their aspiration for casual condition and fleeting mood of a model that produces an effect of naturalness and freshness of their first impression. Blokhin structures his work as an entire esthetic phenomenon with inseparable plastic unity between the portrayed image and the background. Therefore, his portraits retain parity between the real and conventional, the graphic and decorative, thus reminding about the Modern style. Blokhin’s paintings are part of many museums and private collections, his works are well recognized by the general public and specialists in Russia and far beyond as works of exceptional beauty. Among his many honors is the Grand Prize Award in the 2002 International Portrait Competition of the American Society of Portrait Artists at the Metropolitan

Museum of Art in New York and the Best of Show in the 2004 International Portrait Competition of the Portrait Society of America.

### **Indian Master Artist Raja Ravi Varma**

Raja Ravi Varma (29 April 1848 – 2 October 1906) was a celebrated Malayali Indian painter and artist. He is considered among the greatest painters in the history of Indian art for a number of aesthetic and broader social reasons. He was an Indian painter who achieved recognition for his depiction of scenes from the epics of the Mahabharata and Ramayana. His paintings are considered to be among the best examples of the fusion of Indian traditions with the techniques of European academic art. His exposure in the west came when he won the first prize in the Vienna Art Exhibition in 1873. He is considered among the greatest painters in the history of Indian art. He often modeled Hindu Goddesses on South Indian women, whom he considered beautiful. Ravi Varma is particularly noted for his paintings depicting stories of Dushyanta - Shakuntala, and Nala - Damayanti. In particular, his depictions of Hindu deities and episodes from the epics and Puranas have received profound acceptance from the public and are found, often as objects of worship, across the length and breadth of India. He was notable for making affordable lithographs of his paintings available to the public, which greatly enhanced his reach and influence as a painter and public figure. Indeed, his lithographs increased the involvement of common people with fine arts and defined artistic tastes among common people for several decades.

### **Chinese Master Artist Li Kieran**

Li Kieran was born on March 26, 1907 in Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, as Li Yongshun. Li Kieran, who was forty-two at the time of the founding of the People's Republic of China, embraced the challenges and opportunities with which he was confronted. Born in Xuzhou, Jiangsu, to illiterate parents, he excelled at art from an early age. In 1925, he graduated from the Shanghai Art College and went on to post-graduate study in Western art at the National Art Academy in Hangzhou. He came into contact with Qi Baishi (1864-1957) and Huang Binhong (1865-1955), two of China's most influential twentieth-century brush and ink painters. Despite his training in oil painting, in the 1940s Li Kieran turned to the more patriotic and less expensive medium of brush and ink and excelled in figure painting, in the literati style. He also argued for the retention of useful elements of China's rich cultural and artistic heritage as well as the need to draw from external sources, notably scientific principles embodied in Western art. Beginning in 1954, he also began to experiment with the layered ink technique that became a hallmark of his mature style. In the 1970s, Li Kieran was encouraged to return from his disgrace during the Cultural Revolution as

a ‘black artist’ to make public art. Among the tasks assigned to him was the creation of monumental landscape paintings for the Nationalities Hotel in Beijing. The ancient art of Chinese painting has many good traditions, such as expressive use of lines, the adept use of ink, and majestic composition. Vast expanses of landscapes can be represented in a single painting scroll, which is rare in the paintings of other countries. Chinese painting is unique in reflecting the greatness and the extraordinariness of the Chinese nation. The realm reflected in Chinese paintings is very vast. Chinese painting represents not only what the artist sees, but also what he knows and thinks.

### **South African Master Artist Maurice van Essche**

Maurice van Essche was born in 1906 in Antwerp, Belgium, moving to Brussels with his family when he was five years old. In 1924 he studied at the Brussels Academy of Fine Art under James Ensor. Although he interrupted his studies at the Academy in order to earn a living, working in a stained-glass studio and later in wallpaper design, he painted continuously, and also worked as a freelance cartoonist. He became a member of the group Young Belgian Painters in 1930, and in 1933 continued his art studies in France under Henri Matisse. A mature artist, Van Essche interpreted African humanity and the sun-drenched landscape from a personal perspective, which he expressed in broad abstract terms with an aesthetic sensibility and poetic simplicity. Van Essche remarked that his approach was based on the premise that “painting is an intimate dialogue between the painter and life” (Büchner, 1967). Carl Büchner writes that van Essche’s arrival in South Africa marks a shift in his career: both the beginning of a new period as well as the consolidation of the impressions and subsequent stylistic changes that resulted from his Congo trip. Van Essche’s compassion for humanity and the timelessness of his landscapes are expressed in his paintings of Cape fisher folk, portraits of noble Malay women, and working-class people eking out a living on the plains of the arid Karoo. The sentiment and atmosphere of his paintings are enhanced by his trademark palette of deep reds and blues, earthy pinks, ochre’s, and greys, often set off by vibrant blacks and whites. Esmé Berman writes that he continued to paint until the end, often against the doctor’s orders – still occupied with the African figures and still life compositions that defined his oeuvre.

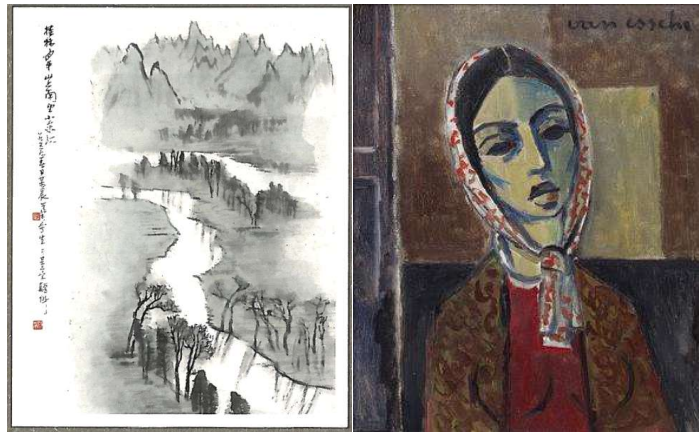
### **Conclusion**

As we know the group Art Exhibition ‘Bonding Regions & Imagining Cultural. The artwork is a reflection of a country, of a nation. I believe this thoughts will not only be conducive to enhancing friendship among the BRICS countries, but also of far-reaching significance to the promotion of international art exchanges. The

important thing is that they are able to put their imagination and ideas into something tangible – although these are subject to other people’s comprehension and appreciation. Art brings people together. It elicits different reactions and emotions but everyone can agree that it moves them to think, to feel, and to act. Art is there to remind us of the values that we uphold. It makes us realize that we may all come from different walks of life but there are some things that are undeniably common to all of us – like love, friendship, and freedom.



Brazilian Artist José Francisco Borges    Russian Artist Nikolai Blokhin    Indian Artist Raja Ravi Varma



Chinese Artist Li Kieran    South African Artist Maurice van Essche

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