

Transit II

Solo Exhibition- Sudhir Pandey

August 19 to 25 2025

Curated by Sumesh Manoj Sharma

Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai

Transit II

'Wrappings of Transitory Sense'.

As we enter a moment of deep strife, Sudhir Pandey a self-proclaimed astrologer and art history belligerent returns with his second solo showing of 'Transits'! A Saturn Transit is a cycle where for seven and a half years Saturn returns to a person's natal moon; this is Sudhir's second cycle. In 1995, he presented an exhibition 'Artist Critic nexus & International Art Fallacy' at the Faculty of Fine Arts, MS University, Baroda. That was his first cycle of the 'Saturn Return', in that transit he was setting out to warn his young colleagues - artists - the bobby-traps of fame, formulas of art success, imitation, plagiarism and the mimicking of trends of an international art circus. This was the year when not far from Baroda the city of Surat saw the epidemic of Bubonic Plague. After the recent confinement of the last Covid epidemic, Sudhir began to see a rise in mass anxiety and fear exercised through fascism.

Pandey has been an avid reader of art history, from 1997 - 98 he was at L'Ecole supérieure des beaux-arts du Mans, studying conceptual practice through his interactions with Christian Boltanski, Anish Kapoor, Christo & Jeanne-Claude after his masters in Baroda. He began collecting the debris and detritus from his surroundings; these could

continue ...

sweet-wrappers, pieces of plastic, pages from a magazine, photos, stones, earth, wood, string and cloth. He would wrap them up together and paint upon the resulting decoupage. He would chart an astrological map of celestial positions of the found object, then map them to shortwave radio frequencies - trying to sense the energy of chance.

He would wrap them under scotch tape that he metaphorized with human skin, but in his coming solo he uses 'Caution - Tape'. In 2005 & 2006 he opened two solos at the Chatterjee & Lal Gallery in Bombay. The first solo was 'Transit I'. and the second exhibition was titled 'Radioactive Wrappings'. Both exhibitions took place during his first transit of Saturn. Here he was learning, having been academically trained, he was out to put his views of deconstructive criticism of how we perceived and made art.

Here today not only does he use yellow caution tape, Sudhir makes his works in the A4 format, a size that measures to 9 by 12 inches. Most of the paperwork that keeps us behind in life, tied to permissions, licenses, notices, requests, appointments and dismissals of our bureaucracy arrive and hold this format and size. Humans created systems to ease life, but their control today is overarching, Sudhir has spent two decades teaching art students and recently moved away from a career in pedagogy to a career in astrology. He was growing concerned about the pandemic of anxiety engulfing people who have now lived with great ease and luxury compared to ancestors in preceding generations. Saturn or Shani is considered in Eastern Astrology as a teacher who returns with past events, triggering our previous karmas so that we act to rectify them now. His wrappings are radioactive this time around, they are attempting to map our emotional frequencies in a virtual space - internet, much wider and erratic than the radio space.

We can come to not believe in horoscopes which are etymologically defined as our natal charts, we can surely believe this to be a pseudoscience, but in a moment of endless, war, hate and an unquestioned genocide where the virtual remains unquestioned - Pande sees this as an alternate therapy. Christo & Jeanne-Claude, attempted to wrap large public buildings in attempts to make them disappear, but they became more prominent with their absence. Sudhir's wraps to bring to surface unspoken fears that disappear when they are spoken of - as an artist he provokes, questions and is belligerent with his critique, he is imagining a new language - not one defined by material or form - but by a new wave of aesthetics drawn from the subconscious human mind.

For him the language an artist authors through their practice is an act that continues till their end of their lives, one that is unforgiving to those who fall prey to their visual insecurities. As a teacher through art history and peer critique he built confidence in the practices of his students - Amol K Patil, Poonam Jain, Sahej Rahal, Prachi Batra and Prerana Jain, artists who not only built their distinct languages but also succeeded into a galaxy of fame.

The entire series of 'Transit II' that include 75 wrappings have had their horoscopes drawn to the alleviation of his studio space and its location and the momentary chart of the date and timings at which he made them to chart a psychogeographical shift of our present time. By noting his own location in the studio and that of his assistant Kisha Ananthakrishnan he attempts to draw a tangible idea of transhumanism in art, where art begins to hold the ability like science and technology in enabling us to live better lives and occurs as a necessity in our quotidian.

Sumesh Manoj Sharma,

Bombay, 2025.



Sudhir Pandey

"I4-Jul"

35" x 40" (88.9cm x 101.5cm)

Stencil, brown scotch tape, watercolor, ritual thread, Permanent marker, hard board

2025



Sudhir Pandey

“Conflict of duality”

35" x 40" (88.9cm x 101.5cm)

Mixed media

2025



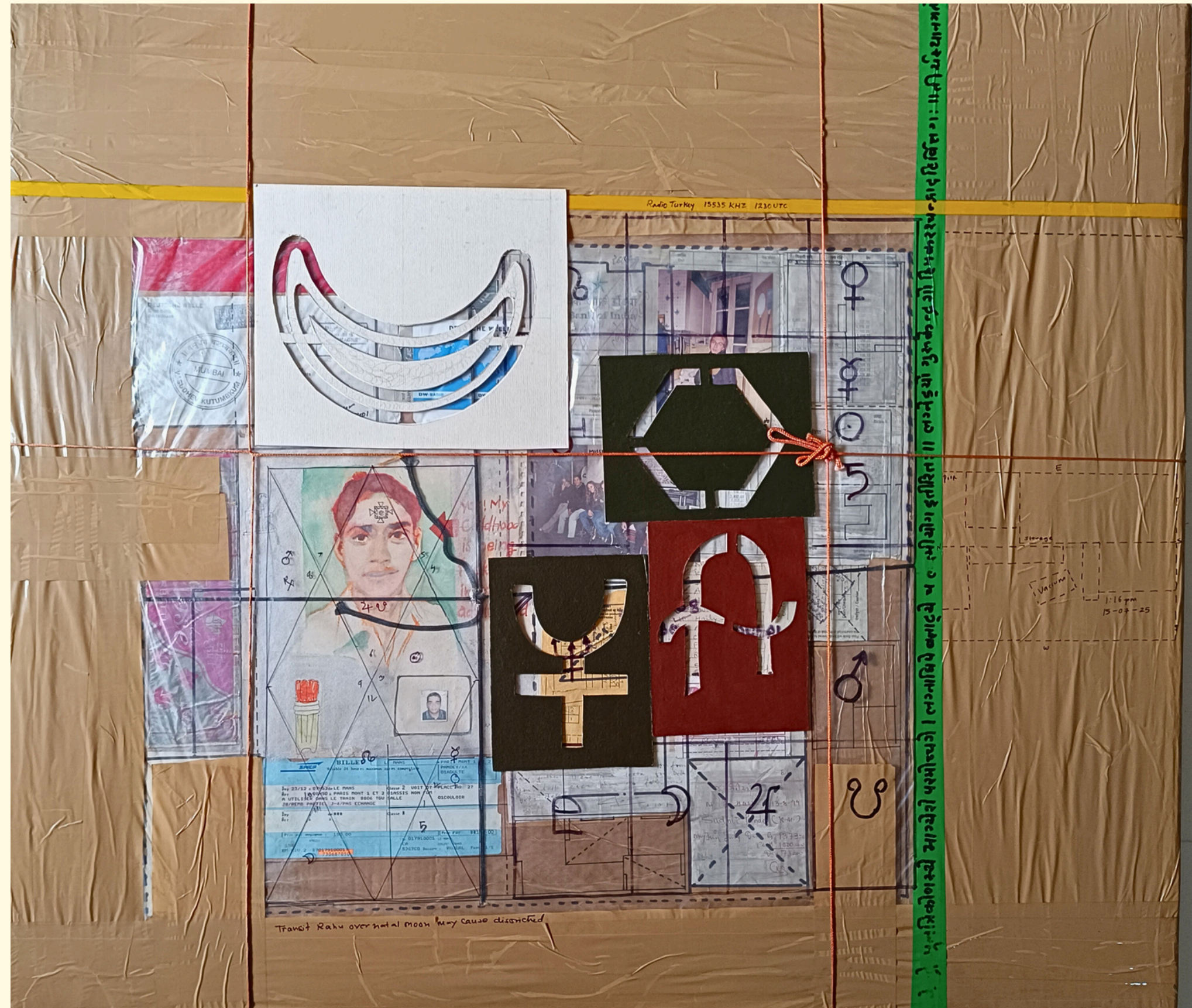
Sudhir Pandey

"Pluto opposite Mars"

35" x 40" (88.9cm x 101.5cm)

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

“6th Moon”

35" x 40" (88.9cm x 101.5cm)

Mixed media

2025



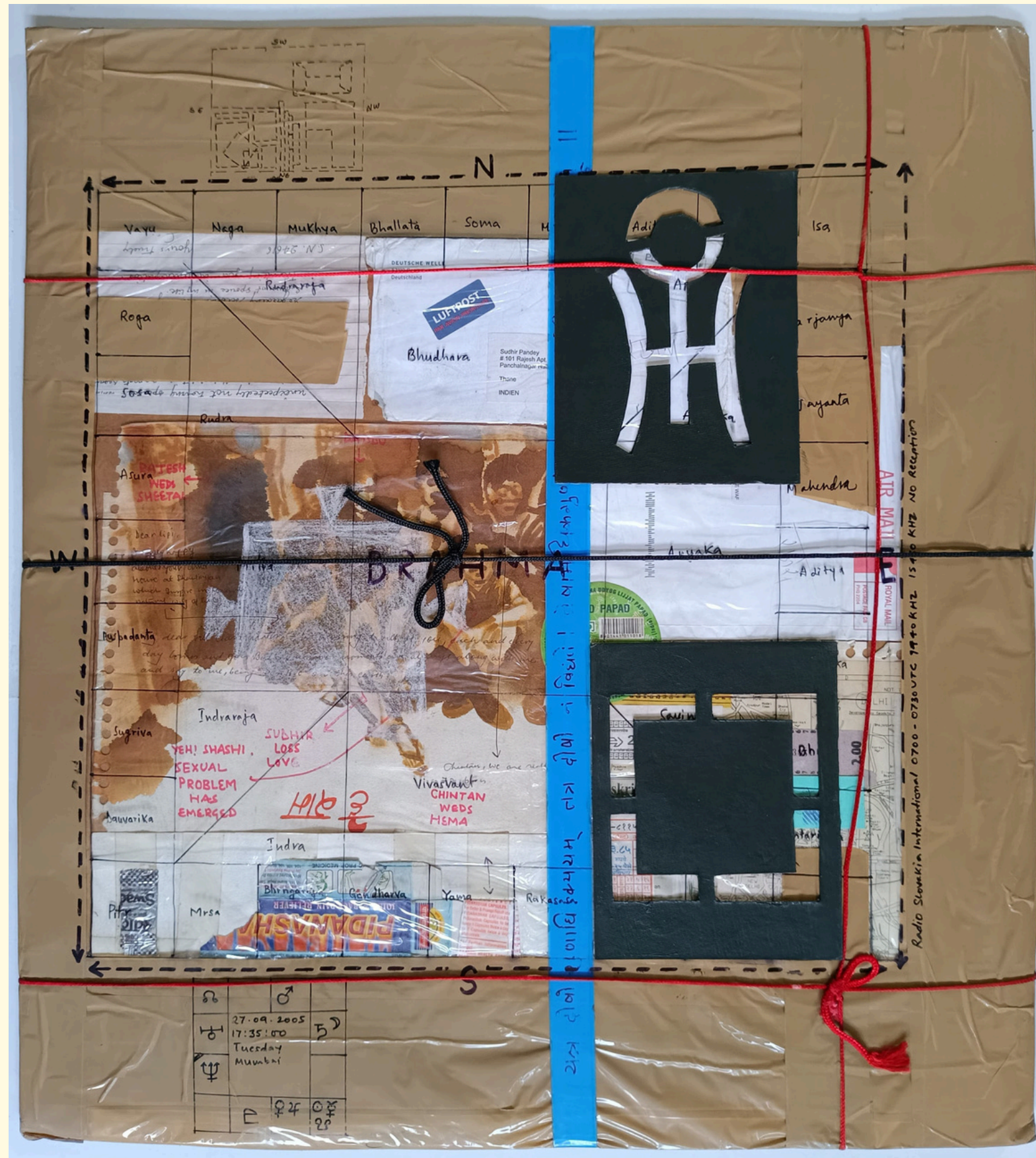
Sudhir Pandey

“Arc of conflict”

