



167 Drury Lane, London WC2B 5PG (Holborn tube)
020 7831 9399 www.tamarai.co.uk
12.30-15.00 and 17.30-23.30 Monday to Saturday

12 February – 30 March 2007

Valentine Crush



Chila Burman brings her sumptuous, psychedelic images of ice cream, candy and lingerie to Tamarai for a Valentine special ...

Chila Burman dedicates a sugar-sweet confection of hearts, bras and ice cream cones to lovers everywhere this Valentine's Day in an exhibition of collage, print and film at Tamarai Gallery on London's Drury Lane.

'Sexual referencing occurs unconsciously in my work', she says innocently, noticing in retrospect that the ice lollies, flowers, stickers, fridge magnets and bindi that litter her canvases sometimes create suggestive tableaux. Chila's HELLO GIRLS series, made in response to the Wonderbra ad campaign, features bras of all shapes and sizes, often modelled on her own body.

'Bras and breasts, within my community are taboo subjects, so bringing these elements together is quite risqué,' says Chila. Similarly the flowers in her work, although originally inspired by childhood trips to Hindu temples and redolent with religious ritual, now enhance the sexual innuendo, whilst the bindis, the traditional symbol of the married Hindu woman, become 'winking nipples' that adorn Chila's images of bras.

In addition to the prints and canvases, Chila will be showing *Candy Pop and Juicy Lucy*, a mesmerising video that combines the tinkling music of the traditional ice-cream van with a kaleidoscope of brightly coloured lollies and cornets. Even this sugary imagery is sensual, 'because sex and ice-cream are connected the world over', says Chila. Her father was a Punjabi / Liverpoolian ice-cream seller and she was the envy of her schoolmates, helping herself to soft scoop and Flakes every day of the week. She recently recreated the whole ice-cream van - complete with Bengal tiger on the roof - as a vehicle for displaying and touring her artwork. Once inside, the visitor could explore Chila's archived memories in music, video and graphic form. This project is part of the artist's ongoing work, using family portraits to construct personal and collective histories concerned with South Asian People and women in particular.

Chila was nominated for Asian Woman of the Year Award 2004, Lloyds TSB Asian Jewel Awards 2005 and is a graduate of the Slade. Her work has been shown internationally and is in private and public collections worldwide.

**For further press information contact Theresa Simon & Partners
020 7734 4800 pr@theresasimon.com**



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Valentine Week at Tamarai 12-17 February 2007

Tamarai is the perfect destination for a romantic dinner date, so we are offering one special table at £10,000 to include an exclusive personal tasting devised by the chef, a bottle of Dom Perignon and a mini break including business class tickets and a stay at the Shiv Niwas Resort, Udaipur, India.

For more information, please contact Jess Bowen at Sauce Communications on 020 7751 1000 or email jess@saucecommunications.com

Art at Tamarai

Tamarai is the latest eatery from Old World Hospitality, India's premier restaurant and entertainment group. The company operates Habitat World in New Delhi, the country's largest food and performing arts centre, as well as 11 further restaurants in the city. Chor Bizarre was set up in Mayfair almost a decade ago and has recently opened a gallery space showcasing leading visual artists from the Indian sub-continent.

Tamarai Gallery offers exhibition space for digital and video art by emerging pan-Asian via a multi plasma screen configuration in the dining areas.