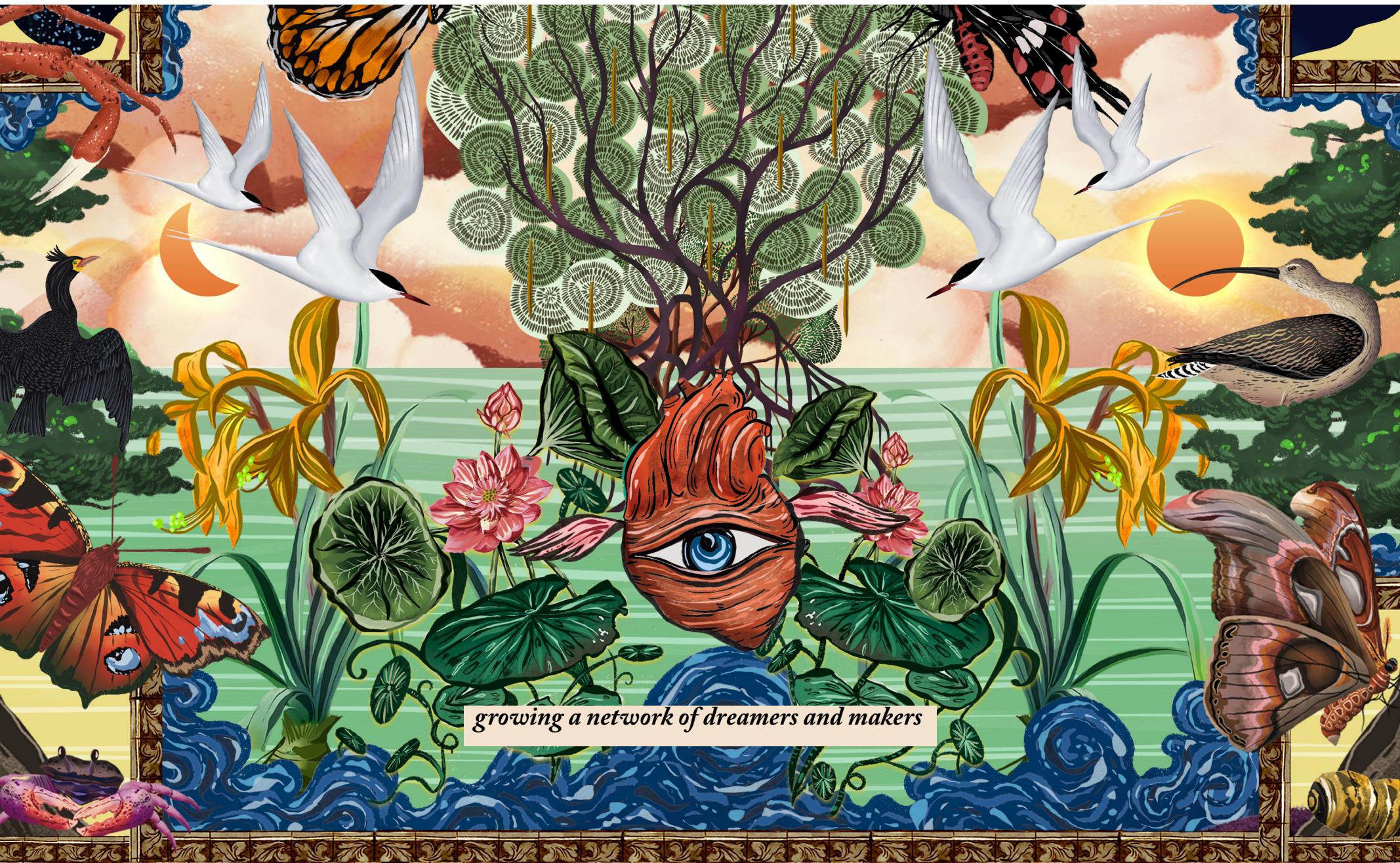




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K2A
KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION



growing a network of dreamers and makers



A Mycelium of Dreamers and Makers - Dwelling was a week-long residency held from March 29th to April 4th 2025 in Shergaon and Tezpur, designed as a reflective and collaborative space for artists, scientists, and practitioners.