22.5" x 28"

Mixed media

2025



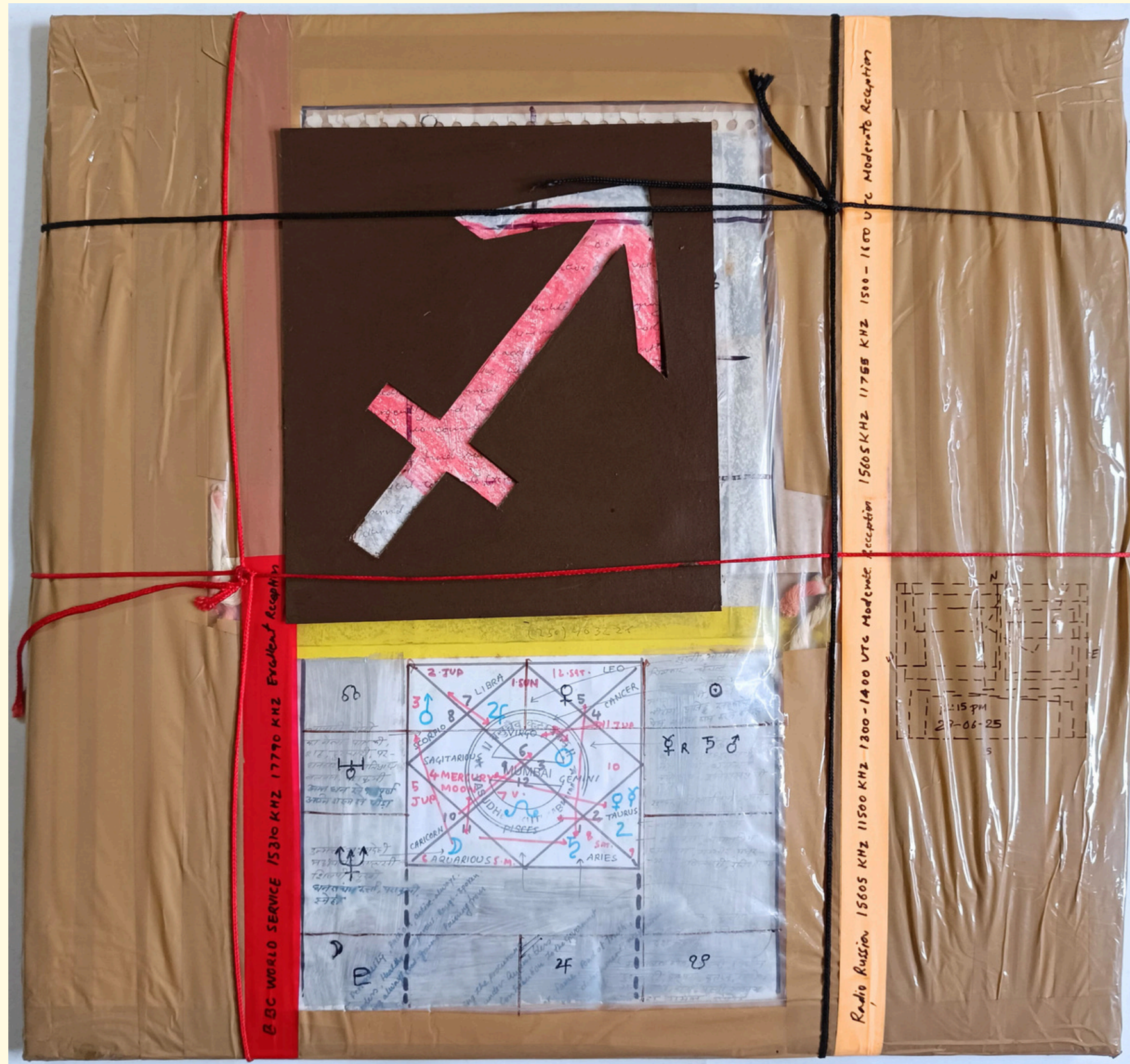
Sudhir Pandey

"The square"

23.5" x 26"

Mixed media

2025



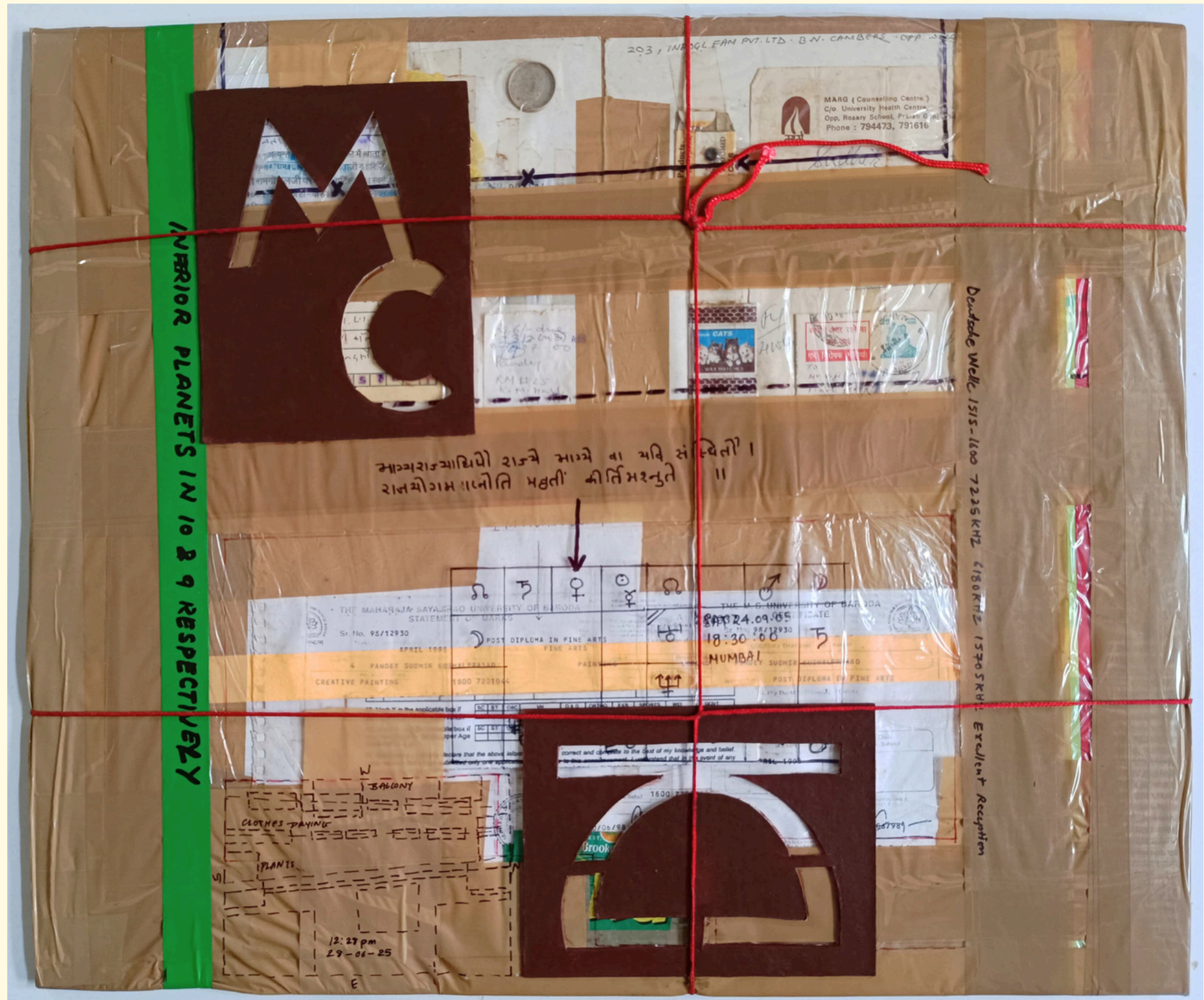
Sudhir Pandey

"Sagittarius"

21.5" x 22.5"

Mixed media

2025



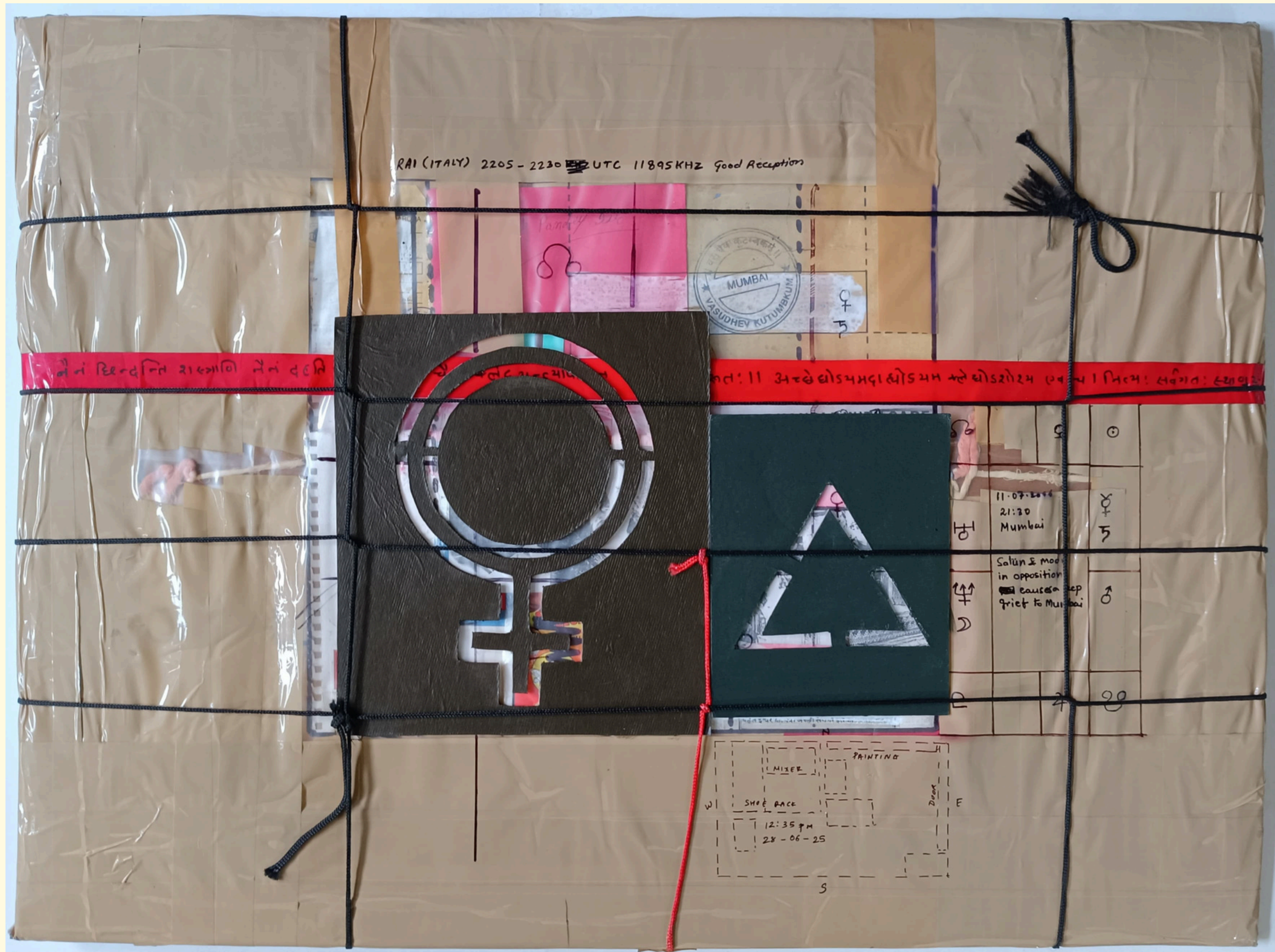
Sudhir Pandey

“Mid Heaven”

20" x 23.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Grand Trine"

22" x 29"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

“Venus + Mars”

24.4" x 21.5"

