

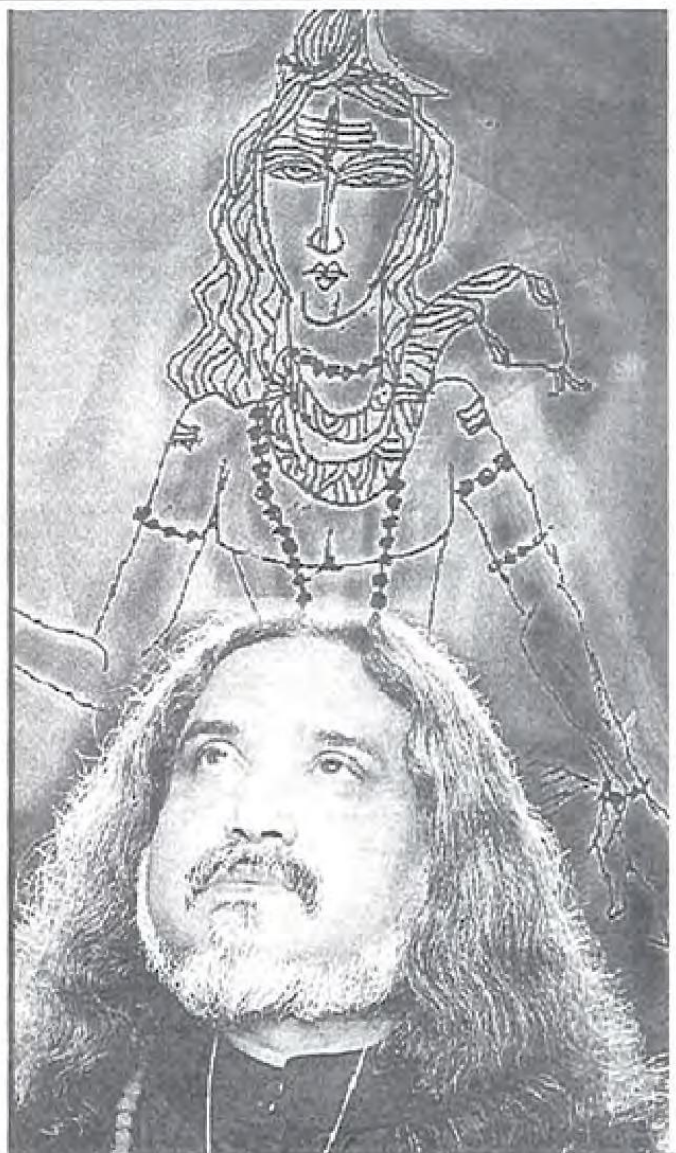
**HIS** paintings are spiritual visions. The blues, grays, reds and fuchsias of the artist's palette and his timeless images of Shiva and Ganesha take one on a powerful journey to discover the 'space' between thoughts. What is projected is a 'resonant silence' and what is reflected is an aura of psychic and philosophical calm - in a unique style of drawings, oil and computer paintings. Born in Mumbai in 1956, Arun Kalwakar is a first class graduate from JJ School of Arts (1978), and recipient of several awards including the 'Art Society of India' and 'Bruno International' awards. He has exhibited his works globally and has worked as art and film director for ads as well as television channels. Arun has also worked extensively with children, designed the educational film 'Zadache Paanch Bhaag' and presented many a programme on Doordarshan. Yet, it is to Lord Shiva, to whom his life and works are dedicated...

**How did you switch from technology to spirituality? Was it a conscious process?**  
I hail from a spiritual family. My

energies and impart this golden glow to human souls.

**And yet, painting remains your great passion?**  
Painting is my first love and an ideal medium for expression of a poet's eye for metaphors and poetic imagery. Painting is a personal, visual language. On the mystical level, painting is synonymous with Shiva's third eye and the focal point of meditation. At the same time, it does not mean that I have relinquished my technical work or position. I just believe that only a total union with higher energies can help one transcend from ordinary to extraordinary!

**Obviously, your transition towards God's domain is not a blind man's following, but a thinking man's scientific and analytical process towards life...**  
Undoubtedly. God is extremely relevant to the on-going transformations in science, commerce, medicine and creative fields. God is the new age icon today, giving seekers of self knowledge a clear and scientific road-map to understand and



Uma Ajmera embarks on a spiritual journey of astounding colours as she meets Arun Kalwakar, ex-IITian turned artist, painter, film-maker, producer and director for IIT's Educational TV

# virtual guru

grandfather taught me Sun worship while my grand-uncle was a famous astrologer and healer. Even at the age of nine, I would spontaneously get up before dawn and perform the 'Shiva Maha Guru Bhakti Puja.' All I can say is that right from birth, all my work has been laced with the Lord's light.

**Are you an exponent in astrology and healing?**  
I have been blessed and taught by world masters and gurus in astrology, face reading, vastu, feng shui and ancient arts of healing. But my quest is clear: As Lord Shiva's medium, it is my duty to understand the divine

realise the ultimate reality.

**In an age where chaos rules supreme and change is an on-going phenomenon, will management be replaced by 'spontaneity and intuition?'**  
Yes. Things are changing. Intuition is nothing but our inner God. Reason argues; it uses a process to reach a conclusion. But intuition jumps - it is a quantum leap. Shiva is not simply 'some blue light'. He is a divine intelligence. When we combine both, reason and intuition, we tap into this divine intelligence. And it is from this tuning that solutions arise! Thus, God is a 'process', a scien-

tist of the inner world and He has to be essentially woven into our every reality. All one needs to do this, is a will to believe in this higher power. Shiva is the need of the hour. He takes us beyond the perpetual struggle for power, money and prestige - beyond competition and comparison.

**What is the definition of success in today's world?**  
Everything that we experience as material reality is born in an invisible realm beyond space and time - a realm revealed by science, consisting of energy and information. Thus, when this divine energy is the thread running through all our activi-

ties, success becomes a natural outcome. Shiva Sutra is a catalyst for radical inner transformation and success in every field. I cannot think of a better way of life!

**Your advice to budding artists?**  
Material success is important, but if all our other pockets are empty then we are leading a life of bankruptcy. Authentic acts come from hard work and your consciousness and finally, from balance. Shiva is the great 'insight' in a world that is trying to overcome fear, manipulation, poverty, inequality, greed and cynicism. How can we afford to ignore Him?