

LEELA EXHIBITION

CONCEPT

“That mysterious power of consciousness produces this infinite variety of names and forms.

That same consciousness when it wants to experience itself becomes the knowable universe.

There is no real transformation,

for there is nothing other than Consciousness”.

(Yoga Vasistha.Qt. from Shri Ramalia by Vanamali)

Tulsidas uses the image of *Manas* or *Mind Lake* to expound his text. It has four *ghats* from which you can dive deep into this Mind Lake. The act of diving produces vibrations and ripples. Radiations are then sent up these *ghats*. Building up on this image, the exhibition builds itself around two inseparable aspects - the non-manifest and undifferentiated Supreme Consciousness and its manifest form, the *lila*. The first ripple in the Lake gives rise to *shabda*, the word; the word acquires vibration and manifests as *dhvani*- sound – oral and aural. Sound then translates itself into form and *akara* appears; combines with the *nama* and *rupa*, and *lila* becomes manifest in its full glory. Through this *lila* the supreme consciousness makes itself knowable as grace; beholding this grace the seeker transcends the known and the knowable. The universe of names and forms ceases and once again the *lila* dissolves into the Supreme Void, the Unfathomable Brahman.

“When the notion of the self is destroyed by

withdrawing the fuel of ideas from the mind,

That which is left is the Infinite.

From the infinite the infinite emerges, and exists in it as infinite

Hence the world has never really been created.

It is the same that from which it has emerged”

(Yoga Vasistha. Qt. from Shri Ramlila by Vanamali)