Mixed media

2025



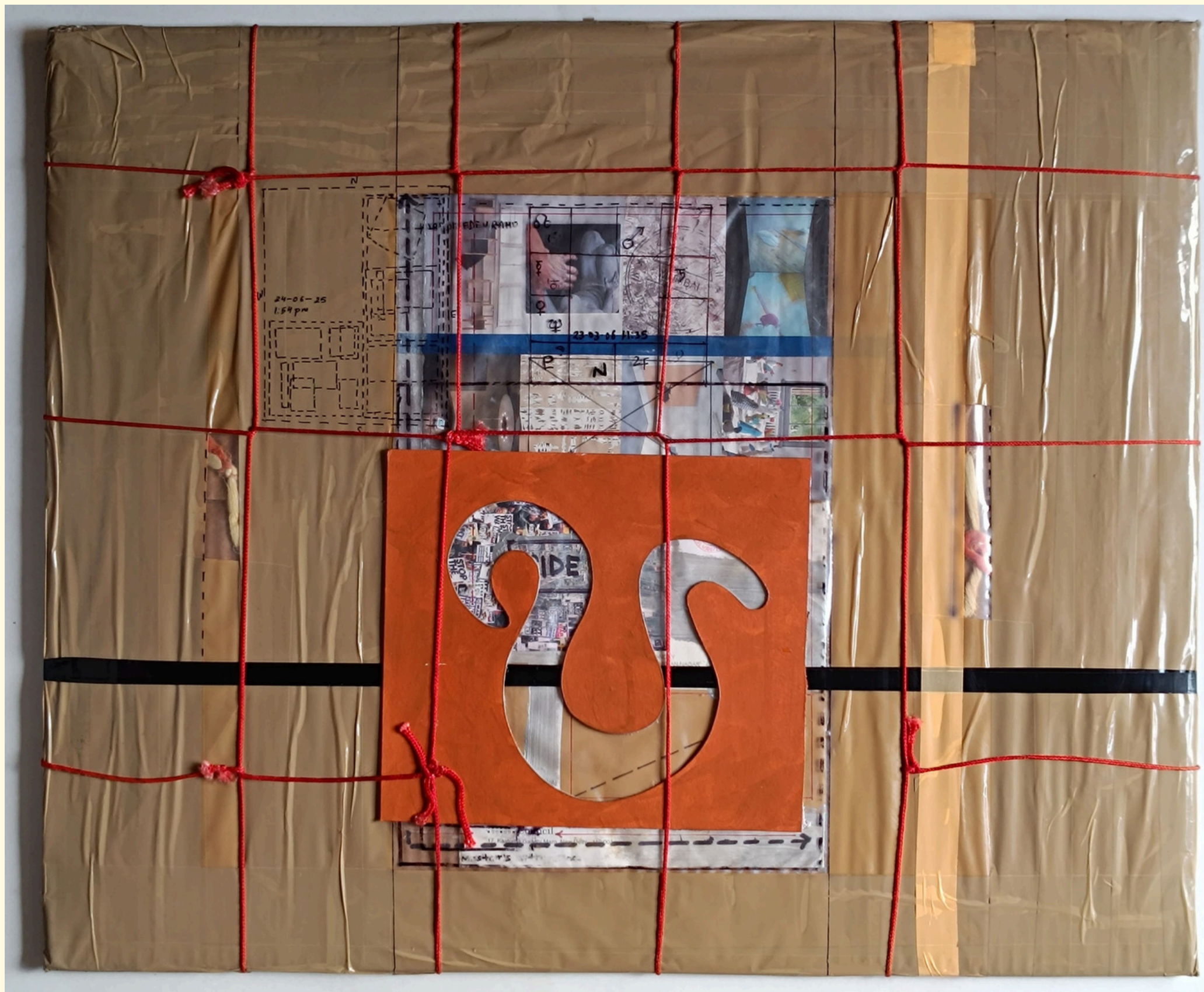
Sudhir Pandey

"Cautious"

21.5" x 29.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Leo I2"

22" x 27"

Mixed media

2025



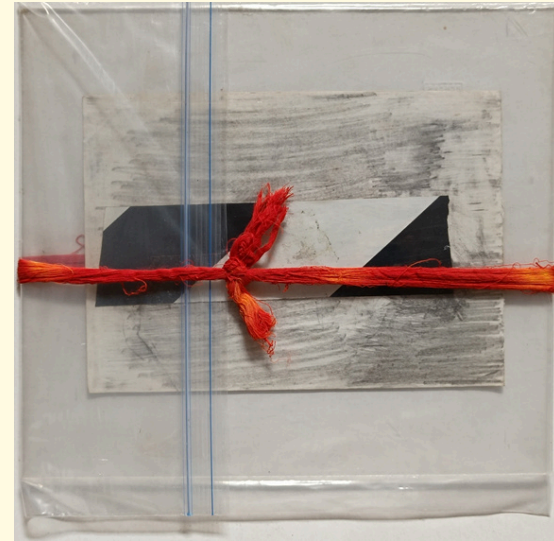
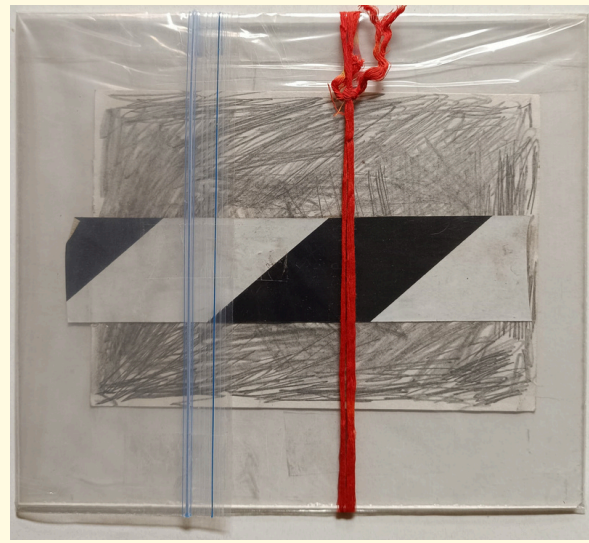
Sudhir Pandey

"The Trine"

29.5" x 24"

Mixed media

2025



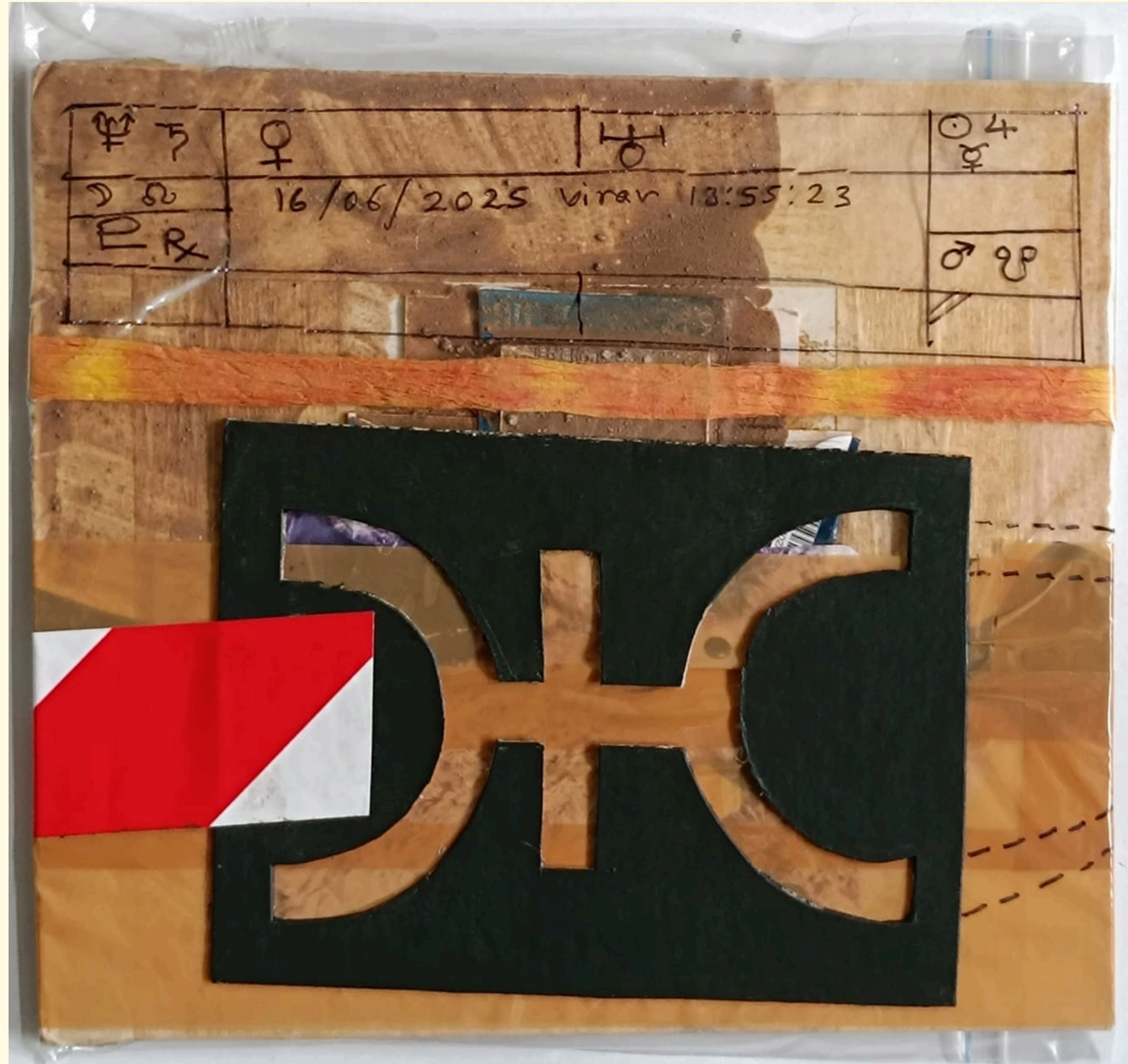
Sudhir Pandey

"Untitled"

27" x 31.5"