Through immersive fieldwork, community engagement, and open studios, participants spent their time in the heart and nature in Shergao, shared ideas of the worlds they wished to build and sparked new projects.

Dwelling nurtured long-term relationships, creative inquiry, and regenerative art practices rooted in ecological and cultural awareness.

dwelling



2022

DWELLING 2025

A journey across land, story, and shared becoming.

We began by arriving slowly — grounding ourselves at Living Labs, Tezpur, and gently tuning into a shared rhythm of stories. As we gathered, something deeper unfolded: a listening into each other's histories — of lands walked, people remembered, and ecologies that have quietly shaped our identities. Through these offerings, we began to see how the natural world has always held us, formed us, and continues to echo through who we are becoming.

The road onwards carried us into the embrace of Shergaon — a five-hour ascent through shifting terrains, from the plains of Assam to the highlands of Arunachal Pradesh. Winding hills, and dense mountain forests welcomed us, reminding us that the land can be a mirror — reflecting what we carry and who we might become. As we walked and breathed together, we asked: what stories live here? And what might we create together, if we let go of the weight of the world as it is?

We wandered wild fruit trails and found our nest at Khandak Homestay, a portal of learning and love created by — Dr. Lobsang Tashi Thungon - here we shared forest meals, embraced the whispers of trees, and tuned into the many conversations our surroundings had to share with us - from sound healing, reflections, and quiet moments shaped our collective dwelling - and an inward journey began on the worlds we all wish to build in today's time.

Through our time in Dwelling - we were held by the many sharings and world buildings made through love, care, hope and joy — the Lama Tanpei Dronmey Museum in Morshing, a deep pause and archive of cultural memory created by the inspiring Rinchen Norbu. Walks through Shergaon and Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary opened up stories of the land and the powerful community work being held with practitioners and researchers D.K. Khrimey, Nima Monpna, Bharath Tamang, Dr. Nandini Velho. We were welcomed and embraced at Pema Tashi studio- an inspiring artist from Morshing bringing life to the ancient art of mask-making and storytelling - reviving art and culture through his powerful practice. We explored art and healing and our relationship with the natural world with Salil Subedi and Svabhu Kohli, witnessed the craft and intricacy of embroidery with Anasuya Borah, and the inspiring work of Garung Thuk, building a world for nature education in Shergaon.

Every moment felt like a stitch in a living cloth of care and community.

At the Open Nature Studio, the larger community of Shergaon joined us — no walls, only presence. A shared space of making, listening, and love.

We ended with sunrise meditations and reflections before returning to Tezpur — carrying the question:

**What if we lived differently?
What if this is only the beginning?**



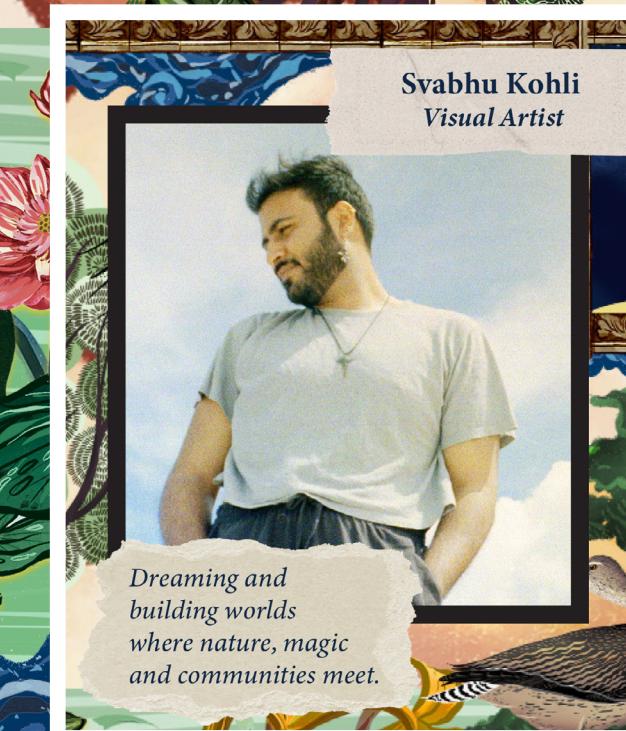
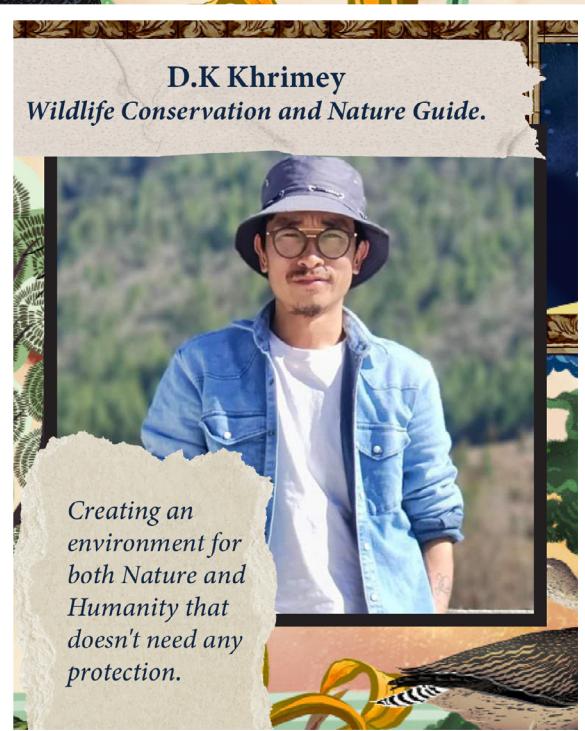
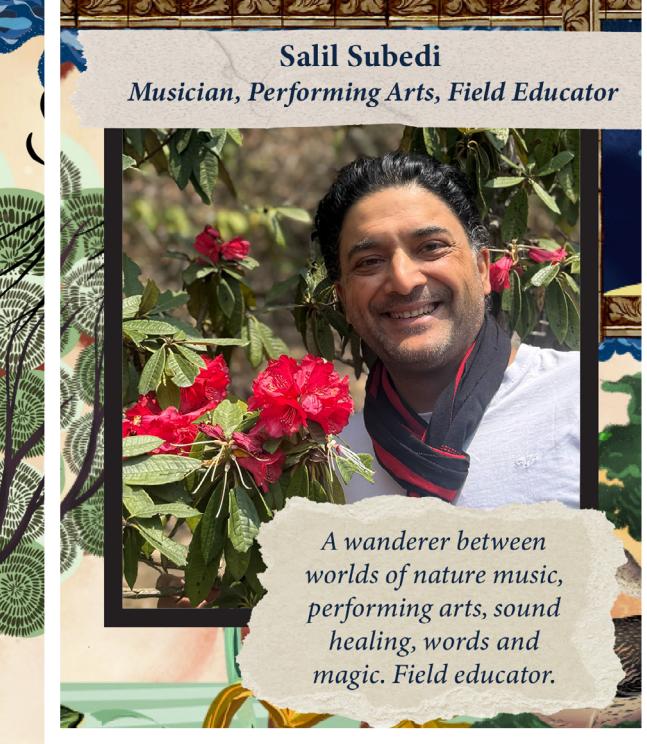
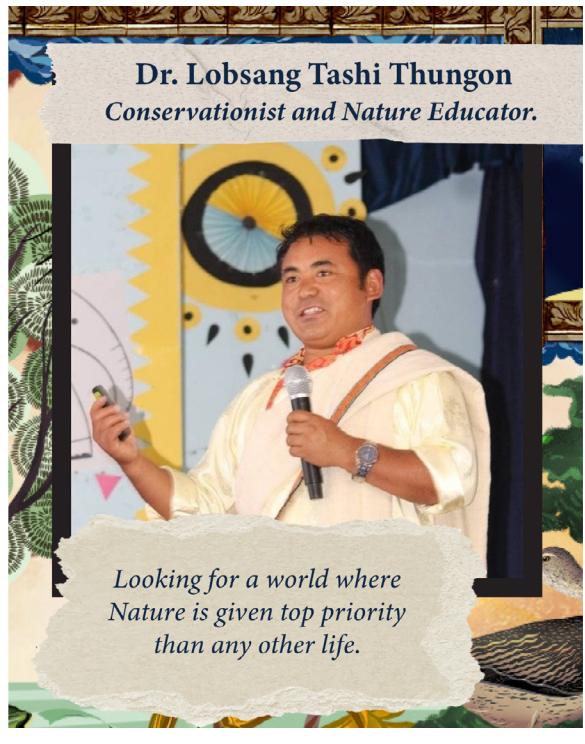
Nature conservation efforts are profoundly enriched through creative collaboration. By engaging with diverse mediums—such as music, art, and science—we can craft inclusive and innovative approaches to environmental action.

