



National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru (Ministry of Culture, Government of India)

cordially invites you to

## Abhaya - Women Who Dared

Join us for an evening of artistic celebration and deep reflection on the power of women poets, featuring a musical performance and an artist talk that explore their profound influence on art and culture.

Talk by renowned artist **V Ramesh** (online) and musical presentation by **Chitra Srikrishna** and party

Commemorating
International Women's Day 2025
on 14th March 2025 at 5:00PM

at the auditorium National Gallery of Modern Art, # 49, Manikyavelu Mansion, Palace Road, Bengaluru - 560052,

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V Ramesh, Andal, 2013, 84×60 inches

It was Nigerian writer Chimamanda Adichie who reminded us that lives are rarely single stories—rather "they are composed of overlapping stories." Women poets from across India through the centuries from Andal of Tamil Nadu to Lal Ded of Kashmir, Soyarabai of Maharashtra, Ambabai and Akka Mahadevi of Karnataka have been celebrated for their poetry. However, the story of their lives and poetry is often rendered monochromatically as a single story-that of devotion. The reality of their lives-caste discrimination, trauma of child marriage and widowhood, and travails of social expectations whether in their marriages or communities while glossed over by others, informs their work. It also showcases their grit and perseverance in the face of unrelenting oppression.

Abhaya - Women Who Dared is a song and story presentation by musician Chitra Srikrishna that features the works of women poets across India from the 8th century onwards. She will be accompanied by **two musicians playing the violin and mridangam**. There will be a slideshow (visuals) in the backdrop during the program to provide context and continuity