Mixed media

2025



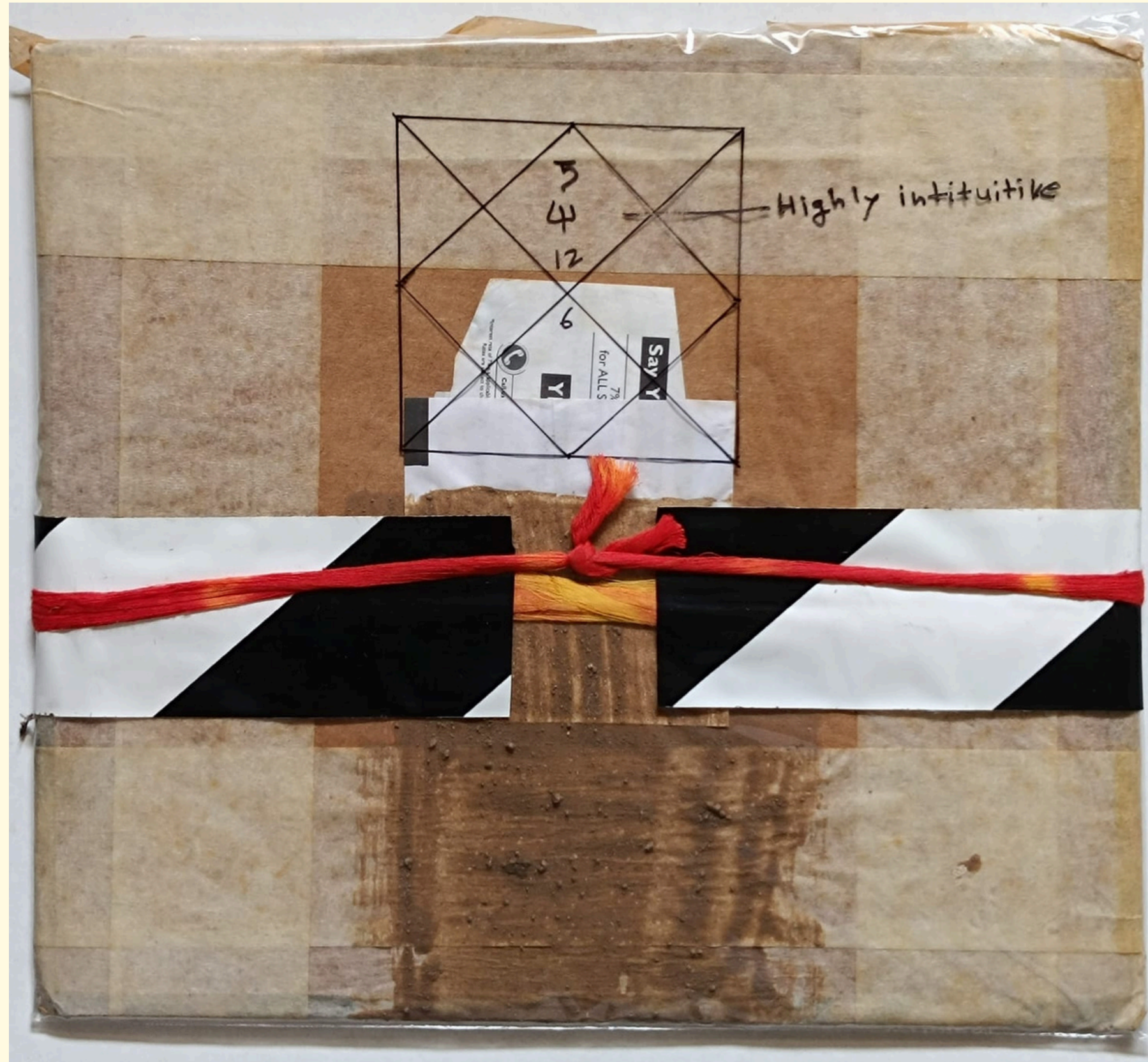
Sudhir Pandey

"16.06.25"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



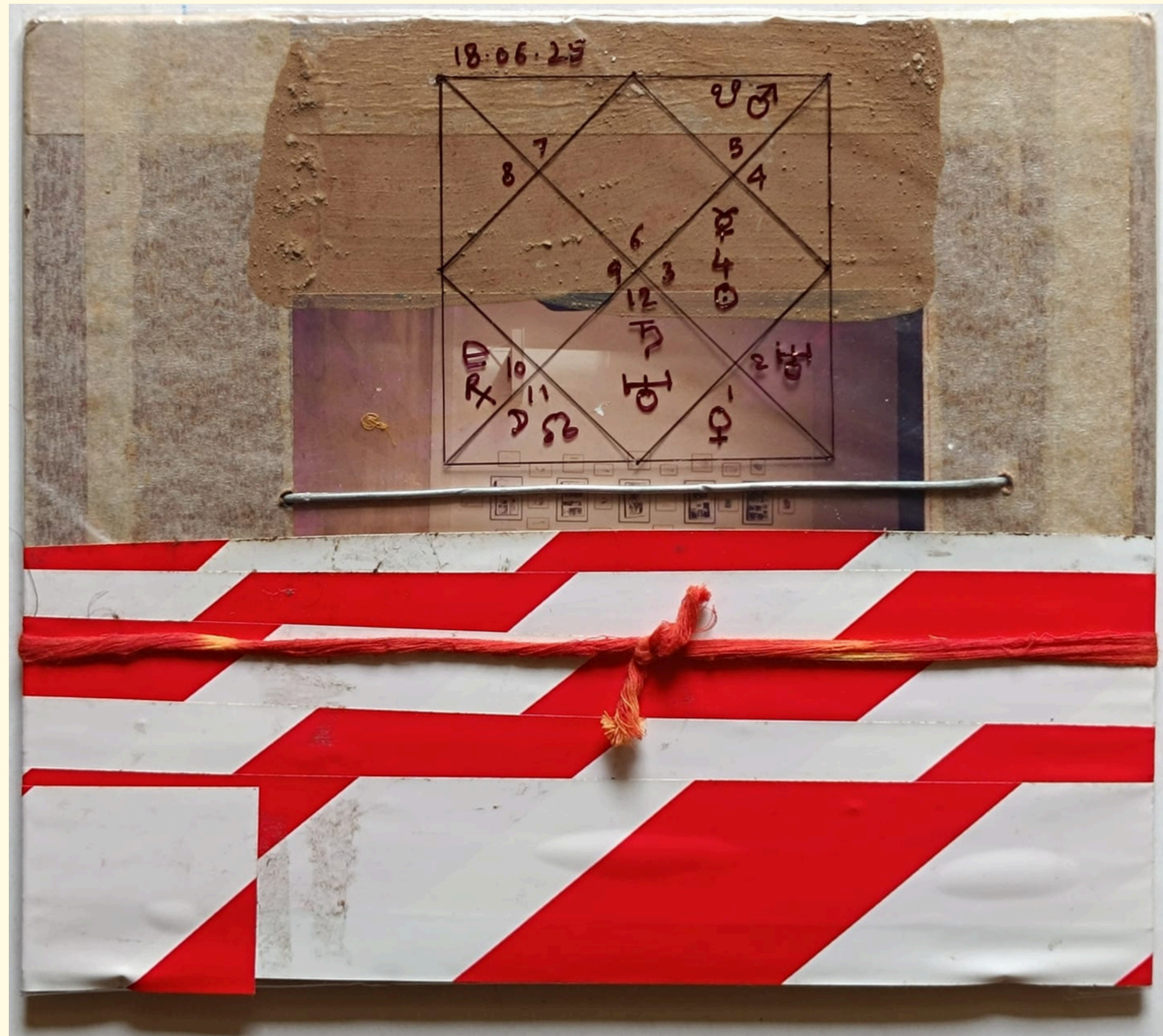
Sudhir Pandey

"Void"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"7th Uranus"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Mid Heaven-2"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"18.06.25"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Insomnia"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Waxing Moon"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



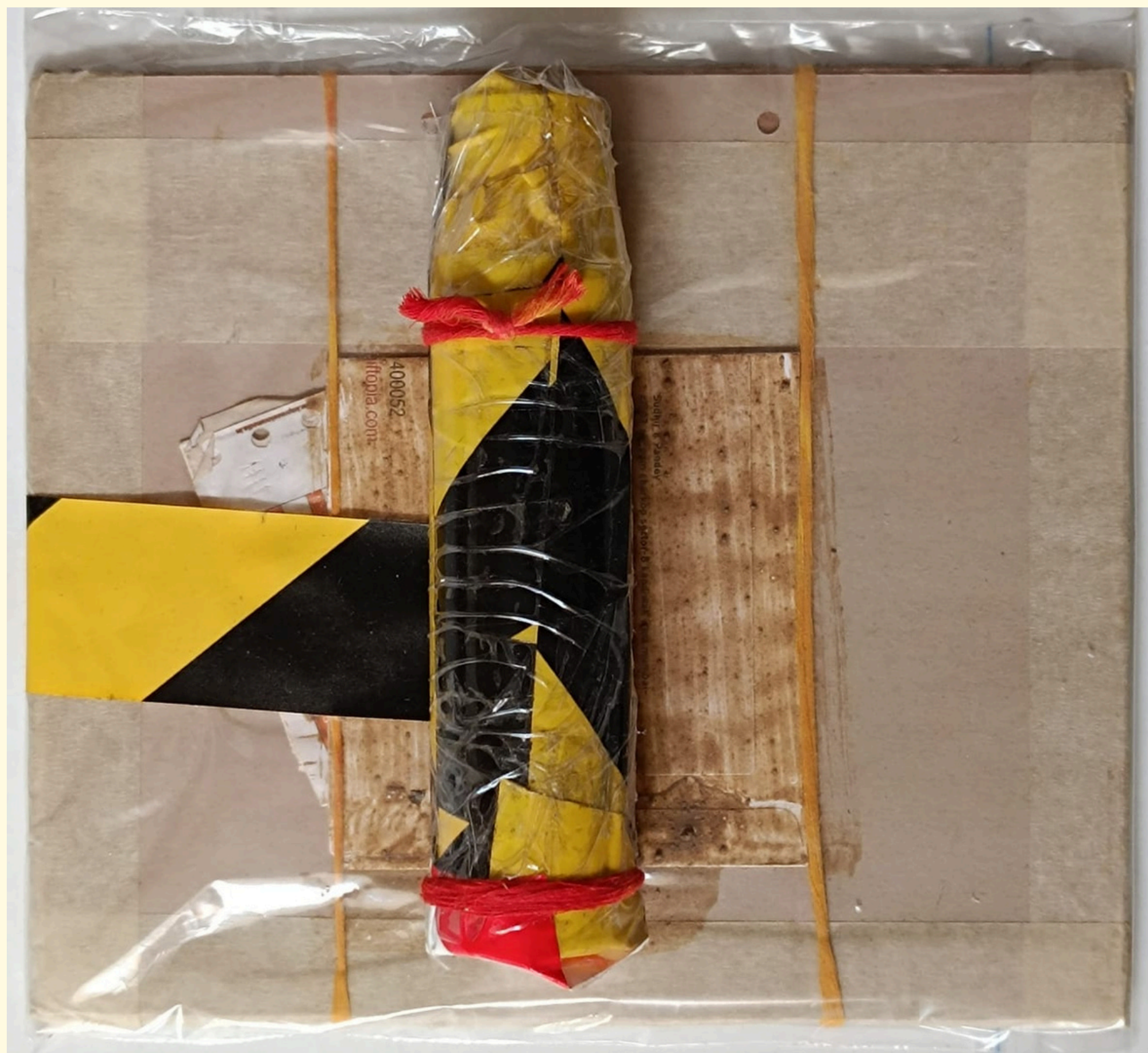
Sudhir Pandey

"Aquarius"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Untitled"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Sun in 4th"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