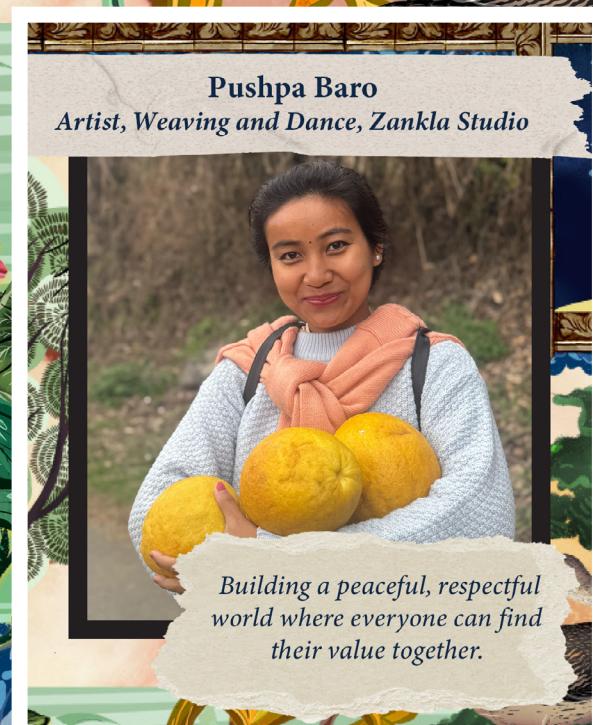
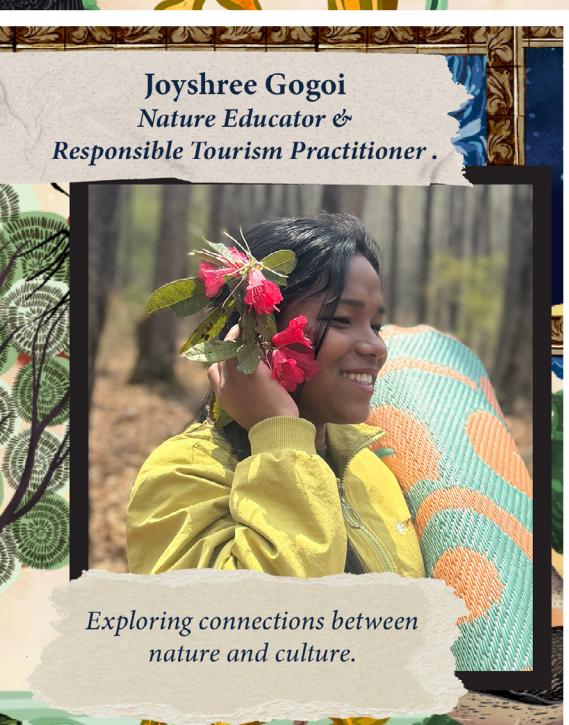
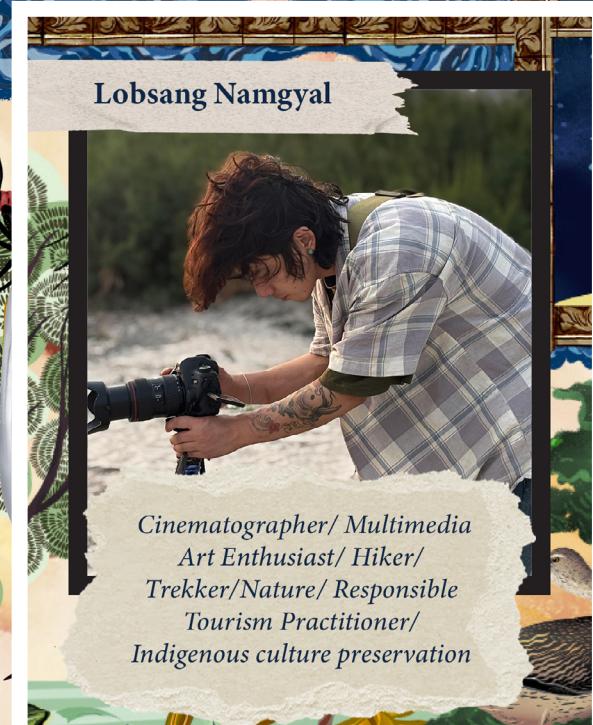
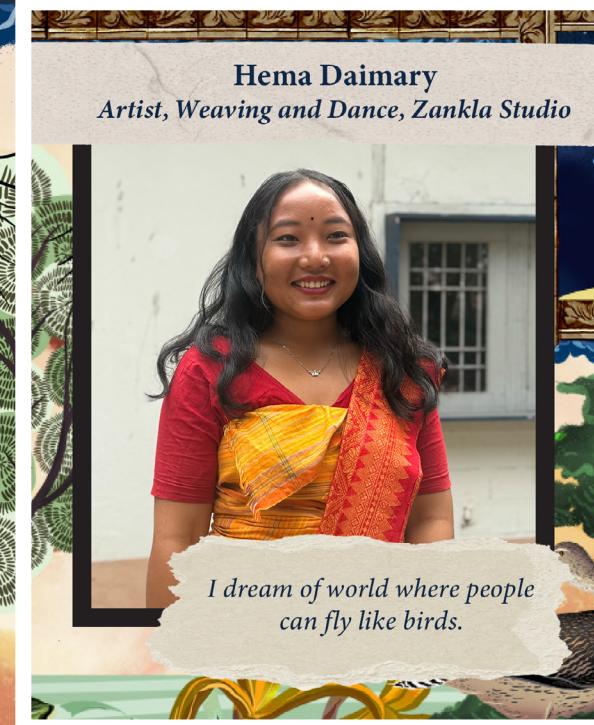
Much like spiders weaving intricate webs, individuals and communities develop unique strategies for conservation. However, a significant challenge in wildlife research and conservation is the lack of transdisciplinary collaboration and accessible platforms for idea generation and innovation.

