



## Flight of the phoenix



This fortnight at the Open Palm Court Gallery in Habitat World, Mumbaikar Shukla Chowdhury presents her solo exhibition of paintings titled *The Phoenix Sings a Song*. In Persian mythology, the phoenix (or simorgh) is a bird famous for its brightly coloured plumage and fiery death (from which a new avatar emerges). Through this symbol of the phoenix, Chowdhury's exhibition evokes such weighty themes as destruction and regeneration, whose violence is represented in the vibrancy of her canvases bursting bright colours (see Pic). The vertical line running through each canvas underscores the death-and-rebirth idea implicit in in the exhibition, and the phoenix symbol helps the viewers see more in Chowdhury's paintings than just pretty colours. *Open Palm Court Gallery, Habitat World: India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road (4366-2009). Daily 10am-8pm*.