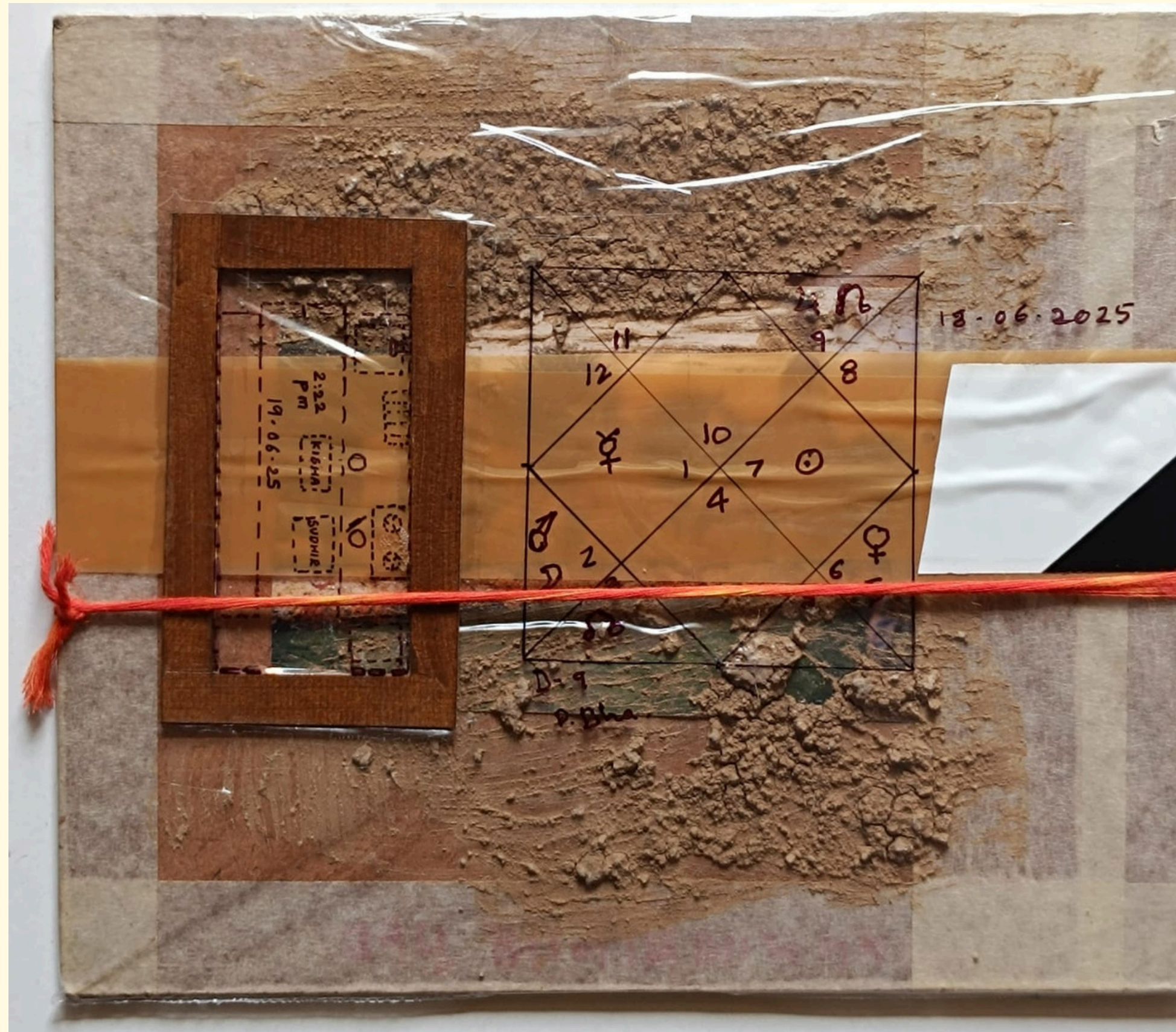
Sudhir Pandey

"Guru Gorkhnath"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



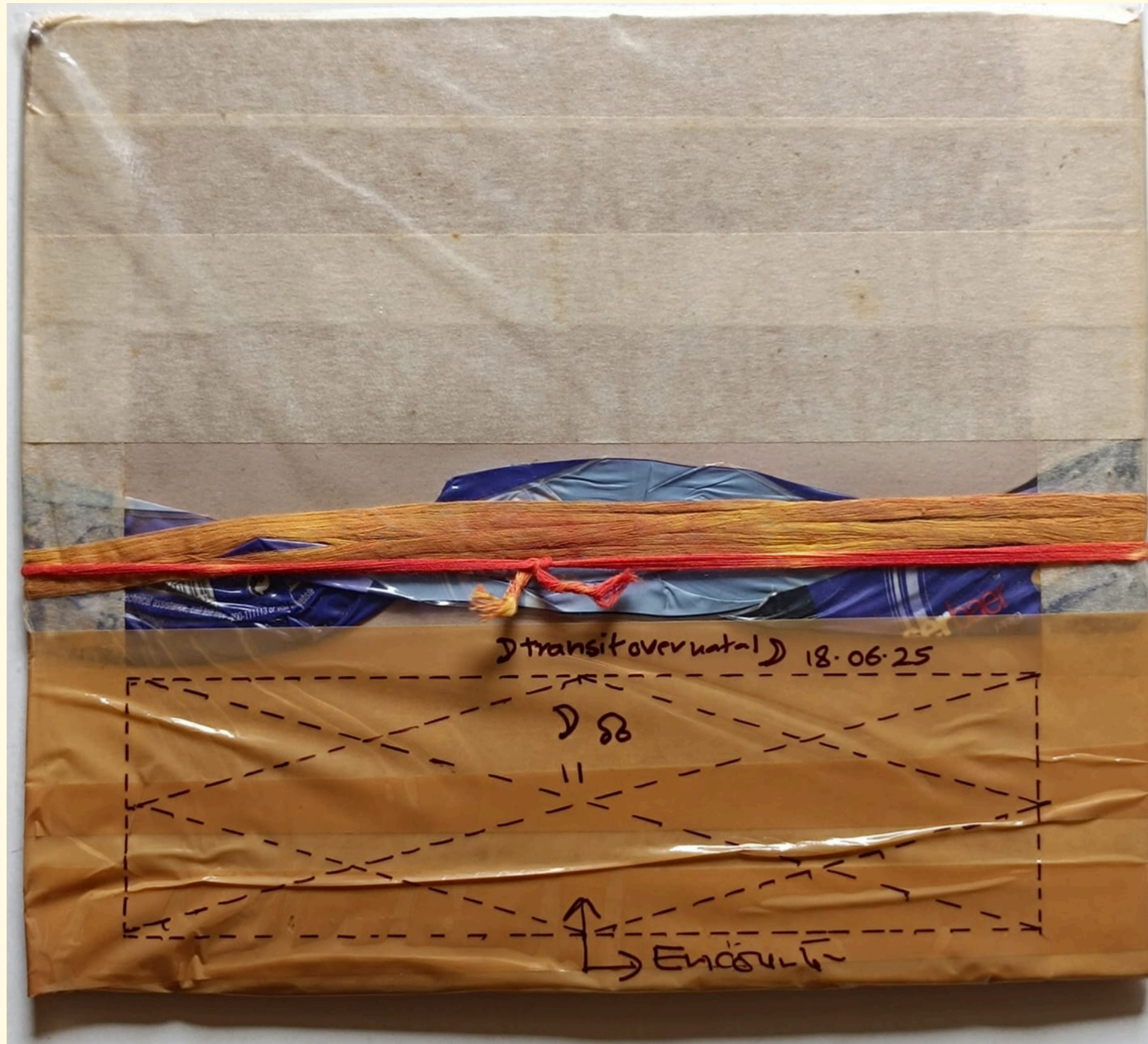
Sudhir Pandey

"Together"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Transition on Ascendant"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Square & Square "

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Void-9"

9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



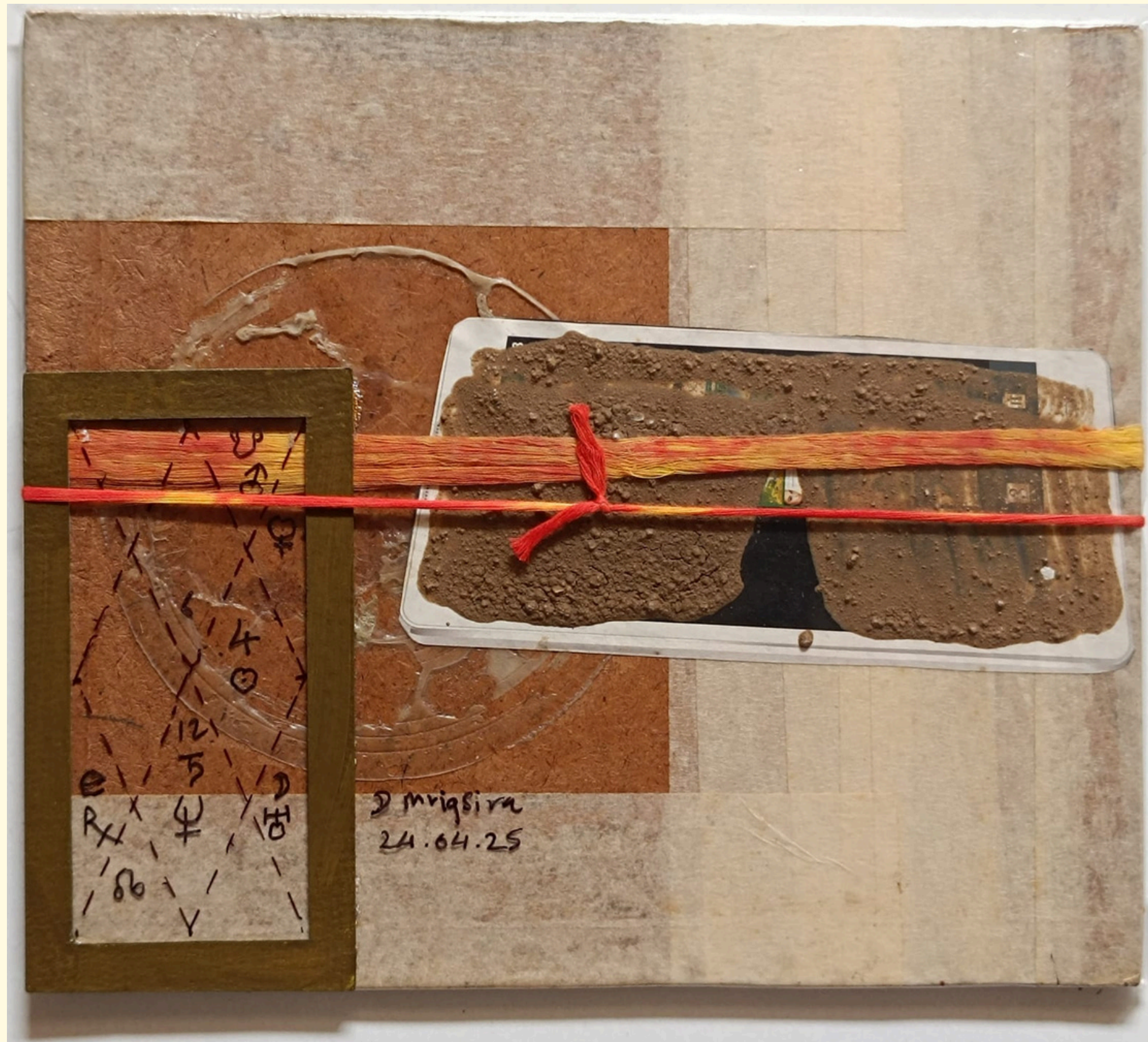
Sudhir Pandey

"I4.06.25"

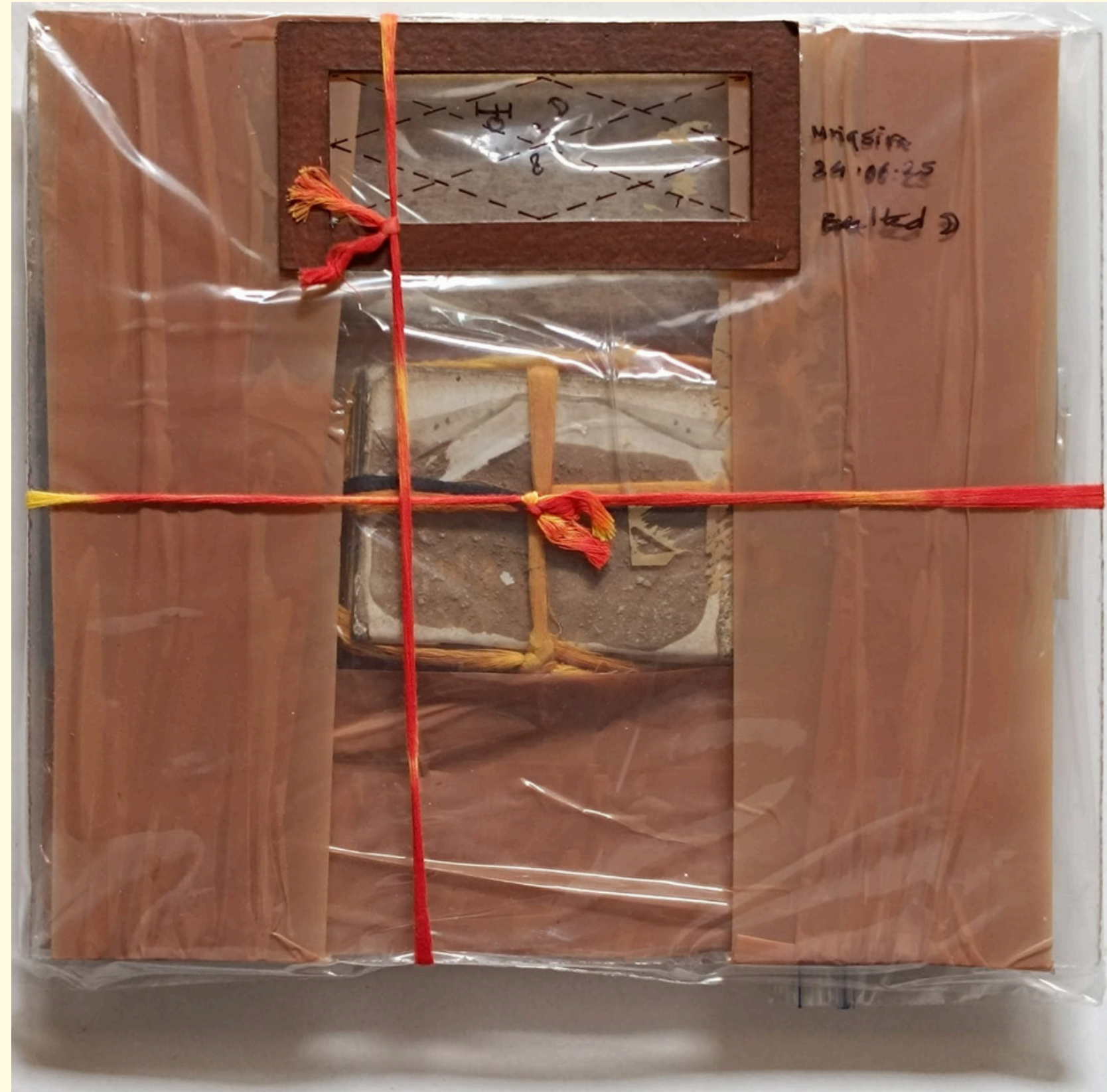
9" x 10.5"