To overcome this challenge, it is essential to **cultivate a deep understanding of diverse contexts, disciplinary practices, and community needs. This approach fosters collaborative creativity and effective action. The current academic landscape often suffers from siloed disciplines, leading to fragmented efforts and missed opportunities for synergy. For example, artists are frequently engaged only after data analysis is completed, limiting their potential for meaningful contributions.**

By incorporating diverse creative practices, we can redefine conservation efforts, making culture and collaboration central to our approach. This innovative perspective promises to unlock new potentials in conservation, driving more impactful and sustainable outcomes.

Come meet the participants of 2025 >>





Keshar Jyoti Das



As a writer, filmmaker, director, cinematographer, editor, and artist, I believe my journey is about both creative expression and personal growth, striving to become a better human being through my work..

Jitendra Deka | G10
Street & Mural Artist

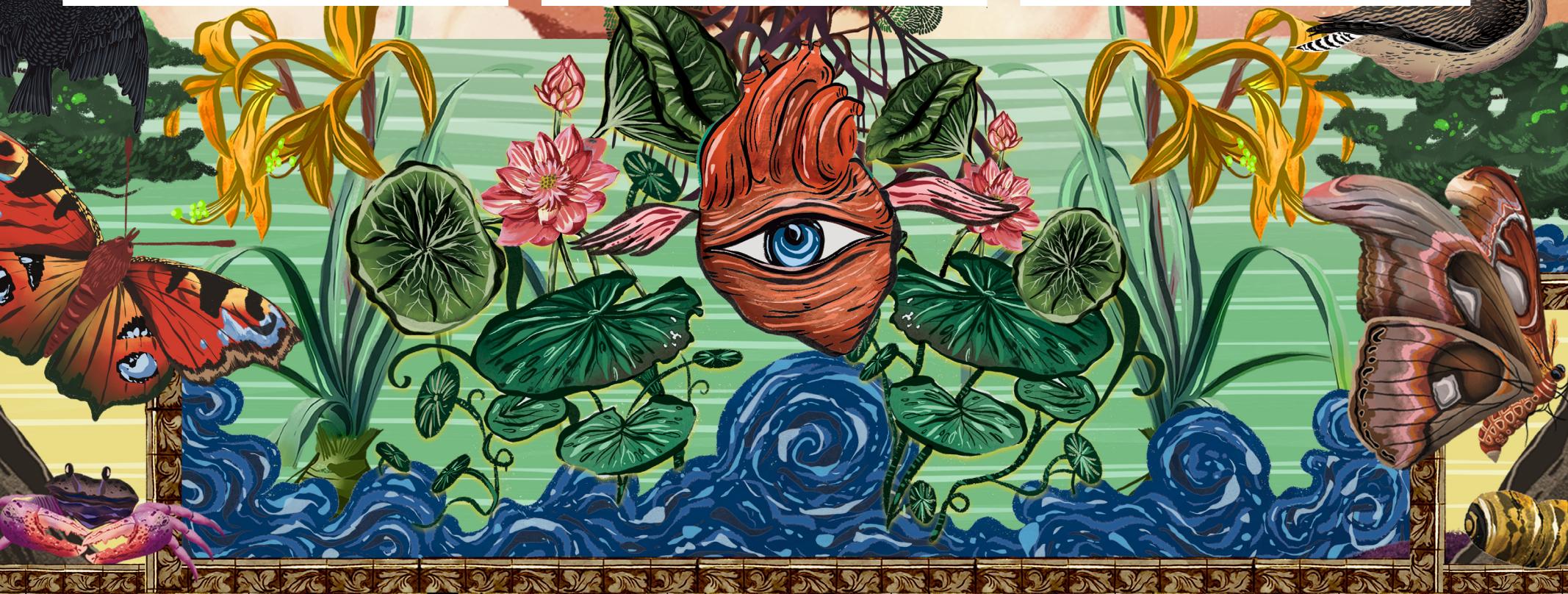


Food and Culture enthusiast.
On the path of Dream to Reality

Arpita Chakraborty

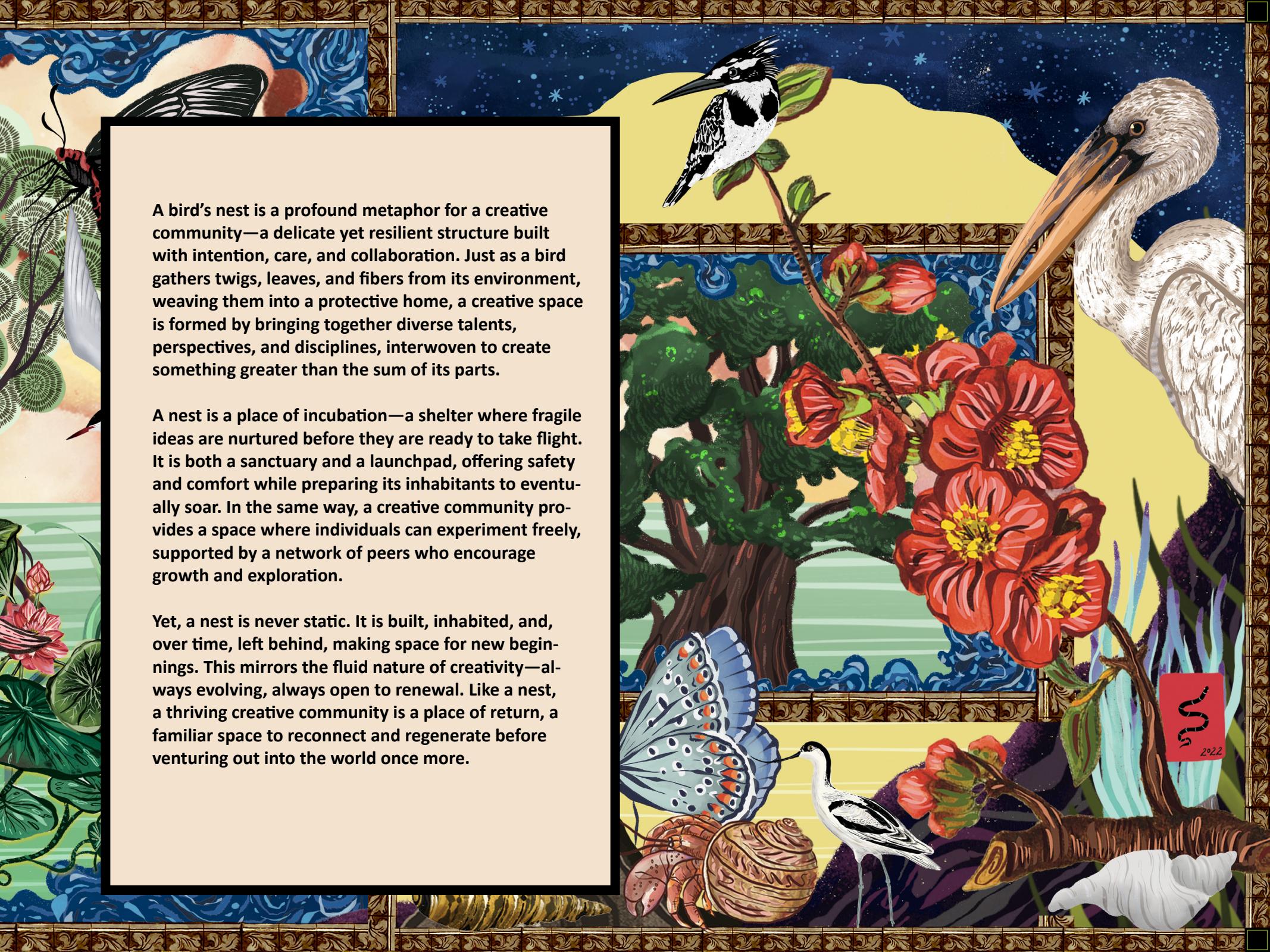


Storyteller weaving films, words, and memories rooted in art, culture, and community. Finding wonder in conversations.



Building a nest together - DWELLING 2025





A bird's nest is a profound metaphor for a creative community—a delicate yet resilient structure built with intention, care, and collaboration. Just as a bird gathers twigs, leaves, and fibers from its environment, weaving them into a protective home, a creative space is formed by bringing together diverse talents, perspectives, and disciplines, interwoven to create something greater than the sum of its parts.

A nest is a place of incubation—a shelter where fragile ideas are nurtured before they are ready to take flight. It is both a sanctuary and a launchpad, offering safety and comfort while preparing its inhabitants to eventually soar. In the same way, a creative community provides a space where individuals can experiment freely, supported by a network of peers who encourage growth and exploration.

Yet, a nest is never static. It is built, inhabited, and, over time, left behind, making space for new beginnings. This mirrors the fluid nature of creativity—always evolving, always open to renewal. Like a nest, a thriving creative community is a place of return, a familiar space to reconnect and regenerate before venturing out into the world once more.



