ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2013

M.Phil./Ph.D.

VISUAL ARTS

[Field of Study Code : VSAP (163)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours   *Maximum Marks* : 70

Answer *any* **one** question from **Section—I** (which carries 30 marks) and *any* **two** questions from **Section—II** (each carries 20 marks)

SECTION—I

(Answer *any* **one**)

1. Discuss the archival turn in contemporary art practice and art theory in the age of information technology. What is the status of 'art' and 'history' in the current configuration?

2. Reflect on the challenges that the study of pre-modern art poses today at a time when the framework of nationalism is under question. Answer with reference to a specific period/location.

3. Are aesthetic theories culturally specific or can they have trans-cultural applicability? For example, can Kantian aesthetics be relevant in the understanding of non-Western art?

SECTION—II

(Answer *any* **two**)

4. Is it possible to consider the curatorial practices and art criticism as separate? State the reasons for the pre-eminence of a curator in current times.

5. If you had to curate an international exhibition on early Buddhist art with a focus on the body, what examples will you choose and why?

6. Discuss the current debates around authorship, taste and collection in the study of Mughal painting focussing on specific examples.

7. To what extent, traditional textual sources such as the Silpasastras offer means to interpret ancient paintings, sculptures and architecture other than a formal and stylistic analysis of art?

8. Art History as a discipline is largely understood as having a provenance in the West. How does it undergo shifts when introduced into India by pioneers like Ananda Coomaraswamy *or* Stella Kramrisch?

9. Is the term cyber-feminism relevant in relation to Indian contemporary art? Give a reasoned answer citing examples, for or against the notion.

10. Museums are often disparaged as being mere repositories for objects. However, several museums have also invited contemporary artists to intervene in their collections. Citing examples of at least two such projects, discuss your assessment of the value and relevance of such interventions.

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