Mixed media

2025



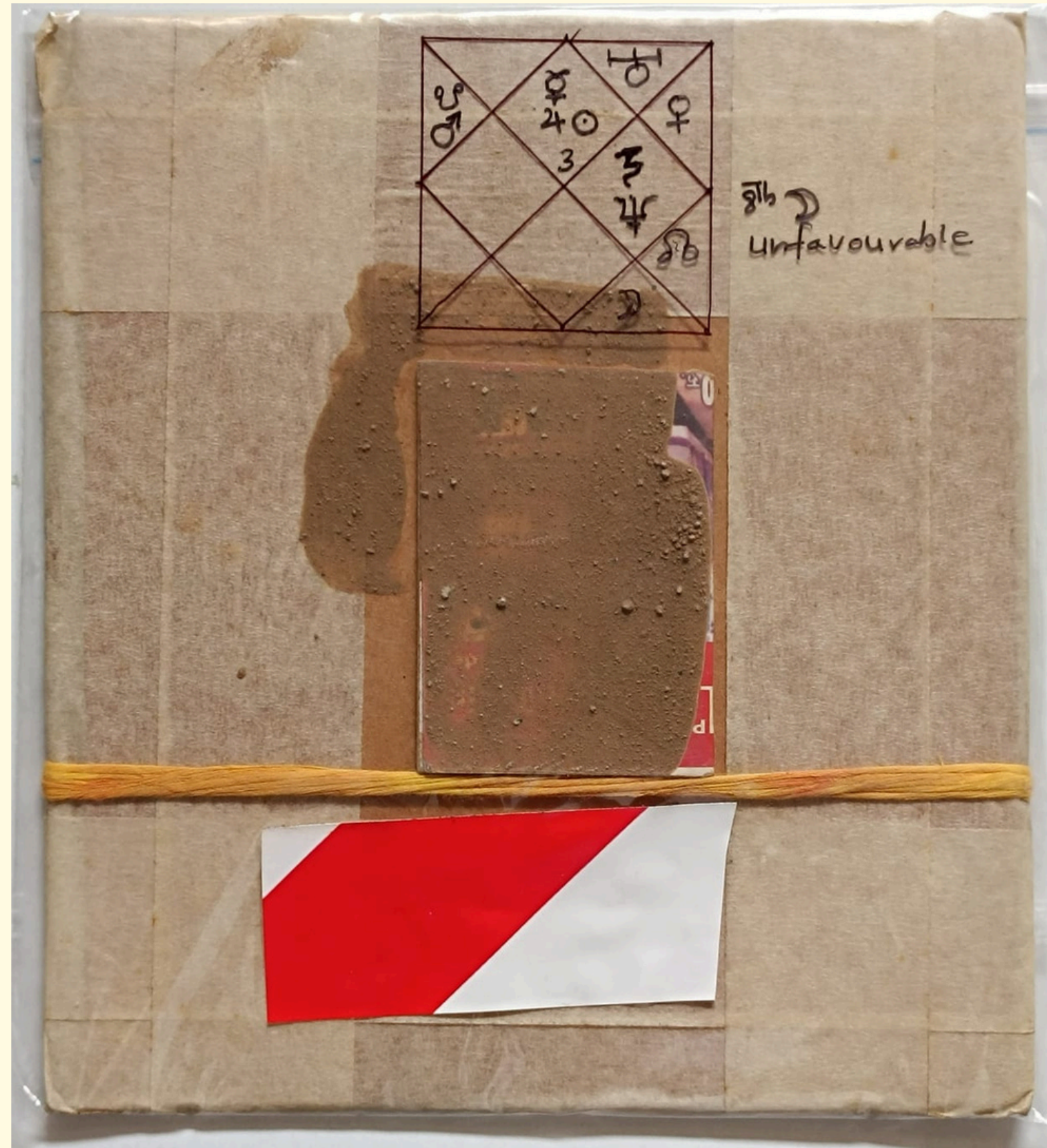
Sudhir Pandey "Mrigasira (Deer Head)" 9" x 10.5" Mixed media 2025



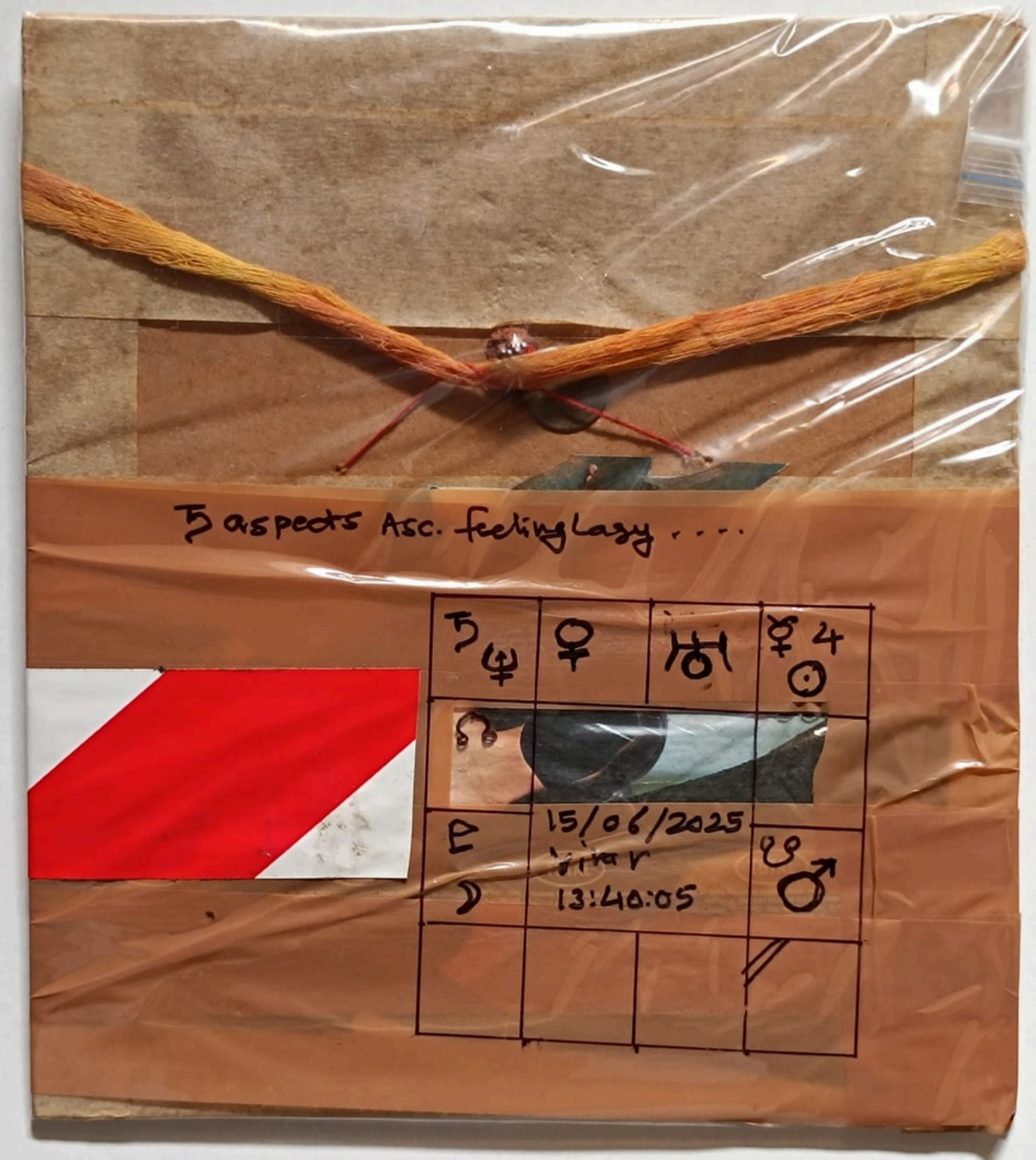
Sudhir Pandey "Uranus in Ist house" 9" x 10.5" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Harmony" 9" x 10.5" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Unfavourable" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey

"15.06.25"

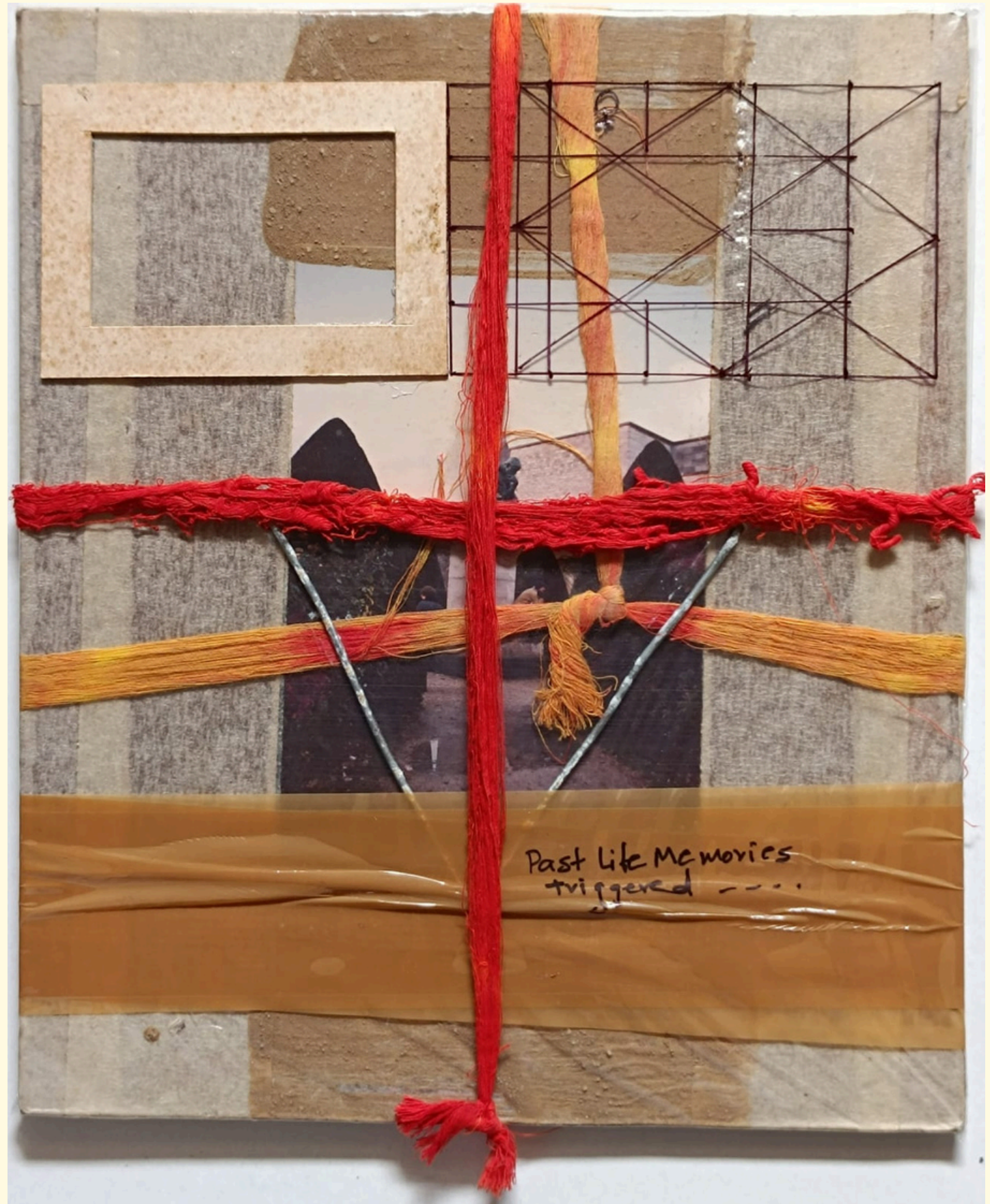
10.5" x 9"