DWELLING DAILY BREAK-DOWN

Online Get Together: 26th March

Set Intention: Create time. Slowly do something. Bring something small to what you want to do. Vulnerability. Wonder and joy. No output. What we can build on further.

First webinar session.

Outlining Dwelling: What fears made you stop doing certain things? What would you like to do? What are you thinking of or dwelling about? What are you thinking of in the world?

Consider creating from four core interactions or spaces — a space of regeneration, a space of radical joy, a space of healing, and a layered space. These serve as entry channels for participants.

ON SITE EXPLORATIONS >>>

DAY 1- 28th March, Arrival at Tezpur

- Participants arrived at Tezpur.
- Unpack, unwind the journey.
- Gathering at Living Labs from 5-7 PM. Heard fascinating stories about Caves and about Gobuk's Green school's new book!.
- Games at Living Labs.

DAY 2- 29th March, Tezpur

- A day workshop led by Svabhu Kohli.
- Dwelling in the senses. - Earth as our home versus a house. What did you lose along the way and what were your memories of home?
- Connecting the near and the far by sound, Salil Subedi.
- Watching the sunset by the Brahmaputra.

DAY 3 - 30th March, Shergaon

- Visit to Nature Interpretation Centre, Eaglenest & interacting with the Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve
- Settle down at Khandak Homestay, Shergaon Briefed by Dr. Lobsang Tashi Thungon who welcomed us.
- Khandak Minto Trail with D.K. Khrimey. Exercise on Imagine Nature by Svabhu Kohli. What are we making together? How should the world operate, unburdened by its current state? Weaving minds and dreams. Sharing of Our Dream World. After Dinner.

DAY 4 - 31st March, Shergaon

- Visit to Zengbu Gompa.
- Embroidery session led by Anasuya Borah.
- Visit to the River
- Green leaf salad collected from the river

DAY 5 - 1st April, Shergaon

- Sound healing by the Choskorong Kho by Salil Subedi
- Lunch at the festival ground for Losar celebration
- Open day and interaction with community members and leaders about Dwelling. In this open day & exhibition the artists and practitioners showcased their work, music and also had a session with the children.

DAY 6- 2nd April, Morshing

- Visit to Morshing Lama Tenpai Dronme Museum Tour with Rinchin Norbu Sir
- Lunch at the Museum
- Interaction with Pema Tashi and visit to his studio, workshop about mask-making

>>> CONTD

Day 7: 3rd April, Shergaon & Tezpur

Closing thank you to the land: Participants thank the beautiful land of Shergaon and its people by whispering words into the ground - Ayni ceremony led by Svabhu Kohli and Salil Subedi. Leave for Tezpur and stay.

Day 8: 4th April, Tezpur

- Participants arrived at Tezpur.
- Unpack, unwind the journey.
- Gathering at Living Labs from 5-7 PM. Heard fascinating stories about Caves and about Gobuk's Green school's new book!.
- Games at Living Labs.

Creating a Dwelling Directory.

Tips from the Common Group of Creative Practitioners
It is hard to be an artist and creative practitioner and make a living: We need to come together and support each other more.

Deadlines: Most applications close by March – plan backward. Rejection is Normal: There's competition, but apply anyway. Rejections are part of the process.

Layer Your Pitches: Lead with research and process.

Time Takes Time: Grants and fellowships are slow. Keep a pipeline running.

Diversify: Don't hinge on one grant – big + small grant.
Keep Materials Ready: A core pitch deck and artist CV help you respond fast.

Mentorship Matters: Choose opportunities that offer long-term learning and peers.



GLIMPSES FROM OUR DAYS IN DWELLING >>>













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A dwelling isn't just a place — it's a rhythm, a nest, a pause in movement.

By creating these intentional circles and focusing on joy, creativity, and well-being, we can foster an environment where participants leave not just with memories, but with inspiration and a renewed sense of purpose.

Why are you the wild child?
The Biosphere.