Mixed media

2025



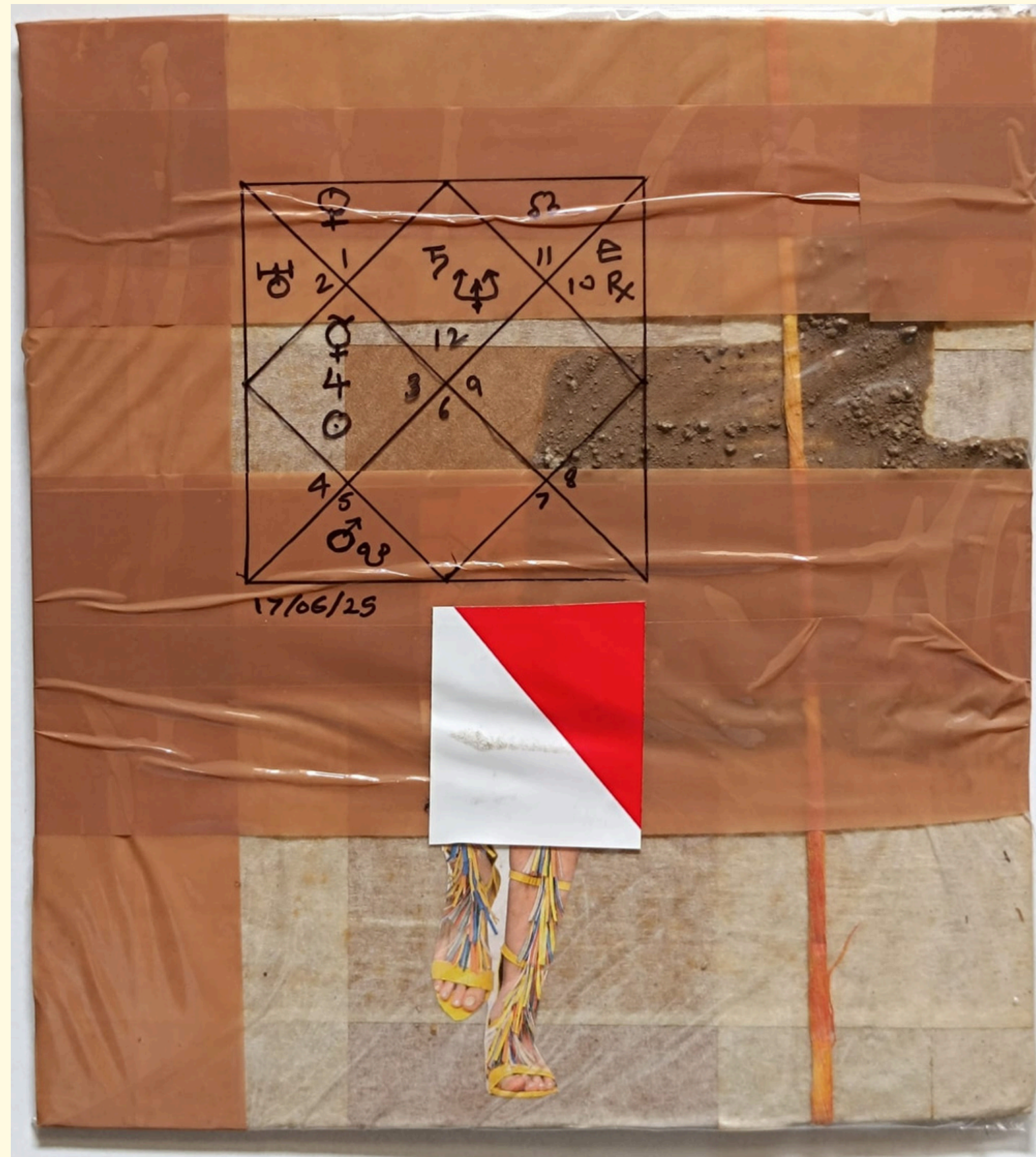
Sudhir Pandey "Banana not sold" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Trust the Trine" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Trine" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Mid Heaven" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey

“Conflict”

10.5" x 9"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey "Home alone" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey

"Square 9" 10.5" x 9"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey "The square" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey

"The Trine"

10.5" x 9"

Mixed media

2025



Sudhir Pandey "Mid Heaven" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Thursday Art night" 10.5" x 9" Mixed media 2025



Sudhir Pandey "Diptych I" 21" x 19" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Diptych 2" 21" x 19" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Ashwini -Beta Aries" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Kritika -Eta Taurus" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



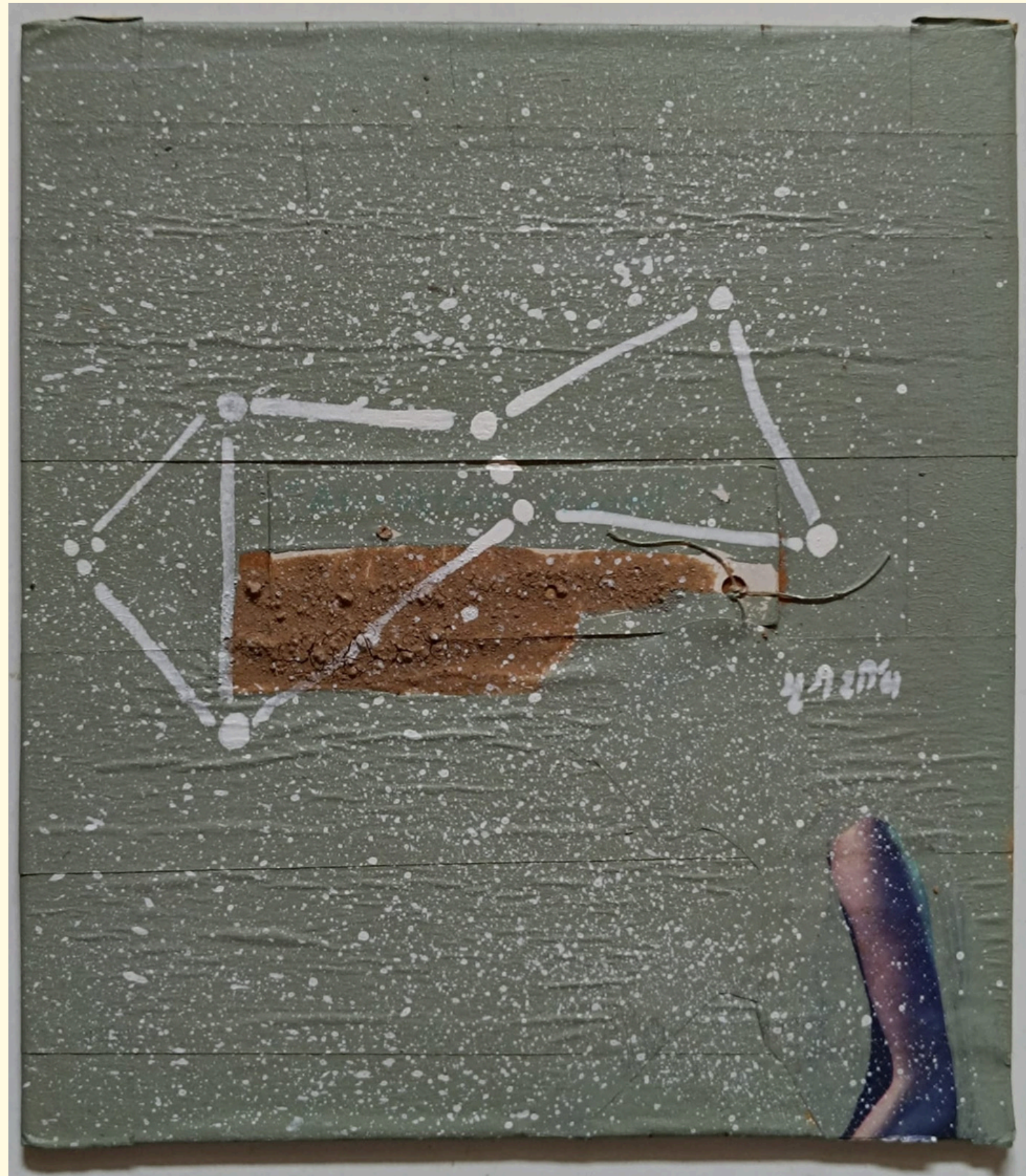
Sudhir Pandey "Don't worry be happy " 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Purva Bhadrapada" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Sextile aspects" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Mrigasira (Deer Head)" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



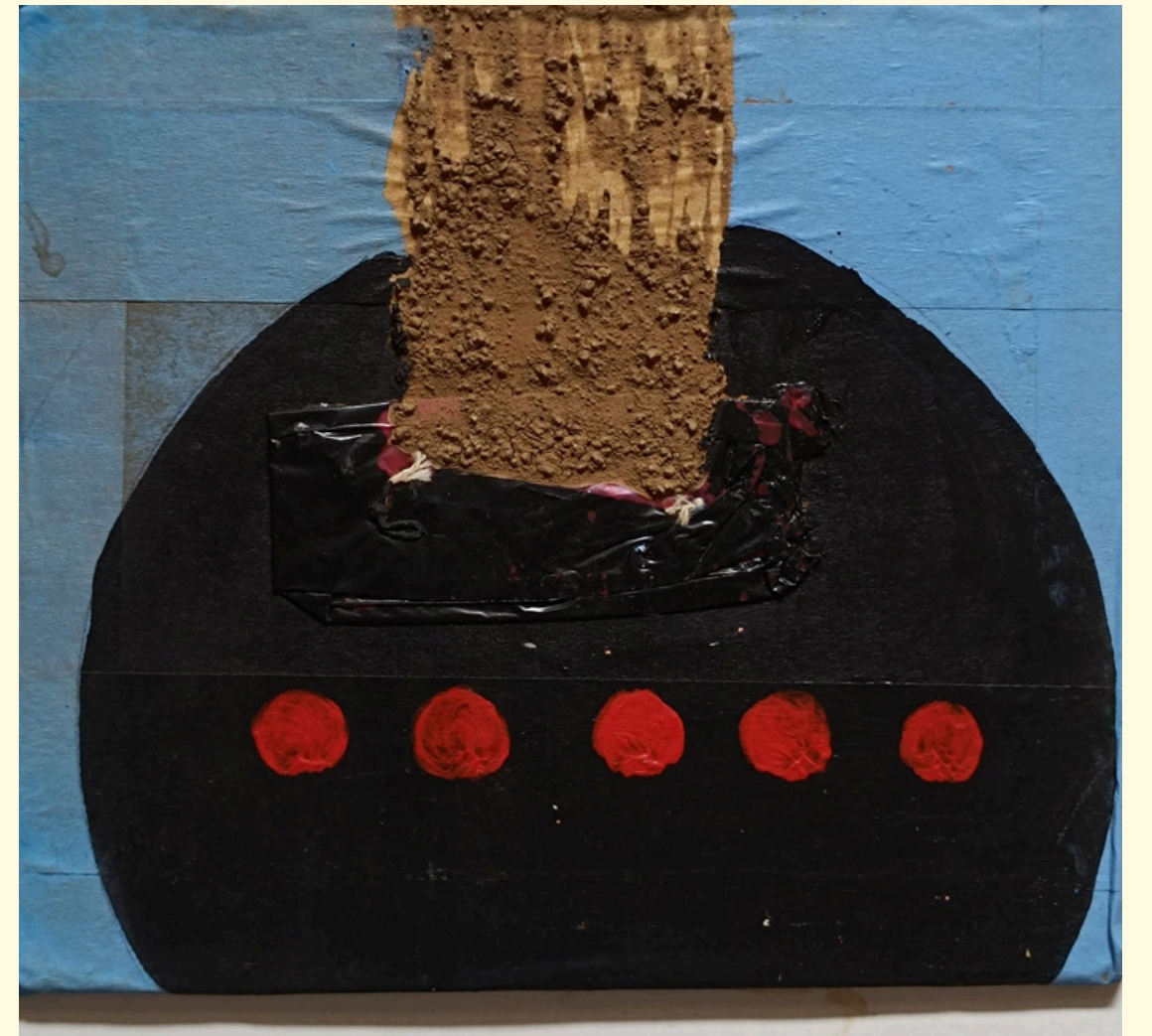
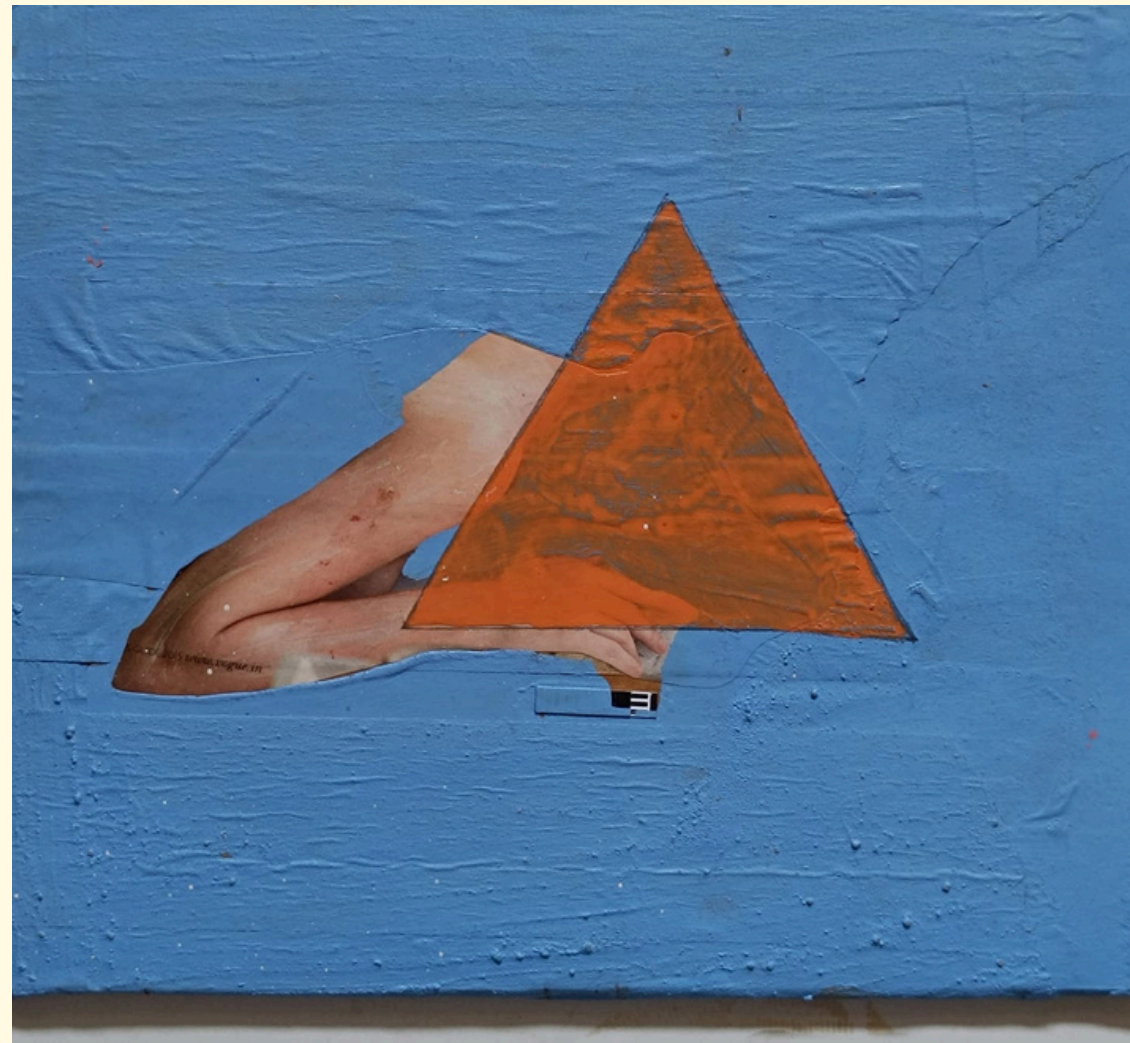
Sudhir Pandey "Saptarshi - Ursa Major" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Anuradha -Delta Scorpio" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Hasta - Delta Corvie" 10.5" x 9.5" Mixed media 2020



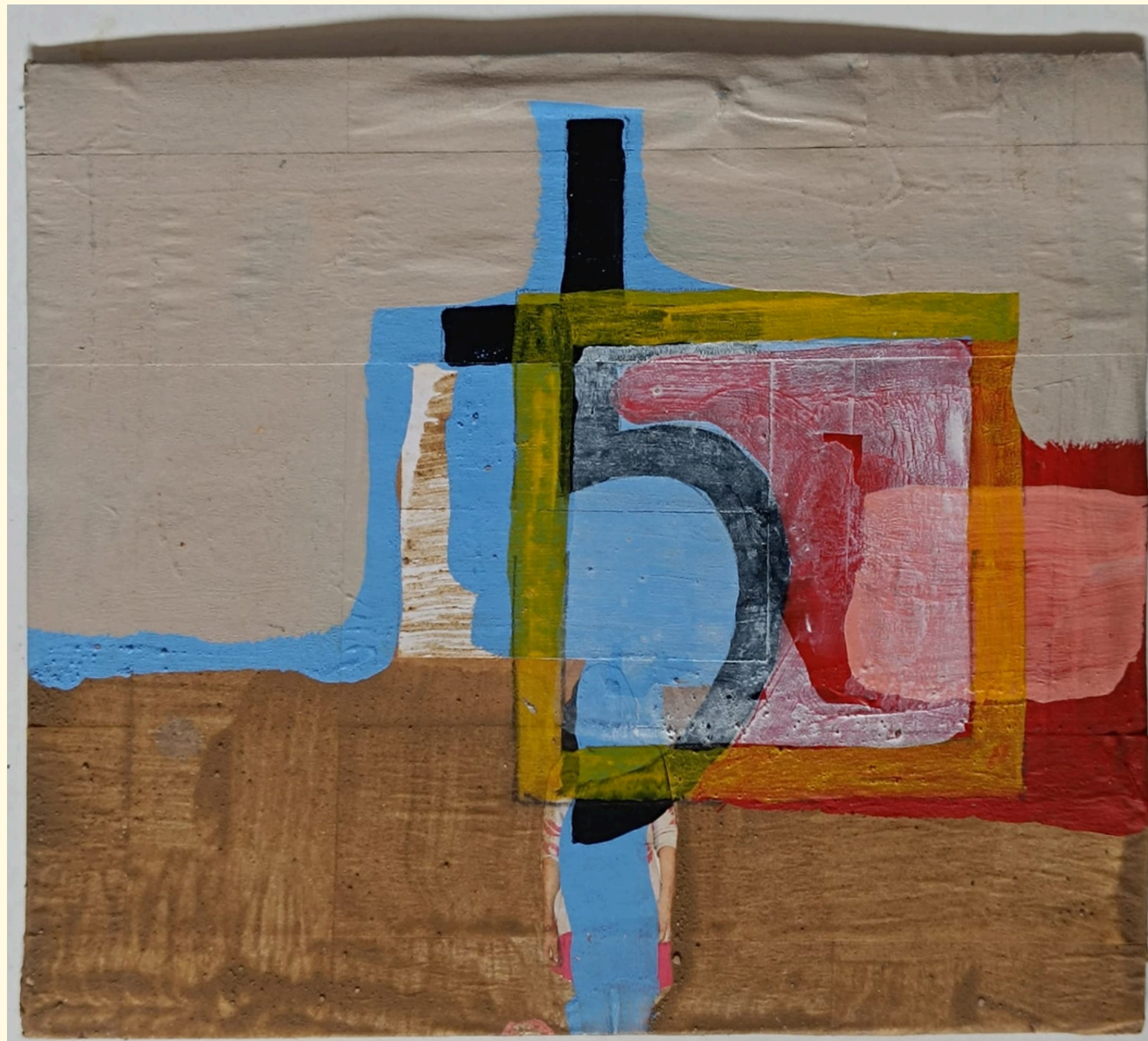
Sudhir Pandey "Triptych" 28.5"x 31.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Pushya - Delta Cancer" 9.5" x 10.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Brihmahridya - Cappela" 9.5" x 10.5" Mixed media 2020



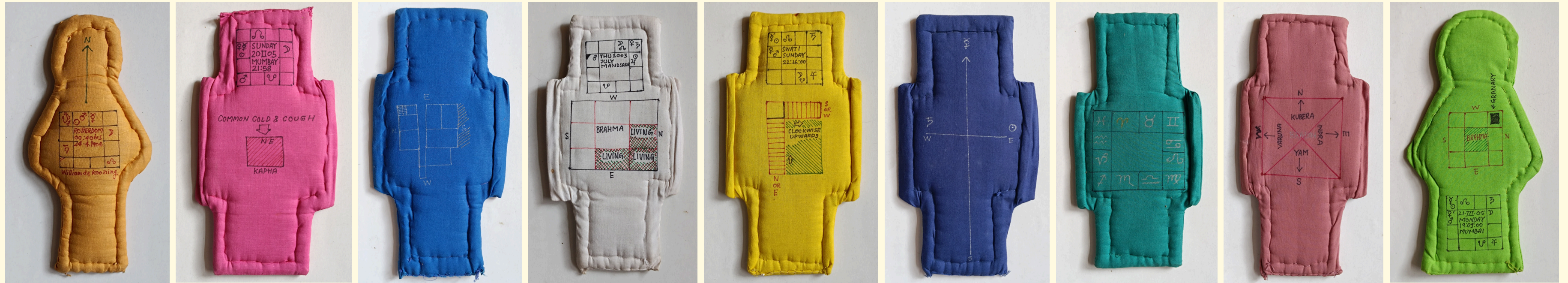
Sudhir Pandey "Saturn square" 9.5" x 10.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Ashlesha" 9.5" x 10.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Neptune aspects" 9.5" x 10.5" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Speaking Dolls I" 9.6" x 45.9" Mixed media 2020



Sudhir Pandey "Speaking Dolls II" 9.6" x 5I" Mixed media 2020

Curriculum vitae

Sudhir Pandey

b. 1972

Education:

- 1998: PG Diploma in Creative Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda
- 1995: BFA in Painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda
- 1997-98: Ecole Supérieure Nationale de Beaux Arts, Le Mans, France
- 2018: Diploma in Astrology, Centre of Excellence, Manchester, UK
- 2023 Naadi Jyotish Visharad Indian Council of Astrological Sciences Chennai
- 2023 PG Diploma in comparative Mythology Mumbai University

Solo Exhibitions:

- 2023: Art & Soul Gallery, Mumbai
- 2006: Radioactive Wrappings, Chatterjee & Lal Gallery, Mumbai
- 2005: Transit, Chatterjee & Lal Gallery, Mumbai
- 1995: Seminar on Artist-Critic Nexus and International Art Fallacy, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda



Selected Group Exhibitions:

- 2024: Group Show "Entwined-2 ," Apparao Galleries, Bikaner House New Delhi
- 2023: Group Show "Cross cities summer", Italy
- 2020: Online Exhibition- Bishnurabhadas Due to Covid
- 2019: Art & Soul Gallery, Mumbai
- 2019: Artist Centre, Mumbai- 2018: Goa Affordable Art Festival
- 2018: National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi, Kerala Relief Fund
- 2017: DMZ Demilitarization Zone, South Korea
- 2017: Text as Text, Art & Soul Gallery, Mumbai
- 2016: Gandhi Mission, Aurangabad, Maharashtra
- 2015: COCr(A)ativeconnections S4, Galleria Geraldas Da Silva, Porto, Portugal
- 2015: India Art Fair, New Delhi
- 2014: Group Show "Earth," Apparao Galleries, Chennai
- 2013: Small is Big, Group Show, Durbar Gallery, Kochi
- 2013: Group Show Hidden Histories & Geographies of the World, Apparao Galleries, Chennai at Four Seasons Hotel, Mumbai
- 2013: Group Show, Devalalika Kalavithika, Indore
- 2012: Group Show, Rachana Sansad, Mumbai
- 2008: Group Show, Chatterjee & Lal, NYC, USA
- 2005: Group Show "Present-Future," NGMA (National Gallery of Modern Art), Mumbai
- 2007: Group Show, Shades & Wood Gallery, London
- 2005: The Passion of Paper, Group Show, Apparao Galleries, New Delhi
- 1998: Arthoteque, Group Show, Ecole Des Beaux Arts, Le Mans, France

Awards:

- 1995: Babubhai Jashbhai Patel Silver Jubilee Gold Medal, BFA Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda
- 1997-98: Residency Program at Ecole De Beaux Arts, Le Mans, France. Sponsored by Ministry of Culture, France, Inlaks Foundation, New Delhi, Alembic Chemicals, Baroda
- 2013 Junior Fellowship, Ministry of Culture, India

Participation:

- 2010: Learning in Cities, Rachana Sansad, Mumbai
- 2009: Teachers Training Workshop, Rachana Sansad, Mumbai
- 2007: International Artist Residency, Sandarbh at Partapur, Rajasthan
- 2004: Artist Camp, Sandarbh at Vaghad, Partapur, Rajasthan
- 1997: Sculpture Workshop, Conducted by French Artist Jean Louis Raymond, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda, Gujarat
- 1994: Drawing Workshop, Conducted by Ranjitsingh Gaekwad, Faculty of Fine Arts, Baroda
- 1994: Drawing Workshop, Conducted by Scottish Artist Ms. Alison Harper, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda

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Thank You

Designed by Kisha Ananthakrishnan | With support from Tarana Khubchandani, Gallery Art&Soul Mumbai, Sumesh Manoj
Sharma, Balbir Bora, Dipti Pandey, Bupesh Pandey, Priyanka Salvi | 2025

Dedicated to the late Shri Kushal Prasad Pandey